

Our ref: CEO
Your ref:

Sharon Hodgson MP
sharon.hodgson.mp@parliament.uk

Nick Harris
Operations Executive Director
Bridge House
Walnut Tree Close
Guildford
Surrey
GU1 4LZ

22 May 2020

Dear Mrs Hodgson

Noise reduction measures

Thank you for your letter dated 12 May 2020 addressed to Jim O'Sullivan on behalf of your constituent [REDACTED] Washington, Tyne & Wear, NE38 [REDACTED], regarding an update on noise reduction on the A1M between junctions 63 and 65. I am replying to you as this issue falls within my area of responsibility.

As you will be aware from previous correspondence, our strategy for noise reduction is driven by the requirements of the Environmental Noise (England) Regulations 2006 via the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra). These regulations require strategic noise maps and action plans to be undertaken on a five-year cycle.

Defra completed the latest version of the Noise Action Plans which was published on 2 July 2019. No change was identified for the section of A1M between junctions 63 and 65. This means that the criteria for the customer referred to in your May 2016 enquiry, [REDACTED] are unchanged and her property is not situated inside a noise important area (NIA).

Overall progress to date of the noise reduction strategy is very good. We targeted the mitigation of 1,150 noise important areas in our Road Investment Strategy (RIS1) and we achieved that target. The nature of our target has changed for RIS2, in that we are now targeting numbers of households within noise important areas rather than counting noise important areas as a whole. We are targeting the mitigation of 7,500 households in RIS2.

With specific reference to the section of A1M between junctions 63 and 65, our noise reduction actions are focused on 5 noise important areas.

The locations of these areas are: -

- Junction 63 Northbound – 39 properties have been identified
- Picktree – 2 properties have been identified
- High Rickleton – 6 properties have been identified
- Rickleton – 8 properties have been identified
- Birtley – 146 properties have been identified.

Our current plans for mitigation at these noise important areas are: -

- Noise insulation – the locations at Picktree, High Rickleton and Rickleton are appropriate for mitigation by noise insulation. In these cases, our central noise team are responsible for making the offer to the customers and managing the delivery of the insulation. I have asked the central team to provide you with an update regarding this as soon as possible.
- Lower noise surfacing – the locations at junction 63 northbound and Birtley are appropriate for mitigation by lower noise surfacing. As noted in our letter to you of 9 May 2016, our strategy for the delivery of lower noise surfacing is to resurface the carriageway when the existing surface needs to be replaced.

In line with this strategy, the lower noise surfacing of the A1M between junctions 63 and 65, both northbound and southbound including all slip roads, is planned for financial year 2024/25.

If your office would like any further information, please contact our Programme Development manager, Toni Rios who will be pleased to respond. Toni can be contacted by

Our correspondence address is Lateral, 8

City Walk, Leeds, LS11 9AT.

Yours sincerely



Nick Harris
Operations Executive Director

www.highwaysengland.co.uk