



Planning Act 2008 – section 93

Application by National Highways (formerly Highways England) for an Order granting Development Consent for the A417 Missing Link project

Agenda for Open Floor Hearing 2 (OFH2)

In its [letter dated 5 April 2022](#), the Examining Authority (ExA) notified Interested Parties (IP) of its decision to hold an Open Floor Hearing on the following date:

Hearing	Date and time	Location
Open Floor Hearing 2 (OFH2)	Friday 29 April 2022 10.00am (Arrangements Conference starts at 9.30am*)	Virtually via Microsoft Teams

The above Hearing will be held with Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 3 (CAH3) and Issue Specific Hearing 5 (ISH5) as part of a single continuous event, hence the identical start times for each Hearing. A single Arrangements Conference will be held at 9.30am for all the Hearings, and the Hearings will be accessed via the same set of joining instructions.

**Participants must join the Arrangements Conference in order to register and be permitted access to the Hearing.*

About OFH2

This is the second Open Floor Hearing to be held in this Examination. This Hearing is held following the Applicant's change request and is being held to enable additional Interested Parties to make representations on the scheme and to enable Interested Parties to comment on whether the change affects their position. Open Floor Hearings are not related to a particular issue.

Attendance at the Hearing

The ExA is conducting this Hearing virtually. The Planning Inspectorate's Advice Notice 8.6 provides detailed advice regarding virtual Examination events.¹

¹ Further information is available in Advice Note 8.6, available at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-8-6-virtual-examination-events/>



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Anyone wishing to attend the Hearing who has not already advised the Case Team of this should do so as soon as possible (and by **Thursday 28 April 2022 at the latest**), as you will need to be issued with joining instructions to access the Hearing virtually. Please email: A417MissingLink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk.

Parties can join using a computer, laptop, tablet, mobile phone or landline telephone. Invitees will receive full instructions on how to join online or by phone in a separate email shortly before the Hearing, including a joining link or telephone number through which you can join the Arrangements Conference. The joining link and telephone number are for your own personal use and **should not be shared with any other party**.

Please join the Arrangements Conference at the start time. The Case Team will admit you from the lobby and register your attendance. The Arrangements Conference allows procedures to be explained and will enable the Hearing to start promptly.

It is the Applicant's intention to livestream the Hearing, and a link to watch the livestream will be posted on the [project webpage of the Planning Inspectorate's National Infrastructure Planning website](#) closer to the event date. A recording of the Hearing will also be made available on the project webpage shortly after the event.

Participation, conduct and management of Hearing

The Hearing will be subject to the powers of control of the ExA and we will be inviting registered participants to make an oral representation to us. Each individual IP will be strictly limited to a maximum of 5 minutes, and organisations and groups with shared representations will receive a maximum speaking time of 10 minutes. Please run through your representation in advance to ensure it can be completed in the allotted time to avoid us having to cut your contribution short. To facilitate an efficient Hearing, we would also ask those with common points to come together and to nominate a spokesperson or representative speakers to cover specific topics, so as to avoid repetition.

All representations at the OFH should be based on the Relevant Representation or Written Representation made by the person by whom (or on whose behalf) the oral representations are made². However, representations made at the Hearing should not simply repeat matters previously covered in a written submission. Rather, they should draw attention to those submissions in summary form and provide further detail, explanation and evidential corroboration to help inform the ExA.

The ExA may ask questions about representations or ask the Applicant or other party to comment or respond.

As the Hearing will be recorded, please do not include any information that you wish to be kept private and confidential.

² s91 Planning Act 2008



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Breaks will be provided during an Open Floor Hearing in recognition of the fatigue associated with on-screen communication during virtual events.

May we draw your attention to **Deadline 8** in the Examination Timetable (**Friday 6 May 2022**) and our request to receive full summaries of all oral submissions given at this Hearing by that date by those who made them. Note that any additional illustrative or supporting material that you wish to share must be submitted at Deadline 8, as it will not be possible for you to show it on screen during your contribution to the Hearing.

Please contact the Case Team if you have any questions regarding the arrangements for the Hearing: A417MissingLink@planninginspectorate.gov.uk



Open Floor Hearing 2

Project	A417 Missing Link [TR010056]
Title of meeting	Open Floor Hearing 2 (OFH2)
Date	Friday 29 April 2022
Time	10.00am (Arrangements Conference from 9.30am)
Venue	Virtually via Microsoft Teams
Attendees	Invitees

Agenda

Item 1	Welcome, preliminary matters and introductions.
Item 2	Arrangements for OFH2.
Item 3	Confirmation of those who have notified the Examining Authority of a wish to be heard at OFH2.
Item 4	<p>Oral submissions from Interested Parties:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Each Interested Party who has indicated a wish to speak will be invited in turn to address the Examining Authority. Each individual Interested Party will be strictly limited to 5 minutes, and organisations/ groups with shared representations will be limited to 10 minutes.• Following each submission, the Examining Authority may wish to ask the speaker questions.• The Applicant will be invited to respond briefly to any matters raised by each speaker, or in summary at the close of the Open Floor Hearing.• Oral submissions should be based on representations previously made in writing by the particular participant. However, representations made at the hearing should not simply repeat matters previously covered in a written submission, but rather provide further detail, explanation and evidential corroboration to help inform the Examining Authority.
Item 5	Responses by Applicant.
Item 6	Close of OFH2.