



## Highways England

### Section 56 Planning Act 2008

### Regulation 9 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

### Notice of Acceptance of an Application for a Development Consent Order

### A11/A47 Thickthorn Junction

Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of State has accepted an application by **Highways England Company Limited** of Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ (the "Applicant") for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 (the "Application"). The Application was submitted by Highways England to the Secretary of State c/o the Planning Inspectorate ("the Inspectorate") on 31 March 2021 and was accepted for examination on 28 April 2021. The reference number applied to the Application by the Inspectorate is **TR010037**

#### Summary of the Application

The DCO would authorise altering the single-lane free-flowing link road connecting the A11 northbound to the A47 eastbound via two underpasses (under the A11 and A47 respectively) (the "Scheme"). The Scheme comprises in summary:

- improvements to the existing Thickthorn junction,
- widening the existing slip road on the A47 westbound and building a dedicated left-hand free flow lane to the A11 southbound,
- widening the southern section of the roundabout from three lanes to four lanes,
- new traffic lights on the approach to / from the junction with the B1172 Norwich Road,
- new road surface on the circulatory, plus new road signs and road markings throughout the junction,
- removal of the Cantley Lane South direct connections between the A11 and A47 exit slip roads,
- new link road connecting Cantley Lane South with the B1172 Norwich Road to the north and construction of two new bridges,
- new junction connecting the B1172 Norwich Road to Cantley Lane Link,
- new junction connecting Cantley Lane South to Cantley Lane Link,
- existing Cantley Lane stream and access track realigned and one new stream culvert constructed,

- new footbridge over the A47 for walkers, cyclists and horse riders (WCH) approximately 45m east of the existing footbridge, which will be demolished; the footbridge will have higher railings to improve safety for horse riders,
- paths for walking and cycling proposed along the new Cantley Lane Link giving access to local amenities and links to other recreational routes,
- access to the Park and Ride from the Cantley Lane Link for walkers and cyclists.

The DCO would authorise the compulsory acquisition of land, interests in land and rights over land, and the powers to use land permanently and temporarily for the construction, operation and maintenance of the scheme.

The DCO would make provisions in connection with several ancillary matters including the temporary stopping up of lengths of existing highways in the vicinity of the route, and the reclassification of highways.

### **Environmental Impact Assessment**

The Scheme is Environmental Impact Assessment development (“EIA development”) as defined by The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The Application is therefore accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

### **Copies of Application Documents**

The Application form and the accompanying documents, plans and Environmental Statement can be viewed and downloaded free of charge online on the A11/A47 Thickthorn project page of the Planning Inspectorate’s National Infrastructure Planning website under the documents tab:

[https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a47a11-thickthorn-  
junction/?ipcsection=docs](https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a47a11-thickthorn-<br/>junction/?ipcsection=docs)

The Application documents will remain on the website for the duration of the registration and relevant representation period.

An electronic copy of the application documents can be supplied free of charge on a USB memory stick. Please contact Highways England using the contact details at the end of this notice.

A paper copy of the Application documents can also be supplied, but there will be a reasonable charge to cover the cost of printing and postage up to £1,630 for a full copy of the Application. Copies of individual Application documents are also available on request and a charge may apply.

## Making representations on the Application

The period for making representations starts on Thursday 27 May 2021 and will end at 11.59pm on Wednesday 7 July 2021.

Any person may make representations on the Application to the Secretary of State (i.e.: giving notice of any interest in or objection to the Application). Any representation relating to the Application must be submitted on a registration form and give the grounds on which it is made. The Inspectorate has issued detailed advice on registering as an interested party and making a relevant representation, to which you are advised to have regard. This Advice Note (8.2 – How to Register to Participate in an Examination) is published on the National Infrastructure Planning website under 'Legislation and Advice' and can be found at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

The Registration and Relevant Representation form will be made available by the Inspectorate once the registration / representation period has opened on the relevant page for the Application via the National Infrastructure Planning website <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a47a11-thickthorn-junction/?ipcsection=overview>

Alternatively, you can request a hard copy of the form by telephoning **0303 444 5000** quoting the name of the Application and the Inspectorate's reference number **TR010037**. A completed hard copy form to be submitted to the Inspectorate should be sent to:

The Planning Inspectorate  
3K  
Temple Quay House  
Temple Quay  
BRISTOL  
BS1 6PN

Please quote reference number **TR010037** in all correspondence with the Inspectorate about this Application.

The period during which you can submit a Relevant Representation to the Inspectorate begins the date this Section 56 Notice is first published, which is Thursday 27 May 2021 and will end on Wednesday 7 July 2021. Please note that any submitted representations to the Inspectorate will be published on the National Infrastructure Planning website for the Application.

Further information about the Application may be obtained from Highways England as follows:

Post: A11/A47 Thickthorn Junction, Highways England, Woodlands, Manton Lane, Bedford, MK41 7LW

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

Telephone: 0300 123 5000