

A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme

TR010060

DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER CHANGE APPLICATION CONSULTATION

10.13 Consultation Report

Advice Note 16 (Version 3) 2023

May 2023

Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

Advice Note 16 (Version 3) 2023

A12 Chelmsford to A120 widening scheme

Development Consent Order 202[]

10.13 CONSULTATION REPORT

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

- 1.1.1 This Change Application relates to an application submitted by National Highways (the Applicant) to the Secretary of State for Transport (through the Planning Inspectorate) for a development consent order (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008. The A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme (the proposed scheme) involves widening the A12 to three lanes throughout (where it is not already three lanes) with a bypass between junctions 22 and 23 and a second bypass between junctions 24 and 25. It also includes safety improvements, including closing off existing private and local direct accesses onto the main carriageway, and providing alternative provision for walkers, cyclists and horse riders to existing routes along the A12, which would be removed.
- 1.1.2 A DCO application for the proposed scheme was accepted for examination by the Planning Inspectorate on the 12th of September 2022 (DCO Application). The proposed scheme is currently in examination which started on 12th January 2023 and is due to close on 12th July 2023.
- 1.1.3 Since the DCO application was made, the Applicant has continued to engage and refine designs to identify opportunities to further improve the proposals. As a result of this, the Applicant is proposing six changes to the proposed scheme during the Examination stage to address suggestions by interested parties and to implement improvements to the proposed scheme.
- 1.1.4 This Change Application comprises the Applicant's request to the Examining Authority (appointed by the Planning Inspectorate) to accept into the Examination of the DCO Application six changes to the proposed scheme for which development consent is sought.
- 1.1.5 On 30 March 2023, in accordance with paragraph 3.2 of Advice Note 16: Requests to change applications after they have been submitted for examination (AN16), the Applicant submitted its Change Notification to the Examining Authority (ExA) [REP2-031] (Change Notification). The Change Notification set out the Applicant's intention to make a change request, detailed its consultation proposals and confirmed the likely date for the Change Application to be submitted as 30 May 2023. The Change Notification also provided the details and background to the Applicant's request for the proposed changes as required by Figure 2a of AN16.
- 1.1.6 The proposed six changes to the proposed scheme in summary are:
- Junction 19 – redesign of north bound on slip road
 - Exclusion of Anglian Water pumping station from land proposed for compulsory acquisition at Hatfield Peverel
 - Changes to the provision of replacement land at Whetmead and additional consequential changes reflecting change of ownership for open space in the Witham area

- Drainage works associated with B1023 Kelvedon Road at Inworth
- Junction 24/Inworth Road B1023 - Removal of the segregated left turn lane
- Junction 25 - Removal of the signalised crossroads and partial signalisation of the existing roundabout at A120/junction 25

1.1.7 The ExA responded to the Applicant's Change Notification on 6 April 2023 [PD-011] confirming that the Applicant had satisfied the requirements of Figure 2a of AN16 and acknowledged the Applicant's intent to submit a Change Application (Rule 9 Letter). In the Rule 9 Letter the ExA also confirmed the information required by Step 2 of AN16.

1.2 Purpose of the Consultation Report

The primary purpose of this Report is to provide evidence to the Planning Inspectorate that the Applicant has carried out proportionate further non-statutory consultation on the six proposed changes to the DCO Application. The proposed changes subject to the consultation are summarised at paragraph 1.4 above and set out in the DCO Change Application Consultation brochure in **Annex D** of this Report. Further detail is also provided in the Change Application Summary Report [TR010060/EXAM/10.2].

1.2.1 This Report sets out:

- A summary of the consultation context and why the process has been undertaken.
- A description of the consultation process undertaken including confirmation of who has been consulted and an explanation of why they have been consulted.
- The responses to the consultation, along with how the Applicant has had due regard to the content of the responses received and the Applicant's reply to those responses.

1.3 Consultation Context

1.3.1 The Applicant held a DCO change application consultation in April 2023 in relation to the six proposed changes it sought to make to the proposed scheme. The changes reflect ongoing engagement as well as the identification of opportunities to further reduce land acquisition and impacts to the highway network. This consultation ran from Thursday 13 April to Sunday 14 May 2023, a period of 32 days.

1.3.2 The purpose of this consultation was to provide an opportunity for prescribed bodies, landowners and persons with an interest in the land, Interested Parties registered with the Planning Inspectorate and the local community to share their views on the proposed changes to the proposed scheme, ahead of the Applicant submitting a change application to the Planning Inspectorate.

1.3.3 In the Examining Authority's Rule 9 Letter dated 6 April 2023 [PD-011] they confirm that:

The ExA has no comments to make on either the indicative programme or on the proposed method of consultation as set out in your letter of 5 April 2023.

When submitting the change request, it is recommended that you submit a statement encompassing a non-statutory consultation report setting out the detail and methodology of the undertaken consultation. Subject to the comments we have made, the scope of consultation activities set out in the method statement appears to be a suitable basis for the non-statutory consultation. Please ensure that consultation responses are sent directly to the Applicant and not to the Planning Inspectorate.

- 1.3.4 The consultation has been carried out in line with the consultation guidance in the Planning Inspectorate’s Advice Note 16: Requests to change applications after they have been accepted for examination Version 3 (March 2023) (AN16) and in the spirit of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations).
- 1.3.5 **Plates 1.1 to Plate 1.6** show the updated proposed design for the proposed scheme presented in the DCO change application consultation.

