

# A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Dualling

Scheme Number: TR010038

Volume 5 5.2 Annex L: December 2020 Project Update and Targeted 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 North Tuddenham to Easton Development Consent Order 202[x]

## CONSULTATION REPORT ANNEX L DECEMBER 2020 PROJECT UPDATE AND TARGETED CONSULTATION

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#### 1 **PROJECT UPDATE MATERIALS**

#### 1.1 Letter



Our ref: NT-E/PUWINTER/122020

James Powis Project Manager Highways England Woodlands Manton Lane Bedford, MK41 7LW

0300 123 5000

Monday 7th December 2020

Dear Resident

#### A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON - SCHEME UPDATE

I am writing to you about Highways England's proposed A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Scheme (the scheme) which will improve the A47 by relieving congestion and improving safety.

The existing A47 between North Tuddenham and Easton experiences delays and high levels of congestion during peak hours. We aim to improve the traffic flow, reduce journey times on the route, and increase the route safety and resilience. The scheme also aims to support economic growth by making journeys safer and more reliable.

The scheme proposes creating 5.6miles (9km) of new dual carriageway, two new junctions at Wood Lane and Norwich Road, and the removal of the existing roundabout at Easton. We are proposing a new A47 carriageway with two new junctions that will be below the new dual carriageway to reduce their visual impact.

The scheme is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) (the 2008 Act). This means we will apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to construct and operate the scheme. This application will be made to the Planning Inspectorate, who will examine the application on behalf of the Secretary of State. We intend to make our application for a DCO in early 2021.

You may remember that we carried out a statutory pre-application consultation in early 2020. The statutory consultation presented our design proposals for the scheme. We've listened and considered your feedback from that consultation, and that has resulted in some changes to the proposed road design.





You can read about these changes and how the scheme has developed since the 2020 statutory consultation in the enclosed Project Update brochure (Winter 2020). The changes to the scheme do not significantly alter the scheme or the environmental impacts set out in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report which was published for the statutory consultation in early 2020.

Please do give us your views on the proposed changes we are making to the road design before the DCO application is submitted. We are also talking to relevant stakeholders about these changes.

Any comments or feedback that you'd like to make on the changes to the scheme can be sent to us as follows:

- By post: Freepost A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON
- By email: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEastonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk

Please ensure that your response reaches us by the end of Wednesday 6 January 2021 to allow us time to collect and assess the responses before we finalise our DCO application.

If you need further information on our proposals, there is a full set of the 2020 statutory consultation documents on the project website which you can download free of charge at <u>www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E</u>

- the consultation brochure (February 2020)<sup>\*</sup>
- the consultation response form (February 2020)\*
- the PEIR (February 2020)\* accompanied by a Non-Technical Summary (February 2020)\*
- the scheme plan (February 2020)\*
- S47 Notice (February 2020)\*
- S48 Notice (February 2020)\*
- Junction and Sideroad Strategy Report (February 2020)
- Scheme Assessment Report (SAR) (December 2017)
- 2017 Non-Statutory Consultation Report (August 2017)

As the period of the original formal consultation closed on the 30 April 2020, the hard copy documents are no longer available to view at the locations specified in the Section 47 Notice and the Section 48 Notice from earlier this year. Furthermore, the current situation with COVID-19 makes it difficult to safely make hard copies of the consultation documents available locally. If you do not have internet access and/or require a printed copy of an update document or a statutory consultation document, please contact us via the contact details below.

<sup>\*</sup> Please note that the consultation documents with an asterisk refer to the 26 February to 8 April 2020 statutory consultation period. The statutory consultation was extended from 8 April 2020 to 30 April 2020 in response to the first COVID-19 national lockdown.





Further information about the 2008 Act process and Development Consent Orders can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website: <u>https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/</u>

Should you have any queries about this correspondence, the scheme or the updates to the scheme from the 2020 statutory consultation, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details provided.

