

Good afternoon. I am John Lindsay of [REDACTED], [REDACTED], [REDACTED] and these comments are also those of my wife Mary Lindsay.

Thank you for this opportunity to highlight our reasons at this late stage for requesting the option of Discretionary Purchase. I shall be brief.

[REDACTED] to the proposed new Junction 24 and the [REDACTED] tomorrow in your Accompanied Site Inspection itinerary. There, you will see first hand the issues that trouble us most, namely the **Haul Roads**, the **Park Bridge Laydown Area**, our **Boundary Line** with the B1023, the **Noise, Dust and Visual Impact** during construction and the **Noise** from the eventual new A12 Road Surface.

[REDACTED] has been my wife's family home since 1938 and she and I have lived there since 1994. Following the announcement of the first public consultations in 2017, for the next 6 years we have been living in the shadow, literally, of this proposed A12 Widening Scheme.

During these 6 years as the scheme has evolved, we have attended countless consultations and studied reams of documentation, much of it written for civil engineering and planning professionals, trying to understand the full implications of what is being proposed. At one point, when the West Tey Garden Community proposal was still under consideration, a possible design for Junction 24 sited one of the dumbbell roundabouts directly on top of [REDACTED]. Needless to say, all this reading and such revelations have been a cause of [REDACTED]

A number of on-site meetings with National Highways' representatives, Costain and Ardent around such mitigation measures as they are able to propose, have failed to dispel those concerns mentioned at the outset about living in

[REDACTED] during the construction phase and the noise from the A12 thereafter.

It is not untrue to say that this scheme has totally dominated our lives for the last 6 years, without a day going by without some reference to the A12 and what it will mean for us. My wife and I are both now in our [REDACTED] and this [REDACTED] has been so intense that my [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]
By the time the new road opens in 2028, we will have endured 4 years of road construction and be [REDACTED]

This is not a pleasant prospect and, after much agonising, we see no alternative now but to try and move. However, realising the true value of [REDACTED] will be virtually impossible. Two nearby properties failed to sell on the open market in the last year but we understand were successful in their applications for discretionary purchase. We do not know precisely what qualified them for discretionary purchase or the terms on which it was granted. Our concern is that were we to apply, for reasons of time or because of a technicality, we might not be eligible for discretionary purchase.

The purpose of being here today is to ask you the Inspectors, if you are able to do so, to direct National Highways to grant us discretionary purchase at this late stage in the Examination process.

Thank you again for your time.