Plate 1.1 Updated proposed scheme design, Junction 19 – redesign of north bound on slip road

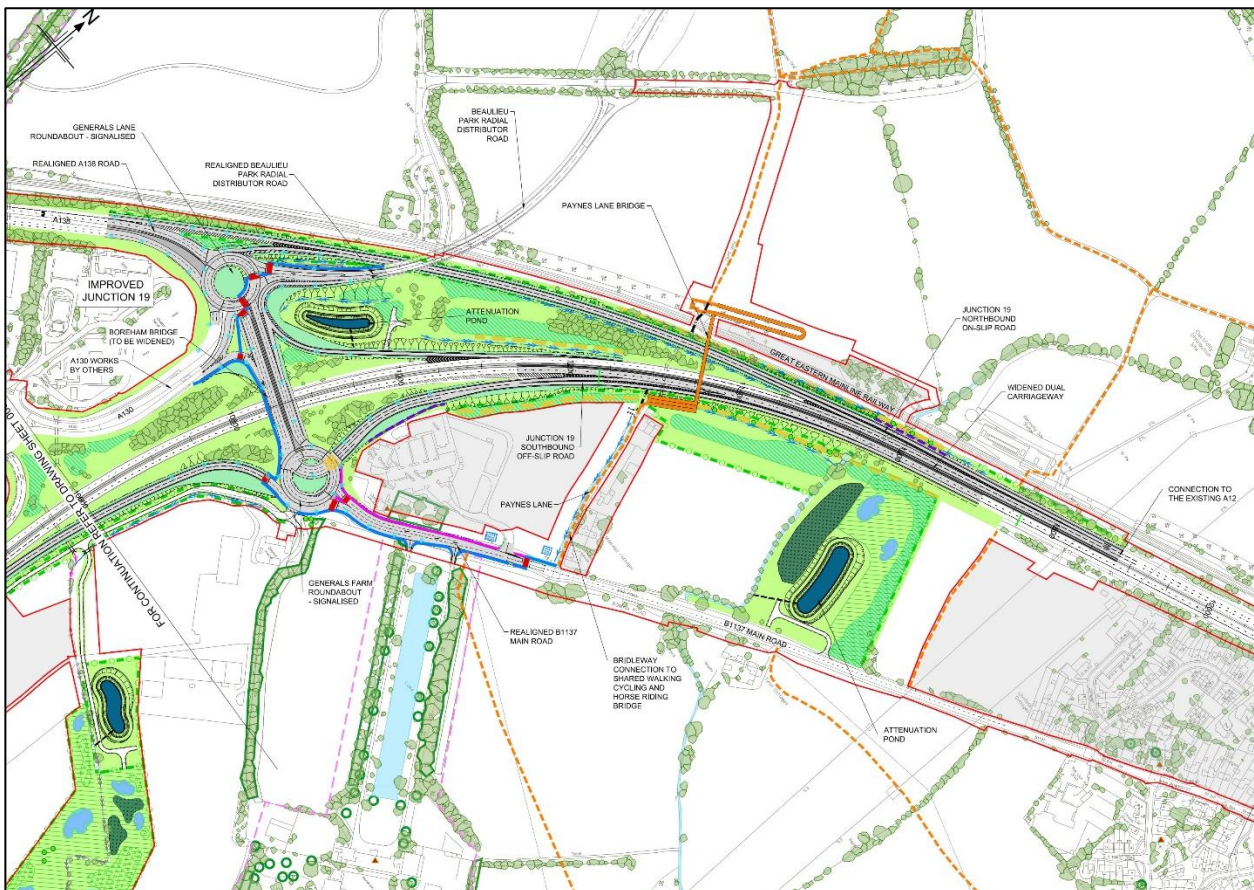


Plate 1.2 Updated proposed scheme design, Exclusion of Anglian Water pumping station from land proposed for compulsory acquisition at Hatfield Peverel

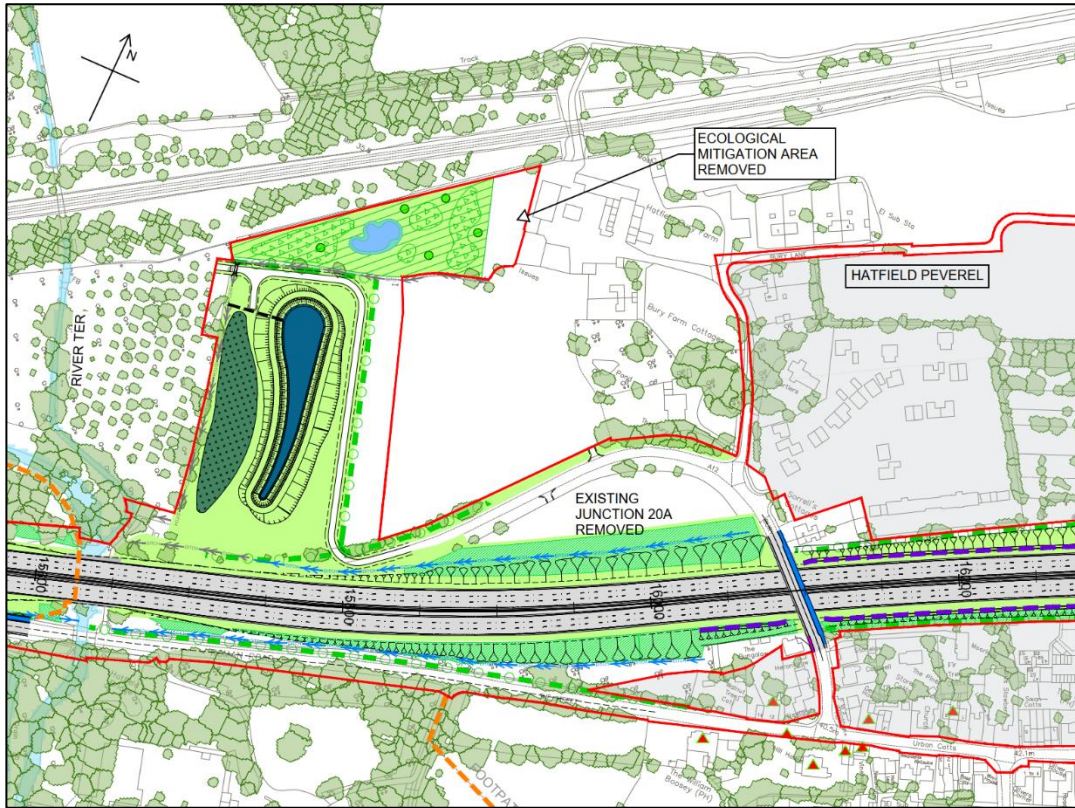


Plate 1.3 Updated proposed scheme design, Changes to the provision of replacement land at Whetmead and additional consequential changes reflecting change of ownership for open space in the Witham area

