

A47 Blofield to North Burlingham Dualling

Scheme Number: TR010040

Volume 5

5.2 Consultation Report Appendices

**Annex D: 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

December 2020

Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

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

A47 Blofield to North Burlingham
Development Consent Order 202[X]

**5.2 Consultation Report Annex D
Copy of the Draft SoCC Provided to Local Authorities**

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**A47 Blofield to North
Burlingham dualling**
Draft Statement of Community
Consultation (SoCC)

Date: 30 July 2018
Version: 10

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Reviewer List

Name	Role
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Approvals

Name	Signature	Title	Date of Issue	Version
Jamie Gordon		Stakeholder Engagement Lead		
Lizzie Cooper		Project Manager		

Under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 promoters on Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) are required to 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 (DCO) for a 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 the villages of Blofield and North Burlingham (the Scheme). The purpose of this document is to set out how we will consult the local community on our proposal. The document also provides background to the project 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 and is publishing this statement under Section 47 of the Act. As part of the development of this SoCC we have consulted Norfolk County Council, Broadland District Council, the local authorities responsible for areas where the project will be built, about our 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 views.
- 2.2. The Act requires Highways England to make an application to the Secretary of State for Transport 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 development 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-blofield-to-north-burlingham/>
- The Planning Inspectorate will examine the DCO application and the Secretary of State will decide on whether the scheme should be granted consent.
- 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.
- 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 and in relation to the examination process that follows. Therefore, the best time to provide feedback on the Scheme is now, by taking part in this pre-application consultation.

You can find more information about the Planning Inspectorate and the Planning Act 2008 on the gov.uk website:

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

or by calling the Planning Inspectorate on 0303 444 5000.

3. The Scheme

- 3.1. The A47 connects Norwich and Great Yarmouth and Leicester and the Midlands via King's Lynn, Wisbech and Peterborough. This section of the A47 lies to the east of the A47 southern Norwich bypass, stretching for 4km, between two sections of dual carriageway. The Blofield to North Burlingham Dualling scheme is one of the major improvement projects on the A47 trunk road announced as part of the Road Investment Strategy (RIS) in the 2014 Autumn Statement. The scheme was given budgetary approval to begin the initial phase of Option Development (PCF Stage 1) in December 2015. This stage ended in December 2016.
- 3.2. The Blofield to North Burlingham single carriageway of the A47 provides transport connectivity to an area of growing economic activity between Norwich and Great Yarmouth on the eastern coastline. An area that has been the subject of concerted development effort by the public and private sector and that will yield 33,000 new homes and 22,500 new jobs by 2021 around the greater Norwich area, and 10,000 new homes in Suffolk at Waveney.
- 3.3. The Preferred Route was announced on Thursday 14 August 2017 and Option 4 was chosen, which is offline dualling of the route to the south of the existing alignment within 70m of the existing carriageway. There is a proposed junction at each end of the scheme.
- 3.4. The junction at the western end includes a link road that goes over the new route to join the existing A47 with the Yarmouth Road via a bridge.
- 3.5. The junction at the eastern end is a new two-level junction in the form of a bridge to provide a north-south connection between South Walsham Road and Acle Road, and includes slip roads to access or exit the planned A47. A more detailed description of the scheme is available in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (see page 9).
- 3.6. The Road Investment Strategy (RIS), in line with National Networks National Policy Statement (NNNPS), provides clear support for the dualling of the

single carriageway section of the A47 between Norwich and Acle. This section suffers peak time congestion and there is a history of fatal and serious collisions along its length, mainly associated with intersections and side-road type accesses.

3.7. The need for improvements in this location is echoed by the Norfolk Local Transport Plan, Greater Norwich Joint Core Strategy and Highways England's East of England Route Strategy, and is also supported by Norfolk County Council, Broadland District Council and the A47 Alliance group.

3.8. A previous option was progressed to Stage 3, Draft Orders, in 2008/9 before being withdrawn following reassessment of Highways Agency spending priorities. Previous documentation is available and has been reviewed.

4. Consulting the community

4.1. In accordance with Section 47 of the Planning Act 2008, Highways England is consulting people living near the proposed scheme.

