



Environmental Services
Central Operations
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Customer: 0303 444 5000
Services: M3Junction9@
e-mail: planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010055-000100

Date: 20 October 2020

Dear Sir/Madam,

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and The Infrastructure Planning
(Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations)
– Regulations 10 and 11**

**Application by Highways England (the Applicant) for an Order granting
Development Consent for the M3 Junction 9 Improvement (the Proposed
Development)**

**Scoping consultation and notification of the Applicant's contact details and
duty to make available information to the Applicant if requested**

The Applicant has asked the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State for its opinion (a Scoping Opinion) as to the information to be provided in an Environmental Statement (ES) relating to the Proposed Development.

You can access the report accompanying the request for a Scoping Opinion via our website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk>

Alternatively, you can use the following direct link:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010055-000098>

The Planning Inspectorate has identified you as a consultation body which must be consulted before adopting its Scoping Opinion. The Planning Inspectorate would be grateful therefore if you would:

- Inform the Planning Inspectorate of the information you consider should be provided in the ES; or
- Confirm that you do not have any comments.

If you consider that you are not a consultation body as defined in the EIA Regulations please let us know.

The Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the SoS is entitled to assume under Regulation 10(11) of the EIA Regulations that you do not have any comments to make on the information to be provided in the ES, if you have not responded to this letter by 19 November 2020. The deadline for consultation responses is a statutory requirement and cannot be extended. Responses received after this deadline will not be included within the Scoping Opinion but will be forwarded to the Applicant for information.

Please note that in response to the UK Government advice on the COVID-19 outbreak, the Planning Inspectorate's staff are working from home until further notice. In order to support the smooth facilitation of our service we strongly advise that Consultation Bodies respond via the email identified below rather than by post. Unfortunately, the Inspectorate cannot guarantee that postal responses will be received within the 28 day deadline and therefore form part of any Scoping Opinion provided to the Applicant.

Responses to the Planning Inspectorate regarding the Scoping Report should be sent **by email** to M3Junction9@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Once complete, you will be able to access the Scoping Opinion via our website, using the following link:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-east/m3-junction-9-improvement/>

As the Planning Inspectorate has been notified by the Applicant that it intends to prepare an ES, we are also informing you of the Applicant's name and email address:

Highways England
M3Junction9Improvements@highwaysengland.co.uk

You should also be aware of your duty under Regulation 11(3) of the EIA Regulations, if so requested by the Applicant, to make available information in your possession which is considered relevant to the preparation of the ES.

If you have any queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours faithfully,

Emily Park

**Emily Park
EIA Advisor
on behalf of the Secretary of State**

This communication does not constitute legal advice.
Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk

