

A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme

TR010060

8.10 Statement of Common Ground with Chelmsford City Council

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A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme
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Statement of Common Ground with Chelmsford City Council

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STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

This draft Statement of Common Ground has been prepared and agreed by (1) National Highways Limited and (2) Chelmsford City Council.

It is understood between both parties that following the submission of the Local Impact Report, further issues will be added to the next draft of the Statement of Common Ground. These issues will be discussed between the two parties between now (13 February) and Deadline 4 (11 April).

There has been extensive engagement on the draft Statement of Common Ground as captured in the Record of Engagement (Table 2.1) and below captures the status of these discussions between both parties. The SoCG will continue to be updated throughout the DCO examination period.

A signed version of the SoCG will be submitted to the Examining Authority at deadline 7 (3rd July 23)

DRAFT

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1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 This draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared in respect of the proposed A12 Chelmsford Widening (the Scheme) made by National Highways Limited (National Highways) to the Secretary of State for Transport (Secretary of State) for a Development Consent Order (the Order) under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008).
- 1.1.2 The Order, if made, would authorise National Highways to widen the existing A12 to three lanes between junction 19 and 25 in each direction, where it is not already three lanes. This would mainly involve online widening of the carriageway, with offline bypasses created between junctions 22 and 23 (Rivenhall End Bypass) and between junctions 24 and 25 (Kelvedon to Marks Tey). This would be accompanied by junction improvements (junction 19 and 25), construction of new junctions catering for traffic movements both north and southbound (junctions 21, 22 and 24), and removal of existing junctions (junction 20a, 20b and 23).
- 1.1.3 This draft SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the application documents. All documents are available in the deposit locations and/or the Planning Inspectorate website.
- 1.1.4 The draft SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority (ExA) where agreement has been reached between the parties to it, and where agreement has not (yet) been reached and still under discussion, and areas of disagreement. SoCGs are an established means in the planning process of allowing all parties to identify and so focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.

1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.2.1 This draft SoCG has been prepared by (1) National Highways (formally known as Highways England) as the Applicant and (2) Chelmsford City Council.
- 1.2.2 National Highways became the Government-owned Strategic Highways Company on 1 April 2015. It is the highway authority in England for the strategic road network and has the necessary powers and duties to operate, manage, maintain and enhance the network. Regulatory powers remain with the Secretary of State. The legislation establishing National Highways made provision for all legal rights and obligations of the Highways Agency, including in respect of the Application, to be conferred upon or assumed by National Highways.
- 1.2.3 Chelmsford City Council is a prescribed consultee under Section 43 of the PA 2008 as the host local authority.

1.3 Terminology

- 1.3.1 In the tables in the Issues chapter of this draft SoCG, “Not Agreed” indicates a final position, and “Under discussion” where these points will be the subject of

on-going discussion wherever possible to resolve, or refine, the extent of disagreement between the parties. "Agreed" indicates where the issue has been resolved.

2 Record of Engagement

2.1.1 A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between National Highways and **Chelmsford City Council** in relation to the Application is outlined in table [2.1].

Table 2.1 Record of Engagement

Date	Form of correspondence	Key Topic discussed and key outcomes (the topics should align with the Issues tables)
w/c 23 May 2016	Letter/Email	Contact MPs and Parish Councils to inform them of survey activity - To ensure that local political representatives are informed of activity and are aware of the significant and reason for that activity.
27 June 2016	Letter/Email	Introductory contact with key local authorities - Contact key local authorities to identify single point of contact and request a meeting.
w/c 4 July 2016	Email	Issue forum invitations as applicable - Make initial contact with potential forum members. Introduction to the scheme and the purpose of the forums, request representation.
July/August 2016	Meeting	Engage with identified officer-level contact for key local authorities to discuss programme for the project, communications and understand local plans and issues which might impact the development of options.
July 2016	Meeting	Engagement with statutory bodies - Engagement with relevant stakeholders to gather information to support development of drainage strategy
16 Sept 2016	Meeting	Members Forum - To inform forum members about the consultation and the principles of a good consultation, as well as providing a project update.
26 Sept 2016	Meeting	Braintree and Chelmsford Community Forum - To inform forum members about the consultation and the principles of a good consultation, as well as providing a project update.

Date	Form of correspondence	Key Topic discussed and key outcomes (the topics should align with the Issues tables)
8 Nov 2016	Meeting	Non-Motorised Users Workshop - Early engagement with technical stakeholders to get understanding of key issues.
10 Nov 2016	Meeting	Road Users workshop - Early engagement with technical stakeholders to get understanding of key issues.
25 Nov 2016	Meeting	Members Forum - Update on progress and the forthcoming consultation, preview of materials for consultation. Update on emerging options / preview options identified for engagement.
1 Dec 2016	Meeting	Braintree and Chelmsford Community Forum - To inform forum members about traffic modelling and sifting, as well as providing a project update.
10 Jan 2017	Meeting	Pre-consultation 1-2-1 meeting - Provide early sight of consultation materials and exhibition
5 April 2017	Meeting	DCO Planning Workshop - To go through the DCO process with the local authority planning leads and explain what their involvement will be in the process.
23 May 2017	Meeting	Environment Workshops - Three workshops to provide the opportunity to discuss technical issues and to gather feedback for next steps.
30 May 2017	Meeting	Consultation Response Meeting - To discuss their consultation response and answer any specific questions they may have.
7 July 2017	Meeting	Members Forum - To inform forum members about the consultation, as well as providing a project update.
3 August 2017	Meeting	Community Forum (West) - To inform forum members about the consultation, as well as providing a project update.
Jan 2018	Meeting	<p>5th round of forums - The purpose of this forum will be to maintain relationships. Topics to be covered include:</p> <p>Scheme update</p> <p>Forum format going forward</p> <p>Environmental Impact Assessments</p>

Date	Form of correspondence	Key Topic discussed and key outcomes (the topics should align with the Issues tables)
May 2018	Email	The purpose of the letter is to flag up the update to the website and explain timescales where possible.
12 July 2019	Meeting	Members' Forum - Provide an overview of the A12 scheme, including work that has taken place to date and provide an update on the way forward for the scheme.
24 July 2019	Meeting	Community Forum - Provide an overview of the A12 scheme, including work that has taken place to date and provide an update on the way forward for the scheme.
3 October 2019	Meeting	Members forum - Provide an overview of the A12 scheme, including work that has taken place to date and provide an update on the way forward for the scheme, with a focus on the upcoming consultation.
14 October 2019	Meeting	Community forum - Provide an overview of the A12 scheme, including work that has taken place to date and provide an update on the way forward for the scheme, with a focus on the upcoming consultation.
19 February 2020	Meeting	<p>Members Forum - To provide an overview of how the consultation went</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How many people attended events • Feedback on the door • Responses received to date (members' forum will be given indication on the most popular route) <p>Feedback on how we can improve future events</p>
6 July 2020	Meeting	One-to-one meeting - Meeting with traffic and planning to discuss modelling and local developments
19 August 2020	Meeting	<p>Members' forum - To provide a scheme update:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project update • Overview of how the schemes will now be drawn back together • Overview of how, when a PRA is announced, it will be managed (publicity etc)

Date	Form of correspondence	Key Topic discussed and key outcomes (the topics should align with the Issues tables)
24 August 2020	Meeting	West Community Forum - To provide a scheme update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project update • Overview of how the schemes will now be drawn back together Overview of how, when a PRA is announced, it will be managed (publicity etc)
23 October 2020	Meeting	Junction 19 workshop - To discuss the updates of designing junction 19.
24 November 2020	Meeting	Local Roads workshop - To discuss the road strategy.
26 November 2020	Meeting	Members' forum - To provide a scheme update: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Project update • Design update
4 December 2020	Meeting	Meeting with LPAs to discuss Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) draft - To get input on SoCC before we consult on it
February 2021	Email/Meetings	Consult on SoCC - Obtain feedback on proposed approach to community consultation for DCO pre-application
22 February 2021	Meeting	Junction 19 workshop - Provide an update on design fix 1 and get feedback.
8 March 2021	Meeting	Members forum - Provide an update on design fix 1 and get feedback.
1 April 2021	Meeting	Boreham and Springfield Workshop - Discuss the updates at junction 19
24 May 2021	Meeting	Detrunking workshop - Provide an update on design fix 2 and get feedback.
7 June 2021	Meeting	Members' forum - Present design and arrangements for stat con
9 June 2021	Meeting	Send out updated SoCC to local authorities - Send final SoCC and explaining any changes following consultation.
19 June 2021	Meeting	Community forum (west) - Present arrangements for stat con

