



NATIONAL HIGHWAYS

A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme

SECTIONS 91, 92 and 94 OF THE PLANNING ACT 2008

RULE 13(6) OF THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES 2010

NOTICE OF HEARINGS RELATING TO THE A12 CHELMSFORD TO A120 WIDENING SCHEME

PLANNING INSPECTORATE REFERENCE: TR010060

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, at the dates, times and locations set out below, compulsory acquisition hearings and issue specific hearings will be held by the Examining Authority (appointed by the Secretary of State) for the examination of the application made by National Highways for a Development Consent Order (“the DCO”) for the A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme (“the Application”).

The Application was made to the Secretary of State (via the Planning Inspectorate) under sections 14 (1)(f) and (h), 20, 22 (1)(b) of the Planning Act 2008 on 15 August 2022 and was accepted by the Planning Inspectorate for examination on 12 September 2022. The Application has been given the Planning Inspectorate reference number TR010060.

SUMMARY OF THE SCHEME

The DCO would authorise a nationally significant infrastructure project (“NSIP”) for the alteration of an existing highway. The Application proposes the widening of the existing A12 in Essex to three lanes throughout in each direction between junctions 19 (Boreham Interchange) and 25 (Marks Tey), where it is not already three lanes. This would mainly involve online widening of the existing carriageway, together with new offline highway created between junctions 22 and 23 (Rivenhall End Bypass) and between junctions 24 and 25 (Kelvedon to Marks Tey). It would be accompanied by junction improvements (junctions 19 and 25), construction of new junctions catering for traffic movements both north and southbound (new junctions 21, 22 and 24 at Hatfield Peverel, Witham East and Kelvedon respectively), and removal of existing junctions 20a, 20b and 23.

The proposals include the diversion and alteration of a high pressure gas main, east of Witham, that is an NSIP in its own right.

The DCO would permit the compulsory acquisition of land, interests in land and rights over land, and the powers to use land permanently and temporarily for the construction, operation and maintenance of the scheme.

The DCO would make provision for several associated and ancillary matters, including the following:

- Improvements to existing local roads, including Kelvedon Road, Inworth;

- Drainage and attenuation ponds;
- New bridges over the A12;
- Improvements to the cycling footpath and bridleway network;
- Detrunking of sections of the existing A12 at Rivenhall End and between Kelvedon and Marks Tey;
- Alteration, creation, extinguishment or suspension of highways;
- Creation, stopping up and alteration of accesses to highways;
- Traffic regulation measures; diversion and alteration of existing above ground cables;
- Removal, disposal, replacement or re-siting of pipes, cables, conduits and apparatus;
- Removal of trees, hedgerows and vegetation;
- Operation and management of the A12;
- Discharge of waters into inland waters or underground strata;
- Creation of borrow pits to provide aggregates for constructing the scheme;
- Disapplication of byelaws and local legislation; and
- acquisition and use of open space land and provision of replacement land.

HEARINGS

The Examining Authority's letter dated 31 January 2023 contains notification of hearings scheduled for 28 February, 1 and 3 March 2023. Link to the Examining Authority's letter: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/TR010060/TR010060-001555-Rule%2013.pdf>. Those hearings will be held at the dates, times and locations set out in the table below.

Date	Hearing Type	Start Time	Place
Tuesday 28 February 2023	Issue Specific Hearing (ISH1) on Environmental Matters	Seating available at the venue from: 9:30am; Virtual arrangements conference from: 9:30am; Hearing starts: 10:00am	Blended events at: Kingsland Church, 86 London Road, Lexden, Colchester, CO3 9DW and by virtual means using Microsoft Teams. Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered.
Wednesday 1 March 2023	Issue Specific Hearing (ISH1 resumed) on Environmental Matters (if required)	Seating available at the venue from: 9:30am; Virtual arrangements conference from: 9:30am;	Blended events at: Kingsland Church, 86 London Road, Lexden, Colchester, CO3 9DW and

		Hearing starts: 10:00am	by virtual means using Microsoft Teams. Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered.
Wednesday 1 March 2023	Issue Specific Hearing (ISH2) on the Draft Development Consent Order	Seating available at the venue from: 12:30pm; Virtual arrangements conference from: 12:30pm; Hearing starts: 13:00pm	Blended events at: Kingsland Church, 86 London Road, Lexden, Colchester, CO3 9DW and by virtual means using Microsoft Teams. Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered.
Wednesday 1 March 2023	Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH1)	Seating available at the venue from: 14:45pm; Virtual arrangements conference from: 14:45pm; Hearing starts: 15:15pm	Blended events at: Kingsland Church, 86 London Road, Lexden, Colchester, CO3 9DW and by virtual means using Microsoft Teams. Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered.
Friday 3 March 2023	Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH2) (if required)	Seating available at the venue from: 9:30am; Virtual arrangements conference from: 9:30am; Hearing starts: 10:00am	Blended events at: Kingsland Church, 86 London Road, Lexden, Colchester, CO3 9DW and by virtual means using Microsoft Teams. Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered.

