

A47 Wansford to Sutton Dualling

Scheme Number: TR010039

Volume 5

5.2 Annex C: Copy of the Draft SoCC Provided to Local Authorities

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

July 2021

Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

**The Infrastructure Planning
(Applications: Prescribed Forms and
Procedure) Regulations 2009**

The A47 Wansford to Sutton
Development Consent Order 202[x]

**5.2 CONSULTATION REPORT ANNEX C
COPY OF THE DRAFT SOCC PROVIDED TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES**

Regulation Number:	Regulation 5(2)(q)
Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference	TR010039
Application Document Reference	TR010039/APP/5.2
Author:	A47 Wansford to Sutton Project Team, Highways England

Version	Date	Status of Version
Rev 0	July 2021	Application Issue

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1 COPY OF DRAFT SOCC PROVIDED FOR STATUTORY CONSULTATION, AUGUST 2018



Document Title	Draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) A47 RIS – Wansford To Sutton Dualling Proposed scheme
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Distribution	A47 RIS – Wansford to Sutton Dualling – Project Team
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Date: 25 July 2018

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Document Control

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1.0	15/03/18	For Approval	Jacob Lister
2.0	21/06/18	For Approval – Updated Statutory Consultation Dates	Jack Boswell-Joel
3.0	25/07/18	For Approval – Updated SoCC Consultation Dates and Formatting	Bethany Davies

Reviewer List

Name	Role
Jamie Gordon	A47 Corridor Improvement Plan Engagement Programme Manager
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Approvals

Name	Signature	Title	Date of Issue	Version
Stefan Craciun		Supplier Project Manager		
Aaron Douglas		Highways England - Project Manager		

Under section 37, the Planning Act 2008 requires that promoters on Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) must detail how they intend to comply with the consultation requirements set out in sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Act. This template can be used by project teams preparing a SoCC to support an application for a Development Consent Order for an NSIP.

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1. Introduction

- 1.1. Highways England is publishing this Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) in connection with a proposed improvement to the A47 between Wansford and Sutton, between the A1/A47 junction and the Nene Way roundabout at Sutton (the Scheme). The purpose of this document is to set out how we will consult the local community about our proposal. The document also provides background to the proposed Scheme and how the application to develop the Scheme will progress.

2. The application

- 2.1. Highways England is developing this Scheme under the Planning Act 2008 (the Act) and is publishing this statement under Section 47 of the Act. As part of the development of this SoCC we have consulted Peterborough City Council, Huntingdonshire District Council, Cambridgeshire County Council and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, the local authorities responsible for administering areas where the scheme is proposed, about plans to consult the local community and on the terms of this document which were issued in draft to them prior to the formal consultation taking place on the SoCC. The document was then issued formally to those local authorities in accordance with Section 47(2) of the Act, in order to obtain their formal response within the 28-day consultation period. It was also issued in draft at the same time to a number of other key stakeholders, as well as the Planning Inspectorate (PINS), in order to obtain their views.
- 2.2. The Act requires Highways England to make an application to the Secretary of State through the Planning Inspectorate for a Development Consent Order (DCO) to build the Scheme. The Secretary of State's role is to consider whether authorisation should be given for major infrastructure projects like this scheme. Highways England anticipates that a DCO application for the Scheme will be submitted after we have considered the consultation responses and further developed the Scheme proposals to respond to the consultation responses where appropriate. The timetable for this project can be found on the Highways England website via the following link:

<https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-wansford-to-sutton-dualling/>

The Planning Inspectorate will examine the DCO application and the Secretary of State will decide on whether the proposed scheme should go ahead.

- 2.3. Government policy relating to the development of the national road network is set out in the National Networks National Policy Statement (NNNPS). This provides the framework for DCO applications to be considered against.
- 2.4. When Highways England submits its DCO application, the Secretary of State must consider whether our pre-application consultation has been adequate. This pre-application consultation will be important in shaping the proposed

development and will enable us to better understand your views on what is being proposed. It will also be important once an application is accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate. Therefore, the best time to provide feedback on the Scheme is now; by taking part in this pre-application consultation.