Date	Form of correspondence	Key Topic discussed and key outcomes (the topics should align with the Issues tables)
22 June 2021	Email	Notify key stakeholders by letter or email - To inform stakeholders that planning application has been submitted.
29 September 2021	Meeting	A12 workshop - To discuss the next steps for the project, including further consultations
7 October 2021	Meeting	Members' forum - Discuss consultation feedback, provide a project update and discuss the supplementary consultation
3 March 2022	Meeting	Members Forum – to provide an update on the project
8 March 2022	Meeting	Members Forum – to provide an update on the project
16 March 2022	Meeting	Environmental Impacts and Mitigation workshops.
17 March 2022	Meeting	Environmental Impacts and Mitigation workshops.
11 May 2022	Meeting	SOCG meeting – to discuss the Statement of Common Ground with Chelmsford City Council
22 July 2022	Meeting	Members Forum – to provide an update on the project
18 August 2022	Meeting	Statement of Common Ground meeting
31 August 2022	Meeting	A12 Project meeting to discuss progress and status of Statement of Common Ground
20 October 2022	Meeting	Statement of Common Ground meeting
14 November 2022	Meeting	Statement of Common Ground meeting
25 January 2023	Meeting	Statement of Common Ground meeting
2 February 2023	Meeting	Statement of Common Ground meeting

- 2.1.2 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the key meetings and consultation undertaken between (1) National Highways and (2) **Chelmsford City Council** in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.
- 2.1.3 This SoCG is currently in draft and will be updated throughout the DCO examination period. It is understood between both parties that this draft SoCG may be added to once the Local Impact Report has been produced.

3 Issues summary

3.1 Summary of issues agreed

3.1.1 The below table [3.1] provides a summary of the issues which have been agreed by Chelmsford City Council and National Highways. The full table of issues agreed can be seen in table [4.1].

Table 3.1 Summary of issues agreed

Ref No.	Topic	Issue	Status	Date
1.1	Project Scope	Decision not to widen A12 from Junction 15 to 19	Agreed. CCC would like it noted that it was a missed opportunity to not widen the A12 from junction 15 to 19 within the scope of the A12 project especially as this is one of the most consistently congested links on the entire A12.	20/01/2023
1.2	Engagement	Statement of Community Consultation	Agreed.	20/01/2023
1.3	Engagement	Further engagement on issues	Agreed.	20/01/2023

3.2 Summary of issues under discussion

3.2.1 The below table [3.2] provides a summary of the issues currently under discussion between Chelmsford City Council and National Highways. The full table of issues under discussion can be seen in table [4.2].

3.2.2 Table 3.2 details the issues which have been in discussion to date between Chelmsford City Council and National Highways. It is noted that following the submission of the Local Impact Report, further topics will be discussed between the two parties.

Table 3.2 Summary of issues under discussion

Ref No.	Topic	Issue	Status	Date
2.1	Cultural Heritage	Assessment methodology	Under discussion	13/02/2023
2.2	Cultural Heritage	Main Road	Under discussion	13/02/2023
2.3	Cultural Heritage	Boreham House	Under discussion	13/02/2023
2.4	Biodiversity	Water voles	Under discussion	30/01/2023
2.5	Biodiversity	Badgers	Under discussion	30/01/2023
2.6	Landscape and visual	Canopy Cover Assessment	Under discussion	20/01/2023
2.7	Air Quality	Main Road, Boreham	Under discussion	30/01/2023
2.8	Traffic (excluding Boreham)	Additional monitoring, mitigation, and enhancement measures	Under discussion	13/02/2023
2.9	Traffic	Main Road, Boreham	Under discussion	13/02/2023
2.10	Traffic	Junction 19, Boreham	Under discussion	30/01/2023
2.11	Paynes Lane Bridge (WCH)	Construction of Paynes Lane Bridge	Under discussion	30/01/2023