Yours sincerely,



James Powis

Highways England Project Manager Tel :

Email: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEastonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk





#### 1.2 Project update brochure



# Project update Winter 2020

# A47 North Tuddenham to Easton

#### Investing in the A47

The A47 is an important connection linking the cities of Norwich and Peterborough, the towns of Wisbech, Kings Lynn, Dereham, Great Yarmouth and Lowestoft and a succession of villages in what is largely a rural area.

As part of a multi-billion investment to improve journeys on England's major A-roads and motorways, the Government is funding a package of six projects on the 115-mile stretch of the A47 between Peterborough and Great Yarmouth. Together, the proposals will relieve congestion and improve the reliability of journey times for drivers.

The projects include converting almost eight miles of single carriageway to dual carriageway and improving key junctions along the A47 road.

The other A47 road improvement projects are:

- A47 Wansford to Sutton dualling
- A47/A141 Guyhirn junction
- A47/A11 Thickthorn junction Improvements
- A47 Blofield to North Burlingham dualling
- A47 Great Yarmouth junction





# Why are the North Tuddenham to Easton improvements needed?

The section from North Tuddenham to Easton is located on the A47 to the west of Norwich, and forms part of the main arterial highway route connecting Norwich and Great Yarmouth to Kings Lynn, and then on to Peterborough, Leicester and the Midlands.

Studies have identified that the single carriageway section of the road no longer meets the needs of its users. It acts as a bottle neck, resulting in congestion that leads to longer journey times and has a poor safety record.

## Project benefits

By delivering these improvements to the junction, we aim to:

- help enable regional development and growth in Norwich and its surrounding area
- reduce congestion, make journey times more reliable and provide capacity for future traffic growth
- improve resilience of the road to cope with incidents such as collisions, breakdowns and maintenance
- improve safety for all road users and those living in the local area
- protect the environment by minimising any adverse impacts and where possible, deliver benefits
- ensure the new road layout considers local communities and safe access to the A47
- provide a safer route between communities for walkers, cyclists, horse riders and other non-motorist groups



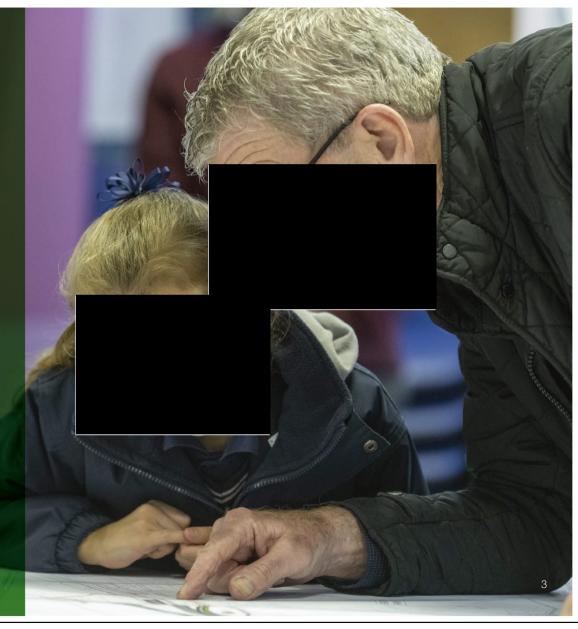


#### How you've been involved

Between March and April 2017, we held a non-statutory public consultation to get your views on four different proposals to dual the A47 between North Tuddenham and Easton. That feedback showed us the public's most popular route and we announced the preferred route in August 2017. Since then, we have continued to develop the design, with traffic flow and safety as top priorities.

Between February and April 2020, we held a statutory public consultation to share our revised proposals. As well as our consultation documentation being available online, we held six public consultation events. Documents, brochures and response forms were available in local libraries and at the county council offices in Norwich. Over 400 responses were received during the consultation period.

The statutory consultation was originally scheduled to close on 8 April after a sixweek period. However, in the light of the coronavirus pandemic and accompanying lockdown, the consultation was extended to 30 April 2020 to allow extra time for the public to respond to the statutory consultation.





#### What's happened since the statutory consultation?

We've listened and taken into account your feedback from the 2020 consultation and have made some changes to the proposals. In addition, the design has also taken into account detailed discussions on how construction can have the least impact on the local community and the environment.