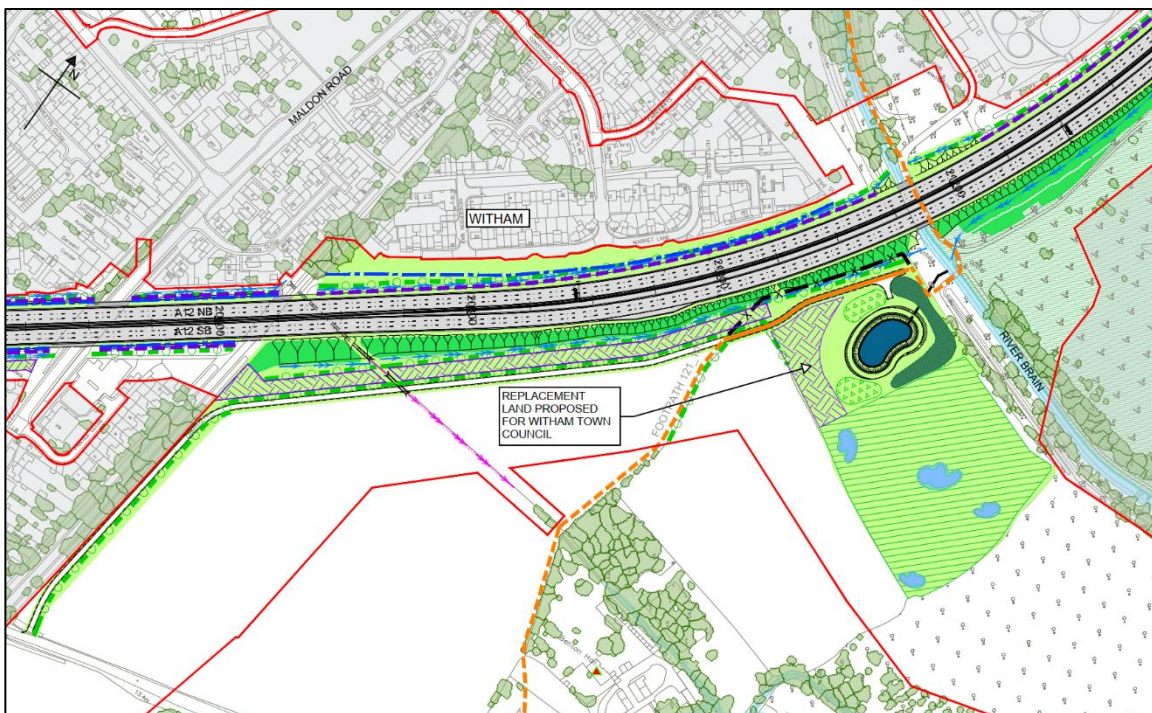


Plate 1.4 Updated proposed scheme design, Drainage works associated with B1023 Kelvedon Road at Inworth

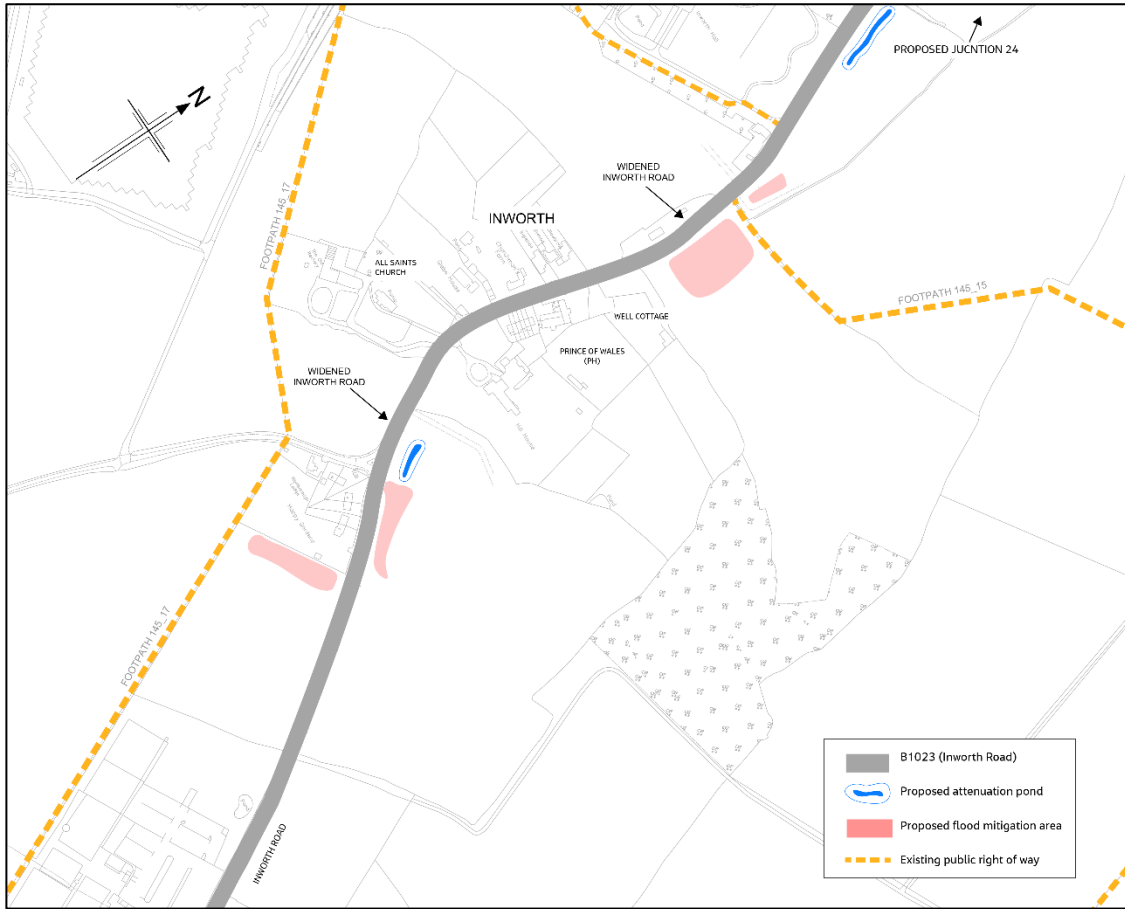


Plate 1.5 Updated proposed scheme design, Junction 24/Inworth Road B1023 – Removal of the segregated left turn lane

