

A47 Blofield to North Burlingham Dualling

Scheme Number: TR010040

Volume 8

8.1 Statement of Commonality for Statements of Common Ground

Rule 8(1)(e)
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

December 2021

Deadline 10

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]

**STATEMENT OF COMMONALITY
FOR STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND**

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this Document

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Commonality for Statements of Common Ground (“this Statement”) relates to an application made by National Highways (“the Applicant”) to the Planning Inspectorate (“PINS”) under Section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (“PA 2008”) for a Development Consent Order (a “DCO”). If made the DCO would grant consent for the Applicant to undertake the A47 Blofield to North Burlingham Scheme (“the Scheme”). A detailed description of the Scheme can be found in the ES Chapter 2 The Proposed Scheme (**REP4-017**).
- 1.1.2 This Statement has been prepared to provide the Examining Authority (ExA) with the current position on Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) between National Highways and prescribed consultees, statutory undertakers and interested parties (“other parties”) in relation to the Scheme.
- 1.1.3 This Statement also provides a current position on the commonality on specific points between SoCG at Examination Deadline 10 (21 December 2021), which is the final deadline before the close of Examination (22 December 2021).

2 STRUCTURE OF STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND

- 2.1.1 To ensure consistency in the approach taken to documenting matters agreed, matters subject to further negotiation or matters not agreed, each of the SoCG adopts a standard format in order to provide clarity to other parties and ultimately the ExA.
- 2.1.2 Each SoCG has the following structure:
- Section 1: provides an introduction to the SoCG and a description of its purpose.
 - Section 2: states the engagement that has occurred between the Applicant and the other Party.
 - Section 3: sets out any issues that have arisen, reporting on the status of each issue, i.e. whether it is agreed, still under discussion or not agreed, and any remaining actions.
 - Appendices which contain any relevant document not forming part of the application that are referenced in the SoCG (e.g. emails / meeting notes / data).

3 LIST OF STATEMENTS OF COMMON GROUND

- 3.1.1 The Applicant began to prepare SoCGs with a number of other parties it considered beneficial to do so following acceptance to Examination.
- 3.1.2 SoCG with further specific parties were also requested by the ExA through the Rule 6 letter dated 27 April 2021.
- 3.1.3 The other parties which the Applicant has prepared SoCG with are listed in Table 3-1 below. Further detail about the current position of each SoCG can be found at Chapter 4, Table 4-1 of this Statement.

Table 3-1 : List of SoCGs

Stakeholder
Local Authorities
Broadland District Council
Norfolk County Council
Prescribed Consultees
Environment Agency
Natural England
Historic England
Statutory Undertakers
Anglian Water
BT Openreach – <i>no longer required</i>
Cadent Gas – <i>no longer required</i>
UK Power Networks – <i>no longer required</i>
Virgin Media – <i>no longer required</i>
Vodafone – <i>no longer required</i>
Interested Parties
Blofield Parish Council
Norwich Cycling Campaign – <i>no longer required</i>

4 SUMMARY OF CURRENT POSITION

4.1.1 This section provides the current position of each SoCG as at Deadline 10.

4.1.2 Table 4-1 provides a high-level position and where necessary includes further detail to aid understanding of the ExA. The high-level positions used in the table are:

- **Final Signed SoCG all matters agreed** – The final SoCG has been signed by both parties and all matters are agreed.
- **Final Signed SoCG with matters outstanding** – The final SoCG has been signed by both parties, and there remain matters outstanding, that the Applicant and the other party agree, will not be resolved during the Examination.
- **SoCG in draft** – The SoCG has been drafted by the Applicant, it has been shared with the other party and comments have been provided. Discussion is ongoing to reach a 'Final Signed SoCG all matters agreed' or 'Final Signed SoCG with matters outstanding'.
- **SoCG under preparation** – The SoCG has been drafted by the Applicant but not yet shared with the other party. Discussion is ongoing to reach agreement. The SoCG will be provided at the earliest opportunity.