The venue for the hearings will be open to the public half an hour before the start of the hearings. Seating for observers will be limited and available on a first come first serve basis.

PARTICIPATING IN ONE OF THE ABOVE HEARINGS

The Hearings will be simultaneously held virtually via Microsoft Teams and in person at the venue above. Therefore, it will be possible for those who have registered to participate in the examination to participate in the hearings in person at the above venue or virtually. If you have not registered to participate in the examination, you can attend the venue and view the proceedings or follow the proceedings online via the Planning Inspectorate's project page (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a12-chelmsford-to-a120-widening-scheme/>).

The Planning Inspectorate Case Team will provide those who have confirmed that they intend to participate virtually with a web address and/or telephone number in order to allow access to the hearing via a tablet or computer connected to the internet and/or by telephone. All virtual participants will be required to attend an Arrangements Conference before each hearing session. The Arrangements Conference will be hosted by the Planning Inspectorate's Case Team. The Conference will start 30 minutes before the start of each hearing session. This will provide the Case Team with sufficient time to admit those participating virtually into the hearing.

If you are participating in person, please arrive at the above venue in good time to ensure that the hearings run in a timely manner.

The Examining Authority's notification of the above hearings dated 31 January 2023 provides further information about the above hearings and is available to download via the following hyperlink: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/TR010060/TR010060-001555-Rule%2013.pdf>.

CANCELLATION OF A HEARING

If any of the above hearings are cancelled, reasonable notice will be provided of the Planning Inspectorate's decision to cancel a hearing by posting a banner on the Planning Inspectorate's project page (<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a12-chelmsford-to-a120-widening-scheme/>).

ANY FURTHER HEARINGS

Any hearings further to those listed above will be advertised by one or more further notices. In accordance with Rule 13(3) of Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010, as amended, the Planning Inspectorate will also notify interested parties of the date, time and place fixed for each hearing.

For more information on these hearings, the examination of the Application and full timetable (and any amendments to it), including how and when to register to speak at the hearings and how and when to make written submissions, please contact the Planning Inspectorate using the details below, or visit its website where procedural decisions and notices of hearings are available to download.

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a12-chelmsford-to-a120-widening-scheme/>

Additional information about DCO hearings and examination procedure is included in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 8 which can be accessed via the following link: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-eight-overview-of-the-nationally-significant-infrastructure-planning-process-for-members-of-the-public-and-others/>.

If you intend to participate virtually at one of the hearings held during this Examination, please read the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 8.6: Virtual Examination events, which contains important information about how virtual events will be held and how you can participate. Advice note 8.6 can be accessed via the following link:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/advice-note-8-6-virtual-examination-events/>

COPIES OF THE APPLICATION DOCUMENTS

Copies of the Application documents, including the draft Development Consent Order, the compulsory acquisition information (including the Land Plans, Book of Reference, Funding Statement and Statement of Reasons) and the Environmental Statement can be viewed and downloaded online at the Planning Inspectorate's project website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a12-chelmsford-to-a120-widening-scheme/>

Full copies of the Application documents and examination documents can be viewed electronically, free of charge, at the electronic deposit locations listed in the table below. Please note that you may need to bring a form of identification and register as a library member in order to use a computer at these locations.

Venue and address	Opening hours	Printing costs
Chelmsford Library County Hall Market Road Chelmsford CM1 1QH	Monday 9am to 5.30pm Tuesday 9am to 5.30pm Wednesday 9am to 5.30pm Thursday Closed Friday 9am to 5.30pm Saturday 9am to 5.00pm Sunday 10.30am to 1.30pm	Black and white A4 20p per side Colour A4 £1.35 per side
Maldon Library Carmelite House White Horse Lane Maldon CM9 5FW	Monday 9am to 7pm Tuesday 9am to 5:30pm Wednesday Closed Thursday 9am to 5:30pm Friday 9am to 5:30pm Saturday 9am to 5pm Sunday Closed	Black and white A4 20p per side Colour A4 £1.35 per side
Braintree Library Fairfield Road Braintree CM7 3YL	Monday 9am to 7pm Tuesday 9am to 5:30pm Wednesday 9am to 5:30pm Thursday 9am to 5:30pm Friday 9am to 5:30pm Saturday 9am to 5pm Sunday Closed	Black and white A4 20p per side Colour A4 £1.35 per side
Colchester Library Trinity Square Colchester CO1 1JB	Monday 9am to 5:30pm Tuesday 9am to 5:30pm Wednesday 9am to 7pm Thursday 9am to 5:30pm Friday 9am to 5:30pm	Black and white A4 20p per side Colour A4 £1.35 per side

