

Application by National Highways for the M3 Junction 9 improvement scheme

Case Reference: TR01005

Examining Authority's Note of Unaccompanied Site Inspection 3

The Examining Authority (ExA) undertook the first unaccompanied site inspection (USI1) on Thursday 9 March 2023 and a second unaccompanied site inspection (USI2) on 28th April 2023. The summary of these can be seen on the scheme webpage using these links [USI1](#), [USI2](#).

The third unaccompanied site inspection (USI3) was undertaken on 23 August 2023.

The purpose of USI3 was for the ExA to view the application site from the tower of Winchester Cathedral.

Particulars of the Site Inspection

USI3 was undertaken by both members of the ExA who were escorted by the Head of Estate for Winchester Cathedral. It was necessary to have an escort as the viewing location required access to areas which are restricted to the general public and the route through the cathedral had certain health and safety considerations.

Weather conditions were warm and dry with very little cloud or wind. The air temperature was around 20 degrees Celsius. Weather conditions allowed for long distance views and sounds to be heard.

The visit started at approximately 11:00 and finished at 12:00.

Summary of USI3

The ExA met the Head of Estate at the main entrance to Winchester Cathedral and were escorted to the bell tower lift and staircase where they ascended to the top of the bell tower. At the top of the bell tower the ExA were able to assess the view across 360°. At the end of the viewing, the ExA were escorted back to the public areas of the Cathedral.