Our Ref: BBY/JBG/371052.00001 Your Ref: TR010032 11 December 2024 Date:

The Rt Hon Louise Haigh MP Secretary of State for Transport Department for Transport **Great Minster House** 33 Horseferry Road London SW1P 4DR

Sent via email: LowerThamesCrossing@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Madam

## Planning Act 2008

Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Lower Thames Crossing Project (TR010032)

Our clients: Runwood Homes Limited, Runwood Properties Limited and Kathryn Homes Limited Site: The Whitecroft Care Home, Stanford Road, (A1013), Orsett, Thurrock

This letter is sent to the Secretary of State for Transport ("the SoS") on behalf of Kathryn Homes Ltd, Runwood Homes Ltd, and Runwood Properties Ltd ("the Objectors"). Each of the Objectors is a registered Interested Party but they share common interests and so have combined together to make this representation in order to provide the SoS with an update on relevant matters.

We reference the Secretary of State for Transport's letter dated 28 November 2024 inviting comments from all Interested Parties.

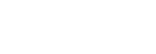
The publication of this letter has prompted National Highways to re-commence correspondence with the Objectors

National Highways has set out to the Objectors that it would like to meet to discuss the heads of terms to see if they can reach an agreement.

The last meeting in April between the parties discussed heads of terms presented by the Objectors that were revised based on the meeting. In September, National Highways provided new heads of terms which reversed on the position at the April meeting. Since, there has been no further progression, and the Objectors remain awaiting a response from National Highways regarding revised heads of terms and the Valuation Office visit to The Whitecroft. National Highways has now agreed to review the terms from the April meeting.

Whilst the Objectors are content to have a meeting with National Highways it is unclear whether any meeting will assist in progressing an agreement in time without National Highways actively engaging with the Objectors in a more constructive manner. The Objectors have requested a timetable to reach agreement from National Highways that National Highways can commit to.

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It remains that no agreement has been reached between the Objectors and National Highways on an acquisition by agreement. The Whitecroft remains at increasing risk of extinguishment.

Yours faithfully



**Birketts LLP**