

Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit

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09 November 2023

Dear Secretary of State for Transport

**A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme (the Project)
DCO Application
Secretary of State's Request for Information dated 27 October 2023 (RfI) - National
Highway's response to MIAG's suggested change to the dDCO, 31 October 2023**

National Highways has seen MIAG's email responding to the Secretary of State's RfI dated 27 October 2023.

National Highways is responding to numbered item 1 in MIAG's email, as it touches on issues and drafting that formed part of the examination of the application for development consent for the Project.

The new requirement 22 is to be found in schedule 2 to the draft development consent order and with the heading "Timing of Consultation" and including the number 22 [see REP8-002, page 95] .

As is explained in National Highway's principal response to the Secretary of State's RfI, requirement 22 was added by National Highways at the same time as it included what is now draft requirement 23, which was included at the request of Essex County Council. Requirement 22 was included by National Highways to provide further clarification on the nature of consultation during the processes for discharging requirements.

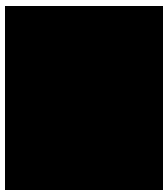
With regard to MIAG's requests for wider consultation on the discharge of requirements, National Highways does not believe consultation obligations imposed by the provisions of Schedule 2 of the Development Consent Order should be further extended. The examination received and considered, the underlying scheme design. Refinement of details is now most appropriately dealt with through consultation with specified authorities and statutory bodies, such as Essex County Council, on matters relating to their functions.

The processes for consultation in the draft order reflect processes for discharging conditions attached to planning permissions. Further broadening the consultation obligations placed on National Highways is not necessary.

We have provided a copy of this letter to MIAG's representatives.

If you have any further comments or queries, I can be contacted by email at A12chelmsfordA120wide@nationalhighways.co.uk

Yours sincerely



Phil Davie
Project Director
A12 Chelmsford to A120 Widening Scheme