Following the consultation feedback, engagement with the local authority and affected local parishes, we have made the following new proposed changes to our plans:

- added an underpass for traffic, walkers and cyclists at Mattishall Lane
- removed the Church Lane underpass and link road
- closed Berry's Lane to through traffic
- changed the Wood Lane southern junction into Dereham to reuse more of the existing A47 road
- altered the proposed River Tud bridge as a result of conversations with the Environment Agency
- added a walking and cycling link from Honingham to St Andrews Church via an underpass under the A47
- relocated the Norwich Road Junction 150m eastwards to reduce the new road's impact on the church and keep the farm access
- reconfigured the proposed northern roundabout at Norwich Road junction to link to Taverham Road and removed the road to Easton
- closed Blind Lane to through traffic

- created a new walking and cycling route between Easton and Lower Easton
- Closed the existing walking route at Easton over the dual carriageway
- added earth banks to reduce traffic noise
- added a wetland drainage zone to improve biodiversity

Air quality monitoring	Completed	Spring 2020
Ground investigations	Completed	Autumn 2020
Ecological surveys	Completed	Autumn 2020
Drainage surveys	Completed	Winter 2020
Archaeological trenching	Completed	Autumn 2020
Ground water monitoring	Ongoing	Winter 2020
Water quality monitoring	Ongoing	Spring 2021
Baseline noise surveys	Completed	Autumn 2020
Walking, cycling and horse riding surveys	Completed	Summer 2020



### Our proposed design

Our revised layout that we intend to submit for planning approval includes:

- 9km of new dual carriageway, running to the south of the existing A47 at Hockering and north of the existing A47 at Honingham
- removing the existing roundabout at Easton to create a free-flowing road
- building four bridges carrying the A47 over the new Mattishall Lane link road, the proposed Wood Lane junction, River Tud and the proposed Norwich Road junction
- connecting Sandy Lane to the A47 via a new side road with access to the new Wood Lane junction
- moving utility pipes and cables
- two new lay-bys on the A47 between Fox Lane and the proposed Wood Lane junctions
- closure of Church Lane, Berry's Lane, Blind Lane, Church Road/Ringland Road to through traffic
- keeping the existing A47 for local use and new routes for walkers, cyclists and horse riders alongside the A47 where possible, with abandoned sections to be landscaped
- constructing a new underpass for walkers and cyclists to the west of the proposed Norwich Road junction keeping north – south connectivity as the proposed A47 cuts across an existing public right of way

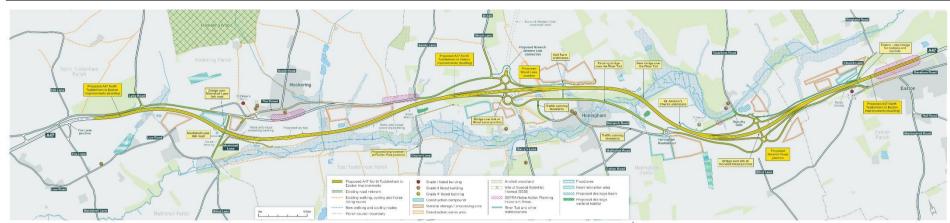
- a new separate route for walkers and cyclists linking Honingham with St Andrews Church via an underpass below the A47
- a new separate route for walkers and cyclists linking Easton with Lower Easton via a bridge over the A47
- new drainage systems, including pollution control
- compounds, storage areas and temporary vehicle parking whilst construction is taking place

We are continuing to talk to Anglian Water, British Telecom, National Grid and UKPN to plan for any cable or pipe diversions that may be needed as a result of our proposals.

Norfolk County Council has announced the preferred route for their Norwich Western Link (NWL) (www.norfolk.gov.uk/nwl) in July 2020. We are part of the NWL local liaison group to ensure a joined-up approach. As part of our submission to the planning inspectorate we will be including a temporary closure of Honingham Lane to through traffic at Ringland until a decision is made on the NWL.



