

Date: 27 October 2023
Our ref: 453996
Your ref: M3 Junction 9 Improvement



Customer Services
Hornbeam House
Crewe Business Park
Electra Way
Crewe
Cheshire
CW1 6GJ

0300 060 3900

BY EMAIL ONLY

Dear Sir or Madam,

M3 Junction 9 Improvement Scheme, Winchester SO23 7TY

The Examining Authority's third round of written questions and requests for information

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Thank you for your consultation with Natural England as part of the Examining Authority's second round of written questions. Please find below Natural England's response.

Q7.3.5 is addressed to Natural England and relates to protected species licencing.

Natural England is currently collaborating with the customer in relation to the draft European Protected Species Licence Application 2022-63581-EPS-AD1-1. As translocation is proposed under this licence, it will be more practically complex and requires detailed collaboration. At this stage, based on the information received, it is still feasible for a Letter of No Impediment to be issued in advance of 10th November 2023. Assessment is on-going, and therefore, some caveats may apply, but these will be discussed with the customer before committing them to the decision outcome.

If this raises any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

Helen Woolley
Senior Adviser
Natural England Wildlife Licensing Service
Natural England