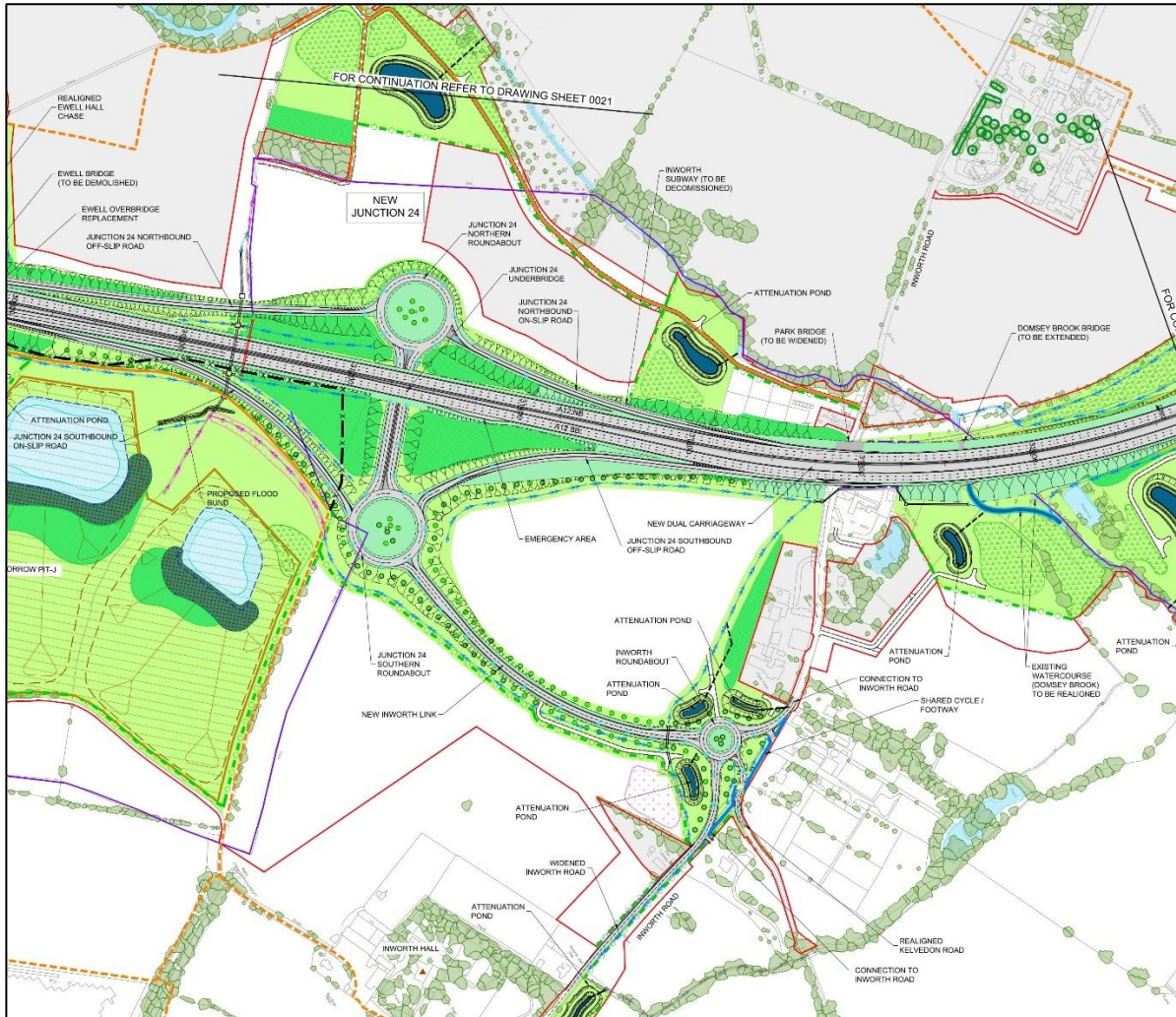
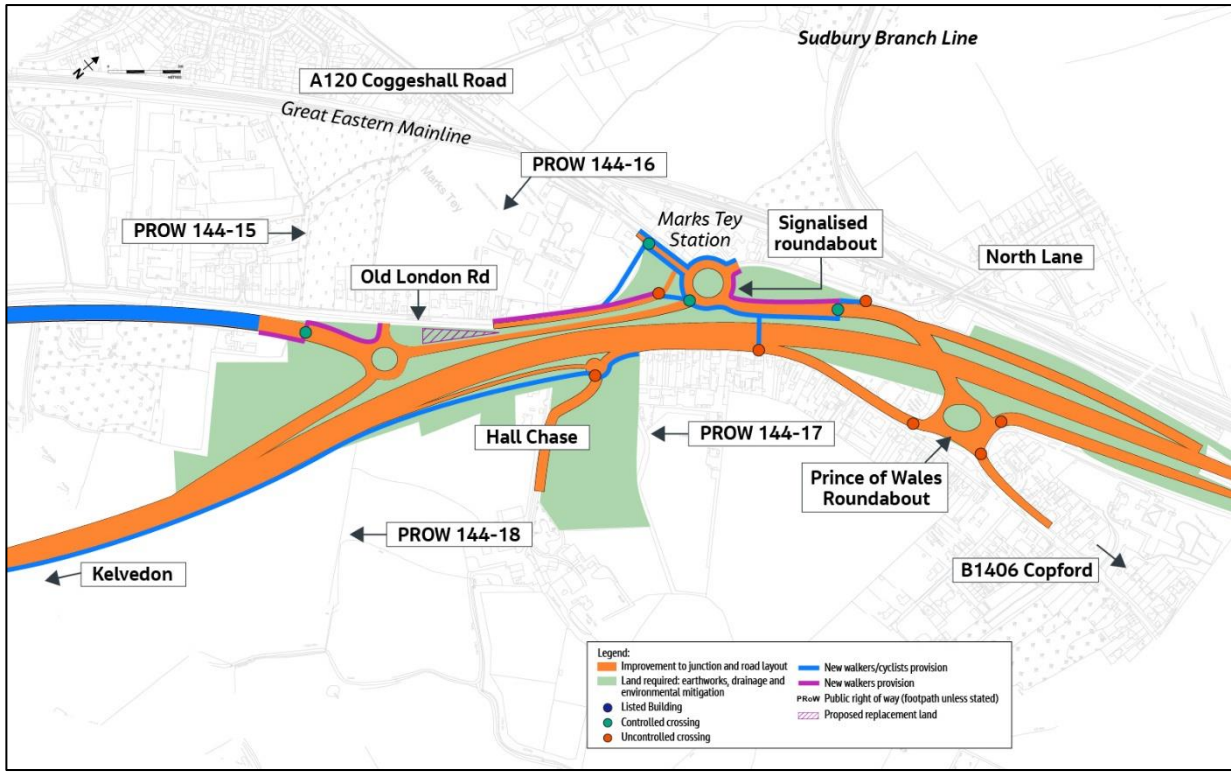


Plate 1.6 Updated proposed scheme design, Junction 25 – Removal of the signalised crossroads and partial signalisation of the existing roundabout at A120/Junction 25



2 Consultation Process

2.1 Consultees

2.1.1 In accordance with AN16 and the EIA Regulations, the Applicant has taken a conservative approach to consultation to ensure that any parties who would be affected by the proposed changes have been consulted (paragraph 3.3, AN16). The DCO change application consultation therefore included consultation with the following groups of consultees.