4.2. Highways England has previously undertaken one stage of consultation in March and April 2017. Consultees were asked for their views on four potential options for improvements to the A47 between Blofield and North Burlingham:

1. Dualling the existing A47
2. Building a new dual carriageway to the north and to the south of the existing A47
3. Building a new dual carriageway to the south of the existing A47
4. Building a new dual carriageway to the south, next to the existing A47

4.3. More details, including the outcomes of these consultations, are included in the Stage 1 consultation feedback report and the Stage 2 consultation feedback report, available to download from <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-blofield-to-north-burlingham/>, on request from Highways England, or to view for the duration of the consultation period at the display locations detailed in this SoCC.

4.4. We want to make sure that the local community, residents, local interest groups, businesses, visitors and road users have the opportunity to fully understand the scheme and comment on our proposals. Your comments will contribute towards shaping our proposals. To do this we are holding the next stage of the consultation in September and October 2018. It will start on Monday 10 September 2018 and will end on Friday 19 October 2018, and during this period we will provide information on a range of relevant issues including:

- Junction layout and strategy
- Work to the existing road ("de-trunking") and side roads

- Environmental assessments, potential environmental impacts and environmental mitigation measures
- Arrangements during construction of the scheme

4.5. The environmental assessment, potential environmental impacts and the environmental mitigation measures referred to above will be contained in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). 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 (see page 11) and on the project website at: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-blofield-to-north-burlingham/>

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, northern Cambridgeshire, Norwich and Great Yarmouth. In order for these groups and communities to be kept informed throughout the consultation, Highways England is proposing the following methods of engagement:

- Consultation brochure and feedback form with details of public events
- Notices to be publicised in key business locations within Norwich and the surrounding area
- Centralised public events to allow easy access and convenience

4.7. The following is a list of the some of the key associations and business groups identified as part of the A47 Blofield to North Burlingham Dualling consultation:

- New Anglia LEP
- A47 Alliance
- Norwich Research Park
- RAC Foundation
- Norfolk Chamber of Commerce
- Norfolk Network

4.8. Our consultation will involve:

Method	Detail																				
Public Events	<p>Public events will be held at:</p> <table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Location</th> <th>Date</th> <th>Opening time</th> <th>Closing time</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Castle Mall Norwich, 100 Castle Meadow, Norwich, NR1 3DD</td> <td>Saturday 15/09/2018</td> <td>11am</td> <td>5pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Acle Recreation Centre, Bridewell Lane, Acle, Norwich, NR13 3RA</td> <td>Saturday 22/09/2018</td> <td>11am</td> <td>5pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Blofield Courthouse, Yarmouth Road, Blofield, Norwich, NR13 4JU</td> <td>Monday 24/09/2018</td> <td>1pm</td> <td>8pm</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Lingwood Village Hall, Station Road, Lingwood, Norwich, NR13 4AZ</td> <td>Tuesday 25/09/2018</td> <td>1pm</td> <td>8pm</td> </tr> </tbody> </table> <p>The events will give visitors an opportunity to view scheme proposals, talk to the project team and provide feedback.</p> <p>The public will be informed of the events through channels including publicity notices in the local press, news coverage, the scheme website (https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-blofield-to-north-burlingham/) and direct communications for those living in the consultation zone – see appendix 1. Attendees' feedback will be recorded via questionnaires available at the public events. Completed questionnaires can either be left with the project team and/or returned to the postal address detailed below. You can also complete the questionnaire and submit comments via the project website, if you prefer to submit comments electronically.</p>	Location	Date	Opening time	Closing time	Castle Mall Norwich, 100 Castle Meadow, Norwich, NR1 3DD	Saturday 15/09/2018	11am	5pm	Acle Recreation Centre, Bridewell Lane, Acle, Norwich, NR13 3RA	Saturday 22/09/2018	11am	5pm	Blofield Courthouse, Yarmouth Road, Blofield, Norwich, NR13 4JU	Monday 24/09/2018	1pm	8pm	Lingwood Village Hall, Station Road, Lingwood, Norwich, NR13 4AZ	Tuesday 25/09/2018	1pm	8pm
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Project website	<p>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-blofield-to-north-burlingham/</p>																				
Documents to be made available for inspection	<p>The supporting project documents are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Map of route - Plans of the scheme - SoCC - Notice of application - Previous consultation feedback reports - Options report - Preliminary Environmental Information Report - Technical Appraisal Report 																				