4 Issues

4.1.1 The below tables set out the issues in discussion between Chelmsford City Council and National Highways. These tables have been split into issues agreed and issues under discussion.

4.2 Issues agreed

4.2.1 The below table [4.1] details the issues agreed between Chelmsford City Council and National Highways. This includes any reference to relevant documents, the current Chelmsford City Council position and the National Highways position.

Table 4.1 Issues agreed.

Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
1.1	Project scope		CCC considers it a missed opportunity not to widen the A12 from Junction 15 to 19 south of Chelmsford especially as this is one of the most consistently congested links on the entire A12. This would remain the only two lane section of the road from the M25 to the A120 at Junction 25.	The proposed scheme scope and extent are set out by National Highways and approved by the Department for Transport based on a business case following the government Green Book. The scope of the scheme, which has received funding as part of the second Road Investment Strategy, is to widen the A12 between	CCC agree this issue but would like it noted that it was a missed opportunity to not include this within the scope of the A12 project.	20/01/2023

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
				junction 19 and 25 to 3 lanes in each direction.		
1.2	Statement of Community Consultation Engagement	Consultation Report - Annex E: Response from local authorities on the draft Statement of Community Consultation [APP-051]	CCC is also pleased to have been involved in formulating the Statement of Community Consultation and welcomes the proposals and commitments to consulting local communities and keeping them informed.	National Highways appreciate the feedback given by Chelmsford City Council in the development of the Statement of Community Consultation. We continue to be open to feedback given throughout the project and will continue to engage with Chelmsford.	Agreed.	20/01/2023
1.3	Further engagement on proposals		CCC welcomes the opportunity to engage further with the proposal and supports the need for further assessment to be undertaken to be submitted as part of the DCO application. The consultation response has highlighted that further, more detailed information	National Highways have continued to engage with Chelmsford City Council through ongoing Statement of Common Ground meetings as well as specific topic areas such as Environment. For example, Environmental Impacts and Mitigation workshops	Agreed.	20/01/2023

Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
			should be provided on these matters and, in relation to mitigation.	were held on 16 and 17 March 2022 to carry out further engagement with local authorities on these issues.		

4.3 Issues under discussion

4.3.1 The below table [4.2] details the issues under discussion between Chelmsford City Council and National Highways. This includes any reference to relevant documents, the current Chelmsford City Council position and the National Highways position.

Table 4.2 Issues under discussion.

Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
2.1	Cultural heritage – Assessment methodology	Environmental Statement - Chapter 7: Cultural Heritage [APP-074]	Chelmsford City Council's position is set out in their Local Impact Report dated February 2023. CCC notes that there is still some uncertainty regarding the extent of tree removal, reinstatement and mitigation. As previously indicated the land take adjacent to junction 19 Boreham interchange does not appear adequate to	The cultural heritage assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the relevant sections of DMRB LA 106 Cultural Heritage Assessment. Relevant guidance from Historic England has also been considered, as set out in paragraph 7.7.5 in Chapter 7: Cultural Heritage, of the	Under discussion	30/01/2023