- 2.5. You can find more information about the Planning Inspectorate and the Planning Act 2008 **on the Gov.uk website:**

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/> - or by calling the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000.

3. The Scheme

- 3.1. The A47 forms part of the strategic road network and provides for a variety of local, medium and long-distance trips between the A1 and the eastern coastline. The corridor connects 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.
- 3.2. The existing A47 single carriageway is to be upgraded to dual carriageway standard. It will be constructed slightly to the north of the existing A47 from the A1/A47 junction for approximately 800m, before crossing the existing A47, where it will be constructed to the south of the existing alignment until it ties into the existing dual carriageway at the Nene Way Roundabout.
- 3.3. The existing western roundabout at the A1/A47 junction will be upgraded to incorporate additional entry and exit lanes on each arm, except the southern arm (Old North Road). The northern entry will be further amended to include a segregated left turn from the A1 northbound on to the A47 eastbound carriageway.
- 3.4. The existing section on the A1 overbridge, between the western and eastern roundabouts, will be opened to two lanes in each direction, as permitted within the confines of the existing bridge width.
- 3.5. The existing eastern roundabout at the A1/A47 junction will be enlarged and the part-time traffic signals removed. The roundabout will include a new link to the south for access to the water pumping station and the fuel station. A new underbridge is also to be constructed off this new link under the proposed A47, giving access to Sacrewell Farm and Country Centre.
- 3.6. The new link road, including access to the water pumping station, the fuel station and Sacrewell Farm and Country Centre, is proposed to be handed over to either Peterborough City Council or another arrangement.
- 3.7. To the west of the scheme, a new free-flow slip road is to be constructed connecting the existing A1 southbound carriageway to the new A47 eastbound carriageway. The existing diverge lane off the A1 southbound is retained as part

- of these arrangements to connect to the eastern roundabout at the A1/A47 junction for all other movements.
- 3.8. A new bridge will also be constructed, where the proposed A47 alignment crosses over the disused railway line to the west of Sutton Heath Road.
- 3.9. Current direct accesses to Sutton Heath Road and The Drift will be closed, with alternative arrangements proposed for both, connecting slightly further east, at the Nene Way Roundabout. The Drift is proposed to be shortened with turning arrangements to be provided.
- 3.10. The section of existing A47 between Sutton Heath Road and the Nene Way Roundabout is proposed to be de-trunked and handed over to Peterborough City Council.
- 3.11. A larger roundabout is to replace the existing Nene Way Roundabout to the east of the scheme. Here, a connection with a retained section of the existing A47 will also be added for access to Sutton Heath Road.
- 3.12. Drainage ditches and ponds are proposed along the length of the scheme. Existing culverts will also be improved.
- 3.13. Provision for walking, cycling and horse riding is proposed to connect between Wansford, Sutton and local amenities. Existing access tracks will be reinstated.
- 3.14. The lay-by on the A1 southbound immediately to the north of the A1/A47 junction and the lay-by on the A47 immediately to the west of Sutton Heath Road will be removed. Alternative provision is proposed on the new link road near the fuel station.
- 3.15. The Road Investment Strategy provides clear support for improvements at Wansford to Sutton, where dualling will provide for the forecast highway traffic demand up to 2037.
- 3.16. The East of England Route Strategy Evidence Report (April 2014) records:
- 3.17. "The A47 is a single-carriageway between the A1 Wansford and Ailsworth bypass. Its junction with the A1 experiences peak time congestion particularly on the south bound off slip. There is a history of fatal and serious collisions along this length, mainly associated with right turns at grade junctions and accesses".
- 3.18. Within the Greater Cambridge Greater Peterborough Enterprise Partnership Strategic Economic Plan, the A47 Wansford to Sutton dualling is listed as an improvement needed on the trunk/motorway network.
- 3.19. The dualling is also supported by Peterborough City Council, Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority, the Peterborough Long Term Transport Plan and the Integrated Development Plan 2011 to 2026, the A47 Alliance, the A47 Peterborough and Cambridgeshire Case for Improvement Evidence and Wider Economic Benefits, January 2014.