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scheme Assessment Report - Needs case - Scheme factsheet - The Planning Act factsheet <p>In addition to being uploaded to the dedicated Highways England project website mentioned above, these will also be made available for inspection at the locations listed in Section 5.1</p>
Project summary leaflet	A consultation brochure and covering letter will be delivered to homes and businesses in the consultation zone map shown in Appendix 1.
Environmental Impact Assessment	The scheme is an Environmental Impact Assessment development. 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 provide information about the potential environmental effects of the scheme and the measures proposed to reduce those effects, such as access for pedestrians, cyclists, horse riders, and landscaping, in order to assist submission of well-informed responses to the consultation.
Council and community / area forum briefings	We will offer briefings to local councils and community / area forums within whose area the proposed scheme will be carried out to discuss the proposal. We will contact the councils and community / area forums about these briefings shortly. Please contact the project team via the following email address if you would like to invite us to attend any meetings. Email: A47BlofieldtoNorthBurlinghamRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk
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: A47BlofieldtoNorthBurlinghamRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk
Hard to reach groups	We have identified a range of community organisations with a potential interest in the scheme, including representatives of groups which are 'harder to reach' or 'seldom heard' during the consultation process. To ensure these groups are encouraged to get involved in the consultation, the materials will be prepared to be accessible and clear. Additionally, we will ensure: <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 request;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 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 these community organisations 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 A47BlofieldtoNorthBurlinghamRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk, or call 0300 123 5000.</p>
	<p>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 via the postal service and at public information points, to road users registering for further communications on our website, and to parish and town councils and communities that wish to receive them. Copies will be made available on our website and provided on request by the project team.</p>
Consultation feedback	<p>Written comments can be made either online at https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-blofield-to-north-burlingham/ or in writing to FREEPOST A47 Blofield to North Burlingham or by email to A47BlofieldtoNorthBurlinghamRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk</p>
Media	<p>The consultation will be advertised in the Eastern Daily Press (EDP) newspaper. Other press adverts will appear at the launch of the consultation in the London Gazette, and further press publicity will appear ahead of the exhibition events. The adverts will be in the form of an SoCC notice informing the public about community consultation and a publicity notice, highlighting the consultation events and other arrangements. Press releases will also be issued to local media detailing the consultation and how the community and road users can participate, and we will hold a media briefing event at the start of the consultation period. Advertisements will also be sent to local parish councils to enable publication in local magazines and/or newsletters/e-shots. By working with parish council clerks and members, information can also be made available on parish council websites.</p>
Social Media	<p>Details of the consultation and events will be shared on: Twitter: @HighwaysEAST</p>

Information available at the below 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 below venues and free copies of the consultation documents (listed in 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 hard copy costs.

Location	Opening times
Lingwood Village Hall - Station Rd, Lingwood, Norwich NR13 4AZ	08.45-15.00 Mon to Thurs
Blofield Library – North St, Blofield, Norwich, NR14 4RQ	13.00-19.00 Mon 10.30-19.00 Wed 16.00-19.00 Fri 12.00-16.00 Sat
Blofield Post Office - 10 Church Alley, Blofield, Norwich NR13 4JJ	07.30-20.00 Mon to Sat 09.00-17.00 Sun
Norwich Millennium Library - The Forum, Millennium Plain, Norwich NR2 1AW	10.00-19.00 Mon to Fri 09.00-17.00 Sat
Norwich City Council – City Hall, St Peters St, Norwich NR2 1NH	08.45-17.00 Mon, Tues, Thurs and Fri 13.00-17.00 Wed
Norfolk County Council - County Hall, Martineau Ln, Norwich NR1 2DH	09.00-17.00 Mon to Fri
Broadland District Council – Thorpe Lodge, 1 Yarmouth Road, Norwich, NR7 0DU	08.30-17.00 Mon to Fri

5. Next steps

- 5.1. All comments made during the consultation will be recorded and carefully considered by Highways England and will be taken into account when developing the scheme proposal further. If we consider that further information is required after this consultation, we may undertake further engagement with stakeholders to address specific issues. 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 Planning Act 2008. 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.
- 5.2. 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 11:59pm on Friday 19 October 2018.
- 5.3. If you want to contact us or find out more about this scheme, you can:



