

#### **HIGHWAYS ENGLAND**

#### A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON DUALLING SCHEME

SECTIONS 91, 92 AND 94 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008

RULE 13(6) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES 2010

# NOTICE OF HEARINGS RELATING TO THE A47 NORTH TUDDENHAM TO EASTON DUALLING SCHEME

#### PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE: TR010038

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, at the dates, times and locations set out below, issue specific hearings and compulsory acquisition hearings will be held by the Examining Authority (appointed by the Secretary of State) for the examination of the application made by Highways England for a Development Consent Order ("the DCO") for the **A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Dualling Scheme** ("the Application").

The Application was made to the Secretary of State (via the Planning Inspectorate) under sections 14(1)(h), 22(1) and 37 of the Planning Act 2008 on 15 March 2021 and was accepted by the Planning Inspectorate for examination on 12 April 2021. The Application has been given the Planning Inspectorate reference number **TR010038**.

#### SUMMARY OF THE SCHEME

The Application seeks development consent for the A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Dualling Scheme in the East of England, located within the administrative areas of Norfolk County Council, Broadland District Council, South Norfolk District Council, and Breckland District Council ("the Scheme").

The main aspects of the Scheme comprise:

- 9km of new dual carriageway, running to the south of the existing A47 at Hockering and north of the existing A47 at Honingham
- two new junctions where the A47 passes over the local roads: one where Berrys Lane meets Wood Lane (Wood Lane junction) and one where Blind Lane meets Taverham Road (Norwich Road junction)
- removal of the existing roundabout at Easton to create a free-flowing road
- building four bridges for the A47 to pass over or under: the new Mattishall Lane Link Road, the proposed Wood Lane junction, the River Tud and the proposed Norwich Road junction
- Sandy Lane connecting to the A47 via a new side road providing access to Wood Lane junction
- two new lay-bys on the A47, between Fox Lane and the proposed Wood Lane junction, and police observation points
- closure to through traffic of: Church Lane (East Tuddenham), Berrys Lane, Blind Lane and Church Lane (Easton), north of the A47

- widening of the junction of Rotten Row and Church Lane (East Tuddenham)
- converting sections of the existing A47 for local needs, such as
  - converting to a Class B road north of Honingham, with a new cycle track between the new Dereham Road link road and Honingham roundabout
  - o reducing to a single lane in front of St Andrew's church, Honingham, with inclusion of passing places, parking places, turning area and security gate
- alterations to existing public rights of way and provision of new segregated routes for walkers and cyclists, including:
  - o a new route for walkers and cyclists linking Honingham with St Andrew's Church below the A47 via the proposed Honingham church underpass
  - a new route for walkers and cyclists linking Easton with Lower Easton over the A47 via the proposed Easton footbridge
- new drainage systems, including:
  - new outfalls to the River Tud
  - o dry culverts to maintain overland flow paths
  - new attenuation basins, with pollution control devices, to control discharges to local watercourses
- compounds, material storage areas and temporary vehicle parking located within the scheme boundary when construction is taking place
- diverting or installing new utilities infrastructure, such as a high-pressure gas pipeline, electricity cables, water pipelines and electronic communications cables
- environmental measures embedded into the Scheme design to reduce the environmental effects and deliver wider benefits, such as noise barriers, low noise road surface on the A47, permanent mammal crossings and new wetland habitats
- temporary closure of access (exit and entry) to Honingham Lane at the junction with Taverham Road, Weston Road and Telegraph Hill

If the DCO is made by the Secretary of State, it would allow Highways England, for the purpose of constructing, operating and maintaining the Scheme, to acquire compulsorily interests in and rights over land, including the power to create and acquire new rights over land, and to take possession of and to use land temporarily.

#### **HEARINGS**

The Examining Authority's Rule 8 letter dated 12 August 2021 contains a programme for the examination of the Application, including a number of hearings. The hearings taking place in November 2021 will be held at the dates and times set out in the table below.

| Date                          | Hearing Type  | Time   | Joining Details  |
|-------------------------------|---|--|--|
| Tuesday 2<br>November<br>2021 | Issue Specific Hearing 1: Draft Development Consent Order | Arrangements conference<br>starts at 9.30am<br>Hearing starts at 10.00am | Virtually via Microsoft Teams  *Joining instructions will be issued via email in   |
| Wednesday<br>3                | Compulsory Acquisition<br>Hearing 1:                      | Arrangements Conference<br>at 9.30am<br>Hearing Starts at 10.00am        | advance of each hearing to parties who notified the Planning Inspectorate of their |

| November<br>2021                   | The Applicant's case for Compulsory Acquisition and Temporary Possession. |   | wish to speak at the hearing. A link to the 'live stream' (where the hearing can be followed live but without participation) will be posted on the Planning Inspectorate's project website (see link below) the day before each hearing via a banner. |
|------------------------------------|---|---|---|
| Wednesday<br>3<br>November<br>2021 | Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2: Site / plot specific issues             | Arrangements Conference<br>at 1.30pm<br>Hearing Starts at 2.00pm  |   |
| Thursday 4<br>November<br>2021     | Issue Specific Hearing 2:<br>Environmental Matters                        | Arrangements Conference<br>at 9.30am<br>Hearing Starts at 10.00am |   |
| Friday 5<br>November<br>2021       | Issue Specific Hearing 2 (Continued)*: Environmental Matters              | Arrangements Conference<br>at 9.30am<br>Hearing Starts at 10.00am |   |

\*Issue Specific Hearing 2 may be continued on Friday 5 November if required. If the Examining Authority does not require to continue Issue Specific Hearing 2, notification of the cancellation of the hearing will be published to the Planning Inspectorate's website as soon as practicable.

