

As requested, by the Secretary of State in the letter dated 16th November 2021, the following provides a response from Mark Hawes acting on behalf of the family resident at Northgate Farm.

The request raised in the letter reads as follows:

In response to question 5 of the Secretary of State's letter of 29 October 2021, the Applicant provided updated specifications of the grid references and track lengths in paragraph 2.5.6 of the Applicant's response. The Secretary of State invites confirmation from Mr Hawes (on behalf of residents of Northgate Farm) and Mr Davidson on whether they are satisfied that the specifications of the grid references and track lengths provided by the Applicant accurately reflect the three options under consideration during the examination?

I can confirm that the grid references provided by the Applicant in paragraph 2.5.6 do accurately reflect the three options being considered.

In my previous response, provided on the 12th November, I highlighted that we had started discussions with the Applicant to see if we could make option 5B(c) work. I can confirm that those discussions have moved forward and that we have established an agreement in principle for option 5B(c). I hope that this news is welcomed by all parties and allows this issue to be resolved. Further discussions are required to look at aspects of maintenance and to look at the detailed design for the point of access into Northgate Farm. This includes tweaking the point of access to avoid the current sharp turn into the property. These detailed ongoing discussions are not expected to impact upon the viability of option 5B(c) but the point of access grid reference is likely to change.