

From: [REDACTED]
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: M7 Prestons signage DA (DA23/16892)
Date: Monday, 24 June 2024 9:39:53 AM
Attachments: [image002.png](#)
[240603 RFI Prestons.pdf](#)

Hi [REDACTED],

I hope you had a nice weekend.

We are emailing you in regard to the attached RFI (dated 3 June 2024) relating to the M7 Prestons signage DA (DA23/16892).

Items 1-3 Biodiversity

Items 1-3 of the RFI request additional information regarding the potential biodiversity impacts of the sign, given it is mapped within a biodiversity value area. The figure outlines the site location, which is within a fenced area, cleared from vegetation.



In this instance, we consider that the request for additional ecological consideration is not necessary, particularly given that the proposal is simply seeking an extension to operate the existing signage structure. The Applicants previous response to DPHIs RFI (dated 31 May 2024), provided a high-level assessment against the relevant/requested provisions of the *Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016*. This assessment concluded that the proposal is not likely to increase impacts on the ecological communities and vegetation in the area.

We would like to reiterate that the proposal does not comprises any physical works (i.e. tree removal/pruning, excavation, or construction). Further, as outlined within the Applicants RFI response dated 31 May 2024, the Applicant will undertake routine vegetation maintenance inspections. In the event, vegetation is identified for trimming/maintenance, a separate application will be prepared and submitted to the relevant authority. This methodology has been utilised for the last 15 years and successfully allows the Applicant to seek manage the relevant vegetation at the time required for the WH&S purposes and to ensure adequate visibility to the sign.

Given the above, we believe the information provided to date adequately responds to DPHIs biodiversity query and we request that DPHI confirm if this information is satisfactory, or if a Biodiversity Statement is required.

Item 4 assessment of road safety impacts

To undertake the requested road safety assessment, the traffic consultant (TTPP) requires information from the Department, see below. Can you please assist?

'We will require the 'As Built' design plans for the M7 widening project. Are the Department able to provide the M7 Widening 'As Built' plans (civil design plans, signage and line marking, landscape etc) for this section of road so that a robust assessment of the road safety impacts can be undertaken?

We note the following initial queries will need to be investigated:

1. *Will the existing VMS sign remain in its current location or will it be relocated. If so, where will the VMS sign be relocated?*
2. *Will any other guidance signage or VMS signage be installed along this section of road?*
3. *Will the 'Keep Left When Unless Overtaking' sign (circled orange below) remain?*
4. *Will any trees or landscape architecture be implemented in this section of the M7? I assume this won't be a factor but will need to be confirmed.*
5. *Is the Department concerned about the road safety impacts following the widening of the M7 only or are there concerns pertaining to road safety during the construction of the M7 that need to be investigated also?'*

Figure 2.3: M7 Motorway Northbound Approach Lane Configuration



Source: Photograph taken by TTPP dated 2 November 2023

Please don't hesitate to contact me to discuss the above.

Regards,

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

[Redacted signature]

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