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
			<p>provide landscape mitigation to minimise the impact on the setting of the Grade I listed Boreham House and its Registered Park and Garden.</p> <p>Further comments will be provided in later iterations of the SoCG.</p>	<p>Environmental Statement [APP-074].</p> <p>The full methodology is detailed in section 7.5 of Chapter 7: Cultural Heritage [APP-074].</p> <p>National Highways looks forward to further information on this to progress discussions.</p>		
2.2	Cultural heritage – Main Road	<p>Environmental Statement - Chapter 7: Cultural Heritage [APP-074]</p> <p>First iteration Environmental Management Plan - Appendix A: Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments [APP-185]</p>	<p>Chelmsford City Council's position is set out in their Local Impact Report dated February 2023.</p> <p>Further information is required in relation to the detailed design to be able to fully assess the operational developments, including the lighting, signage, guard rails, alterations along Main Road and other works and to ensure the impact of the scheme on the setting of listed buildings and</p>	<p>The REAC, part of the first iteration Environmental Management Plan [APP-185], includes, under mitigation CH3, a commitment to use sympathetic designs or materials, where practicable, to respect the settings of sensitive built heritage receptors, during the construction or operational phases.</p> <p>This detailed design will take place prior to construction, National</p>	Under discussion	20/01/2023

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
			<p>Conservation Area is minimised.</p> <p>Further comments will be provided in later iterations of the SoCG.</p>	Highways will continue to engage with the Local Authority throughout.		
2.3	Cultural heritage – Boreham House	<p>Environmental Statement - Chapter 7: Cultural Heritage [APP-074]</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 2.1: Environmental Masterplan [APP-086-088]</p> <p>First iteration Environmental Management Plan - Appendix A: Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments [APP-185]</p>	<p>Chelmsford City Council's position is set out in their Local Impact Report dated February 2023.</p> <p>Further, and in order to mitigate the impact of the construction works on the setting of Boreham House and its Registered Park and Garden, it is essential that the land take around the southern/south-eastern edge of the interchange is adequate to allow a planting scheme to mitigate the impacts. The land indicated on the current design is inadequate to provide the necessary mitigation.</p> <p>Further comments will be provided in later iterations of the SoCG.</p>	<p>Since statutory consultation, it has been determined that the existing belt of Tree Preservation Order trees west of Boreham House, that currently intercepts views from Boreham House towards the junction, can be retained.</p> <p>There are trees along the north-eastern boundary of Boreham House that are at risk of removal due to the Scheme. The intention is to retain these trees if practicable, and subject to the detailed design, as per LV4 in the REAC, part of the first iteration Environmental</p>	Under discussion	20/01/2023

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
				<p>Management Plan [APP-185]. If, however, the trees cannot be retained, they would be reinstated after construction as per LV7 in the REAC [APP-185].</p> <p>These details can be seen on sheet 2 of the Environmental Masterplan, part 1 [APP-086].</p>		
2.4	Biodiversity – water voles	<p>Environmental Statement - Chapter 9: Biodiversity [APP-076]</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 2.1: Environmental Masterplan [APP-086-088]</p>	<p>Chelmsford City Council's position is set out in their Local Impact Report dated February 2023.</p> <p>CCC will be guided by Essex County Council and other relevant consultees in respect of biodiversity matters.</p> <p>The PEIR Report confirms that ongoing ecological assessments recorded water vole in two ditches to the south of Junction 19. The proposed scheme would</p>	<p>This is correct, there is not anticipated to be any impacts on water voles in the ditches located to the south of junction 19 where activity was recorded, as a result of the Scheme. Pre-construction surveys have been undertaken to ensure the baseline in Chapter 9: Biodiversity, of the Environmental Statement [APP-076] is still correct.</p>	Under discussion	20/01/2023

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
			<p>have no direct impacts on the banks of the ditches located to the south of Junction 19 where activity was recorded. Drainage features around this junction would however need to be designed to encourage movement of the nearby water vole populations.</p> <p>Further comments will be provided in later iterations of the SoCG.</p>	<p>A large series of ponds and ditches are being created within an environmental mitigation area to the south of junction 19 providing considerable increase in habitat for the local water vole population (see sheet 1 of Figure 2.1 Environmental Masterplan, part 1 [APP-086]).</p>		
2.5	Biodiversity - badgers	<p>Environmental Statement - Chapter 9: Biodiversity [APP-076]</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 2.1: Environmental Masterplan [APP-086-088]</p>	<p>Chelmsford City Council's position is set out in their Local Impact Report dated February 2023.</p> <p>CCC will be guided by Essex County Council and other relevant consultees in respect of biodiversity matters.</p> <p>Due to its sensitivity the PEIR Report does not share recorded badger information,</p>	<p>Construction works at junction 19 will not result in any increased fragmentation of badger setts as these are limited to improvements of widening or existing infrastructure, therefore there will not be any expected mortality of badgers during operation. During</p>	Under discussion	20/01/2023