4. Consulting the community

- 4.1. In accordance with section 47 of the Act, Highways England is consulting people living in the vicinity of the proposed Scheme.
- 4.2. Highways England has previously carried out one stage of consultation in March and April 2017. Consultees were asked for their views on three potential options for improving the A47 between Wansford and Sutton:
1. Dualling the existing A47
 2. Building a new dual-carriageway partly to the north and partly to the south of the existing A47
 3. Building a new dual-carriageway to the north of the existing A47
- 4.3. More details, including the outcomes of these consultations are included in the Public Consultation Report, which will be available to download from:
- <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-wansford-to-sutton-dualling/>
- 4.4. Highways England will make sure that the local community, the residents, local interest groups, businesses, visitors and road users have the opportunity to fully understand the Scheme and comment on our proposals. To do this we are holding a Statutory Consultation between September and October 2018. It will start on 18 September 2018 and will end on 29 October 2018, during which period we will provide information on a range of relevant issues:
- Layout of proposed dual carriageway section
 - Junction layout and strategy
 - Works to the existing road ("de-trunking") and side roads
 - Environmental assessments and potential environmental impacts
- 4.5. We have carried out a substantial amount of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) for the proposed scheme. The proposed scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development and therefore we are publishing a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) as part of the consultation material and we will submit an Environmental Statement (ES) with the application. Both the PEIR and the ES will give information about the potential environmental effects of the Scheme and the measures proposed to reduce those effects, such as improvements to non-motorised user access and soft landscaping, to assist well-informed responses to the consultation. The PEIR, the proposed scheme layout and other documents outlined in Appendix 4 of this SoCC, will be made available throughout the consultation period at the deposit locations and on the project website.
- 4.6. Highways England understands that the majority of users who currently use the A47 during peak times are commuters and people within the business communities of Peterborough and Cambridgeshire. In order for these groups

and communities to be kept informed throughout the consultation, Highways England is proposing the following methods of engagement:

- Letters containing key information about the consultation will be sent to the public, their elected representative and other key statutory bodies
- Notices advertising the consultation will be publicised in key office locations, newspapers, on our webpage and in press releases
- Centralised events to allow easy access and convenience

4.7. Our consultation will include:

Method	Detail																
Public Information Exhibition	A public information exhibition will be held at:																
	<table><tr><th>Location</th><th>Date</th><th>Opening time</th><th>Closing time</th></tr><tr><td>St Michael and All Angels Church, Sutton, Nene Way, Sutton, Peterborough, PE5 7XD</td><td>Saturday 29 September</td><td>11am</td><td>5pm</td></tr><tr><td>Haycock Hotel, Wansford, Peterborough, PE8 6JA</td><td>Monday 1 October</td><td>1pm</td><td>8pm</td></tr><tr><td>Sacrewell Farm and Country Centre, Thornhaugh, Peterborough, PE8 6HJ</td><td>Thursday 4 October</td><td>1pm</td><td>8pm</td></tr></table>	Location	Date	Opening time	Closing time	St Michael and All Angels Church, Sutton, Nene Way, Sutton, Peterborough, PE5 7XD	Saturday 29 September	11am	5pm	Haycock Hotel, Wansford, Peterborough, PE8 6JA	Monday 1 October	1pm	8pm	Sacrewell Farm and Country Centre, Thornhaugh, Peterborough, PE8 6HJ	Thursday 4 October	1pm	8pm
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The exhibitions will give visitors an opportunity to view Scheme proposals, talk to the project team and provide feedback comments.																	
The public will be informed of the exhibitions through channels including: advertisements in local media, the Scheme website, direct communications, such as letters, emails and public events, and regular Scheme updates on the Highways England website.																	
Feedback can be submitted online via the project website, for members of the public to record their comments. Alternatively, feedback forms will be available at the exhibition events for																	