	Saturday 9am to 5pm Sunday 1pm to 4pm	
Kelvedon Library Aylett's Foundation School Maldon Road Kelvedon CO5 9BA	Monday 2pm to 5:30pm Tuesday Closed Wednesday Closed Thursday 9am to 1pm Friday Closed Saturday 9am to 5pm Sunday Closed	Black and white A4 20p per side Colour A4 £1.35 per side
Springfield Library St Augustine's Way Chelmsford CM1 6GX	Monday Closed Tuesday 10am to 5pm Wednesday Closed Thursday 10am to 5pm Friday 10am to 5pm Saturday 10am to 1pm Sunday Closed	Black and white A4 20p per side Colour A4 £1.35 per side
Tiptree Library Rectory Road Tiptree CO5 0SX	Monday Closed Tuesday 9am to 5:30pm Wednesday Closed Thursday 2pm to 7pm Friday Closed Saturday 9am to 5pm Sunday Closed	Black and white A4 20p per side Colour A4 £1.35 per side
Witham Library 18 Newland Street Witham CM8 2AQ	Monday 9am to 5:30pm Tuesday 9am to 5:30pm Wednesday 9am to 7pm Thursday 9am to 5:30pm Friday 9am to 5:30pm Saturday 9am to 5pm Sunday Closed	Black and white A4 20p per side Colour A4 £1.35 per side

Venue copying charges will apply.

The Application documents can also be viewed online at libraries with internet facilities, using the web address above.

ACCOMPANIED SITE INSPECTION

In addition to the above hearings, the Examining Authority has arranged an accompanied site inspection in the company of interested parties on the following date:

Event	Date	Start time	Location
Accompanied Site Inspection	Thursday 2 March 2023	Meeting time and safety briefing from the Applicant: 08:30am. Departure time: 09:00am.	Kelvedon Train Station Car Park Station Road, Kelvedon, Colchester, CO5 9NR

Participants are asked to assemble promptly by 08:30am, ready for a prompt departure at 09:00am to commence the accompanied site inspection. An itinerary for the accompanied site inspection will be published in advance of the site visit on the Planning Inspectorate's project website.

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a12-chelmsford-to-a120-widening-scheme/>.

If you wish to attend the site inspection please contact the Planning Inspectorate's Case Team via the contact details below by **14 February 2023** providing telephone contact details (preferably mobile telephone) so that we can contact you should the visit run late or need to be cancelled with minimal notice. This is particularly important given the potential for bad weather at this time of year. Please also let us know of any mobility needs that may affect transportation.

For logistical and safety reasons, capacity on the transport that will be used for the ASI may be limited. More information about the Accompanied Site Inspection can be found in the notification letter from the Examination Authority dated 31 January 2023. The letter has been published on the Planning Inspectorate's project page. Link to the letter:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/TR010060/TR010060-001555-Rule%2013.pdf..>

FURTHER INFORMATION

Further information about the Application, the hearings and site visit, how to take part in the Examination and any other matters covered in this notice may be obtained from the Planning Inspectorate or National Highways A12 Project Team using the following contact details:

The Planning Inspectorate	National Highways
<p>Post: A12 Case Team, The Planning Inspectorate, 3D Eagle Wing, Temple Quay House, 2 The Square, Bristol, BS1 6PN</p> <p>Email: A12chelmsfordA120@planninginspectorate.gov.uk</p> <p>Phone: 0303 444 5000</p> <p>Website: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/a12-chelmsford-to-a120-widening-scheme/</p> <p>Please quote the Application reference number TR010060 in any correspondence with the Planning Inspectorate about this Scheme.</p> <p>Correspondence about this Scheme should be marked FAO the A12 Case Team</p>	<p>Post: A12 Project Team, National Highways, Woodlands, Manton Lane, Bedford, Bedfordshire, MK41 7LW</p> <p>Email: A12chelmsfordA120wide@nationalhighways.co.uk</p> <p>Phone: 0300 123 5000</p> <p>Website: https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/east/a12-chelmsford-to-a120-widening-scheme/</p>