Table 4-1 : SoCG high level position

Document Reference	Party	Position at Deadline 1 6 Jul 21	Position at Deadline 2 20 July 21	Position at Deadline 3 3 Aug 21	Position at Deadline 4 9 Sept 21	Position at Deadline 5 19 Oct 21	Position at Deadline 6 2 Nov 21	Position at Deadline 7 18 Nov 21	Position at Deadline 8 7 Dec 21	Position at Deadline 9 15 Dec 21	Position at Deadline 10 21 Dec 21
Local Authorities											
8.2	Broadland District Council	SoCG under preparation	SoCG in draft, with BDC	No update at Deadline 3	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 4	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	No update at Deadline 7	No update at Deadline 8	Final Signed SoCG with matters outstanding	
8.3	Norfolk County Council	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 3	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 4	No update at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 7	No update at Deadline 8	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 9	No update at Deadline 10
Prescribed Consultees											
8.4	Environment Agency	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 3	No update at Deadline 4	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	Final Signed SoCG all matters agreed	No update at Deadline 8	Final Signed SoCG all matters agreed	
8.5	Natural England	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 3	No update at Deadline 4	No update at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	No update at Deadline 7	No update at Deadline 8	No update at Deadline 9	No update at Deadline 10
8.6	Historic England	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 3	No update at Deadline 4	No update at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	No update at Deadline 7	No update at Deadline 8	No update at Deadline 9	No update at Deadline 10
Statutory Undertakers											
8.7	Anglian Water	SoCG under preparation	No update at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 3	No update at Deadline 4	No update at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	No update at Deadline 7	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 8	Final unsigned SoCG with matters outstanding	Final Signed SoCG with matters outstanding
8.8	BT Openreach	SoCG under preparation	SoCG not required.								
8.9	Cadent Gas	SoCG under preparation	No update at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 3	No update at Deadline 4	No update at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	Unlikely to be required	No longer required		
8.10	UK Power Networks	SoCG under preparation	No update at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 3	No update at Deadline 4	No update at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	Unlikely to be required	No longer required		
8.11	Virgin Media	SoCG under preparation	No update at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 3	No update at Deadline 4	No update at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	Unlikely to be required	No longer required		
8.12	Vodafone	SoCG under preparation	No update at Deadline 2	No update at Deadline 3	No update at Deadline 4	No update at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	Unlikely to be required	No longer required		
Interested Parties											
8.13	Blofield Parish Council	SoCG under preparation	No update at Deadline 2	SoCG in draft, with BPC	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 4	No update at Deadline 5	No update at Deadline 6	No update at Deadline 7	No update at Deadline 8	SoCG in draft and submitted at Deadline 9	Final Signed SoCG with matters outstanding
8.14	Norwich Cycling Campaign	Awaiting meeting with Norwich Cycling Campaign.	No update at Deadline 2	No longer being progressed							

5 COMMONALITY

- 5.1.1 This section of the Statement provides a summary of principal issues covered in the SoCG and demonstrates where there is commonality in the topics or matters.
- 5.1.2 The table is presented in such a way to show topics covered within the various SoCG and how these are relevant to each other party and a position for each topic as follows:

	Matter agreed
	Matter subject to further discussion
	Matter not agreed

- 5.1.3 Where a matter is not relevant to the other party, it is not included within the SoCG and therefore not covered in Table 5-1 and shown as a blank.

Table 5-1 : Table of Commonality at Deadline 10

SoCG Ref	Party	Draft DCO	Protective Provisions	Other Consents and licenses	EMP and associated documents	Design and Engineering	Planning Policy	Landscape & Visual	Historic Environment	Biodiversity (including Arboriculture)	Traffic and Transport	Air Quality	Noise and Vibration	Road Drainage and Water Environment	Geology, Soils and Agriculture	Socio-economic and Recreation	Cumulative effects	Detrunking & Adoption	Materials Assets & Waste	Climate
8.2	Broadland District Council	Green					Yellow	Green	Green			Green	Green			Yellow				
8.3	Norfolk County Council	Yellow				Yellow		Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Yellow	Yellow	Green		Yellow		Yellow	Green	Yellow
8.4	Environment Agency	Green		Green	Green					Green				Green	Green					Green
8.5	Natural England																			
8.6	Historic England								Green											
8.7	Anglian Water		Yellow																	
8.9	Cadent Gas Ltd																			
8.10	UK Power Networks																			
8.11	Virgin Media Ltd																			
8.12	Vodafone Ltd																			
8.13	Blofield Parish Council					Yellow		Green			Yellow			Green		Yellow		Green		

6 POSITION AT DEADLINE 10

6.1.1 This section provides a summary of the current position at Deadline 10 between the Applicant and each party. This section provides the ExA with a summary. The individual SoCG should be referred to for the full detail on specific matters.

BROADLAND DISTRICT COUNCIL

6.1.2 The Final SoCG between the Applicant and Broadland District Council has been signed by both parties, however there remain matters outstanding.

6.1.3 There are 25 issues identified in the SoCG, of which 20 are 'Agreed'. The five 'Not Agreed' items are in relation to walking, cycling and horse-riding.

