



# The Planning Inspectorate

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To: Registered Interested Parties, the  
Applicant, Affected Persons,  
Category 3 Persons and IP Statutory  
Parties

Our Ref: TR010039

Date: 10 February 2022

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## **Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) – Rule 13**

### **Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A47 Wansford to Sutton scheme (TR010039)**

I write to advise you of Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority (ExA) about events in the Examination Timetable from 14 to 18 March 2022. The [Examination Timetable](#) is at Annex A of my letter (Rule 8) dated 18 January 2022:

I have looked carefully into the possibility of these hearings being held in person. However, as I indicated at the Preliminary Meeting given the current situation, particularly in relation to the Omicron variant and the necessary lead-in to arrange a physical hearing, I have concluded to use online methods for these hearings. This [Inspectorate's guidance](#) is updated periodically to align with the most recent Government guidance relating to Coronavirus (COVID-19).

### **Notification of hearings**

I write to advise you that a series of hearings will be held in the week commencing 14 March, these will be online meetings.

#### **Issue Specific Hearing 2 – Environmental matters**

Tuesday 15 March at 10.00am  
(Arrangements conference from 9.30am)

Topics include: biodiversity, cultural heritage, water environment, geology and other topics to be provided in a more detailed agenda in March, and their interaction

#### **Issue Specific Hearing 3 – Traffic, transport, and socio-economic matters**

Wednesday 16 March at 10.00am  
(Arrangements conference from 9.30am)

## **Compulsory Acquisition Hearing**

Thursday 17 March at 10.00am  
(Arrangements conference from 9.30am)

## **Issue Specific Hearing 4 – draft Development Consent Order**

Thursday 17 March at 2.00pm  
(Arrangements conference from 1.30pm)

## **Attendance at the Hearings**

While not in any way restricting attendance, I would particularly be grateful if the following organisations could arrange for attendance at the Hearings set out below:

### Issue Specific Hearing 2 – Environmental matters

- The Applicant
- Peterborough City Council
- Environment Agency
- Historic England
- Natural England

### Issue Specific Hearing 3 – Traffic, transport and socio-economic matters

- The Applicant
- Peterborough City Council

### Compulsory Acquisition Hearing

- The Applicant

### Issue Specific Hearing 4 – draft Development Consent Order

- The Applicant
- Peterborough City Council

I have not set out the relevant Parish Councils but would welcome their attendance should they wish to so attend, particularly at the Issue Specific Hearings.

## **Attending the Hearings**

### **You must register by 9 March 2022 if you wish to attend any Hearing.**

Please register using our website, if possible.

- Click on the Make a submission tab
- The 'Submission item' will be 'Procedural Deadline B'
- Please name your request appropriately eg Register for Preliminary Meeting

Provide us with:

- The Hearings you will be attending
- Your name and reference number (found at the top of any letter or email from the Planning Inspectorate)
- Email address (if available) and contact telephone number

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

- If you would like any assistance in joining the online meeting eg training or guidance
- If you are representing a person or organisation also provide their name and reference number.
- The agenda item on which you wish to speak and a list of the points you wish to make
- The relevant plot numbers if you would like to speak at the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing

## Arrangements for the Hearings

**Agenda:** The Agendas and detailed arrangements for the Hearings will be published to the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website at least five working days before the Hearings. However, the actual agenda on the day of each Hearing may be subject to change at my discretion. I will manage the Hearings and invite participants to speak on the topics they have requested to speak about.

**Attendance:** If your request to attend and / or speak at a Hearing is accepted, you will receive an invitation which will include joining instructions. Joining the event: The Arrangements Conference will admit you to the event and provide information on the Hearing and reminders about using the technology. Arrive early so the Case Team can admit you before the start time.

Please join the arrangements conference, which begins 30 minutes before the Hearing, to make sure you are registered, and your equipment is working to enable you to fully participate.

**Contributing at Hearings:** 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 Interested Parties 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.

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

**Written comments:** All parties 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 before the deadline for post-Hearing submissions identified in the Examination Timetable (Deadline 4, 24 March 2022).

**Cancellation:** 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 website](#).

## **Livestream**

There will be a livestream recording of the event, a link will be posted on the project page before the start of the event.

## **Post Hearing submissions**

Following the Hearing you may want to submit documents, eg a written summary of your answers to the ExA questions, these must be sent before the relevant deadline (Deadline 4, 24 March 2022). Please see the [Examination timetable](#) for dates of deadline submissions. Where possible we ask that you use the Submissions Portal on the webpage of the [National Infrastructure website](#).

## **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](#):

The Application documents can also be viewed electronically, free of charge, at the following locations. Please check opening hours before travelling.

- Peterborough Central Library, Broadway, Peterborough PE1 1RX
- Sacrewell Farm, Thornhaugh, Peterborough PE8 6HJ

Printing charges will apply at the Peterborough Central Library. Those facilities are not available at Sacrewell Farm.

## **Guidance**

Examination hearings - [Advice Note 8.5 – The Examination: Hearings and Site Inspections](#)

Attending and participating in online hearings - [Advice Note 8.6 - Virtual Events](#)

## **Queries**

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact the Case Team [A47WansfordtoSutton@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:A47WansfordtoSutton@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

Yours faithfully

Robert Jackson

**Robert Jackson**  
**Examining Authority**

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

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