Action Point No. 22 - Response to information requested by the ExA at Compulsory Acquisition Hearing - 10th December 2020

AP No. 22 - I and A Simkin to set out where and what alternative sites for mitigation within its control might be, including provision on plan on Ordnance Survey base, so that the ExA can consider whether comment about this land being available and more suitable has merit.

An alternative site for mitigation was being proposed by the landowner as wide areas of species rich grassland were shown along wide boundary areas on the Environmental masterplan and Environmental mitigation plans. However, at a site meeting on 16th December 2020 HE stated that the land is not in fact proposed to be acquired for environmental mitigation, but will instead form a standard boundary alongside the trunk roads comprising a ditch, hedge and fence of up to 7 m, with a potential 3 m margin shown for limits of deviation. There is therefore no species rich grassland forming part of the area which is to be acquired from my client and obviously no longer any requirement for it to be alternatively accommodated elsewhere. It is unfortunate that HE's plans have been misleading in this way and have caused unnecessary confusion for so long. An explanation of HE's intentions, combined with plans stating the correct proposed use of the land could have addressed this.