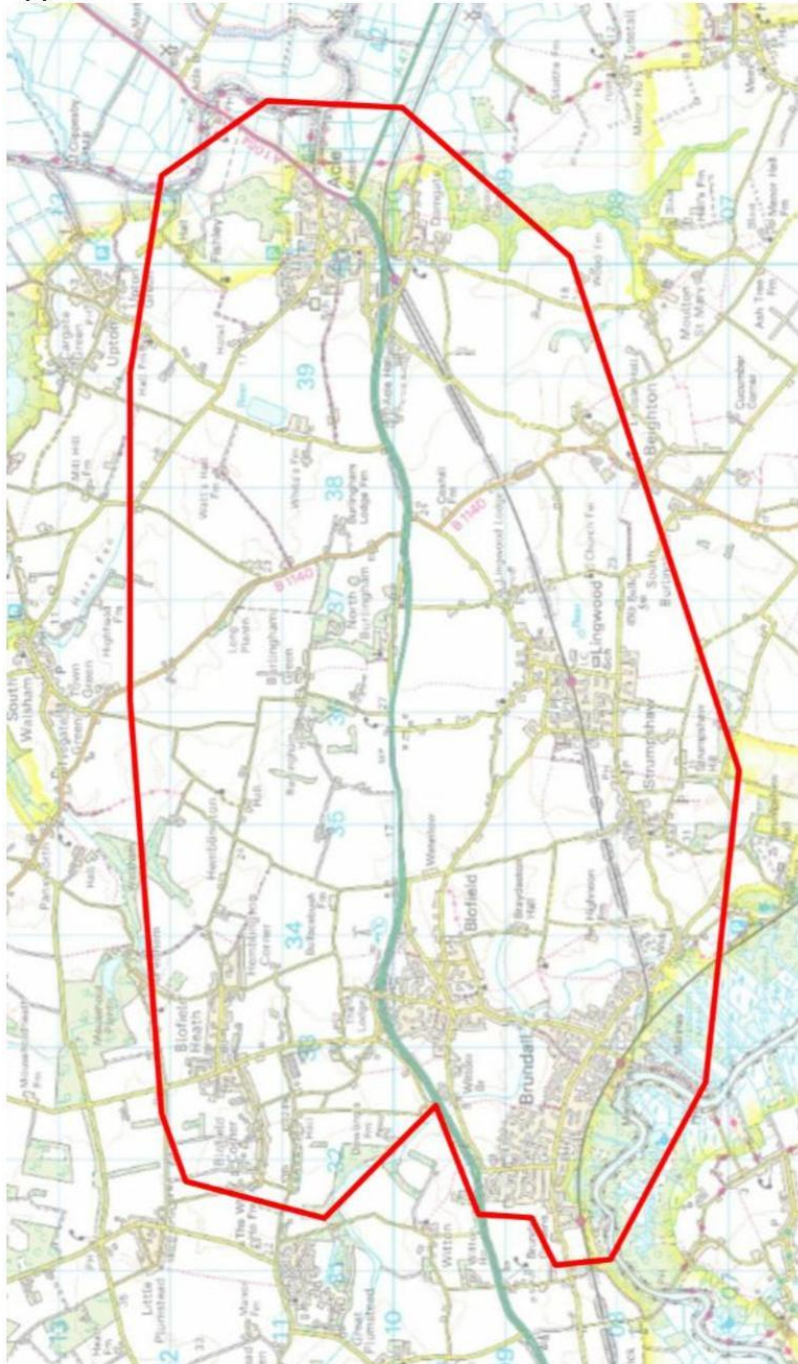
- Visit the scheme webpage: <https://highwaysengland.co.uk/projects/a47-blofield-to-north-burlingham/>
- E-mail us: A47BlofieldtoNorthBurlinghamRIS@highwaysengland.co.uk
- Call us: 0300 123 5000
- Write to us: FREEPOST A47 Blofield to North Burlingham
- Visit Norfolk County Council's website: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/>

Date: 30 July 2018

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Appendices

Appendix 1 – PCZ





Stakeholders

Highways England has an obligation to consult with a variety of both statutory and non-statutory consultees as set out in The Planning Act 2008. In addition to these consultees (which includes those living near the proposed scheme and road users), Highways England proposes to consult with a wide range of local bodies and individuals who tend to have a wider reach within the local community as well as with road users. We hope that this will enable the consultation to reach a wider range of people who may have an interest in the scheme.

