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By email and file transfer

Mr. Elliott Booth
Case Officer
National Infrastructure (Environment)
The Planning Inspectorate
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18 January 2024

Dear Mr. Booth,

River Thames Scheme

Section 46 Planning Act (2008) (as amended)

Duty to Notify Secretary of State of a Proposed Application

**Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017
Regulation 13: Pre-application Publicity Under Section 48 (Duty to Publicise)**

I am writing to notify the Secretary of State under section 46 of the Planning Act 2008 (“the Act”) that the Environment Agency and Surrey County Council intend to make an application for a Development Consent Order (“DCO”) to authorise the construction and operation (which includes maintenance) of the proposed River Thames Scheme. The DCO application will contain full details of the River Thames Scheme and will be accompanied by an Environmental Statement in accordance with the Act and the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.

The Environment Agency and Surrey County Council will be undertaking statutory pre-application consultation under sections 42, 47 and 48 of the Act between 22 January and 23:59 on 4 March 2024.

On 24 December 2020 the Secretary of State issued a direction pursuant to s35 of the Act that the River Thames Scheme was a development of national significance for which a development consent is required.

The River Thames Scheme covers an area from Egham to Teddington. It will consist of a new flood channel in two sections, through the boroughs of Runnymede and Spelthorne, alongside improvements to existing river structures as well as new green open spaces and habitat creation areas.

To comply with section 46 of the Act, the Environment Agency and Surrey County Council must supply the Secretary of State with information that they will provide to consultees under section 42 of the Act, as if the Applicants were required by that section to consult with the Secretary of State about the proposed application, on or before commencing section 42 consultation. Therefore, the Environment Agency and Surrey County Council hereby supply the Secretary of State with a digital copy of the following consultation documents:

1. A copy of the covering letters sent to consultees under Section 42 of the Act. The letters supplied to these consultees confirm how the consultation materials can be accessed.
2. Section 48 notice.
3. Consultation Brochure and Feedback Form.
4. Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) (including supporting figures and appendices).
5. Non-Technical Summaries of the PEIR, and flood modelling report.
6. Other environmental documents.
7. Map Book.
8. Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC)
9. Response to Non-Statutory Matters Raised 2022 Consultation.

Items 3-9 will be available electronically from 22 January 2024 on the dedicated Scheme website ([\[REDACTED\]](#)) and in hard copy at information points. We will publish on the Scheme website details of the public information points where printed copies of the information will be available.

The Environment Agency and Surrey County Council will also publish a notice in both local and national newspapers as required under section 48 of the Act in order to publicise the proposed application. Further details of the consultation arrangements can be found in the section 48 notice. A copy of this notice is enclosed.

We have written to all stakeholders as defined under s42 of the Act to notify them of the consultation and enclosed a copy of the s48 notice providing details of the consultation arrangements.

I would be grateful for confirmation of safe receipt of this letter and enclosures as a record of compliance with section 46 of the Act. Should you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact Neil Chester at enquiries@riverthamesscheme.org.uk

Yours faithfully



Jeanne Capey
River Thames Scheme, Project Director

Enc.

Letters sent to Section 42 Consultees
Section 48 Notice
Copies of all consultation materials (1-8) listed above

Scan here to visit the River Thames Scheme website.