Prescribed consultees

2.1.2 The Applicant has consulted the relevant persons prescribed under Section 42(1)(a) of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008) who are defined in Schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Application: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations). Subject to paragraph 2.1.7 below, the Applicant has consulted all those persons prescribed in the PA 2008 under section 42(1)(a) irrespective of whether they would be affected by the proposed changes. A full list of consultees identified in accordance with Section 42(1)(a) is included in **Annex A**.

Local Authorities

2.1.3 The Applicant consulted the relevant Local Authorities under Section 42(1)(b) and as defined in Section 43 of the PA 2008. Subject to paragraph 2.1.7 below, the Applicant has consulted all hosting and neighbouring authorities irrespective of whether they would be affected by the proposed changes. A full list of consultees identified in accordance with Section 42(1)(b) is included in **Annex A**.

Landowners

2.1.4 The Applicant identified 37 landowners who qualified as affected persons under section 42(1)(d) PA 2008 with land interests potentially affected by the proposed changes. Identification of land interests was undertaken by overlaying the changed land use of the updated designs to identify all affected plots. All parties with an interest in these plots were consulted. These affected landowners were directly notified of the change application in accordance with Section 42(1)(d) of the PA 2008.

EIA Consultees

2.1.5 The Applicant has consulted the consultation bodies identified by the Planning Inspectorate under Regulation 11(1)(a) of the EIA Regulations. The Applicant has taken a conservative approach to consultation by consulting more widely than required by AN16 and has not limited its consultation to only those who would be affected by the proposed changes. Since the consultation has closed, the Applicant has identified a small number of consultees from the Planning Inspectorate's Regulation 11(1)(a) list who have been missed.

2.1.6 In line with the Applicant's conservative approach to the consultation, and while the Applicant does not think that these parties are likely to be affected by the

proposed changes, the Applicant has consulted them to ensure that all consultation bodies have been directly informed. The consultees included:

- Stanway Parish Council
- Chelmer & Blackwater Navigation Canal (Essex Waterways Limited)
- Harlaxton Gas Networks Limited
- Murphy Gas Networks Limited
- Bradwell Power Generation Company Limited
- Murphy Power Generation Limited
- London Borough of Havering
- Medway Council

2.1.7 These parties received a letter from the Applicant on 18 May 2023. In addition, the consultees were emailed a copy of the letter sent and received a follow up email on 26 May 2023 from the Applicant in the cases where a response was not already received.

2.1.8 On the basis that engagement was already taking place with the Chelmer and Blackwater Navigation Canal under the proposed scheme, the Applicant additionally informed this party of the DCO change application consultation during a meeting held on 12 May 2023.

2.1.9 The Applicant has received a consultation response from Chelmer and Blackwater Navigational Canal. This response is available in **Annex H**.

Interested Parties

2.1.10 The Applicant consulted the Interested Parties registered with the Planning Inspectorate for whom the Applicant held contact details.

2.1.11 The Applicant contacted those Interested Parties who had previously submitted a Relevant Representation to the Planning Inspectorate which has been accepted into the Examination and is shown in the Examination Library of the Planning Inspectorate.

2.1.12 Where the Interested Parties were community groups who the Applicant did not have a contact address to write to, these parties were emailed by the Applicant, where contact details were available.

2.1.13 In some cases, Interested Parties did not receive direct correspondence from the Applicant as the Interested Party's address was not held. The publication of notices and availability of consultation details on the Applicant's website informed those Interested Parties who the Applicant did not hold contact details for.

Local Community

2.1.14 The Applicant identified two areas where the DCO change application consultation proposals were in close proximity to residents. The Applicant undertook an additional mailout at the location of the proposed changes to the drainage works associated with B1023 Kelvedon Road at Inworth and junction

25 – removal of the signalised crossroads and partial signalisation of the existing roundabout at A120/Junction 25. The Applicant applied a boundary to each area on the principle to include all residencies that fronted onto the proposed changes. 217 letters were sent out to the local residents and businesses within the two boundaries. These two mailout zones are shown in **Plate 2.1** and **Plate 2.2**. These consultees were contacted in the same manner as if they were consultees under Section 47 of the PA 2008.

- 2.1.15 The Applicant advertised the consultation and the webinars through National Highways' Facebook ([REDACTED]) and Twitter ([REDACTED]) channels. A reminder of the consultation's closure date was posted across both channels on Monday 8 May 2023 and Friday 12 May 2023.

2.2 Publicity of the consultation

- 2.2.1 The Applicant used several methods as listed below to raise awareness of the Change Application and provide an opportunity for all to respond. These methods broadly reflected the requirements of the EIA Regulations.

Mailout

- 2.2.2 The Applicant wrote formally to all prescribed consultees, consultation bodies, local authorities, relevant landowners, and interested parties where address details were held to notify them of the DCO change application consultation for the proposed scheme. The letters were sent first class signed for (recorded) delivery and arrived with consultees on Friday 14 April 2023.
- 2.2.3 The letter enclosed a copy of the formal notice of the DCO change application consultation in line with the requirements of Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations. It detailed the consultation documents available through the consultation website and provided information on how to respond. This letter is available in **Annex C**.
- 2.2.4 Interested Parties that were community groups who the Applicant did not have an address to write to, were emailed a copy of the consultation letter by the Applicant enclosing the formal notice, where contact details were available. The emails were sent to the consultees on Thursday 13 April 2023.
- 2.2.5 In addition to the named consultees a mail drop was carried out with the same letter to addresses in close proximity to the proposed drainage works associated with B1023 Kelvedon Road at Inworth and the updated proposals at junction 25 involving removal of the signalised crossroads and partial signalisation of the existing roundabout at A120/Junction 25. The letters arrived with the consultees on Friday 14 April 2023. **Plate 2.1 to Plate 2.2** show the mailout zones in Inworth and Marks Tey.
- 2.2.6 In the case of affected landowners, an alternative letter enclosing the formal notice of the DCO change application was sent which provided additional details to why the affected landowner was being contacted. This letter is included in **Annex C**.