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
		First iteration Environmental Management Plan - Appendix A: Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments [APP-185]	<p>which is the correct approach, however, there are setts in proximity to Junction 19 and concern is raised as to how the modifications will seek to avoid mortality of the species during construction and operation. Further clarity is required on the means of mitigation; it is noted that badger proof fencing is proposed but it is unclear how this will be managed and maintained in perpetuity and whether other measures, such as mammal underpasses are to be considered.</p> <p>Further comments will be provided in later iterations of the SoCG.</p>	<p>construction, mortality (s) will be avoided through:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Preconstruction surveys to ensure all setts have been identified and to confirm their status. This is required because the use of setts and construction of new setts is very changeable. 2) Closure of any setts directly or indirectly impacted under a licence from Natural England using standard mitigation measures. This includes the use of one-way sett entrance gates for 21 days. 3) Provide ramps within any deep excavations to ensure animals cannot be trapped within them. 		

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
				<p>4) A presence of an Environmental Clerk of Works on site during any site clearance to provide advice as required.</p> <p>Badger fencing will be provided and maintained by National Highways. Mammal ledges will be provided within new or modified culverts over main rivers, primarily for use by otters, however these could also be used by badgers. Mammal ledges are shown on the Environmental Masterplan [APP-086, APP-087, APP-088].</p> <p>Details of badger mitigation measures will be included in the second iteration EMP, based on the measures in the REAC (part of the first iteration EMP) [APP-185] which will be</p>		

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
				continually reviewed by the Environmental Clerk of Works during construction.		
2.6	Landscape and visual –Canopy Cover Assessment	<p>Environmental Statement - Appendix 8.4: Arboriculture Impact Assessment [APP-122]</p> <p>Retained and Removed Vegetation Plans - Part 1 [APP-035]</p> <p>Retained and Removed Vegetation Plans - Part 2 [AS-017]</p>	<p>The PEIR Report reports no net loss of natural wildlife habitat. CCC recommends that a 'Canopy Cover Assessment' be undertaken in relation to the impact of the proposals on existing trees to help quantify total tree canopy cover before and after the proposed modifications to avoid a deficit to the canopy cover; this can be determined, for example by i-tree, Project 4D trees and is crucial for addressing the benefits trees have against climate change and to increase canopy cover. The assessment would also measure new tree planting and the expected canopy coverage as trees establish.</p>	<p>While we are not undertaking a canopy assessment, Appendix 8.4: Arboricultural Impact Assessment [APP-122] and the Retained and Removed Vegetation Plans [APP-035, AS-017] have been produced. These indicate the trees that would be retained, removed, or are at risk (i.e. trees that may need to be removed, and have been assessed as such, due to encroachment from the proposed scheme, but the Scheme is aiming to retain subject to the detailed design).</p> <p>New woodland, tree, shrub and hedge</p>	Under discussion.	20/01/2023

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
				planting are proposed as part of the mitigation strategy for the Scheme, and planting locations are indicated on Figure 2.1 Environmental Masterplan [APP-086, APP-087, APP-088] that would form the basis of the planting design to be developed during the detailed design stage.		
2.7	Air quality – Main Road, Boreham	<p>Environmental Statement – Chapter 6: Air Quality [APP-073]</p> <p>Environmental Statement – Appendix 6.2: Traffic Data for the Affected Network [APP-101]</p> <p>Environmental Statement – Appendix 6.3:</p>	<p>Chelmsford City Council's position is set out in their Local Impact Report dated February 2023.</p> <p>The Environmental Statement identifies that the modelled effect of the proposed scheme is that nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) concentrations have been predicted to increase by 4.0µg/m³, from a modelled concentration of 36.3 µg/m³ to 40.3 µg/m³ at receptor R225, located between</p>	<p>Air quality receptor R225, located between the B1137 Main Road in Boreham and the A12 carriageway, is predicted to exceed the nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) air quality objective in the Do-Something scenario, with a NO₂ concentration of 40.3µg/m³. The NO₂ concentration at this receptor increased by 4.0µg/m³, from a Do-Minimum concentration of 36.3µg/m³, owing to</p>	Under discussion.	20/01/2023