**LOCATION OF THE HEARING** — The hearings will be held virtually with participants attending at different locations, such as their home or office. A web address and/or telephone number will be provided on the Planning Inspectorate's project website (see below) or directly to preregistered participants in advance of the hearing to allow access to the hearing by a tablet or computer connected to the internet and/or by telephone.

ARRANGEMENTS CONFERENCE — All participants will be required to attend an Arrangements Conference before each session of the hearing. This will be held with the Planning Inspectorate's Case Team 30 minutes before the start of each session. This gives time for the Case Team to admit everyone to the hearing.

**CANCELLATION OF A HEARING** — If the above hearings are no longer required, reasonable notice will be provided of the Planning Inspectorate's decision to cancel the hearing by the posting of a banner on the Planning Inspectorate's project website.

**REQUEST FOR NOTIFICATION OF A WISH TO SPEAK AT A HEARING** — Advance notice must be provided by email to the Planning Inspectorate's Case Team of a wish to speak at a hearing: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEaston@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Any hearings further to those listed above will be advertised by one or more further notices. In accordance with Rule 13(3) of Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010, as amended, the Planning Inspectorate will also notify interested parties of the date, time and place fixed for each hearing.

For more information on the above hearings, the examination of the Application and full examination timetable (and any amendments to it), including how and when to register to speak at the hearings and how and when to make written submissions, please contact the Planning Inspectorate using the details at the end of this notice, or visit the Planning Inspectorate's project website where procedural decisions and notices of hearings are available to download:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a47-north-tuddenham-to-easton/

Annex C of the Planning Inspectorate's Rule 8 letter dated 12 August 2021 provides further information on hearings procedure and is available to download via the following hyperlink:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/TR010038/TR010038-000401-A47%20NT2E%20Rule%208%20Letter%20FINAL.pdf

Additional information about DCO hearings and examination procedure is included in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 8 which can be found here:

 $\underline{\text{https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/2013/04/Advice-note-8.0.pdf}$ 

#### COPIES OF THE APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Copies of the Application documents, including the draft Development Consent Order, the compulsory acquisition information (including the Land Plans, Book of Reference, Funding Statement and Statement of Reasons) and the Environmental Statement can be viewed and downloaded online at the Planning Inspectorate's project website:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a47-north-tuddenham-to-easton/?ipcsection=docs

The Application documents can also be viewed electronically, free of charge, at the following public locations:

| Location  | Opening Times  |
|---|--|
| Costessey Library Breckland Road Costessey Norwich NR5 0RW                        | Monday: 10am-1pm Tuesday: 2pm-6pm Wednesday: 10am-1pm Thursday: Closed Friday: 10am-1pm Saturday: 10am-4pm Sunday: Closed  |
| Dereham Library 59 High Street Dereham NR19 1DZ                                   | Monday: 9.30am-7pm Tuesday: 9.30am-7pm Wednesday:9.30am-7pm Thursday: 9.30am-7pm Friday: 9.30am-7pm Saturday 9.30am-4pm Sunday: Closed                                       |
| Norfolk and Norwich Millennium Library The Forum Millennium Plain Norwich NR2 1AW | Monday: 10am-7pm Tuesday: 10am-7pm Wednesday: 10am-7pm Thursday: 10am-7pm Friday: 10am-7pm Saturday: ground floor 10am-7pm, all other areas 9am-5pm Sunday: 10.30am - 4.30pm |

Venue copying charges will apply. Check with the location before you leave to confirm opening times, and whether you need to register as a library member in order to use a computer.

In addition to the above hearings, the Examining Authority has arranged an accompanied site inspection in the company of interested parties during the week commencing **15 November 2021**. An itinerary for the accompanied site inspection will be published in advance of the site visit on the **Planning Inspectorate's project website**:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a47-north-tuddenham-to-easton/

The format and detail of this will depend on the Government's public health restrictions relating to the COVID-19 pandemic in force at the time. If restrictions remain, the inspection may not take place and if it does take place, attendance will be limited and socially distanced.

If you wish to attend the site inspection please contact the Planning Inspectorate's Case Team at the email or postal address provided at the end of this notice.

#### **FURTHER INFORMATION**

Further information about the Application, the hearings and accompanied site inspection, and how to take part in the examination and any other matters covered in this notice may be obtained from the Planning Inspectorate or the Highways England A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Dualling Project Team using the following contact details:

## The Planning Inspectorate

Please note that as a result of ongoing Government guidance relating to the Coronavirus (COVID-19), there are limited staff at Temple Quay House and any submissions sent by post may be subject to delay.

Email: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEaston@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Phone: 0303 444 5000

Post: The Planning Inspectorate

Temple Quay House

2 The Square

Bristol

BS1 6PN

Website: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a47-north-

tuddenham-to-easton/

Please quote the Application reference number **TR010038** in any correspondence with the Planning Inspectorate about this Scheme. Correspondence about this Scheme should be marked FAO A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Case Team.

## **Highways England**

During the current Covid-19 period and in the interests of public health, Highways England requests that written correspondence is directed to the following email address:

Email: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEaston@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Telephone: 0300 123 5000

Post: A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Scheme, Highways England, Woodlands,

Manton Lane, Bedford, MK41 7LW

Correspondence about this Scheme should be marked: "FAO A47 North Tuddenham to Easton Dualling Project Team"

### 12 October 2021