Southampton to London Pipeline Project

Deadline 4

Site Specific Plan - QEP

Application Document: 8.57

Planning Inspectorate Reference Number: EN070005

Revision No. 1.0

January 2020



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1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This plan provides further detail on the potential impacts, construction techniques and mitigation measures in this area as a standalone document that is certified as part of the Development Consent Order (DCO). Esso is required to comply with and implement the Site Specific Plan under Requirement 17 of the DCO (**Document Reference 3.1 (5)**).
- 1.1.2 The plan covers the following elements:
 - construction programme;
 - access;
 - security;
 - · vegetation removal;
 - · enabling works;
 - Open Cut installation;
 - trenchless crossing under the Prospect Road (TC018);
 - trenchless crossing under the A325 (TC019); and
 - reinstatement.
- 1.1.3 Esso and its supply chain of contractor(s) will adopt the control measures set out in this Site Specific Plan when undertaking the installation of the pipeline.



2 Construction Programme

- 2.1.1 Assessment of the preferred construction methodology indicates that works within the park will take up to 12 months. This may not be 12 months of continuous activity, as the works may be staged to facilitate safe working by undertaking the Open Cut work at a different time to the trenchless works.
- 2.1.2 There is a two-year working window for the construction works, as the programme will need to take account of any seasonality such as ecological constraints and optimum replanting periods. Notwithstanding the above constraints, the detailed scheduling of the works will look to rationalise and work simultaneously where there is the ability to do so, to reduce disturbance to the park. Once the construction plans have been finalised, the local community will be informed and updated in line with the Community Engagement Plan (**Document Reference 8.52**).
- 2.1.3 Below is a summary of works and estimated durations, but this is subject to detailed programming and uncertainties such as weather and ground conditions.

Table 2.1: Estimated duration of works (based on working 6 days per week)

Works	Estimated Duration
Enabling works and mobilisation of the compound (4AE)	6 weeks
Open Cut	3 months
TC018 installation (horizontal directional drilling (HDD) receiving area and stringing)	3 months
TC019 installation (auger bore reception area for A325 crossing)	3 months
Reinstatement	4–6 weeks. Reinstatement will consider seasonal constraints and will occur in the first available planting season

- As noted above, this represents the case in which works are carried out individually. The detailed scheduling of the works will look to rationalise and work simultaneously where there is the ability to do so, to reduce disturbance to the park. An example of how this might be achieved would be to undertake both the trenchless works simultaneously, as they are distinct work activities, and then complete the Open Cut installation afterwards to link them together.
- 2.1.5 Once the construction plans have been finalised, the local community will be informed and updated in line with the Community Engagement Plan (**Document Reference 8.52**).
- 2.1.6 All works will be planned to take place within the normal working hours as defined by the DCO (**Document Reference 3.1 (5)**). It is only in exceptional or emergency circumstances that the works will continue outside of the standard working hours.



3 **Description of Works**

3.1 Access

3.1.1 Public access into the park will not be prevented by the works. The majority of the park will remain accessible during installation for all works. The existing central path will not be impacted. The phasing of construction, together with the intended methodology, will aim to reduce disruption to the southern cyclist/pedestrian path to a relatively short duration.

Table 3.1: Access during construction

Access Point	Description	
Cabrol Road entrance	Pedestrian and cyclist access will be maintained throughout installation.	
Cabrol Road car park	Parking will be suspended while the compound is in use.	
Southern A325 entrance	Pedestrian and cyclist access will be maintained for the majority of the installation period. Temporary suspension for 1–3 days will be required while the short section of Open Cut crosses the path.	
Cycle/pedestrian southern path	The use of the path will be suspended for the duration of the Open Cut installation. Approximately 3 months. Use of the path will also be temporarily suspended during parts of the stringing activity. Steps or ramps over the pipe string will be installed as soon as it is safe to do so.	
Central (woodland) path	Esso has offered to upgrade this path to provide an alternative to the southern cyclist/pedestrian path through the park during construction.	
Note: The northern A325 access and car park are outside of the Order Limits and will not be impacted by the proposals.		

Security 3.2

- The construction compound will be fully secure, with locked gates and on-site 24-3.2.1 hour security and CCTV.
- Heras type fencing bolted together, or strong-wall fencing, will be used during the 3.2.2 works. All plant and operatives will work within the fencing and compound.
- 3.2.3 The on-site, 24-hour security will patrol all working areas within the park.