#### A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Dualling Annex L: December 2020 Project Update and Targeted Consultation





#### Protecting the environment

Protecting the environment is a key consideration in our A47 North Tuddenham to Easton proposals. Our Environmental surveys and assessments have been developed and our proposals are included in the design where practical. We have engaged with key statutory consultees including the Environment Agency, Natural England and Historic England to inform the environmental impact assessment (EIA) process. This engagement is ongoing and is helping to identify practical measures to reduce the environmental effects and deliver wider benefits such as protecting wildlife and their habitats and controlling noise for residents in Noise Action Planning Areas as shown on the scheme plan.



Measures include:

- creating new replacement habitats, including new nesting and roosting sites for birds
- ensuring the foraging routes of bats and providing new bat boxes in woodland areas
- using earth banks, noise fences and low noise road surfaces to help reduce road traffic noise for nearby properties
- new walking, cycling and horse riding routes with safe crossing points
- adopting approaches to ensure heritage and archaeological sites are excavated, recorded and understood
- planting trees, hedgerows and wild flowers to help settle the road into the landscape and protect and enhance the local wildlife
- using fences to protect wildlife such as badgers from cars and other vehicles
- creating wetland habitats at two drainage basins
- creating new wildlife habitats and improving the biodiversity of Oak Farm and Hockering streams which are crossed by the new road
- providing safe mammal crossing points through mammal ledges in culverts and badger tunnels
- relocation of great crested newts and water voles during construction to protect these species



#### **Protected species**

Great crested newts, water voles and bats are protected species under European and UK law.

#### **Great crested newts**

Before construction starts ecologists will be relocated great crested newts to ensure the protection of this species. This will involve the installation of temporary newt fencing and daily capturing and translocation of newts.

#### Water voles

Water voles are protected and a priority conservation species. We will move water voles to a suitable area before construction starts.

#### Bats

The scheme design includes mature tree planting, bat boxes and other protective measures for bats.





#### Site compounds

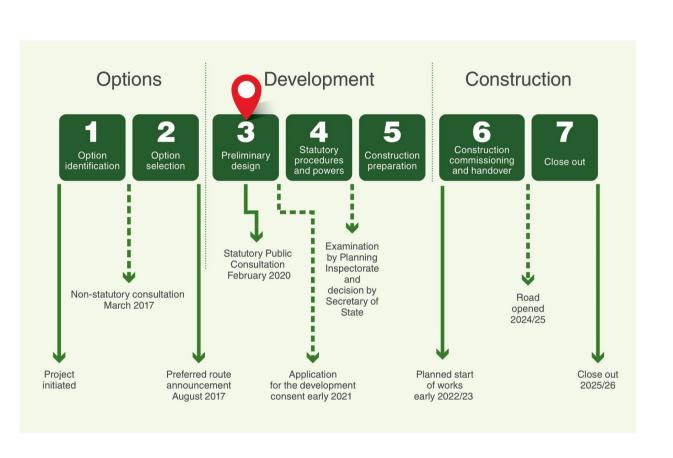
We will need several construction site compounds along the route to safely construct and deliver the scheme. These are shown on the map on page 8 These will be the bases for the construction teams and where we will securely store the construction equipment and materials.

Our contractors are part of the Considerate Constructors scheme which means that they sign up to care about appearance, respect the community, protect the environment, secure everyone's safety and value their workforce. Additionally, in line with the construction industry's aim to have a net zero carbon footprint, our construction site will look to include ideas such as:

- solar powered cabins and infrastructure
- electric site vehicles and charging points
- rainwater collection and reuse
- energy efficient cabins
- safeguarding the environment
- recycling facilities

