



Highways England

Section 56 Planning Act 2008

Regulation 9 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Regulation 16 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017

Notice of Acceptance of an Application for a Development Consent Order

A417 Missing Link

Notice is hereby given that the Secretary of State has accepted an application by **Highways England Company Limited** of Bridge House, 1 Walnut Tree Close, Guildford, GU1 4LZ ("the Applicant") for a Development Consent Order ("DCO") under the Planning Act 2008 ("the Application"). The Application was received by the Secretary of State c/o the Planning Inspectorate ("the Inspectorate") on Tuesday 1 June 2021 and was accepted for examination on 29 June 2021. The reference number applied to the Application by the Inspectorate is TR010056.

Summary of the Application

The DCO would authorise the following main features (the "scheme"):

- 3.4 miles of new dual carriageway connecting the existing A417 Brockworth bypass with the existing A417 dual carriageway south of Cowley in Gloucestershire.
- A new crossing near Emma's Grove for walkers, cyclists and horse riders including disabled users, which would accommodate the Cotswold Way National Trail (referred to as the Cotswold Way crossing).
- A new junction near to Ullenwood, connecting the existing A436 and Leckhampton Hill with the new A436 Link Road and Cold Slad Lane.
- A new multi-purpose crossing north of Shab Hill to provide essential mitigation for bats and enhancement opportunity for ecology and landscape integration. The crossing would also carry the Gloucestershire Way (referred to as the Gloucestershire Way crossing).
- A new junction at Shab Hill, providing a link from the A417 to the A436 (towards the A40 and Oxford) and to the B4070 (for Birdlip and other local destinations).

- A new junction would be included near Cowley, replacing the existing Cowley roundabout and providing local access to Stockwell and other local settlements including Caudle Green, Nettleton Bottom and Brimpsfield. The junction would make use of the existing Cowley Wood Lane underbridge to allow for all directions of travel to be made.
- The re-purposing of the current A417 between Stockwell Lane and the Cotswold Way crossing, providing a traffic free walking, cycling and horse riding route, including for disabled users. Other sections would be retained as lower-class public roads, maintaining local access for residents.

The DCO would authorise the compulsory acquisition of land, interests in land and rights over land, and the powers to use land permanently and temporarily for the construction, operation and maintenance of the scheme.

The DCO would make provisions in connection with several ancillary matters. It seeks to apply and modify statutory provisions relating to the compulsory acquisition of land. Other ancillary matters include the temporary and permanent stopping up of lengths of existing highway and private means of access in the vicinity of the scheme, the classification of highways, the imposition of traffic regulation measures (including the application of speed limits), the creation of new private means of access, and the application and disapplication of legislation.

Environmental Impact Assessment

The scheme is Environmental Impact Assessment development (“EIA development”) as defined by The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. The Application is therefore accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

Copies of Application Documents

The application form and accompanying documents, plans and maps, including the Environment Statement can be viewed electronically and free of charge on the project page of the Planning Inspectorate’s National Infrastructure Planning website: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-west/a417-missing-link/> under the documents tab. The application documents will remain on the website for the duration of the relevant representation period, until at least 2 September 2021, and will be available during the Examination of the scheme.

Copies may also be purchased from the project team using the contact details at the end of this notice. Copies of the suite of application documents can be obtained for a charge of £500 (plus postage) for hard copies. On request, a web link, DVD or USB containing these documents can be provided. Copies of individual documents are also available on request and a charge may apply.

Making representations on the Application

The period for making representations starts on Friday 30 July 2021 and will end at 23:59 on Thursday 2 September 2021.

Any person may make representations on the Application to the Secretary of State (i.e.: giving notice of any interest in or objection to the Application). Any representation relating to the Application must be submitted on a registration form and give the grounds on which it is made. The Inspectorate have issued detailed advice on registering as an interested party and making a relevant representation, to which you are advised to have regard. This Advice Note (8.2 – How to Register to Participate in an Examination) is published on the National Infrastructure Planning website under 'Legislation and Advice' and can be found at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

The Registration and Relevant Representation form will be made available by the Inspectorate once the registration / representation period has opened on the relevant page for the Application via the National Infrastructure Planning website <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-west/a417-missing-link/>.

Alternatively, you can request a hard copy of the form by telephoning **0303 444 5000** quoting the name of the Application and the Inspectorate's reference number TR010056. A completed hard copy form to be submitted to the Inspectorate should be sent to:

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
BRISTOL
BS1 6PN

Please quote reference number TR010056 in all correspondence with the Inspectorate about this Application.

The period during which you can submit a Relevant Representation to the Inspectorate begins the calendar day after the date this Section 56 Notice is last published, which is Friday 30 July 2021, and will end on Thursday 2 September 2021. Please note that any submitted representations to the Inspectorate will be published on the National Infrastructure Planning website for the Application.

Further information about the Application may be obtained from Highways England as follows:

Post: Highways England, Temple Quay House, Bristol, BS1 6HA
Email: a417missinglink@highwaysengland.co.uk
Telephone: 0300 123 5000