Plate 2.1 B1023 mailout zone

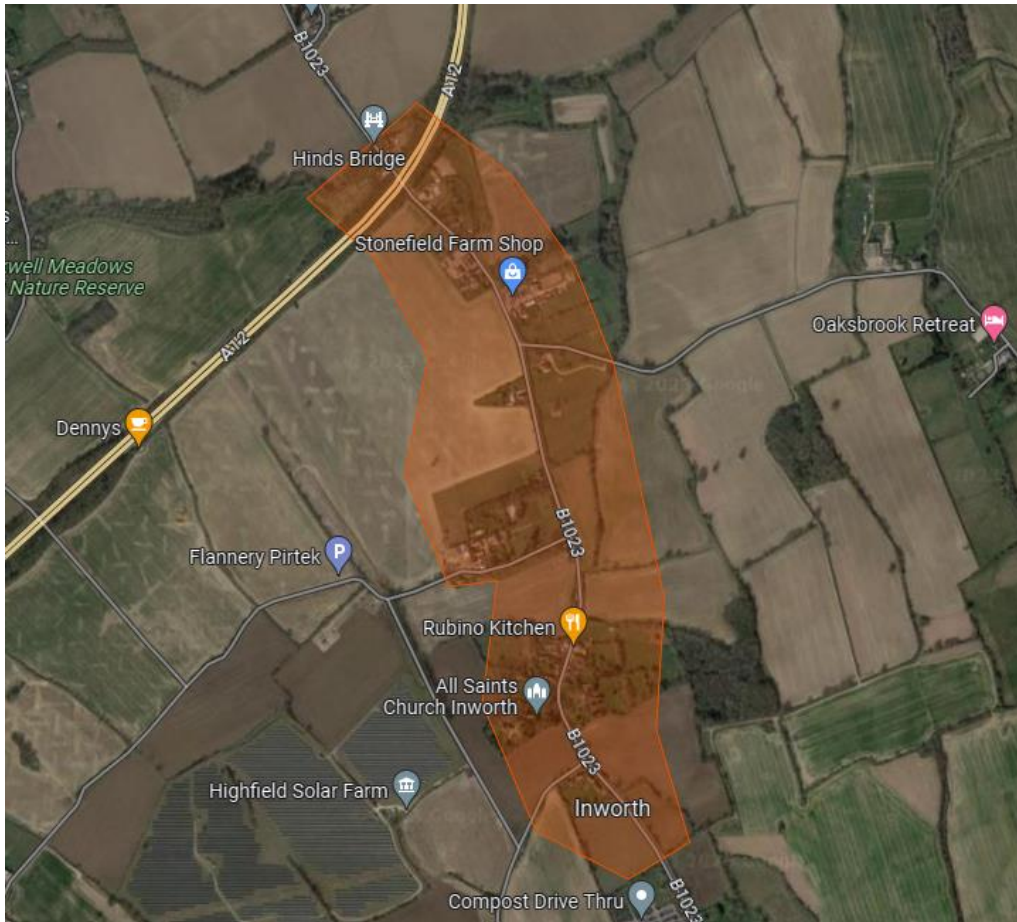


Plate 2.2 Junction 25 mailout zone



Proposed scheme webpage

2.2.7 All consultation documents were available on the proposed scheme's consultation Citizenspace page
 [REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] and the National Highways A12 webpage
 ([REDACTED]
 [REDACTED] throughout the consultation period.

2.2.8 The Applicant worked with a local charity (Chelmsford Talking Newspaper) to produce an audio recording of the brochure. This was made available through the scheme webpage from Wednesday 3 May 2023. In addition, from Tuesday 2 May 2023, the tracks were hosted on the British Wireless for the Blind Fund's website, under East of England, Chelmsford Magpie Magazine, and were available on Apple and Android devices through their Talking News App.

Site notices

2.2.9 Eight formal notices of the consultation were placed in locations adjacent to the proposed change locations. These notices were in place by Wednesday 12 April 2023 and maintained during the consultation period.

2.2.10 The notices provided an overview of the proposed scheme and a summary of the consultation details. It detailed the consultation documents available through the consultation webpage and provided information on how to respond.

2.2.11 A copy of the site notice is provided within **Annex B**.

DCO change application consultation publicity notice

2.2.12 A formal notice of the consultation was published in six local newspapers, Table 2.1 shows the dates and newspapers the notices were published in.

Table 2.1 Newspaper notices table – DCO change application consultation

Name	Week 1	Week 2
East Anglia Daily Times	6 April 2023	20 April 2023
Colchester Gazette	6 April 2023	20 April 2023
Braintree & Witham Times	6 April 2023	20 April 2023
Maldon & Burnham Standard	6 April 2023	20 April 2023
Essex Chronicle	6 April 2023	20 April 2023
Essex County Standard	7 April 2023	21 April 2023

2.2.13 Due to an administrative error, the second set of notices were delayed by a week and were therefore posted a week following the consultation start date. To mitigate this delay the Applicant considered all consultation responses received in the week following the end date of the consultation. Despite this error, the

Applicant does not think that there is any prejudice to potential interested parties, for the following reasons:

- The Applicant has taken a conservative approach in sending out notices for the consultation advising of the proposed changes, including but not limited to, a mail out to those in close proximity to the proposed drainage works associated with B1023 Kelvedon Road at Inworth and the updated proposals at junction 25 involving removal of the signalised crossroads and partial signalisation of the existing roundabout at A120/Junction 25;
- The Applicant has also advertised the consultation on social media and through its own website;
- The Applicant posted site notices in proximity to each of the proposed changes; and
- The Applicant is willing to accept late responses to the consultation.

