

Lynne Baldwin

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**From:** Beata Ginn <Beata.Ginn@nationalhighways.co.uk>  
**Sent:** 09 January 2023 12:06  
**To:** Planning  
**Cc:** Planning SE; Patrick Blake; Spatial Planning  
**Subject:** FORMAL RESPONSE: #18815 Pre Application 22/03763/SCOP Begbroke Science Park, Begbroke Hill, Begbroke, Kidlington, OX5 1PF

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**FAO:** Andrew Thompson of Cherwell District Council

**Reference:** 22/03763/SCOP

**Our reference:** 7776 (TRACKER NUMBER #18815)

**Location:** Begbroke Science Park Begbroke Hill Begbroke Kidlington OX5 1PF

**Proposal:** Scoping Opinion with respect to the scope and methodology of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) in relation to re-development proposals of approximately 170 hectares (Ha) land at the existing Begbroke Science Park and surrounding land. The findings of the EIA will be reported in an Environmental Statement (ES) which will accompany the planning application.

**RE: Consultation on request for a Screening or Scoping Opinion of the Local Planning Authority under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017**

Dear Andrew,

Thank you for your e-mail dated 20 December 2022 consulting National Highways on the Screening or Scoping Opinion in relation to the above re-development proposals at Begbroke Science Park.

National Highways has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the strategic road network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and as such National Highways works to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity.

We will therefore be concerned with proposals that have the potential to impact the safe and efficient operation of the SRN, in this case the A34.

We do not offer a view of the scope of EIA's as this is for the Local Planning Authority to determine. However, we note that the applicant provides further details of the proposed assessment to be undertaken and the scope of the Transport Assessment (TA) in section 7 of the submitted EIA scoping report. Based on this, we would welcome a meeting to discuss the proposals and the potential impact on the SRN. It is essential that matters are agreed with the Local Highway Authority who are responsible for roads in the vicinity of the proposed site, therefore a joint meeting may be helpful.

We look forward to working with the Applicant and Oxfordshire County Council to develop the scope of the subsequent TA. We would expect the TA to assess any potential impacts to the A34 and take into account any other development in the area.

Due to the above we would strongly recommend early engagement with the applicant prior to the submission of any future formal application.

I hope this is helpful.

Regards

**Mrs Beata Ginn**

**Assistant Spatial Planner (Area 3)**

National Highways | Bridge House | Walnut Tree Close | Guildford GU1 4LZ

**Tel:** +44 (0) 300 470 1118 **Mobile:** 0787 204 6392

**Web:** <https://nationalhighways.co.uk/our-roads/planning-and-the-strategic-road-network-in-england/>

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