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
		<p>Dispersion Modelling Process [APP-102]</p> <p>Environmental Statement – Appendix 6.4: Verification of Dispersion Model Results [APP-103]</p>	<p>B1137 Main Road in Boreham and the A12 carriageway. Air quality modelling undertaken by Chelmsford City Council for the Local Plan submission, did not identify an exceedance of the air quality objectives at R225.</p> <p>This is an exceedance of the annual mean air quality objective for nitrogen dioxide (NO₂) and would result in Chelmsford City Council having to declare an AQMA and develop an air quality action plan. The dispersion modelling of nearby receptors confirmed that the exceedance in the DS was limited to one residential property. The Environmental Statement provides no commentary of an AQMA being required at R225 nor provide appropriate air quality mitigations.</p>	<p>the Scheme. The modelling of nearby receptors confirmed that the exceedance in the Do-Something was limited to one residential property. Reasons for this increase are given in paragraph 6.9.19 of Chapter 6: Air quality, of the Environmental Statement [APP-073].</p> <p>In line with Design Manual for Roads and Bridges guidance, the number of properties predicted to be in exceedance of air quality objectives were below the threshold informing the judgement of significant air quality effects. As a result, there was no justification to provide a Project Air Quality Action Plan to mitigate the impact on human health receptors.</p>		

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Ref	Issue	Doc Reference	Chelmsford City Council (CCC) Position	National Highways Position	Status	Date
			<p>The LAQM policy guidance (PG22) sets out National Highways as a relevant public authority. Should an AQMA be declared, National Highways shall be required to work with Chelmsford City Council to undertake monitoring, dispersion modelling and provide air quality mitigations to reduce emissions and exceedances of the air quality objectives caused by the Strategic Road Network.</p> <p>The effect of the proposal is to turn Boreham village into an 'island', exposed to increased traffic levels from traffic along the A12 and Main Road. The proposal will expose Boreham village to higher levels of particulates than it currently used to.</p> <p>Mitigation needs to have a three fold approach, through the reduction in traffic along</p>	<p>It is worth noting that a conservative assumption has been applied to the final results to account for overly optimistic trends inherent in the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs' modelling tool set (e.g. projected forecasts of zero emission vehicles). On this basis, it is more likely that the properties will be in compliance in 2027.</p> <p>Information on the methodology used for the modelling and assessment can be found in Section 6.5 of Chapter 6: Air quality [APP-073], and the following supporting appendices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix 6.2: Traffic Data for the Affected Network [APP-101] 		

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			<p>Main Road by implementation of the measures to address traffic control as proposed above, the introduction of monitoring to establish whether an AQMA will be declared and what measures and form this will have and finally the introduction of physical barriers along the northern boundary of the A12 alongside Boreham village. This could take the form of natural and main made (fencing) measures to mitigate and lower air quality.</p> <p>Further comments will be provided in later iterations of the SoCG.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Appendix 6.3: Dispersion Modelling Process [APP-102] Appendix 6.4: Verification of Dispersion Model Results [APP-103] 		
2.8	Traffic - Main Road, Boreham	Transport Assessment [APP-253]	<p>Chelmsford City Council position is set out in their Local Impact Report dated February 2023.</p> <p>CCC will be guided by Essex County Council and other</p>	To further encourage traffic to travel to the A12 via junction 21 rather than via Boreham and junction 19, we are proposing to reduce the	Under discussion.	20/01/2023

