



Norfolk County Council

Infrastructure, Infrastructure
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BY EMAIL

Mr N Johnson
Planning Services
Norfolk County Council

NCC contact number: 0344 800 8020
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Your Ref: FUL/2024/0022
Date: 3 December 2024

My Ref: [REDACTED] 1002
Tel No.: 0344 800 8020
Email: norwichwesternlink@norfolk.gov.uk

Dear Mr Johnson

Town and County Planning Act 1990 (As Amended)

Planning Application for the Construction of a link road to comprise the dualling of the A1067 Fakenham Road, from its existing junction with the A1270 Broadland Northway, to a new junction with the A47 near Honingham, and associated works (the Norwich Western Link).

Thank you for your letter dated 11 November 2024 in which you make a request for further environmental information under Regulation 25 of the Town and Country Planning Act (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('**EIA Regulations**') in relation to the matters included in Appendix 1 to that letter, and other information requested in Appendix 2. Your letter asks for the information to be supplied within 28 days (i.e. by 9 December 2024), or such other period as may be agreed, and requests that we inform you if it appears that it is not likely to be possible to do so within that 28-day period.

Thank you also for your letter dated 22 November in which you draw our attention to the objection to the NWL planning application by Natural England on the grounds that Natural England currently considers that it is not likely to grant a European Protected Species licence needed to implement the planning permission, if it was granted. We share your concerns that this important objection is fully resolved before the NWL planning application is determined.

In light of the objection to the planning application by Natural England, the Applicant intends to prioritise its efforts on resolving Natural England's concerns. We have written to Natural England on 22 October 2024 and are anticipating a response on 6 December 2024.

You may already be aware that a report which provided an update on the project was considered by Cabinet on 2 December. The report explained that in addition to writing to Natural England, the Leader of the Council has also written to government Ministers and is awaiting a response. The report amongst other things recommended authorising the Lead Director for Infrastructure, in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Highways, Infrastructure and Transport, to pause the planning application which was approved at the meeting.

Consequently, we are writing to inform you that it will not be possible to supply the information requested in your letter by 9 December 2024. We will contact you in due course once we have greater certainty over the time frames for supplying the information that you have requested or in any event by 31 January 2025.

In the interim, we note that in accordance with Regulation 25(7) of the EIA Regulations, the determination of the application has been suspended.

Yours sincerely

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of the Senior Project Manager.

Senior Project Manager