

# A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction

**Scheme Number: TR010037**

**Volume 5**

## **5.2 Annex E: Responses from Local Authorities on the Draft Statements of Community Consultation**

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed  
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

March 2021

## Infrastructure Planning

### Planning Act 2008

### The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

## The A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction Development Consent Order 202[X]

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### 5.2 CONSULTATION REPORT ANNEX E RESPONSES FROM LOCAL AUTHORITIES ON THE DRAFT STATEMENTS OF COMMUNITY CONSULTATION

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## 1 RESPONSE RECEIVED IN FEBRUARY 2018

### 1.1 Response from South Norfolk Council, 5 February 2018



South Norfolk Council  
Cygnet Court  
Long Stratton  
Norwich  
NR15 2XE



5 February 2018

Dear [REDACTED]

**Highways England A47 Corridor Improvement Programme – Draft Statements of Community Consultation (SoCC)**

**A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction & A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Dualling**

Thank you for your emails of 17 January to [REDACTED] which have been forwarded to me for a response. Please note that [REDACTED] is no longer a Director at South Norfolk Council, therefore I would be grateful if you could send future correspondence to [REDACTED] Director of Growth and Business Development ([REDACTED]@s-norfolk.gov.uk).

Overall the Council is supportive of the approaches set out in the in the draft Statements of Community Consultation (SoCC), which provide a clear summary of when and where information about the above schemes will be made available, how this will be publicised and how people and organisations will be able ask questions and submit their comments.

Having reviewed the SoCC, there are a handful of suggestions which could help make the Statements and the consultations more effective:

- The table of consultation methods in both SSoC indicates that leaflets will be delivered to homes and businesses within the identified consultation zones; however, the zones themselves (Appendix 1 in each SoCC) seemed to be drawn very tightly and exclude many of the properties closest to the proposed works in some key settlements, such as Cringleford and Easton within South Norfolk, as

Hours of opening: Monday to Friday 8.15am to 5pm

Text phone: [REDACTED]

Out of hours service: [REDACTED]

Freephone: [REDACTED]

[www.south-norfolk.gov.uk](http://www.south-norfolk.gov.uk)



well as other settlements in Broadland District. Consequently, it would be more useful and inclusive if the zones were drawn more widely;

- The table of consultation methods also indicates the use of local media; currently it is not clear whether the adverts are intended to be placed just in the Eastern Daily Press, or other publications, such as the freely distributed Norwich Extra, which may help reach a wider audience. It would also be useful to include, either in this section or as a separate item, the use of local parish magazines and newsletters, which again are often distributed free to local residents, and parish websites (details should be available via the relevant parish clerks);
- Appendix 2 of the SoCC usefully lists the Local Authorities that will be consulted directly, but it would be helpful if a more comprehensive list could be provided, including relevant parish/town councils, local businesses, interest groups, landowners etc, who will also be consulted directly;
- In terms of the specific venues proposed for exhibitions and information points for consultation material, I would also suggest the following:
  - For the A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction, it would be useful if Hethersett Village Hall or Hethersett Library could be used as an additional exhibition location/information point, also we would recommend using the Willow Centre at Cringleford, instead of (or as well as) the Pavilion, as an information point and exhibition venue, as the Willow Centre is open on a regular basis, used by a wide range of local groups, and includes the Parish Council offices;
  - For the A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Dualling, it would be useful to include an exhibition at Easton Village Hall and use the local library, which is in Costessey, as an information point (unless Easton Village Hall can be made available).

I hope the above is useful and we look forward to receiving the finalised SoCC in due course.

Yours sincerely

  
**Senior Planning Officer**  
**Planning Policy**

## 2 RESPONSE RECEIVED IN MAY 2018

### 2.1 Response from Suffolk County Council, 16 May 2018

Date: 16<sup>th</sup> May 2018

Enquiries to: [REDACTED]

Tel: [REDACTED]

Email: [REDACTED]



Dear Sir/Madam,

#### **A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction Improvements.**

Thank you for consulting Suffolk County Council on your draft Statement of Community Consultation. The County Council welcomes the consultation, as the A11 is a key transport corridor, particularly for West Suffolk, and the A47 provides a link to the midlands from Lowestoft. The County Council has some suggestions that would be worthwhile adding to the list of consultees:

- The Port of Lowestoft should be listed under "Local Airports/Ports", in addition to Great Yarmouth. Lowestoft is nearby the proposed Junction improvements and port development in Lowestoft and Great Yarmouth are closely linked.
- St Edmundsbury Borough Council (alongside Forest Heath form West Suffolk Councils) should be listed under "District Councils". While the A11 does not run through the boundary of this Borough, it is important as a link to Norwich and Cambridge.
- The Suffolk Chamber of Commerce should be listed under "Local Strategic Partnerships" due to potential interest of local businesses in Suffolk.

