

My ref:
Your ref:

Date: 29th March 2021

Contact: Chris Poultney

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**Place and Economy
Transport, Strategy and Funding**

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National Infrastructure Planning
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BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Eleanor

**Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A47 North Tuddenham to Easton scheme
Adequacy of consultation request**

Thank you for your letter dated 16th March requesting views on the adequacy of the pre-application consultation in respect to the Application by Highways England (hereafter “the Applicant”) for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A47 North Tuddenham to Easton project. This letter represents a response from Cambridgeshire County Council.

The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) has invited the Authorities to advise whether the Applicant has complied, in relation to the application, with the following duties under the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) (PA2008):

Duty to consult - PA2008 – section 42

Section 42 requires consultation with certain persons specified in the Act and prescribed in regulations.

Duty to consult the local community - PA2008 – section 47

Section 47 requires applicants to prepare a “Statement of Community Consultation” (SoCC) in consultation with relevant Local Authorities which sets out how the Applicant intends to consult the local community on its proposals. The Applicant must then publish the SoCC and undertake statutory consultation in accordance with it.

Duty to publicise - PA2008 – section 48

Section 48 requires that details of the statutory consultation be publicised via a series of notices in the local and national press.

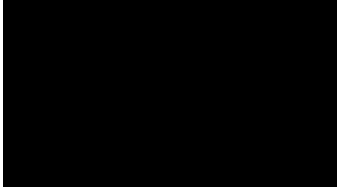
The Council is aware that the Applicant has consulted on a non-statutory basis (from March-April 2017), and then carried out a Statutory Consultation between February 2020 and April 2020.

The Council believes it has had an appropriate level of technical involvement in the pre-application process across the disciplines, for a neighbouring authority. While the Council strongly support the scheme being progressed at the earliest possible opportunity, it is appreciated that the impacts, mitigation, and proposals are fully understood and assessed. The Authorities look forward to engaging with the Applicant in a structured and integrated way

across the disciplines to resolve any issues which emerge from the proposals, should those indeed arise.

For the avoidance of doubt, we reiterate that we consider the consultation to have met the requirements of ss. 42, 47 and 48 of the Planning Act 2008. The Council strongly supports the proposal coming forwards as a key element of the overall upgrade of the A47 in Norfolk and Cambridgeshire, and as an improvement to the Strategic Road Network.

Yours sincerely



Andy Preston
Assistant Director for Infrastructure & Growth
Cambridgeshire County Council