2.2.14 Copies of the newspaper notices as noted in Table 2.1 are provided within **Annex E**. The copies of the newspaper notices clearly show the names and the dates of the publications.

2.3 Consultation methods

2.3.1 The Applicant provided further information regarding the consultation by the following methods:

Webinars

2.3.2 Three online webinar sessions were held in April and May 2023, where members of the public could register to attend. In total, six registered participants were taken through the changes to the DCO application and had questions answered by experts across different areas such as design; walking, cycling and horse riding; and traffic. The online drop-in events were offered at a variety of times and dates as detailed below:

- Wednesday 19 April, 14:00 to 15:30
- Friday 21 April, 10:00 to 11:30
- Tuesday 2 May, 18:30 to 20:00

2.3.3 These webinars were advertised through the consultation brochure, the Applicant's website and through National Highways' Facebook

[REDACTED]

Deposit locations

2.3.4 Eight locations were advertised across the proposed scheme, where the consultation documentation could be viewed online, free of charge. The Applicant advised that individuals may need a form of identification to register as a library user to use a computer.

2.3.5 The locations listed had facilities to print documents if needed, though it was noted that there may be an additional charge for this.

Table 2.2 Deposit locations – DCO change application consultation

Location	Address	Opening hours
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 9am to 7pm Friday 9am to 5:30pm Saturday 9am to 5:30pm Sunday 10:30am to 1:30pm
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
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 5:30pm Sunday Closed
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 Saturday 9am to 5pm Sunday 1pm to 4pm

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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
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
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
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

2.3.6 Hard copies were also available by contacting the Applicant using the email address, postal address or telephone number provided in the consultation materials. There was a reasonable charge to cover the cost of printing and postage up to a total of £50 for a complete set of documents.

2.3.7 Copies of the consultation brochure, and response form are provided within **Annex D**. Copies of the consultation Technical Notes are provided within **Annex G**.

2.4 Consultation Materials

2.4.1 The Applicant made available the following consultation documentation through the consultation webpage:


- Consultation brochure
- Consultation response form (available as on online version or for printing)
- Junction 19 Slip Road Technical Note
- Map Book 1 – Junction 19 Slip Road (Part 1 and 2)
- Anglian Water Pumping Station (Bury Lane, Hatfield Peverel) Technical Note
- Map Book 2 – Anglian Water Pumping Station (Bury Lane, Hatfield Peverel)
- Replacement Land Statement
- Map Book 3 – Replacement Land Witham (Part 1 and 2)
- B1023 Flood Mitigation and Drainage Technical Note
- Map Book 4 – B1023 Flood Mitigation and Drainage (Part 1 and 2)
- B1023 Roundabout Technical Note
- Map Book 5 – B1023 Roundabout (Part 1 and 2)
- Junction 25 Technical Note
- Map Book 6 – Junction 25 (Part 1, 2 and 3)
- Schedule of Changes to DCO Documents Required for DCO Change Application
- Updated Draft Development Consent Order
- Updated Explanatory Memorandum
- A12 – A120 Widening Change Consultation Notice

2.4.2 The consultation materials included environmental information. It is therefore considered that the environmental information forming part of the Change Application has been adequately publicised and consulted on.

2.4.3 This information also included all the details of the webinars and the contact details for the team should stakeholders have any further questions.

2.5 Response Methods

2.5.1 Respondents were invited to submit feedback to the Applicant by:

- Completing the online feedback form on the proposed scheme website

- Emailing A12chelmsfordA120wide@nationalhighways.co.uk

- Writing to **FREEPOST A12 WIDENING**

3 Response to consultation to demonstrate how the Applicant has had regard to responses

3.1 Introduction

3.1.1 This chapter provides an overview of the responses received to the Applicant's DCO change application consultation for the proposed scheme.

3.1.2 The Applicant invited all consultees to submit feedback within the consultation period Thursday 13 April to Sunday 14 May 2023, a period of 32 days.

3.1.3 Consultees were invited to provide feedback by:

- Completing the online feedback form on the proposed scheme website:
[REDACTED]
- Emailing A12chelmsfordA120wide@nationalhighways.co.uk
- Writing to **FREEPOST A12 WIDENING**

3.1.4 All feedback the Applicant received was saved and logged so it could be analysed and reported on.

3.1.5 This section provides a breakdown of the feedback the Applicant received in response to its consultation response form. **Annex F** of this Report sets out the regard the Applicant has had to the comments received during the consultation.

3.2 Analysis of responses to the DCO change application consultation

3.2.1 A total of 28 responses were received during the DCO change application consultation period. These were received through the online response form CitizenSpace and by email. The format which the responses were received is shown in **Table 3.1**. The number of responses for each respondent type according to the PA 2008 is provided in **Table 3.2**.

Table 3.1 Consultation responses received

Type of response	Number of responses
Online response form	6
Email	22
Hard copy response form or letter	0
Total	28

Table 3.2 Consultation responses received by respondent type

Respondent type	Number of responses
-----------------	---------------------

Prescribed consultees (Section 42(1)(a) and (b))	14
Persons with an interest in land (PILs) (Section 42(1)(d)) and Interested Parties	12
Public – local communities and other stakeholders (Section 47)	2
Total	28

3.2.2 The 28 responses contained comments that were either associated with a specific design change or identified as a project wide matter.

3.2.3 All the responses received are included in **Annex H** and the Applicant's consideration of those responses are included in **Annex F**.

Question 1: Junction 19 Slip Road

3.2.4 This question provided an area to write any free text comments regarding the updated design.

3.2.5 The Applicant received comments from seven respondents regarding the updated design for the junction 19 north bound on slip road.

3.2.6 The main themes raised in the comments from Question 1 include the following:

- Walking, cycling and horse riding
- Design
- Traffic
- Land Take

3.2.7 Key areas of concern identified by respondents included the following:

- Consideration of cyclist's use of roundabout
- DMRB compliance of the updated design
- Impacts to land take at surrounding locations
- Compatibility with local plans for Chelmsford North East Bypass
- Impacts on traffic usage of roundabout

3.2.8 Suggestions made by respondents included to ensure that Essex County Council as the Local Highways Authority accept the updated design of the Junction 19 north bound on slip road.