If there you have any queries, please feel free to contact me using the details at the top of this letter.

Yours faithfully,

[REDACTED]  
Planning Officer  
Growth, Highways and Infrastructure

Endeavour House, 8 Russell Road, Ipswich, Suffolk IP1 2BX  
[www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk)

## 2.2 Response from Norfolk County Council, 30 May 2018

### **Norfolk County Council's Comments on the: Highways England - A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction Improvements Draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)**

**30 May 2018**

1. **Introduction**

- 1.1. Norfolk County Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the SoCC prepared by Highways England for the above Junction Improvements.

2. **Comments**

- 2.1. The officer-level comments below are made on a without prejudice basis and the County Council reserves the right to make further comments on the emerging application / Development Consent Order (DCO) at the appropriate consultation stages.
- 2.2. **General** – The County Council supports the consultation arrangement set out in the draft SoCC, particularly since it seeks to ensure that the local community, residents, local interest groups, businesses, visitors, and road users will have an opportunity to fully understand the scheme and comment on the proposal. The SoCC has a range of consultation methods including exhibitions, use of social media and drop-in information points, which are considered appropriate and are therefore welcomed.
- 2.3. **Additional Consultation** – While the list of stakeholders in the SoCC is considered reasonable, it is felt that it could be expanded to include consultation with the wider freight sector across all parts of the county.
- 2.4. **Flood Risk** – The County Council in its role as Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) is aware of potential flood issues in the area (eg land off Cantley Lane, north of the A47(T) around Cringleford. As such the County Council would ask that HE share any flood/drainage issues raised during the formal consultation period/s with the LLFA.

## 2.3 Response from East Carleton and Ketteringham Parish Council, 31 May 2018



### East Carleton & Ketteringham Parish Council

29 Churchfields  
Hethersett, Norwich

Web: <http://www.parishcouncilinvolve.net/east-carleton-and-ketteringham-parish-council/>

By email

[A47A11ThickthornJunctionRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk](mailto:A47A11ThickthornJunctionRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk)

31<sup>st</sup> May 2018

#### **A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction Improvements Draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)**

East Carleton and Ketteringham Parish Council (ECKPC) has formerly expressed its concern at the lack of consultation regarding the proposed upgrade to Thickthorn interchange, despite one third of Thickthorn roundabout falling within the parish boundary. This being the parish affected most by the proposed scheme.

This meant that at critical planning stages our local knowledge and considerations were not taken into account until fully worked up models and schemes had led to costly investigations, such as the EIA Scoping report. The DCO boundary appeared to have already been set.

Consequently in September 2017 the PC was presented with new options (A and B), without the opportunity to have any input. At this point the PC, supported by local residents, expressed the view that both options A and B were unsuitable. The PC supported locally put forward alternative schemes (C then D - a suggested upgrade to the Station Lane / A11 junction), which addressed local transport issues and resolved the problems caused by the closure of access to the eastbound A11 from Station Lane in 2011.

In recent years, Cantley Lane South has increasingly been used as a rat run for traffic, both commercial and private. The traffic data which has now been provided, collected in 2016 but not stating time of day or day or month and is therefore now obsolete - especially for B1172 (Option A) - as there have been large quantities of new housing (Little Melton, Cringleford, Hethersett, Mulbarton, Wymondham) which have noticeably affected traffic levels. Further new building and business developments are ongoing. An up to date traffic survey is clearly needed and has been discussed with Norfolk County Council.

The EIA Scoping report was based on an already set DCO boundary, which therefore did not include the Station Lane / A11 junction area.

The parish council supported an option (C/D) and would have sought an extension of the scoping range of the DCO boundary to include Station Lane, Ketteringham. This junction needs to be the main route into Norwich instead of Cantley Lane South, which is unsuitable for the present and future volumes of traffic proposed.

Upgrading the Station Lane junction would make huge financial, economic, environmental and strategic impact on the local businesses operating there. We carried out a survey of the local businesses to identify the impact that Highways England's closure in 2011 to Norwich had caused.

This results in every vehicle that needs to access the Norwich direction having to drive an additional 6-mile journey via Wymondham to rejoin the A11 northbound. This incurs extra costs in fuel, time loss, pollution and an estimated financial cost to those operating from Station Lane of over £270 K per annum (which includes public bodies as well as businesses) These figures do not include all the associated traffic from suppliers, customers and staff accessing these establishments. Upgrading the Station Lane junction would benefit the wider community, local economy and local authorities, as well as reducing pollution and costs.



