Planning Inspectorate

Notice of Inquiry (Rule 18)

Town & Country Planning Act 1990 (Section 293D application)

Dated: 31 October 2025

Application Reference No: CROWN/2025/0000002

Applicants: Department for Transport (DfT), DEFRA, and HMRC

Local Planning Authority: Ashford Borough Council

Site address: Sevington Inland Border Facility, Mersham, Ashford TN25 6GE

Proposal description: *'Buildings, Goods Vehicle parking spaces, entry lanes, refrigerated semi-trailers, staff car parking spaces, access, site infrastructure, utilities, hardstanding, landscaping and ancillary facilities and associated works; and ongoing use of the site for an Inland Border Facility and Border Control Post, operating 24 hours per day, seven days per week.'*

This is formal notice that the above Crown Development Application will follow the **Local Inquiry** procedure.

This Inquiry is due to take place at **:**

Council Chamber, International House, Dover Place, Ashford, Kent TN23 1HU

It is due to open at: **10.00am on Tuesday 2nd December 2025**

The appointed Inspector, Mr C Parker, will hold an Inquiry opening on the date shown above to decide the application.

Members of the public may attend the Inquiry and, at the Inspector's discretion, express their views. You should register to speak before attending by contacting the Planning Inspectorate at:

crownapplications@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

If you are unable to email, please call us at 0303 444 5000

Should you wish to speak at the Inquiry, you should ensure that you are able to attend on the first day, as detailed above.

Documents relating to the application can be viewed online at:

https://find-crown-development.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/applications/885d6bd3-c6b3-495f-a820-d4633a1d00a9/application-information

Crown Development Case Team