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			<p>relevant consultees in respect of highways matters.</p> <p>A concern has also been highlighted above, regarding the impact of traffic potentially routing along Main Road in Boreham to access the A12 at Junction 19 as a consequence of the removal of Junction 20a at Hatfield Peverel and the impact this will have on the village of Boreham and traffic flows.</p> <p>Further comments will be provided in later iterations of the SoCG.</p>	<p>speed limit on Main Road between Hatfield Peverel and junction 19. This will make journeys via Boreham even less attractive to drivers compared to the route via junction 21.</p> <p>Chapter 5 of the Transport Assessment [APP-253] provides further details on the predicted increase in traffic along Main Road in the AM peak hour. This includes assessment of the impact on junctions along Main Road.</p>		
2.9	Traffic – Junction 19, Boreham	Transport Assessment - Appendix A: Junction Modelling Results Summary [APP-254]	<p>Chelmsford City Council position is set out in their Local Impact Report dated February 2023.</p> <p>CCC will be guided by Essex County Council and other relevant consultees in respect of highways matters.</p>	All junctions proposed under the A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme have been designed in accordance with the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB), the standard	Under discussion.	20/01/2023

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			<p>The level of development within North-East Chelmsford, post-2036, will continue to increase and will require a direct free-flowing connection at Junction 19 to the Chelmsford North-East Bypass; it would be a missed opportunity not to futureproof Junction 19, by implementing these works early as part of the proposed A12 scheme, thereby avoiding abortive shorter-term measures, particularly given that the land is allocated in the adopted Chelmsford Local Plan for a further 2,500 homes post-2036.</p> <p>Further comments will be provided in later iterations of the SoCG.</p>	<p>used for design on major highway schemes across England. This includes the proposal for junction 19. The scope of the works is determined by the predicted traffic growth register in the uncertainty log based on TAG (M4) guidance set out by DfT and supported by the NN NPS. The scheme could not justify the extra capacity nor the compulsory purchase of land to support an oversized junction based on uncommitted developments under TAG guidance.</p> <p>A microsimulation traffic model was used to assess the capacity of the proposed junction 19. The junction 19 proposal introduces mitigation measures to allow the</p>		

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				Beaulieu Park Developer junction 19 to cater for the anticipated increased traffic for the design year 2042, without further land or structures needed.		
2.10	Paynes Lane Bridge (WCH)		<p>Chelmsford City Council position is set out in their Local Impact Report dated February 2023.</p> <p>CCC will be guided by Essex County Council and other relevant consultees in respect of highways matters.</p> <p>The proposed bridge to Paynes Lane needs to integrate with CCC Masterplan and surrounding development from Countryside Zest and Beaulieu Park Station. This bridge should have a design in line with CCC design guides and be a Gateway Bridge to Chelmsford.</p>	<p>The applicant has held several meetings with CCC, Essex County Council (ECC), Countryside Zest and Beaulieu Park Station seeking to agree Paynes Lane Bridge layout and connectivity. As the Scheme enters detail design, the applicant will engage with CCC and ECC to agree detailed design of the bridge and associated structures. The applicant is currently preparing a document to aid discussions on the bridge detailed design.</p>	Under discussion.	20/01/2023

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			Further comments will be provided in later iterations of the SoCG.			

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Acronyms

Abbreviation	Term
CCC	Chelmsford City Council
DCO	Development Consent Order
DfT	Department for Transport
DMRB	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges
ECC	Essex County Council
EMP	Environmental Management Plan
ExA	Examining Authority
LEMP	Landscape and Ecology Management Plan
LOAEL	Lowest Observed Adverse Effect Level
LPAs	Local Planning Authorities
NNNPS	National Policy Statement for National Networks
PA 2008	Planning Act 2008
PEIR	Preliminary Environmental Information Report
PRA	Preferred Route Announcement
REAC	Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments
SOAEL	Significant Observed Adverse Effect Level
SoCC	Statement of Community Consultation
SoCG	Statement of Common Ground

Glossary

Term	Definition
Members Forum	Forum with elected Councillors in Essex, including County, District, City and Borough Councillors.
Host Authority	Local Authorities in which the proposed scheme passes through.

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