



# Department for Transport

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To:

The Secretary of State for Levelling  
Up, Housing and Communities,  
Natural England, the Applicant,  
and All Interested Parties

12 December 2022

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Dear Sir/Madam

## **Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010**

### **Application by National Highways Limited (“the Applicant”) Seeking Development Consent for the Proposed A47 Wansford to Sutton Dualling scheme**

#### **Compulsory Acquisition**

The Secretary of State notes that a response is yet to be received from the Secretary of State for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities (“the Secretary of State for LUHC”) following the question in his consultation letter of 28 October 2022 in which he sought confirmation as to whether the Secretary of State for LUHC was content with the powers sought by the Applicant for the temporary possession and permanent acquisition of rights in plot 1/5a and the permanent acquisition of all rights and interests in plot 1/6a.

The Secretary of State requests **the Secretary of State for LUHC** to confirm whether he is content with the powers sought by the Applicant.

#### **Wildlife and Protected Species**

The Secretary of State notes Natural England’s response to his question of 28 October 2022 in which it stated that it was undertaking an assessment of the draft Bat European Protected Species Licence application submitted by the Applicant and anticipated being able to advise on the outcome of their assessment by 2 December 2022.

The Secretary of State requests that **Natural England** confirms the outcome of its assessment of the draft Bat European Protected Species Licence application, or if this has not been finalised, provides an update as to the current position.

### **Other Matters**

The Secretary of State notes the Applicant's response of 11 November 2022 to his request of 28 October 2022 to confirm the results and any implications of the ground investigation.

The Secretary of State has received the attached letter from Wansford Parish Council dated 4 December 2022 following the Applicant's response and asks if the **Applicant** wishes to respond to any of the points raised in it.

### **Request for comments from all interested parties**

In response to questions in the Secretary of State's consultation letter of 28 October 2022, the Applicant, Natural England and Anglian Water provided responses dated 11 November 2022 which have been published on the project page on the Planning Inspectorate website. The Secretary of State would like to invite comments from **all interested parties** on the responses provided.

### **Deadline for Response**

The deadline for response is 23 December 2022.

Responses to the matters outlined in this letter should be submitted by email to [A47WansfordtoSutton@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:A47WansfordtoSutton@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) .

If you will have difficulty in submitting a response by the consultation deadline, or difficulty in submitting a response by email, please inform the Planning Inspectorate Case Team.

The responses will be published on the project page for the A47 Wansford to Sutton Project on the Planning Inspectorate website as soon as possible after the 23 December 2022 deadline at:

[A47 Wansford to Sutton | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)

This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's decision on the A47 Wansford to Sutton application and nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what that decision might be.

Yours faithfully,

Rachel Dominey  
Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit