



The Planning Inspectorate

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Ms Emma-Mai Eshelby,
Senior Consultant – Major Infrastructure
and Environment at Stantec on behalf of
the Applicant, National Highways
By email only

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010055

Date: 15 December 2022

Dear Ms Eshelby

Planning Act 2008 – Section 51

Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the M3 Junction 9 Improvement (TR010055)

Advice following issue of decision to accept the application for examination

On 15 December 2022 the Secretary of State decided that the application for the above project satisfies the acceptance tests under section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). The Planning Inspectorate's acceptance checklist and the application documents have been published and made available on the project page of our website.

In undertaking checks at the acceptance stage, the Inspectorate has made some initial observations in relation to the application. This letter comprises advice to the Applicant provided under section 51 of the PA2008 in respect of these initial observations. The Applicant should pay attention to its content and consider how appropriate action might be taken in response.

Consultees identified on a precautionary basis

Given the individual circumstances of this case, the Planning Inspectorate advises taking a precautionary approach to consultation under s42(1)(a) of PA2008 to ensure that all persons potentially affected by, or potentially likely to have an interest in the application are given the opportunity to participate fully in the Examination of the application. On this basis, the Applicant may wish to serve notice on the bodies listed in Box 6 of the section 55 checklist when it serves notice of the accepted application under s56(2)(a) of the PA2008; unless there is a specific justification why this is not necessary.

Minor errors and omissions

There are minor errors and omissions, as reflected in Box 30 of the acceptance checklist. These include:

- The apparent omission of Plot 5/5a from Schedule 7 of the **Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1)**.
- A minor discrepancy concerning the presentation of point 3 of the **Rights of Way and Access Plans (Doc 2.4)** in the **Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1)**.

Please pay close attention to the advice set out in this letter and act on it accordingly. It is requested that you take action in response to these points before the commencement of the Relevant Representation period. This will contribute towards a more efficient examination and give any future Examining Authority comfort that the documentation is complete and accurate.

We trust you find this advice helpful, however if you have any queries on these matters please do not hesitate to contact our office using the contact details at the head of this letter.

Yours sincerely

Sarah Norris

Sarah Norris
Case Manager

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