6.1.4 The final signed SoCG (**REP9-010**) was submitted at Deadline 9.

NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL

6.1.5 The position of Norfolk County Council (NCC) at Deadline 10 remains Under Discussion.

6.1.6 There are 113 items identified in the SoCG, of which 85 are now agreed. The outstanding items are summarised below:

- adoption and de-trunking (6 issues)
- construction (2 issues)
- design, primarily related to highway details (5 issues)
- discharge of requirements (1 issue)
- environment (various) (5 issues)
- highways impacts (1 issue)
- walking, cycling and horse-riding (8 issues)

6.1.7 The Applicant will continue to engage with NCC, beyond the close of examination through a series of targeted meetings to discuss the details of each of these with the respective specialists and is confident that the majority of issues can be agreed, however it is likely that the lack of central crossing point will be a matter than cannot be agreed.

6.1.8 An updated SoCG (**REP9-011**) was submitted at Deadline 9.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY

6.1.9 The Applicant and the Environment Agency have reached agreement on all matters.

6.1.10 The final signed SoCG (**REP9-012**) was submitted at Deadline 9.

NATURAL ENGLAND

6.1.11 The position of Natural England at Deadline 10 remains Under Discussion.

6.1.12 The first draft of the SoCG between the Applicant and Natural England (**REP1-057**) was shared on 23 April 21. The Applicant has not received a response from Natural England but believes there are no outstanding matters as Natural

England have not submitted a Relevant or Written Representation.

HISTORIC ENGLAND

- 6.1.13 The position of Historic England at Deadline 10 remains Under Discussion.
- 6.1.14 The issues contained in the draft SoCG have all been agreed. The issues raised in their Relevant Representation have been responded to by the Applicant at Deadline 1 (**REP1-060**). The Applicant has responded to Historic England's Written Representation at Deadline 3 (**REP3-025**).
- 6.1.15 The Applicant has shared the proposed final SoCG with Historic England (**REP1-058**) for sign-off but has not yet received a response.

ANGLIAN WATER SERVICES LTD

- 6.1.16 There are three issues between the Applicant and Anglian Water, where they do not agree on the Protective Provisions.
- 6.1.17 The final signed SoCG (**TR010040/EXAM/8.7 Rev 2**) is submitted at Deadline 10

OPENREACH LTD

- 6.1.18 Openreach Ltd have confirmed that the standard protective provisions included within the dDCO (**REP4-007**) provide adequate protections for their interests and therefore do not intend to take part in the examination process.

CADENT GAS LTD

- 6.1.19 Protective provisions in favour of Cadent in an agreed form were included in the dDCO (**REP7-007**) Schedule 9 Part 4. These were subject to some very minor textual amendments to the dDCO submitted at Deadline 8 (**REP8-003**) to reflect the final agreed form.
- 6.1.20 Agreement has now been reached between the Applicant and Cadent therefore a Statement of Common Ground is no longer required.

UK POWER NETWORKS (UKPN)

- 6.1.21 UK Power Networks have not requested bespoke protective provisions or have they identified any other concerns regarding the Scheme. Standard protective provisions remain included within the dDCO (**TR010040/APP/3.1 Rev 8**).
- 6.1.22 A SoCG is no longer required as no issues have been identified.

VIRGIN MEDIA LTD

- 6.1.23 Virgin Media have sent a standard notification to the Applicant but has not requested any amendments to the standard provisions at Part 2 of Schedule 9, of the dDCO. (**TR010040/APP/3.1 Rev 8**).
- 6.1.24 A SoCG is no longer required.

VODAFONE LTD

- 6.1.25 Agreement has been reached in respect of Protective Provisions with Vodafone, who are content that the Order is made.
- 6.1.26 A SoCG is no longer required.

BLOFIELD PARISH COUNCIL

- 6.1.27 All matters in the SoCG between the Applicant and Blofield Parish Council have been finalised however there remain matters outstanding.
- 6.1.28 There are 42 issues identified in the SoCG, of which 36 are 'Agreed'. There are 6 issues 'Not Agreed', 4 of which are in relation to the junction proposal at Yarmouth Road and 2 in relation to Cucumber Lane junction, to the west of the scheme.
- 6.1.29 A final Signed SoCG (**TR010040/EXAM/8.13 Rev 2**) is submitted at Deadline 10.

NORWICH CYCLING CAMPAIGN

- 6.1.30 A Statement of Common Ground is no longer being prepared with Norwich Cycling Campaign.
- 6.1.31 The Applicant has responded to Norwich Cycling Campaign's Written Representation in the Applicant's Response to Written Representations (**REP3-025**) and to their Deadline 4 submission in the Applicant's Response to Deadline 4 Submissions (**REP5-015**).