3.2.9 All responses to Question 1 and the Applicant's consideration of those responses can be seen in **Annex F**.

Question 2: Anglian Water Pumping Station (Bury Lane, Hatfield Peverel)

3.2.10 This question provided an area to write any free text comments regarding the updated design.

- 3.2.11 The Applicant received comments from five respondents regarding the exclusion of the Anglian Water pumping station from land proposed for compulsory acquisition at Hatfield Peverel. The main themes raised in the comments from Question 2 include the following:
- Environment
 - Walking, cycling and horse riding
- 3.2.12 Key areas of concern identified by respondents included the following:
- Reduction in Biodiversity Net Gain
 - Impact to ecological mitigation
 - Clarity that the updated design does not impact the publicly accessible land
- 3.2.13 Suggestions made by respondents included consideration of the local plans regarding ecological mitigation and to ensure that full mitigation is still achievable under the updated proposals.
- 3.2.14 All responses to Question 2 and the Applicant's consideration of those responses can be seen in **Annex F**.
- Question 3: Replacement Land, South of Witham**
- 3.2.15 This question provided an area to write any free text comments regarding the updated design.
- 3.2.16 The Applicant received comments from six respondents regarding the changes to the provision of replacement land at Whetmead and additional consequential changes reflecting change of ownership for open space in the Witham area. The main themes raised in the comments from Question 3 include the following:
- Walking, cycling and horse riding
 - Design
- 3.2.17 Key areas of concern identified by respondents included the following:
- Further information regarding the public accessibility of replacement land.
 - Inclusion of Public Rights of Way route within plans.
- 3.2.18 Suggestions made by respondents included to ensure that Witham Town Council accept the new proposed replacement land, and the use of replacement land to facilitate the Gershwin Boulevard Bridge alternative proposal.
- 3.2.19 All responses to Question 3 and the Applicant's consideration of those responses can be seen in **Annex F**.
- Question 4: B1023 Flood Mitigation and Drainage**
- 3.2.20 This question provided an area to write any free text comments regarding the updated design.
- 3.2.21 The Applicant received comments from five respondents regarding the updated design for the drainage works associated with B1023 Kelvedon Road at

Inworth. The main themes raised in the comments from Question 4 include the following:

- Environment
- Design
- Consultation
- Walking, cycling and horse riding

3.2.22 Key areas of concern identified by respondents included the following:

- The reliability of the original information used for original design and the introduction of additional information at this stage
- Clarity that updated design does not negatively impact any Public Rights of Way
- Reduction in drainage mitigation against the unpredictable scenario of climate change
- Clarity regarding Map Books and Technical Notes

3.2.23 Suggestions made by respondents included to ensure Essex County Council as the Lead Local Flood Authority is satisfied with the proposals, and consideration of repairs required to existing damaged drainage chamber.

3.2.24 All responses to Question 4 and the Applicant's consideration of those responses can be seen in **Annex F**.

Question 5: B1023 Roundabout Design

3.2.25 This question provided an area to write any free text comments regarding the updated design.

3.2.26 The Applicant received comments from six respondents regarding the removal of the segregated left turn lane at the Junction 24/Inworth Road B1023 roundabout.

3.2.27 The main themes raised in the comments from Question 5 include the following:

- Design
- Consultation
- Traffic

3.2.28 Key areas of concern identified by respondents included the following:

- The reliability of the original information used and the introduction of additional information at this stage
- Design standards used for roundabout
- Safety of the updated design
- Proposed design's impact to the local road network and traffic modelling
- Clarity regarding Map Books and Technical Notes

- 3.2.29 Suggestions made by respondents included to ensure that Essex County Council as the Local Highways Authority accept the updated design.
- 3.2.30 All responses to Question 5 and the Applicant's consideration of those responses can be seen in **Annex F**.
- Question 6: Junction 25**
- 3.2.31 This question provided an area to write any free text comments regarding the updated design.
- 3.2.32 The Applicant received comments from six respondents regarding the removal of the signalised crossroads and partial signalisation of the existing roundabout at A120/junction 25.
- 3.2.33 The main themes raised in the comments from Question 6 include the following:
- Consultation
 - Design
 - Walking, cycling and horse riding
 - Traffic
- 3.2.34 Key areas of concern identified by respondents included the following:
- Lack of detail in information presented
 - Minimisation of the segregation of the village and connectivity of updated design
 - Clarity about the maps included in consultation brochure
 - Further aesthetic design considerations of footbridge
 - Utility diversions
 - Detrunking proposals
- 3.2.35 Suggestions made by respondents included continued engagement with relevant parties as design develops, design of footbridge to extend over A120 and alternative positioning proposals, consideration of cyclists from Stanway and an audit of the cycling facilities across the scheme.
- 3.2.36 All responses to Question 6 and the Applicant's consideration of those responses can be seen in **Annex F**.
- Question 7: Is there anything else you'd like to tell us?**
- 3.2.37 This question provided an area to write any free text comments regarding the updated design.
- 3.2.38 The Applicant received comments from ten respondents regarding other areas of the overall scheme which were covered by the changes consulted upon.
- 3.2.39 The main themes raised in the comments from Question 7 include the following:
- Air Quality
 - Draft Development Consent Order

- Traffic
- Design
- Construction
- Land take
- Walking, cycling and horse riding

3.2.40 Key areas of concern identified by respondents included the following:

- Diverted traffic through Terling and surrounding roads.
- Changes to land take under proposals.
- Closure of the junction 20 southbound.
- Access to Maldon during junction construction.

3.2.41 Suggestions made by respondents included inclusion of low noise surfacing along the whole A12 scheme, text proposed for the dDCO, an alternative location for Gershwin Boulevard Bridge, and inclusion of existing Public Rights of Way on plans.

3.2.42 All responses to Question 7 and the Applicant's consideration of those responses can be seen in **Annex F**.

4 Conclusion

4.1 Summary

- 4.1.1 The Applicant has reviewed and considered all consultation responses.
- 4.1.2 Overall, the proposed changes were neutrally received, and no issues were raised that would lead the Applicant to conclude that the changes would not improve the proposed scheme or that they should not be taken forward. It is considered that the documents provided with this formal request for the proposed scheme changes provide the detail required to satisfy concerns and requests raised during the consultation period.
- 4.1.3 Where concerns were raised, these were generally not objections to the changes made, but requests for consideration of, for example, relevant design standards or local plans. The Applicant will continue to work with respondents to provide responses to these queries.