

Anne-Marie Rogers
Highways England
Woodlands
Manton Lane
Bedford
MK41 7LW

2nd December 2020

Dear Mr Braidwood

A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet scheme

During our meetings, you requested that we confirm in writing our intention to acquire your property, [REDACTED], to construct the new Black Cat junction as part of the scheme.

As a nationally significant infrastructure project, Highways England will seek development consent to build the scheme. Your property is within the order limits of the proposed Development Consent Order (DCO) application and therefore Highways England will seek the right to compulsorily acquire the freehold of your property under the terms of the DCO. This process is explained in detail on government webpages and I urge you to read the information at : [REDACTED].

If you are unable to access these links and would like a hard copy sent to you, please do let me know and I will arrange this as soon as possible.

As an alternative to compulsory acquisition, and if it is possible to reach a voluntary agreement with you, Highways England remain committed to the purchase of the cottages by negotiation. I understand that the property has been let to [REDACTED] for many years, and we have discussed the importance of using the time available to secure him alternative accommodation. In the event that we do reach agreement to purchase through voluntary negotiation, Highways England will require vacant possession of the property and completion will not conclude until [REDACTED] has moved to a new home.

If, however powers of compulsory acquisition under the DCO are exercised to acquire the property, Highways England will serve notice to [REDACTED] and he will have a minimum of 3 months to leave the property. As the property falls within the construction area, we will require possession as soon as possible after the DCO comes into force and we cannot safely permit any extensions.

If you have any questions, I would be happy to discuss this further. Please feel free to call my mobile and we can arrange a mutually convenient time for a telephone conference.

Regards

Anne-Marie Rogers

Senior Project Manger

Email: [REDACTED]