



National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Customer Services: 0303 444 5000
e-mail: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEaston@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

All Interested Parties

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010038

Date: 3 December 2021

Dear Sir/Madam

Planning Act 2008 sections 91 and 92 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 13

Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A47 Easton to North Tuddenham project

Notification of Hearings

In accordance with Rule 13(1) and (6) of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended), I am required to give a 21 day notice period for hearings. I request that the Applicant publicly notifies and advertises the Hearings no later than 21 days before the events.

I write to advise you that Hearings will be held on Wednesday 5 January 2022 and Thursday 6 January 2022.

My letter of 12 August 2021, the Rule 8 letter, provides the Examination Timetable setting out dates reserved for Hearings. I have considered how best to examine the matters arising from the application, ensure fairness given the practical constraints arising from COVID-19 and how best to respond to recent Government announcements.

Following consideration, I have decided to hold a series of Virtual Hearings using the dates reserved in the Examination Timetable.

It is not my intention to hold a further Open Floor Hearing as I consider that the matters and issues can be adequately dealt with via an Issue Specific Hearing (ISH).

An ISH is being held as I consider it is necessary to hear oral representations on a number of particular issues. In the subsequent Agenda for the Hearing, I will invite Interested Parties (IPs) that I consider will assist me to examine the matters to be discussed at the ISH.

A Compulsory Acquisition Hearing is being held because the Application includes a request for an order granting development consent to authorise Compulsory Acquisition (CA) of land or CA of an interest in or right over land.

As well as the Applicant the following parties, or their representatives, are invited to participate in, and therefore provide notice of a wish to speak in, the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing:

- Any Affected Person who would like to object to Compulsory Acquisition or Temporary Possession
- Statutory Undertakers, Crown bodies and other bodies with special statutory protections under the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) who would like to object to Compulsory Acquisition or Temporary Possession.

The events will be held virtually and joining details will be sent out beforehand. Please see below on how to register.

Date	Hearing	Start Time	Joining Details
Wednesday 5 January 2022	Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 3: For the applicant to provide an update on the current position with regards to Compulsory Acquisition and Temporary Possession and, if required, a discussion on specific plots.	Arrangements Conference at 9.30am Hearing Starts at 10.00am	Virtual event Join by digital device or telephone using details to be provided in forthcoming Agenda
Thursday 6 January 2022	Issue Specific Hearing 3: Draft Development Consent Order and Environmental Matters	Arrangements Conference at 9.30am Hearing Starts at 10.00am	Virtual event Join by digital device or telephone using details to be provided in forthcoming Agenda

Advanced notice must be provided of a wish to speak at any Hearing. The advanced notice **must include all of the following**:

- your name and (if available) Interested Party reference number;
- your email address (if available), for us to send you arrangement details;
- a telephone number that we can contact you on before and during any Hearing;
- the name of any organisation that you are representing and your role;
- the Hearing(s) and sessions (if applicable) that you would like to speak at;
- if you would like to speak at Compulsory Acquisition hearing 3, the plot number(s) that you would like to discuss; and
- an Examination Library reference number for a document, or a copy of any new material, that you would like to be shared visually at a Hearing.

Requests to speak at Hearings are to be provided to the Case Team, using the below contact details by **Monday 13 December 2021**.

Email: A47NorthTuddenhamtoEaston@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The Agendas and detailed arrangements for the Hearings will be published on the project page of the [National Infrastructure Planning website](#) at least five working days before the Hearings. However, given the Christmas holiday period, it is my intention to publish the Agendas in advance of the holidays.

If your request to attend and / or speak at a Hearing is accepted, you will receive an invitation which will include joining instructions.

The [Arrangements Conference](#) will admit you to the event and provide information on the Hearing and reminders about using the technology. Please arrive early so the Case Team can admit you before the start time.

You may speak on issues set out in your Relevant Representation or Written Representation. I will be responsible for questioning each party, and as such, may not need to ask further questions either to you or to other parties in attendance. Please be assured that I will carefully assess all contributions you make during my examination of the application. Technical and management considerations may mean I need to limit the number of speakers at any Hearings. I will prioritise IPs and those speaking on behalf of a group of people. I will give the same consideration to any matter, whether it is raised once or several times.

All parties, including those who do not wish to speak or attend the Hearings, are invited to submit their comments, in writing, on specific matters included in the Hearing Agendas or arising at the Hearings. These submissions must be made by 17 January 2022 (Deadline 7) via the [Make a Submission](#) tab on the project page.

If any of the Hearings are no longer required or need to be cancelled / postponed for any other reason, notice will be provided on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

The Planning Inspectorate has published detailed advice on virtual examination events on our [website](#).

We will be using Microsoft Teams to conduct the event. You can join the event through the internet, the app or by telephone. If you have any questions about attending the event, please contact the Case Team and they will be happy to assist you.

There will be a livestream recording of the event if you prefer to watch this rather than enter the Hearing. A link will be posted before the start of the event on the project page.

All Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project Examination events, whether virtual or physical are recorded. The recordings of the Hearings will be made available on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website. The recordings allow any member of the public who is interested in the application and the Examination to find out what has been discussed at a Hearing.

Speakers will need to introduce themselves, including any organisation or groups that they represent, each time they speak to ensure that someone watching the recording after the event is clear who was speaking.

As the recordings are retained and published, they form a public record that can contain personal information to which the General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) applies. Please refer to our Privacy Notice for further information.

Participants should avoid making public any information they wish to be kept private and confidential. If there is a need to refer to such information, it should be in written form. Although this will also be published, personal and private content can be redacted or removed before it is made public. You may contact the Case Team for further guidance on your personal information.

The Planning Inspectorate's practice is to publish the recordings and retain them for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision on the Development Consent Order. If you participate in a Hearing, you will be recorded and the recording will be made available in the public domain. If you prefer not to have your image recorded, you may keep your camera switched off.

Please contact the Case Team if you have any questions about this letter.

In the meantime, I look forward to the continuing Examination of this application.

Yours faithfully

Adrian Hunter

Examining Authority (ExA)

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.