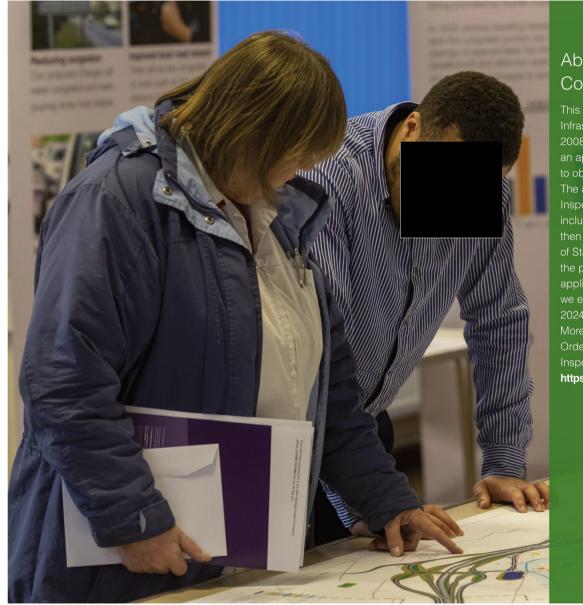








A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Dualling Annex L: December 2020 Project Update and Targeted Consultation



#### About Development Consent Orders

This scheme is classed as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under the Planning Act 2008. This means that we are required to make an application for a Development Consent Order to obtain permission to construct the road. The application will be made to the Planning Inspectorate who will examine the application including holding some hearings in public and then make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport who will decide on whether the project will go ahead. We intend to submit our application in early 2021 and if approved, we expect the road to be open for traffic in 2024/25.

More information about the Development Consent Order process can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website at https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/



If you need help accessing this or any other Highways England information, please call 0300 123 5000 or email: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEastonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk and we will help you.

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info@highwaysengland.co.uk or call 0300 123 5000\*.

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#### 2 TARGETED STATUTORY CONSULTATION

#### 2.1 Category 1 and 2 land interest letter



Our ref: NT-E/PUWINTER-01/122020

James Powis Project Manager Highways England Woodlands Manton Lane Bedford, MK41 7LW

0300 123 5000

Monday 7th December 2020

Dear

# A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON STATUTORY CONSULTATION: MONDAY 7 DECEMBER 2020, TO WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY 2021

# PLANNING ACT 2008 SECTION 42(1)(d) and 44: DUTY TO CONSULT ON A PROPOSED APPLICATION

I am writing to you about our proposed A47 North Tuddenham to Easton scheme (the scheme) which will improve the A47 by relieving congestion and improving safety.

The scheme consists of creating 5.6miles (9km) of new dual carriageway, two new junctions at Wood Lane and Norwich Road, and the removal of the existing roundabout at Easton. We are proposing a new A47 carriageway with two new junctions that will be below the new dual carriageway to minimise their visual impact. The existing A47 between North Tuddenham and Easton experiences delays and high levels of congestion during peak hours. We aim to improve the traffic flow, reducing journey times on the route whilst increasing the route safety and resilience. The scheme is also intended to support economic growth by making journeys safer and more reliable.

The scheme is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project under the Planning Act 2008. This means we will apply for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to construct and operate the scheme. The application will be made to the Planning Inspectorate. If the application is accepted by the Planning Inspectorate, a panel will examine the application and make a recommendation to the Secretary of State for Transport, who will ultimately decide whether the application is granted consent and whether we are able to use compulsory acquisition powers. We intend to make our DCO application in early 2021.

We carried out statutory consultation on the proposed scheme from 26 February until 30 April 2020, which was an extended period in light of covid-19. The statutory consultation presented our design proposals for the scheme. We've listened and considered the public and stakeholder feedback from the 2020 consultation. This has resulted in some changes to the proposed scheme which are contained in the Project Update brochure enclosed.





These changes do not significantly alter the scheme or the environmental impact set out in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) which was published for the statutory consultation in 2020.

In view of the refinements we have made to the proposed scheme design, we now believe that you have:

- a Category 1 interest in land or property in the area of the scheme under section 44 of the Planning Act 2008. This means that we believe you are an owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land or property affected by the scheme; and/or
- a Category 2 interest in land or property in the area of the scheme under section 44 of the Planning Act 2008. This means that we believe you have an interest in the land; or have power to sell and convey the land, or to release the land.

To enable construction and ongoing operation of the scheme, we may need to take permanent ownership or temporary possession of your land or impact on existing rights you hold over land. We could also need to seek legal powers to compulsorily acquire new rights over your land.

