



## The Planning Inspectorate

### Planning Act 2008 – Section 91

### Application by Highways England for an Order granting Development Consent for the A47/A11 Thickthorn Scheme

### Agenda for draft Development Consent Order Hearing 1 (DCO1) Thursday 18 November 2021, 10:00am

| Hearing                     | Date and Time   | Location                            |
|-----------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|
| Draft DCO Hearing 1 (DCO 1) | Thursday 18 November 2021<br>10:00am (Arrangements Conference from 09:30am) | Virtual Meeting via Microsoft Teams |

### Issue Specific Hearing: Draft Development Consent Order

All Interested Parties are invited to attend Issue Specific Hearings, but it would assist the running of the hearings if notice could be given to the Inspectorate's Case Team (A47A11thickthorn@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) of a wish to participate prior to the hearing by **midday 12 November 2021**.

Moreover, each Interested Party is entitled to make oral representations. However, this is subject to the Examining Authority's (ExA) power to control hearings with the aim to facilitate the best use of examination time available.

Notwithstanding the above the ExA would find it helpful for the following attendees to participate in the Hearing:

- Highways England (the Applicant) - including representatives of the Applicant who are in a position to discuss the matters on the agenda;
- Norfolk County Council;
- South Norfolk Council;

The Arrangements Conference will commence 30 minutes prior to the start of each hearing to enable a prompt start. Hearings will finish as soon as the ExA deems that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered. The agenda is for guidance only. It is not designed to be exclusive or exhaustive. The ExA may add other issues for consideration, may alter the order

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in which issues are considered and will seek to allocate sufficient time to each issue to allow proper consideration of them. Any lack of discussion of a particular issue at a hearing does not preclude further examination of this issue, including the asking of further written questions.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the issues will be discussed on the days that they are scheduled for. Should the consideration of the issues take less time than anticipated, the ExA may conclude the Hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to. If there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time at any Hearing, there may be a need to continue the session for longer on the day. Alternatively, it may be necessary to prioritise matters and defer others to further written questions.

**Please Note: In order to ensure timely publication of the agenda, this has been drafted shortly after the receipt of submissions for Deadline 2 Tuesday 26 October 2021; as a consequence, the ExA reserves the right to adjust the agenda if deemed appropriate.**

### **Purpose**

The main purpose of Issue Specific Hearing on the draft Development Consent Order (DCO1) is to:

- Clarify issues around how the dDCO is intended to work – what would be consented, the extent of the powers and what requirements, provisions and agreements are proposed;
- Identify any possible issues of prevention, mitigation or compensation which are not covered by the dDCO as currently drafted;
- Establish or confirm the views of other IPs as to the appropriateness, proportionality, or efficacy of the dDCO.

### **Contingencies**

The ExA will endeavour to hear all participants. If the hearing, or parts of it, is unable to proceed, for example for technical reasons, then the ExA may adjourn for any incomplete business to be dealt with at hearings later in the Examination Timetable. Notice of any adjournments will be provided on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

### **Microsoft Teams**

The Hearing will take place virtually using Microsoft Teams. Further information about virtual events in relation to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects can be found in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 8.6: Virtual examination events:

[Advice Note 8.6: Virtual examination events | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](https://www.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/advice-note-8-6-virtual-examination-events/)

Further information, including a short video regarding taking part in a Planning Inspectorate virtual event, can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/>

[Planning Inspectorate virtual events: guide to participating – GOV.UK](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/planning-inspectorate-virtual-events-guide-to-participating)  
([www.gov.uk](https://www.gov.uk))

Please contact the Case Team if you have any questions about using Microsoft Teams.

### **Digital Recording**

A digital recording will be made of the hearing. This will be made available on the project page of the National Infrastructure website.

If you take part in the hearing it is important that you understand that your comments will be recorded and that the digital recording will be published and retained, usually for a period of 5 years from the Secretary of State's decision.

As such the Planning Inspectorate is subject to the General Data Protection Regulations. It is very unlikely that the ExA will ask you to put sensitive personal information such as email addresses, financial or health related matters into the public domain.

However, if for some reason you feel that it is necessary for you to refer to sensitive personal information the ExA would encourage you to speak to the case team in the first instance. The case team would then explore with you whether the information could be provided in a written format which could then be appropriately redacted before being published.

Please bear in mind that the only official record of the proceedings will be the digital recording that will be placed on the project page of the National Infrastructure website. Tweets, blogs and similar communications arising out of the hearing will not be accepted as evidence in the Examination of this application.



## Agenda

|                         |   |
|-------------------------|---|
| <b>Title of meeting</b> | A47/A11 Thickthorn Junction Draft Development Consent Order Hearing 1 |
| <b>Date</b>             | Thursday, 18 November 2021  |
| <b>Time</b>             | 10.00am   |
| <b>Attendees</b>        | Invitees  |

- 1. Welcome, introductions, and arrangements for the hearing**
- 2. Articles and Schedules of the dDCO**

The Applicant will be asked to;

- provide a very brief overview of each part of the dDCO;

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- briefly highlight changes which have been made to the dDCO since the original submission version;
- explain the relationship between the dDCO and the Environmental Management Plan and associated Record of Environmental Actions and Commitments in securing mitigation.
- ExA will ask questions in respect of Articles and Schedules of the dDCO, including highlighting any drafting errors and/or inconsistencies within the dDCO.
- Interested Parties will be invited to ask questions of clarification in relation to dDCO Articles and Schedules.

### **3. Schedule 2 of the dDCO – Requirements**

- The Applicant will be asked to provide a brief overview of the Requirements.
- The ExA will then ask questions, seeking responses where appropriate.
- Interested Parties will also be invited to ask questions of clarification in relation to DCO requirements.

### **4. Protective Provisions**

- To obtain an update on progress between parties regarding protective provisions.

### **5. Statements of Common Ground**

- The Applicant to provide an update on Statements of Common Ground relevant to the dDCO.

### **6. Review of any actions/ issues**

### **7. AOB**

### **8. Close of Hearing**