Therefore our preferred option would be to cul-de-sac Cantley lane South to become a 'quiet lane' to reinstate its historic past of walking, cycling and horse riding. This would link into the Cringleford, Hethersett and Norwich cycle routes and provide safe access to our 54-acre Ladybelt Country Park.

This is supported by our neighbouring parish councils of Cringleford and Hethersett who are wholly opposed to Option A and B. We have combined our opposition in our common purpose of not wanting to create a further difficulty whilst another as happened with the closure of the A11 at Ketteringham. Feeding traffic into the B1172 would significantly harm our open countryside, which is rich in wildlife, heritage and visually impacts on the gateway into Norwich.

We have met and gained support of our local M.P Richard Bacon, all surrounding County and District councillors at Norfolk County Council and South Norfolk Councils.

As a small parish council we have fewer meeting and would like any future consultations to acknowledge our meeting times so that we can adequately consult with local residents. The proposed June consultation has now been postponed and would like future consideration to this.

In summary we are supporting a deconstruction of option C/D to provide a more sustainable and cost effective solution and look forward to better communication and consultation with Highways England.

Yours faithfully,



Clerk to East Carleton & Ketteringham Parish Council

### 3 RESPONSES RECEIVED IN SEPTEMBER 2018

#### 3.1 Response from Norfolk County Council, 5 September 2018



#### Norfolk County Council's Comments on the: Highways England - A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction Improvements Draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)

5<sup>th</sup> September 2018

##### 1. Introduction

- 1.1. Norfolk County Council welcomes the opportunity to comment on the SoCC prepared by Highways England for the above Junction Improvements.


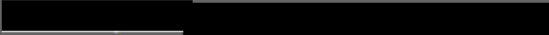
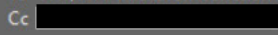
##### 2. Comments

- 2.1. The officer-level comments below are made on a without prejudice basis and the County Council reserves the right to make further comments on the emerging application / Development Consent Order (DCO) at the appropriate consultation stages.
- 2.2. **General** – The County Council supports the consultation arrangement set out in the draft SoCC, particularly since it seeks to ensure that the local community, residents, local interest groups, businesses, visitors, and road users will have an opportunity to fully understand the scheme and comment on the proposal. The SoCC has a range of consultation methods including exhibitions, use of social media and drop-in information points, which are considered appropriate and are therefore welcomed.
- 2.3. The reference to 'Kings Lynn' throughout the document should include an apostrophe, it should be written as 'King's Lynn'.
- 2.4. **Additional Consultees** – While the list of stakeholders in the SoCC is considered reasonable, it is felt that the draft SoCC from May 2018 included a comprehensive list of stakeholders, this SoCC list of stakeholders should be expanded to include the following;
- Under **Local Authorities (appendix 2)** Norfolk County Council should be included.
  - Under **Local Parish Councils (appendix 2)** the following should be included: Ketteringham, Hethersett, Wymondham, East Carlton, Keswick and Intwood, Cringleford, Mulbarton, Bracon Ash and Great Melton.
  - Under **Members of Parliament (appendix 3)** [REDACTED] Great Yarmouth should be included.
  - Under **Local Councillors (appendix 3)** the following members should be included: [REDACTED] – Wymondham, [REDACTED] – Eaton and [REDACTED] – University.
  - Under **District Councils (appendix 3)** the following should be included: South Norfolk District Council, Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Broadland District Council, Norwich City Council, The Broads and Mid Suffolk District Council.
  - Under **Local Employers (appendix 3)** the Norwich Research Park (NRP) should be added.

- Under **Local Schools (appendix 3)** the following should be added: [REDACTED]
  - Under **Non-Statutory Bodies (appendix 3)** the following should be included: Norfolk Constabulary, Norfolk Fire and Rescue and East of England Ambulance Service.
  - Under **Local Media (appendix 3)** the following should be included: Eastern Daily Press (EDP) and the London Gazette.
- 2.5. Although the above additions will increase the scope of the consultation Norfolk County Council is unaware the impacts scheme could have the wider transport network, therefore, there could be a requirement for the inclusion of consultees in from further afield that are not directly impacted by the scheme.
- 2.6. Should you have any queries with the above comments please call [REDACTED] (Interim Team Leader Transport Infrastructure Development) on [REDACTED] email [REDACTED]

### 3.2 Response from South Norfolk Council, 7 September 2018


#### A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction Improvements: Draft Statement of Community Consultation

   
To A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction RIS  
Cc 

[Reply](#) [Reply All](#) [Forward](#) [More](#)

Fri 07/09/2018 17:50

**i** You forwarded this message on 02/12/2019 12:14.  
Click here to download pictures. To help protect your privacy, Outlook prevented automatic download of some pictures in this message.