We are therefore writing to you to ensure that you have the opportunity to provide feedback on our proposals before we submit them. Before we submit our application for a DCO, we will take account of any comments you submit, as well as undertake engagement with relevant stakeholders about the refined scheme layout and proposals. We are consulting with you on the proposed project from Monday 7 December 2020 to Wednesday 13 January 2021. This period is longer than the statutory minimum in the Planning Act as the consultation period straddles the Christmas and New Year period.

This consultation is an important opportunity for you to share your views on the scheme and the changes presented in Project Update brochure. It will enable us to take your views into account when developing and refining our proposals in advance of submitting our DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate. There will be limited opportunity to amend the proposals once the DCO application has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, so now is the best time to have your say on the proposals.

We would like to use this consultation to understand the potential impacts that the scheme may have on your land or interest. We would also like to work with you to reduce any impact as far as possible, and we can do that more effectively if we fully understand how you use the land and how our scheme may affect that use. You may also wish to consider whether your interests in any surrounding land not acquired for the scheme may be affected. Please use the contact details below to give us your comments.

Please note that while you will be entitled to compensation if your land or interests are acquired, or if temporary possession is taken, this is not a matter which will be taken into account when considering the application for the DCO. The amount of compensation due will be a matter to be determined at the time when land/rights are taken by Highways





England. Compensation disputes will be determined by the Lands Chamber of the Upper Tribunal and not by the Planning Inspectorate.

The scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development, as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations). This is where investigations are conducted to understand the likely effects a development may have on the environment, before deciding whether it should be permitted. Therefore, we prepared a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) in 2020 to help consultees understand our initial assessment of the likely effects of our proposals. An Environmental Statement will be submitted with the application. Our changes since 2020 do not significantly alter our assessment as set out in the PEIR.

A full set of the early 2020 consultation documents listed below and the project update documents are available to download free of charge on the scheme webpage at <a href="http://www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E">www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E</a>

- the consultation brochure (February 2020)\*
- the consultation response form (February 2020)\*
- the PEIR (February 2020)\* accompanied by a Non-Technical Summary (February 2020)\*
- the scheme plan (February 2020)\*
- S47 Notice (February 2020)\*
- S48 Notice (February 2020)\*
- Junction and Sideroad Strategy Report (February 2020)
- Scheme Assessment Report (SAR) (December 2017)
- 2017 Non-Statutory Consultation Report (August 2017)

The above documents have been enclosed on a USB stick.

Please note that the consultation documents with an asterisk refer to the Wednesday 26 February to Wednesday 30 April 2020 consultation period. As stated elsewhere in this letter, any response you wish to make about the scheme in general and the changes to the scheme must be received by 11:59pm on Wednesday 13 January 2021.

As the period of the original statutory consultation closed on 30 April 2020, the hard copy documents are no longer available to view at the locations specified in the Section 47 notice and the Section 48 Notice. Furthermore, the current situation with COVID-19 makes it difficult to safely make hard copies of the consultation documents available locally. If you require a printed copy of a consultation documents, please contact us via the contact details below.



<sup>\*</sup> Please note that the consultation documents with an asterisk refer to the 26 February to 8 April 2020 consultation period. The statutory consultation was extended from 8 April 2020 to 30 April 2020 in response to the first COVID-19 national lockdown.



Highways England has also produced the following guidance in relation to compulsory acquisition and compensation that can be viewed on the project webpage: www.highwaysengland.co.uk/A47NT-E

- your property and our road proposals
- your property and discretionary purchase
- your property and compulsory purchase
- your property and blight

Any responses to this consultation in respect of the scheme should be sent to the following:

- By post: Freepost A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON
- By email: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEastonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk

To allow us time to collect and assess all responses to this consultation before finalising our application, please ensure your response reaches us by 11:59pm on Wednesday 13 January 2021.

Further information about the 2008 Act process and Development Consent Orders can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/

Should you have any queries about this correspondence, the proposals, the changes to the scheme or the consultation, please do not hesitate to contact me using the contact details provided.

