

DATE TO BE INSERTED

Ms Anne-Marie Palmer
Project Manager for M3 Junction 9
Highways England
Bridge House
1 Walnut Tree Close
Guildford
GU1 4LZ

Sent via email only

Dear Ms Palmer,

**M3 Junction 9 Improvements Scheme
Planning Act 2008, Section 42: Duty to Consult on Proposed Application**

I am writing on behalf of the South Downs National Park Authority (SDNPA) following our initial response dated 27th August 2019.

I can confirm that the full Authority considered the M3 Junction 9 Improvement Scheme and the 27th August 2019 response at its meeting on 1st October 2019. At that meeting the Authority endorsed the 27th August 2019 response to issue a **holding objection**. It also reconfirmed that Highways England consider the following:

1. Landscape Setting
To undertake a bespoke characterisation of the landscape in order to better inform the design development of the scheme.
2. Topography
To make available for consideration the detailed design information on horizontal and vertical alignment of the Scheme. This will enable the SDNPA (and others) to fully assess the landscape impacts and any proposed mitigation measures.
3. Zone of Theoretical Visibility
To make available for consideration the detailed ZTV methodology and the detailed information on the extent, angle, direction, elevation and analysis of viewpoints. This will enable the SDNPA (and others) to fully assess the landscape impacts and ensure they reflect the landscape's relationship to the cultural heritage assets.
4. Trees / Woodland / Vegetation
To make available for consideration the detailed tree survey and Arboricultural Impact Assessment. This will enable the SDNPA (and others) to determine whether any proposed mitigation and compensation measures adequately addresses the impacts and

the multiple benefits (such as tranquillity, noise mitigation and improving air quality) already provided by the existing trees / vegetation.

5. Boundary of Scheme

To provide assurances that the required mitigation and compensation measures can be accommodated (and appropriately secured) within the proposed scheme boundary (within the 'red line'). Albeit it is recognised that some compensation measures (such as chalk grassland referred to below) could take place outside of the Scheme boundary.

6. Cultural (Heritage) Landscape

To provide assurances that an Archaeological Strategy will be provided and that the other issues raised at the 25th April 2019 meeting are addressed.

7. Lighting

To undertake a detailed lighting assessment that identifies the impact on the National Park's Dark Skies Reserve. This needs to include proposed mitigation measures that ensure, at least, that there is no additional light spillage into the National Park on completion of the Scheme and, preferably, that the Scheme will result in less light pollution than exists presently.

8. Water

To provide assurances that any mitigation measures will

- ensure no additional pollution of surface or ground water sources and preferably will improve water quality,
- ensure that any proposed balancing pond is well-sited and designed appropriate to its landscape setting, and
- include SuDs proposals for south of the junction.

9. Chalk Grassland

- To provide assurances that any chalk grassland impacted by the Scheme is adequately mitigated or compensated (and appropriately secured) including if necessary outside of the boundary of the Scheme.
- To make available a scheme of investigation, similar to the approach to archaeology, to ensure adequate opportunity is given for research and document any important features that may exist before they are lost by the Scheme.

10. Access

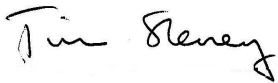
- To make available as soon as possible the detailed traffic modelling related to the M3 off the B3335 / B2177 to determine the impact on local communities, and
- To provide assurances that the proposed new walking, cycling and horse riding route to the east of the M3 between Easton Lane and Long Walk will be included within the Scheme, and that the inadequacies in the existing provision of Public Rights of Way are rectified in order to enhance access into the National Park.

11. Climate Change

To provide assurances that the Scheme will make a positive contribution to landscape scale adaptation responses to climate change.

If you have any queries regarding the above please contact Kelly Porter, Major Projects Lead, on 01730 819314 or kelly.porter@southdowns.gov.uk

Yours sincerely



Tim Slaney
Director of Planning
South Downs National Park Authority

DRAFT

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