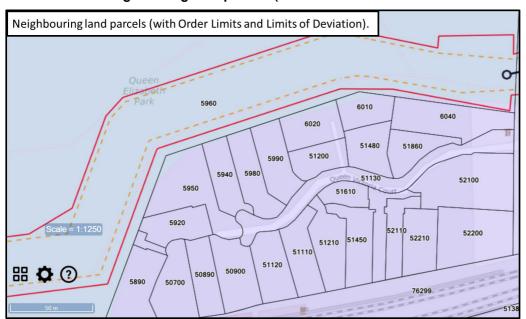
3.3 **Vegetation Removal**

- The local landscape character of the Order Limits that pass through the park 3.3.1 comprises informal paths within amenity grassland shrubs beneath mature trees to the north, and a denser woodland area with dense rhododendron and secondary tree growth and a formal path to the south. It is anticipated that none of the mature trees identified in the park will require removal.
- 3.3.2 Sections 3.5 to 3.7 below outline the approach that will be taken during construction to reduce the impact to vegetation and trees within the park, and this is reflected in the construction stage plan at Appendix B. As per Requirement 8(1)(a) of the DCO (**Document Reference 3.1 (5)**), the retention and removal of vegetation within the



- park must be undertaken in accordance with this Site Specific Plan (including the construction stage plan) unless otherwise agreed by the relevant planning authority.
- The project does not intend to remove vegetation over the existing pipelines. In addition, given the residential boundaries to the south are offset from the Order Limits, vegetation forming the boundary with these properties will not be removed by the project.

Illustration 3.1: Neighbouring land parcels (with Order Limits and Limits of Deviation)



3.3.4 Based on the current intended pipe alignment, although a small number of trees will be removed, approximately 30 non-mature trees will need to be removed, largely adjacent to the cycle/pedestrian path. These are trees of a lower arboricultural value and are in areas previously discussed with Rushmoor Borough Council as benefitting from some tree removal. The installation will not require the removal of any mature or veteran trees.

3.4 Enabling Works

- 3.4.1 This will consist of:
 - creating the construction compound Works 4AE;
 - creating a safe Cabrol Road entrance for vehicles, pedestrians and cyclists; and
 - removing the play area.
- 3.4.2 The construction compound 4AE will only be in place to serve the installation works within the park; this comprises the Open Cut installation through the park and the trenchless operations.
- 3.4.3 Prior to works commencing, the western car park within Queen Elizabeth Park will need to be closed to the public. Notices will be placed within the car park a minimum of two weeks prior to notify users. Additional communications activity to inform users of the entirety of the planned works will be covered in the location specific plan within the Community Engagement Plan (**Document Reference 8.52**).



- 3.4.4 At the Cabrol Road entrance to the park, a temporary secure gate will be put in place during the works, with a separate pedestrian and cyclist gate/entrance. This will be in place of the existing wrought iron gate and fencing, which will be removed, stored and reinstated once the works are complete (assuming these are in a good condition at the time of removal; if not, a like-for-like replacement will be used for reinstatement).
- 3.4.5 The existing children's play area will be closed, with notices to users placed a minimum of two weeks in advance of the play apparatus removal.
- 3.4.6 If, following discussions with Rushmoor Borough Council, the temporary play provision is being provided, it will be constructed and fenced, to ensure safety and security.
- 3.4.7 The compound will need to be constructed on the grassed area to the south of the car park. No trees will need to be removed to construct the compound but may require some branch lopping, which will be undertaken by specialists. Trees within the area of the compound will be suitably protected (with ground protection or fencing).
- 3.4.8 The topsoil will be stripped and neatly stored to one side of the compound, which will provide additional noise and visual screening of the compound from users of the park. The area of the compound will then be covered with a permeable surface.
- The compound will be fenced with a 2m high perimeter fence that is bolted together. Lighting will be installed, facing down and away from the nearby properties and railway, and only used while the compound is occupied (with the exception of security lighting). The compound will be fully secure, with locked gates and will have on-site 24-hour security and CCTV.

3.5 Open Cut

- Open Cut installation will most likely begin at the receiving area for drill TC018, and then works will travel easterly until reaching the receiving area for the auger at TC019.
- The Open Cut (generic) installation approach described in the Code of Construction Practice (**Document Reference 6.4 Appendix 16.1 (3)**) will be tailored to the conditions of the park to reduce the amount of vegetation and tree clearance required. Details on how this will be applied at this location are summarised below.
- 3.5.3 The Open Cut installation area will be narrowed to a maximum 10m wide working area.
- 3.5.4 The vegetation clearance works (undertaken by a specialist) will be undertaken for the full length of the Open Cut section. This work will be completed before the construction fencing is erected. During vegetation clearance, warning signage to indicate restricted zones will be erected to alert the public to the works. All material will be removed and recycled.