Yours sincerely,



 James Powis

 Highways England Project Manager

 Tel :

 Email:
 A47NorthTuddenhamtoEa

: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEastonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk





#### 2.2 Category 3 land interest letter



Our ref: NT-E/PUWINTER-02/122020

James Powis Project Manager Highways England Woodlands Manton Lane Bedford, MK41 7LW

0300 123 5000

Monday 7th December 2020

Dear

# A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON STATUTORY CONSULTATION: MONDAY 7 DECEMBER 2020 TO WEDNESDAY 13 JANUARY 2021

# PLANNING ACT 2008 SECTION 42(1)(d) and 44: DUTY TO CONSULT ON A PROPOSED APPLICATION

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We are writing to you because we believe that you might be entitled to make a relevant claim for compensation due to the effects of construction or when the new section of road is in use. If your property or business is adversely affected by the construction works carried out for the scheme, you may be able to claim compensation under section 152 of the Planning Act 2008 or under section 10 of the Compulsory Purchase Act 1965. Or, under Part I of the Land Compensation Act 1973 compensation can be claimed by people who own and occupy property that has been reduced in value by physical factors caused by the use of a new or altered road. Physical factors are noise, vibration, smell, fumes, smoke, artificial lighting and the discharge on to the property of any solid or liquid substance.

Being consulted under this category does not confirm entitlement to a future claim. Entitlement to compensation is assessed by our professional valuers at the time that a claim is made. We recommend that you take professional advice before making a claim.





The proposed scheme is identified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) under the Planning Act 2008 ("the 2008 Act"). This means we are required to make an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to get the consent we need to build and operate the scheme. This application will be made to the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) who will examine the application on behalf of the Secretary of State in order to obtain permission to construct and operate the scheme. We intend to make our application for a DCO in early 2021.

Highways England carried out statutory pre-application consultation in early 2020. The statutory consultation presented our design proposals for the scheme. We've listened and considered the feedback from the 2020 statutory consultation which has resulted in some changes to the proposed scheme.

The enclosed Project Update brochure (Winter 2020) sets out the changes we have made to the scheme, the refined scheme layout proposals and shows how the scheme has developed since the 2020 statutory consultation. The changes do not significantly alter the scheme or the environmental impacts set out in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) which was published for the statutory consultation that took place early 2020. We welcome comments on the changes to the scheme.

We are therefore writing to you to ensure that you have the opportunity to provide feedback on our proposals before we submit them. Before we submit our application for a DCO, we will take account of any comments you submit, as well as undertake engagement with relevant stakeholders about the refined scheme layout and proposals. We are consulting with you on the proposed project from Monday 7 December 2020 to Wednesday 13 January 2021. This period is longer than the statutory minimum in the Planning Act as the consultation period straddles the Christmas and New Year period.

This statutory consultation is an important opportunity for you to share your views. It will enable us to take your views into account in developing and refining our proposals further in advance of submitting our application to the Planning Inspectorate. There will be limited opportunity to amend the proposals once the application has been submitted to the Planning Inspectorate, so now is the best time to have your say on the scheme.

The scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development, as defined by the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations). This is where investigations are conducted to understand the likely effects a development may have on the environment, before deciding whether it should be permitted. Therefore, we prepared a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) in 2020 to help consultees understand our initial assessment of the likely effects of our proposals. An Environmental Statement will be submitted with the application. Our changes since early 2020 do not significantly alter our assessment as set out in the PEIR.

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- By email: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEastonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk



<sup>\*</sup> Please note that the consultation documents with an asterisk refer to the 26 February to 8 April 2020 consultation period. The statutory consultation was extended from 8 April 2020 to 30 April 2020 in response to the first COVID-19 national lockdown.



To allow us time to collect and assess all responses to this consultation before finalising our application, please ensure your response reaches us by 11:59pm on Wednesday 13 January 2021.

Further information about the 2008 Act process and Development Consent Orders can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/

Should you have any queries about this correspondence, the proposals, the changes to the scheme or the consultation, please do not hesitate to contact me using the contact details provided.

