



National Infrastructure Planning  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol  
BS1 6PN

1<sup>st</sup> April 2021

Dear Mr Gleeson,

**Reference: A1 in Northumberland - Morpeth to Ellingham - The Examining Authority's second written questions and requests for information (ExQ2)**

The Woodland Trust would like to take the opportunity to respond to the question posed by the Planning Inspectorate in relation to the A1 in Northumberland (Morpeth to Ellingham) Development Consent Order application. Please accept our apologies for our previous lack of response; the Trust was experiencing significant technical issues during ExQ1 and was unable to engage in the examination process.


**ExQ1 BIO.1.6 asked the Woodland Trust to expand on the comment in paragraph 9.4.20 of the ES [APP-048] which states that it does not support ancient woodland translocation or salvage as this inherently requires the damage of ancient woodland. No response was received to BIO.1.6. The Woodland Trust is further asked to respond.**

The Woodland Trust holds the organisational position that ancient woodland soil translocation and salvage techniques should not be considered as mitigation for ancient woodland damage, and instead all efforts should be undertaken to ensure ancient woodland loss is avoided in line with the mitigation hierarchy.

Translocation practices should only be considered as a last resort as part of **compensation** for ancient woodland loss and should not be used to justify developments where ancient woodland will be directly affected, as ancient woodlands are an irreplaceable habitat.

If you have any questions regarding the Woodland Trust's answers to the above, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

  
Campaigner – Woods under Threat

**The Woodland Trust**  
Kempton Way  
Grantham  
Lincolnshire  
NG31 6LL

**Telephone**  
01476 581111

**Facsimile**  
01476 590808

**Website**  
[woodlandtrust.org.uk](http://woodlandtrust.org.uk)

