

From: Claire Watters <[REDACTED]>
Sent: 29 May 2019 09:59
To: Southampton to London Pipeline Project
<SouthamptontoLondonPipeline@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>
Cc: Michelle Redman [REDACTED]; Sue Bull [REDACTED]
Subject: SLP Project - inadequate consultation. Ashford Road, TW18.

Dear Sirs,

We wish to raise our concerns with the way in which the SLP Consultation process has been operated.

The venue of the consultation in February 2019 was very unsuitable due to the acoustics - it was very difficult to hear what was being said even when stood next to the person we were talking to. A number of elderly residents also expressed this to us.

The 'glossy' brochure and letters received implied that you are invited to 'consult' on the 'proposed route'. However, it quickly became apparent that this was not the case in relation to Ashford Road – as H1a and H1b had been de-selected. We were informed that there is no other possible route for the pipeline.

Therefore, we question the purpose of this consultation – other than to consult on mitigating the effects of this route.

The proposed route was not part of the initial consultation - it would appear it came from nowhere - or the SLP Project team knew it would be too controversial so did not announce this route until last minute.

Furthermore, the publicity to consult on H1a and H1b was very poor and not communicated to the wider communities – who have a potential interest in these proposals and the potential impact on them during construction. [REDACTED]

It would appear that small groups, at a time, have been invited to consult; thereby limiting the numbers involved in the consultations stages – and certainly for section H. [REDACTED]

An example is that the public consultation notice for the Ashford Road section was publicised in the Richmond and Twickenham times – this is nowhere near Ashford Road, is out of the Borough entirely.

There was very poor local notification – community run Facebook pages seem to have been more effective than SLP Project – and not at the request of SLP!

We feel there has been a lack of engagement in the community at large – there are many resident groups around the area. However, it appears that they have been picked off in sections at various stages rather than collectively. [REDACTED]

Throughout this entire 'period' of 'consultation it is very disappointing that responses to the questions asked at the consultation meeting had no real answers, any reassurances or explanations. SLP state that an Environmental Impact Assessment has been completed for the Ashford Road. However, SLP have not able to provide this information or report and would appear contradictory, as

the many questions raised at the consultation meeting on 9th Feb no-one seemed to have an answer to questions that would be covered by an EIA.

We were told a number of times on 9th Feb that surveys and EIA have yet to be completed.

We request that you review our comments and advise any further action that can be taken.

Kind regards

Claire Watters.

The Secretary.

Ashford Road Residents Group.