	members of the public, which can either be left with the project team and/or returned to the postal address detailed below.
Project website	A full summary of the project, copies of the supporting project documents and a feedback form will be provided on a dedicated Highways England project website: https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-wansford-to-sutton-dualling/
Project summary leaflet	A project summary leaflet will be delivered to homes and businesses in the consultation zone map shown in Appendix 1. A letter shall also be delivered to these residencies detailing where online information may be found.
Council and community / area forum briefings	Local councils and community/area forums located in areas where the scheme is proposed will be offered briefings to discuss the proposal. We will contact councils and community/area forums about these briefings shortly.
Stakeholder forum briefings	When invited, and where it is possible to do so, the project team will attend meetings of local community groups affected by the proposal. Please contact the project team via the following email address if you would like to invite us to attend any meetings. Email: A47WansfordtoSuttonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk
Hard to Reach groups	<p>We have identified a range of community organisations with a potential interest in the scheme, including representatives of local 'hard to reach' groups. To ensure these 'hard to reach' groups are encouraged to get involved in the consultation, the materials will be prepared to be accessible and clear.</p> <p>Additionally, we will ensure:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - That the contact telephone number and email address for the scheme are prominent on all published material, enabling individuals to contact the team with questions and requests; - The consultation brochure and feedback form can be made available in alternative forms on request – large print, Braille, languages other than English; - Information about the consultation is sent directly to addresses within the Primary Consultation Zone; - Representatives of 'hard to reach groups' will be contacted directly with details about the consultation; <p>We have sought to ensure that venues are accessible and can be reached by public as well as private transport. For anyone with specific additional requirements in relation to consultation events, please email A47WansfordtoSuttonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk or call 0300 123 5000.</p>
Project updates	At the launch of the consultation and at the point at which Highways England submits the DCO application, project updates will be produced, providing details on the proposals and reporting on the outcome of the consultation process respectively. These will be distributed to residents and

	community groups, by e-mail to road users registering for further communications on our website, and to Local Authorities and community/area forums who wish to receive them. Copies will be made available on our website and provided on request by the project team.
Consultation feedback	Written comments can be made either online at https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-wansford-to-sutton-dualling/ , in writing to 'FREEPOST Wansford to Sutton' or by email to: A47WansfordtoSuttonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk
Media	The consultation will be advertised in the locally circulating newspapers Peterborough Telegraph and Peterborough News. Adverts will be placed in local newspapers at the launch of the consultation and reminders will be placed ahead of the exhibition events. Press releases detailing the consultation and how the community and road users can participate will be issued. Advertisements will also be sent to local Parish Councils, to which information can be publicised in their magazines and newsletters, which are distributed to local residents freely. By working with clerks and members, information can also be made available on Parish Council websites.
Social Media	The consultation will be advertised on: Twitter: @HighwaysEAST

5 Documents available for inspection

- 5.1. This SoCC, policy guidance documents and other relevant technical documents, including those listed in Appendix 4, will be available online and will be added to throughout the course of the project. The online project web site address is: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-wansford-to-sutton-dualling/>
- 5.2. The consultation documents will also be available to view, free of charge, during the consultation at the inspection locations listed below:

Location	Opening times
Sacrewell Farm and Country Centre - Thornhaugh, Peterborough, PE8 6HJ	9:30am – 5pm Monday to Sunday
Peterborough Central Library - Broadway, Peterborough, PE1 1RX	10am – 5pm Monday, Tuesday and Friday 2pm – 5pm Wednesday and Thursday 9am – 3pm Saturday
Haycock Hotel - Wansford, Peterborough PE8 6JA	7am – 11pm Monday to Sunday

Copies of the information made available at the above locations can be copied where copying facilities are available. Please ask about the copying costs at the relevant venue. Free copies of the consultation brochure will also be available to take away at the above venues. A free copy of the consultation documents (listed at appendix 4) can

be provided on a memory stick on request. Hard copies of the consultation documents can also be provided on request – please contact the project team about the cost of providing hard copies of the consultation documents.

