

Submission ID: 7374

In Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 the ExA's formal action for the Applicant was to provide Evidence of an established dialogue over outstanding issues, such as schedule of meetings and agreed timetable relative to the Examination Timetable.

At Deadline 6 the Applicant responded:

"A timetable has not been agreed with Bedford Borough Council because the landowner is still considering whether they are interested in entering into an option agreement under the terms proposed by The Applicant."

As was made clear on behalf of Bedford Borough Council at Compulsory Purchase Hearing 2, and discussed subsequently with the Applicant's agent, there is a range of matters other than a potential option that need to be agreed. This includes agreements that may be entered into. We do not consider the Applicant's reason for not seeking to agree a timetable is reasonable and consider this action needs urgently completing. We will address with the Applicant and keep the ExA advised.