 ATT00001.txt  
.txt File

Dear 

Thank you for your recent consultation on the above document.

I note that the majority of the comments made by the Council on the previous draft (letter of 5 February) have been picked up in this version, many thanks.

I do have some remaining concerns regarding the lists of Stakeholders in Appendix 2.

Having been consulted as an adjoining authority on the equivalent 'A47 Blofield to North Burlingham dualling' document, Appendix 2 in that document seems to be more clearly set out and more comprehensive. Consequently I would suggest the following for the Thickthorn document:

#### **Appendix 2 – Local Authorities and Parish Councils**

##### **Local Authorities affected by the scheme:**

Norfolk County Council  
South Norfolk Council

##### **Adjoining Local Authorities:**

Suffolk County Council  
Cambridgeshire County Council  
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Combined Authority  
Breckland District Council  
Broadland District Council  
Great Yarmouth Borough Council  
Norwich City Council  
The Broads Authority

##### **Local affected and adjoining Parish Councils**

Cringleford Parish Council  
Colney Parish Meeting  
East Carleton & Ketteringham Parish Council  
Hethersett Parish Council  
Keswick Parish Council  
Little Melton Parish Council  
Swardeston Parish Council  
Wymondham Town Council

Yours sincerely

  
Senior Planning Officer  


## 4 RESPONSES RECEIVED IN MAY 2019

### 4.1 Response from South Norfolk Council, 8 May 2019

RE: A47 Thickthorn - Statement of Community Consultation



To  
Cc

Reply

Reply All

Forward



Wed 08/05/2019 16:46

Afternoon

Thank you for forwarding the revised Statement of Community Consultation and for clarifying that Appendix 2 is for 'Additional Consultees', over and above those required under Section 42 of the Planning Act 2008.

In terms of the 'Local Parish Councils' in Appendix 2, I presume that Cringleford, Hethersett and Keswick are not on the list because the works directly affect those parishes, and therefore they are Section 42 parties?

I would note that there were District Council elections on 2 May 2019, therefore a number of the named councillors have now changed. It may be more useful to just list the Wards and Cabinet roles to be consulted, rather than name the individuals. The three wards in South Norfolk most directly affected are Cringleford (2 x councillors), Hethersett (3 x councillors) and Mulbarton and Stoke Holy Cross (3 x councillors). I note that you currently also include one member for Wymondham (Cllr Joe Mooney), however Wymondham is split into three wards (North, Central and South) each with two councillors. Details of South Norfolk Ward Councillors can be found [here](#), if you wish to update them. In terms of positions within the Council, the Cabinet and Committee roles are likely to be confirmed at the 22 May Full Council, however I would suggest the following need to be included: Leader of the Council (also currently Cabinet Member for The Economy and External Affairs); and the Cabinet Member for Regulation and Public Safety, current details can be found [here](#).

I would also note that Norwich City Council held elections on 2 May, so their local councillors may also have changed.

Kind regards

Senior Planning Officer

[planning@scs-norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:planning@scs-norfolk.gov.uk)

## 4.2 Response from Norfolk County Council, 15 May 2019



### Norfolk County Council Comments on the: Thickthorn SoCC May 2019

1. **Preface**
  - 1.1. The officer-level comments below are made without prejudice, the County Council reserves the right to make to any further comments the County Council may have on future iterations of the emerging Neighbourhood Plan.
  2. As the County Council has implemented its Cabinet system the following County Councillors under **Local councillors (appendix 2)**, the first 5 councillors, should be amended as follows:
    - [REDACTED] leader: Governance and Strategy
    - [REDACTED] deputy leader: Growing the Economy
    - [REDACTED] Adult Social Care, Public Health and Prevention
    - [REDACTED] Communities and Partnerships
    - [REDACTED] Children's Services
    - [REDACTED] Innovation, Transformation and Performance
    - [REDACTED] Environment and Waste
    - [REDACTED] Finance
    - [REDACTED] Commercial Services and Asset Management
    - [REDACTED] Highways and Infrastructure
  2. Under **District Councils (appendix 2)** Great Yarmouth Borough Council, Breckland District Council, Broadland District Council and the Broads Authority should be consulted.
  3. Under **Local interest groups (appendix 2)** it has been suggested that Norfolk LAF (Local Access Forum) - [nlaf@norfolk.gov.uk](mailto:nlaf@norfolk.gov.uk) is added as an additional consultee.
  4. The location of the Norwich City Centre exhibition, Number 47, is not deemed to be the most suitable location for a project of this size. It is suggested that The Forum, Norwich is a more suitable exhibition venue.
  5. Should you have any queries with the above comments please call [REDACTED]  
[REDACTED]