

**Planning Act 2008**

**DCO Application for A1 Northumberland: Morpeth – Ellingham improvements**

**Royal Mail Examination Statement – Summary of Royal Mail’s position as at Deadline 8 – 25 May 2021**

Following negotiations between Royal Mail and Highways England, on 17 May 2021 Highways England’s Solicitors proposed by email to amend the Construction Traffic Management Plan (CTMP) for A1 Northumberland: Morpeth – Ellingham improvement to reflect the wording used on paragraph 2.8.1 of the CTMP for Highways England’s A1 Birtley to Coal House Improvement Scheme, as below:

**2.8 ADVANCED NOTIFICATIONS (MAJOR ROAD USERS)**

2.8.1. Advanced notifications of programmed diversions and closures will be issued to major road users in the vicinity of the Scheme including Royal Mail. This will include providing major road users with not less than 7 working days’ notice of any road closures, diversions or alternative access arrangements that may affect travel on those routes and (if available) the agreed hours of working. This will form part of a wider communications plan associated with the Scheme. The method of communication will be agreed as part of the final CTMP. Highways England will consult with Royal Mail on the content of the final CTMP

Highways England’s Solicitors confirmed to Royal Mail’s Solicitor by email on 24 May 2021 that the above amendments will be incorporated into the final CTMP for A1 Northumberland: Morpeth – Ellingham improvement, together with amendments to Tables 5 and 6 as follows:

**Table 5: Customer Groups Identified and Mitigation – Part A**

Customer group	Who is affected by this Scheme?	What are their requirements?	How will this Plan take these requirements into account?
Community - Royal Mail		Advance warning of closures and/or diversions, with particular regard to Royal Mail’s distribution facilities near the DCO application boundary. e.g. market days Minimal disruption due to works, including environmental factors (e.g. noise, dust, lighting) and diversion routes. Further details can be found in the Outline CEMP (Application	Notification and liaison with individuals and/or local group representatives, including 7 working days’ notice ahead of road closures and/or diversions. Diversion route signs and information to meet driver requirements and optimise usability to reduce opportunities for error and therefore reduce congestion during construction. Further details can be found in Outline CEMP (Application Document Reference: TR010041APP/7.3)

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**Table 6: Customer Groups Identified and Mitigation: Part B**

Customer group	Who is affected by this Scheme?	What are their requirements?	How has this Plan taken these requirements into account?
Community - Royal Mail		<p>Advance warning of closures and/or diversions, with particular regard to Royal Mail’s distribution facilities near the DCO application boundary.</p> <p>Sensitivity to local requirements e.g. market days</p> <p>Minimal disruption due to works, including environmental factors (e.g. noise, dust, lighting) and diversion routes. Further details can be found in the Outline CEMP (Application Document Reference: TR010041/APP/7.3)</p>	<p>Notification and liaison with individuals and/or local group representatives, including 7 working days’ notice ahead of road closures and/or diversions. Diversion route signs and information to meet driver requirements and optimise usability to reduce opportunities for error and therefore reduce congestion during construction. Further details can be found in Outline CEMP (Application Document Reference: TR010041APP/7.3)</p>

On the basis of this confirmation, Royal Mail hereby withdraws its objection.

In reaching this agreement with Highways England, Royal Mail is not setting a precedent and the withdrawal of the objection in this case by Royal Mail should not be taken as such. In particular, Royal Mail may require a CTMP requirement for advance consultation - as distinct from notification – on road closures, diversions and alternative access arrangements and agreeing to accept a requirement for notification only in this case must not prejudice Royal Mail’s ability to secure these controls on other Highways England schemes in the future where considered necessary by Royal Mail to mitigate the level of risk presented by the proposed works. Furthermore, Royal Mail may also look to secure a requirement for advance notification and/or consultation on construction management measures within the DCO itself on other future Highways England schemes, as it did recently in the A303 Amesbury to Berwick Down DCO in addition to, or as an alternative to, a provision in the CTMP. Acceptance of only the CTMP requirements in this case should not preclude Royal Mail from seeking DCO requirements, or such other mitigation as it considers necessary on future schemes.

Within 14 days of this submission, Royal Mail will provide Highways England with its relevant operational contacts, who should then be notified and consulted by Highways England or its contractor in accordance with the CTMP.

A1 Northumberland: Morpeth – Ellingham  
Improvements



Should the Examining Authority have any questions arising from this statement then Royal Mail will be pleased to respond in writing.