



Our ref: HE551507-MMSJV-VSS-000-CO-ZH-0041

Richard Price  
Case Manager  
The Planning Inspectorate  
National Infrastructure Directorate  
Temple Quay House  
Temple Quay  
Bristol  
BS16PN

Tom Roberts  
Project Manager  
2/07K Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Temple Quay  
Bristol BS1 6HA

Enquiries: 0300 123 5000

25 January 2018

Dear Mr Price,

**A303 Sparkford to Ilchester dualling scheme – section 46 notification under the Planning Act 2008**

I am writing to provide notification, under section 46 of the Planning Act 2008, of Highways England's intention to submit a Development Consent Order (DCO) application to the Secretary of State for Transport for its proposed A303 Sparkford to Ilchester dualling scheme, prior to making an application for a DCO.

This will follow a period of formal pre-application statutory consultation. The consultation will commence on 26 January 2018 and close on 9 March 2018. Subject to feedback received during the consultation period, Highways England proposes to submit an application for development consent, under the Planning Act 2008, to the Secretary of State for Transport.

**Summary of the scheme**

The proposal is to upgrade the A303 between Sparkford and Ilchester to high quality dual carriageway. The route of the scheme starts east of Podimore Roundabout and follows the alignment of the existing A303 to Downhead. Travelling eastwards, the route moves north of the existing A303 single carriageway, allowing the existing road to be retained for use as a parallel local road in this section.

The route then rises up West Camel Hill before crossing over the existing A303 at the junction with Steart Hill and Howell Hill. The route then takes a southerly alignment briefly before meeting up with the existing road again to pass between Vale Farm and the MOD signal station at Eyewell and Traits Lane.

Finally, the route then bypasses the existing Hazlegrove Roundabout to the north, through the Registered Park and Garden associated with Hazlegrove House, before tying into the existing A303 north of Sparkford Village.

Highways England is seeking development consent for the scheme under the Planning Act 2008 (the "2008 Act"). This legislation requires Highways England to make an application to the Secretary of State for Transport for a DCO to construct the proposed scheme. Highways England intends to make this application in summer 2018.

## Consultation documents

Section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 requires the applicant to send to the Secretary of State the information that it intends to provide to consultees under section 42 of the Planning Act 2008, on or before commencing section 42 consultation. As such, please find enclosed the information that is being sent to the section 42 consultees identified:

- A covering letter
- A hard copy of the section 48 notice
- A hard copy of the consultation booklet
- A hard copy of the consultation questionnaire
- An electronic copy of the PEI, in the form of a PEI Report, together with a Non-Technical Summary
- A CD with a file containing all of the documents above

## Consultation arrangements

Consultation materials will also be available at a series of public information events, at public information points, and online at [www.highways.gov.uk/Sparkford-to-Ilchester](http://www.highways.gov.uk/Sparkford-to-Ilchester). Further details of the consultation arrangements can be found at this address, and in the enclosed section 48 notice.

## Responding to the consultation

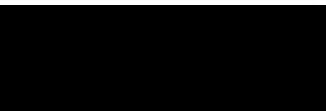
For clarity, we are asking that consultees send responses to this consultation or other representations in respect of the scheme to the following:

- **By post:** Freepost HIGHWAYS CONSULTATION
- **Online:** [www.highways.gov.uk/Sparkford-to-Ilchester](http://www.highways.gov.uk/Sparkford-to-Ilchester)
- **By email:** [A303Sparkfordtollchesterdualling@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:A303Sparkfordtollchesterdualling@highwaysengland.co.uk)

Any response or representation in respect of the proposed application must (i) be received by the applicant on or before 23:59 hours on 9 March 2018, (ii) be made in writing, (iii) state the grounds of the response or representation, (iv) indicate who is making the response or representation, and (v) give an address to which correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent.

Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details provided below.

Yours sincerely,



Tom Roberts  
Project Manager, A303 Sparkford to Ilchester dualling  
Email: [A303Sparkfordtollchesterdualling@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:A303Sparkfordtollchesterdualling@highwaysengland.co.uk)  
Tel: 0300 123 5000