

Appendix D - Comments on any further information received by Deadline 4

A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme

1. Draft DCO Schedule 9, Hedgerow and Trees, Part 3, Trees Subject to Tree Preservation Orders, page 15

- 1.1 MDC would like to draw the ExA's attention to the recognition of Blue Mills Nature Reserve as a Local Wildlife Site (LoWS) and the status of the Black Poplars as veteran trees and the Applicants recognition of the 'next generation veteran trees' for their public amenity value within the landscape from Public Rights of Way (PRoW).
- 1.2 MDC are currently awaiting specialist Arboricultural advice regarding the impact of root pruning (powers that could be conferred on the Applicant through the dDCO) on the Black Poplar trees within the Blue Mills Nature Reserve that form part of the Woodland TPO Order (07/22) that was confirmed on the 12th July 2022.
- 1.3 MDC note the A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Targeted Design Consultation April 2023 (consultation closes 14 May at 23:59) and specifically the Explanatory Memorandum. Article 47 *Trees subject to Tree Preservation Orders, etc* paragraphs 4.197 - 4.199 on page xxxv, refers to the powers to be conferred on the Applicant regarding felling or lopping of trees. Whilst MDC acknowledge the six changes within the Consultation are targeted to six specific sites which are located outside of Blue Mills Nature Reserve. MDC would like to draw the ExA's attention to the draft DCO page 268, *Part 4 Trees Subject to Tree Preservation Orders*, as it relates to Blue Mills Nature Reserve. Therefore, MDC requests the ExA only accept changes to the draft DCO that only affect the six sites in the Consultation and not a blanket change that would then affect the lopping and felling of trees within the Blue Mills Nature Reserve.