6 Next steps

- 6.1. Comments made during the consultation will be recorded and carefully considered by Highways England and will be taken into account when further developing the scheme proposal. An explanation of how comments have shaped and influenced our proposals will be reported in a Consultation Report prepared by Highways England, which will accompany the DCO application as required by Section 37(3) (c) of the Act. The Planning Inspectorate will decide whether the application meets the required standards to proceed to examination and will determine whether Highways England's pre-application consultation has been adequate.
- 6.1.1. Highways England needs to collect and assess all responses to the consultation before compiling the DCO application to the Planning Inspectorate. To allow time to do this, feedback must be received by 23:59 on 29 October 2018.
- 6.1.2. If you want to contact us or find out more about this proposed scheme, you can:
- Visit the Scheme webpage: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-wansford-to-sutton-dualling/>
 - E-mail us: A47WansfordtoSuttonRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk
 - Call us: 0300 123 5000
 - Write to us: FREEPOST A47 Wansford to Sutton
 - Visit Peterborough City Council's website: www.peterborough.gov.uk/

Date: 25 July 2018



A detailed map of the Sutton Coldfield Urban Area, showing ward boundaries outlined in purple. A red boundary encloses the central urban area. Various wards are labeled with black boxes containing white text: Withering CP, Southoaze CP, Upton CP, Allisworth CP, Cusker CP, Orton Waterville CP, Chesterton CP, Upper Norton CP, Etten CP, Nestington CP, Yarwell CP, Sisson-cum-Stibington CP, Sutton CP, Wansford CP, Thornhaugh CP, and Castor CP. The map also shows roads, rivers, and other geographical features.



Appendix 2 – Local Authorities

Local Authorities affected by the proposed scheme:

Peterborough City Council
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority

Adjoining Local Authorities:

Cambridgeshire County Council
Rutland Unitary Authority
Northamptonshire County Council
Lincolnshire County Council
Huntingdonshire District Council
East Northamptonshire District Council
Fenland District Council
South Holland District Council
South Kesteven District Council

Local Parish Councils:

Wansford Parish Council
Sutton Parish Council
Belton-in-Rutland Parish Council
Yarwell Parish Council
Thornhaugh Parish Council
Southorpe Parish Council
Upton Parish Council
Ailsworth Parish Council
Sibson cum Stibbington Parish Council
Tixover Parish Council

Appendix 3 - other identified key stakeholder bodies to be consulted

Department for Transport:

The Rt Hon Chris Grayling MP

Office for Rail and Road (ORR):

Stephen Glaister

Member of Parliament:

Mr Shailesh Vara MP

Local Councillors:

Councillor Diane Lamb

Emergency Services:

Cambridgeshire Constabulary
Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Local Resilience Forum
East of England Ambulance Service

Airports:

Norwich Airport



Local Business Partnerships/Chamber:

Greater Cambridge and Greater Peterborough Partnership
Cambridgeshire Chamber of Commerce
The Business Network Peterborough
East of England IOD
Peterborough IOD
RAC Foundation
Cambridge Ahead
A47 Alliance

Local Community/Resident groups:

Saint Andrew's Church
Sacrewell Farm and Country Centre

Local Schools:

Caistor and Ailsworth Pre-School
Castor CofE Primary School

Local Taxi Firms

1st A-2-B Euro cars
1st Class Travel
3 Star Ambassador
ABC City Link
Allens Airport Travel
Associated Adams
Barrys Private Hire

Bus/Rail operators and stations:

First Group (Buses)
Konectbus
Sanders Coaches
Stagecoach
West Norfolk Community Transport
Abellio Greater Anglia
Norwich Bus Station
Peterborough Railway Station
Wansford Station
Norwich Railway Station

Service Stations:

SNAX 47 Service Station
BP Service Station A47 Nene

Non-Statutory Bodies:

Transport Focus
The Coal Authority
Internal Drainage Board
Canal and River Trust



The Crown Estate Commissioners
The Forestry Commission
The Joint Nature Conservation Committee
The Maritime and Coastguard Agency
The Marine Management Organisation
Public Health England
Trinity House

Media:

Archant
London Gazette
Peterborough Telegraph
Peterborough News

Appendix 4 - Documents to be made available for inspection at inspection locations listed at section 5.1:

The proposed scheme layout
Statement of Community Consultation
Notice of application
Previous consultation feedback reports
2017 Consultation Report
Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)
Preliminary Environmental Information Report – Non-Technical Summary (PEIR NTS)
Consultation Brochure
Consultee Questionnaire
Scheme Assessment Report (SAR)
Side Road Strategy Appraisal Summary
Options Report