

## **Planning Act 2008 – section 91**

### **Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A47 Blofield to North Burlingham project**

### **Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3) dealing with environmental matters**

#### **Agenda for virtual ISH3: Friday 20 August 2021, 10:00am**

Notification of the date, time and joining instructions for the virtual ISH3 was provided in the [Examining Authority's letter](#) dated 14 July 2021.

#### **Arrangements Conference**

Please join at **9:30am**. The Case Team will admit you from the lobby and register your attendance.

Where necessary a break will be provided during ISH3 in recognition of the fatigue associated with on-screen communication during virtual events.

#### **Agenda**

##### **1. Welcome, introductions and arrangements for the hearing**

##### **2. Landscape and visual effects**

- Clarification of residual effects
- Artificial lighting matters
- Design of structures
- Planting mix proposals
- Landscape and Ecological Management Plan provisions
- Consistency between Masterplan, General Arrangement Plans and Rights of Way and Access Plans

##### **3. Material assets and waste**

- Clarification of changes to waste figures and any resulting effects

##### **4. Noise and vibration**

- Clarification of predicted HGV numbers during construction and any implications
- Effectiveness of mitigation where proposed
- Potential to mitigate significant effects where mitigation is not proposed and exploration of this matter
- Working hours matters

## **5. Population and human health**

- Severance issues and footpath / cycleway provision and justification
- Blofield allotments matters
- Noise effects and health matters
- Potential for local employment and training opportunities
- Response to First Written Question 1.13.16

## **6. Transportation and traffic**

- Numbers of HGVs during construction and effects on surrounding road network
- Brundall roundabout impacts and potential solutions
- Footpaths / cycleways and their design
- Potential for other footpaths including from High Noon Lane to the proposed Blofield overbridge
- Traffic Regulation plans and consistency with the draft Development Consent Order
- Diversion routes during construction
- Transfer of assets

## **7. Water environment**

- Clarification of drainage matters in the vicinity of Waterlow

## **8. Review of issues and actions arising**

- The ExA will address how any actions placed on the Applicant are to be met

## **9. Any other matters**

## **10. Closure of the hearing**

### **Notes on participation, conduct and management of the hearing**

All IPs are invited to attend issue specific hearings. The event will also be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website closer to the event date.

Each IP is entitled to make oral representations at the Hearing. However, this is subject to the Examining Authority's (ExA) power to control the Hearing.

The ExA would find it helpful for the following attendees to participate in ISH3 into the environmental matters:

- Highways England (the Applicant) - including representatives of the Applicant who are in a position to discuss the matters on the agenda;
- Norfolk County Council;
- Broadland District Council;
- Environment Agency; and

- Any other IPs with an interest in the environmental matters.

Participants may be legally represented if they wish, but the hearing will be conducted to ensure that legal representation is not required.

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 provide that it is the ExA that will probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questioning of persons making oral representations at hearings. Questioning at the hearing will be led by the ExA.

The virtual event will be open 30 minutes prior to the start of the hearing to enable a prompt start. Hearings will finish as soon as the ExA deems that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered.

The agenda is for guidance only. It is not designed to be exclusive or exhaustive. The ExA may add other issues for consideration, may alter the order in which issues are considered and will seek to allocate sufficient time to each issue to allow proper consideration of them. Any lack of discussion of a particular issue at a Hearing does not preclude further examination of this issue, including the asking of further written questions.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the issues will be discussed on the day that they are scheduled for. Should the consideration of the issues take less time than anticipated, the ExA may conclude the Hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to.

If there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time at any Hearing, there may be a need to continue the session for longer on the day. Alternatively, it may be necessary to prioritise matters and defer others to further written questions.

All Examination documents are provided with a unique identification number for referencing purposes shown in square brackets [ ].

The evidence presented orally at ISH3 should be included in post-hearing submissions and submitted by **Thursday 9 September 2021 (Deadline 4)**.

### **Purpose of ISH3**

The main purpose of ISH3 is to undertake an examination of various environmental matters. In particular:

- To review environmental impact considerations, including matters arising from the application documentation and representations relating to:
  - Landscape and visual effects;
  - Material assets and waste;
  - Noise and vibration;
  - Population and human health;
  - Transportation and traffic; and
  - Water environment

### *Contingencies*

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The ExA will endeavour to hear all participants. If the ISH3, or parts of it, is unable to proceed, for example for technical reasons, then the ExA may adjourn incomplete business to reserved hearings later in the Examination Timetable. Notice of any adjournments will be provided on the project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website.

### **Microsoft Teams**

The ISH3 will take place virtually using Microsoft Teams. Further information about virtual events in relation to Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects can be found in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 8.6: Virtual examination events:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-8-6-virtual-examination-events/>

Further information, including a short video regarding taking part in a Planning Inspectorate virtual event, can be found on the Planning Inspectorate's website:

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/planning-inspectorate-virtual-events-guide-to-participating>

Please contact the Case Team if you have any questions about using Microsoft Teams or if you would like to test your access arrangements:

[A47BlofieldtoNorthBurlingham@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:A47BlofieldtoNorthBurlingham@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

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