



Our ref: TR010060

Your ref:

Ted Blackmore
The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Tracey Harvey
Project Manager
A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening
Highways England
Woodlands
Manton Lane
Bedford
MK41 7LW

31st January 2023

Dear Mr Blackmore

Application Ref: TR010060
Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme
Applicant's Request for a reduced notice period under Rule 13(6)

1. We write further to the publication of the Rule 13 and Rule 16 Notification of Hearings and Accompanied Site Inspection dated 31 January 2023.
2. This letter is an application to vary the requirements under Rule 13(6)(c) of the advertisement of the hearings set out below.
3. The Applicant is asking that the period for placing the notice of the hearings be shortened given the likely inability to advertise the proposed hearings in compliance with the Rules. This is because of the required lead in time for booking space and securing publication in the relevant local newspapers.
4. The application is in relation to the hearings and the Accompanied Site Inspection during the week of 28 January 2023, being:
 - (i) Issue Specific Hearing 1 on 28 January 2023 and continued on 1 March 2023 (if required);
 - (ii) Issue Specific Hearing 2 on 1 March 2023;
 - (iii) Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1 on 1 March 2023;
 - (iv) Accompanied Site Inspection on 2 March 2023; and
 - (v) Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 on 3 March 2023.
5. Rule 13(6)(c) states that unless the Examining Authority otherwise directs, the Applicant must advertise no later than 21 days before the date fixed for the commencement of a hearing – '(c) publish a notice of the hearing by local advertisement in the area in which the proposals contained in the application are to have effect'.
6. Having made enquiries with the local publications, we understand that the earliest any notice can appear in the local papers is 9 or 10 February 2023 which gives less than 21 days' notice of the hearings on 28 January 2023, 1 March 2023 and 2 March 2023.

7. We propose that, in undertaking the requirement under Rule 13 (6) (c) to advertise the proposed hearings, the Applicant provides 18 days' notice before the date fixed for the commencement of the earliest Issue Specific Hearing on 28 February 2023.
8. To the extent it is material, the Applicant believes that, in accordance with Rule 13(6)(a) and (b), the site notices and other public notices will be posted at least 21 days before the date fixed for the hearings detailed in paragraph 2.
9. We thank the Panel for consideration of this request and hope to have your decision as soon as possible to allow us to book space in the relevant publications. We will do so as soon as we know the Panel's decision.

Yours faithfully



Tracey Harvey
Project Manager
National Highways