Below is a list of those local bodies with whom we will be consulting:

Appendix 2 – Local Authorities and Parish Councils

Local Authorities affected by the scheme:

Norfolk county council
Broadland district council

Adjoining Local Authorities:

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough combined authority
Suffolk county council
Cambridgeshire county council
Lincolnshire county council
North Norfolk district council
Norwich city council
South Norfolk district council
Great Yarmouth borough council
Breckland district council
The Broads authority

Local affected and adjoining Parish Councils:

Blofield parish council
Lingwood and Burlingham parish council
Brundall parish Council
Postwick with Witton parish council
Great and Little Plumstead parish council
Woodbastwick parish council
Hemblington parish council
South Walsham parish council
Upton with Fishley parish council
Acle parish council
Beighton parish council
Cantley, Limpenhoe and Southwood parish council
Strumpshaw parish council

Appendix 3 – Other identified key stakeholders and bodies to be consulted

Department for Transport:

Rt. Hon. Chris Grayling MP

Office for Road and Rail (ORR):

Stephen Glaister



Members of Parliament:

Sir Henry Bellingham MP – North West Norfolk
Rt Hon Liz Truss MP – South West Norfolk
Rt Hon Matthew Hancock MP – West Suffolk
George Freeman MP – Mid Norfolk
Rt Hon Norman Lamb MP – North Norfolk
Chloe Smith MP – Norwich North
Clive Lewis MP – Norwich South
Richard Bacon MP – South Norfolk
Peter Aldous MP – Waveney
Dr Dan Poulter MP – Central Suffolk and North Ipswich
Rt. Hon. Keith Simpson – Broadland

Local and District Councillors:

Councillor Brian John Maxwells - Acle
Councillor Andrew James Proctor – Blofield and Brundall
Councillor Lana Hempsall - Acle
Councillor David Ward - Burlingham

Local Strategic Partnerships:

Norfolk Chamber of Commerce
New Anglia LEP
Greater Norwich Growth Board

Local Planning/Highways Authority:

Norfolk County Council

Environment Agency

Shopping centres:

Longwater Retail Park
Intu Chaplefield
Castle Mall Norwich

Event organisers/venues:

Norfolk Showground
Theatre Royal
Norwich Playhouse
Carrow Road

Local business groups:

Rotary Club of Norwich
Rotary Club of Norwich Marchesi
Blackfriars Rotary Club of Norwich
Rotary Club of Norwich St Edmunds
Norwich Wensum Probus Club
Norwich Yare Probus Club

Norwich Venta Probus Club
Norwich Tas Probus Club
Kings Lynn Probus
Norwich Research Park
East of England IoD
Norfolk Network

Local tourist/visitor attractions:

Great Yarmouth Tourist Information
Visit Norwich
Sea Life Great Yarmouth
Pleasure Beach Great Yarmouth
Joyland
Seashore Holiday Park

Local bus/rail operators:

First Group
Konectbus
Sanders Coaches
Stage Coach
West Norfolk Community Transport
Abellio East Anglia
Norwich Bus Station
Norwich Railway Station

Local taxi operators:

Courtesy Cars
Five Star Taxis Ltd
Beeline Taxis Norwich
Loyal Taxis
ABC Taxis
Bestway Taxis Norwich
A2B Taxis Norwich
Goldstar Taxis Norwich
Kestral Taxis

Non-statutory bodies:

Norfolk Constabulary
Norfolk Fire and Rescue
East of England Ambulance Service
Freight Transport Association
Road Haulage Association
National Express
Network Rail
HS2
The Civil Aviation Authority
Transport Focus
Planning Inspectorate



The Coal Authority
Internal Drainage Board
The British Waterways Board
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
Royal Mail

Media:

Archant (Eastern Daily Press)
London Gazette

Affected landowners

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