- 3.5.5 Trees being retained will be protected from the installation activity in line with commitment G95: 'The contractor(s) will consider and apply the relevant protective principles set out in the National Joint Utilities Group Guidelines for the Planning, Installation and Maintenance of Utility Apparatus in Proximity to Trees ('NJUG Volume 4' (2007). This will be applied to trees within the Order Limits which will be preserved through the construction phase, and to trees outside of the Order Limits where such measures do not hinder or prevent the use of the relevant working width for construction.'
- 3.5.6 The project Environmental Clerk of Works and arboriculturalist will monitor and provide advice when any works to trees, such as branch removal, are required.
- 3.5.7 The trench will be offset by a minimum of 3m to the north of the existing fuel and gas pipelines. Installation should not require the removal of vegetation from the area above the existing pipelines.
- 3.5.8 Size of plant (vehicles and machinery) will be smaller than traditional Open Cut plant. This is necessary to work safely within the reduced 10m working width.
- 3.5.9 All fabrication works (such as grinding, welding, coating and testing) will be undertaken behind screens or within shelters in order to prevent reduce any impact on the users of the park. These screens will include acoustic protection if required.
- 3.5.10 The intended alignment of the working area is presented in the drawing in Appendix A.
- 3.5.11 The use of the cycle/pedestrian path will be suspended during Open Cut installation works. The entrance from the A325 will remain open with a diversion to the northern park path available.

3.6 TC018 Installation (HDD Receiving Area and Stringing)

- The receiving area for TC018 will be directly adjacent to the construction compound. Fencing, as outlined for the compound, will be installed around the area (and to the park's southern boundary).
- The receiving area will be placed over the existing play area and therefore requires no vegetation clearance. Visual and acoustic barriers will be installed along the fencing to reduce noise and light disturbance to park users and nearby residential properties.
- 3.6.3 Vegetation clearance will take place to clear small scrub and plants from the string area, although it is expected that no trees will be removed (based on current conditions).
- 3.6.4 A welding station will be set up within the receiving area.
- 3.6.5 Sections of pipe will be lifted into the welding station from the construction compound. The pipes will be welded and coated to produce a string.



- 3.6.6 Each time a pipe is welded to the string, the pipe string will be pulled by a mini excavator, or mobile winch, into the stringing area in the park to allow the next pipe to be welded.
- This process will require a gradual extension of fencing of the stringing area, matching the length of the strung pipe up to the 450m required. Access to the park within the 5m wide stringing area will only be restricted while the pipe is present.
- The pipe string will be placed on rollers, with suitable step overs (described below) to allow access to both sides of the stringing out area. When the string has to be pulled around a bend, kentledge (weighted blocks) will be placed to guide the string.
- 3.6.9 When the string is complete, it is tested to ensure its integrity.
- 3.6.10 Once the stringing is complete, the HDD installation can start. A reception pit will be excavated within the receiving area using a tracked excavator and the arisings moved and stored within the vicinity for future reuse. This pit will be approximately 3m x 3m wide and 2m deep; temporary works will be placed within the pit to keep it safely open during the drill.
- 3.6.11 The HDD drilling will then commence from Stake Lane. The strung-out pipe within the park will then be pulled back through the bore.
- 3.6.12 To maintain public access to the southern path whilst the pipe string is in place, step overs will be installed as soon as safely practicable (illustrative image below). These are steps or ramps that provide connectively within the park. The barriers and fencing will be removed at these places and the ends secured.

Photo 3.1: Indicative temporary steps over pipe string (pipe larger than SLP pipeline)



- 3.6.13 However, for safety reasons, use of the cycle/pedestrian path will be suspended for short durations, firstly when the pipe stringing works intersect the path, and secondly when the pipe is being pulled back to Stake Lane.
- 3.6.14 Once the HDD section is complete, the reception pit will be fenced off and left in situ until the Open Cut section connecting the pipe to the trenchless section is concluded.



3.6.15 The timing of the tie into the Open Cut section will depend on the sequencing of works.

3.7 TC019 Installation (Auger Bore Receiving Area for A325 Crossing)

- 3.7.1 The auger bore machine will be set up within the grounds of Farnborough Hill School, and a receiving area will be set up within the park.
- 3.7.2 A safe access from the A325 will be created, then the receiving area will be created. Vegetation will need to be cleared from this area, but no mature trees will be removed. The area will then be scanned for utilities and ground protection laid to reduce topsoil stripping.
- 3.7.3 To safely bring plant into the receiving area from the A325, and subject to a permit from the Highway Authority, traffic management will be set up on the northbound carriageway of the A325 to notify motorists and pedestrians that a) traffic will be pulling off the carriageway and into the receiving area, and b) that vehicles and plant will be re-joining the carriageway from the area, heading north only.
- The equipment to create the receiving area will then be brought into the area. A reception pit will then be excavated approximately within the silted up pond, at approximately 5m wide, 6m long and 3m deep. Excavated material will be neatly bunded within the receiving area or stored off site.
- 3.7.5 The auger bore from the school will only commence once the set-up is complete, the pipe will be pushed from the school into the reception area. Once complete, the pipe end will be capped until the pipe can be joined to the Open Cut section. The excavation will remain open and securely fenced until this activity is completed.
- 3.7.6 The timing of the tie into the Open Cut section will depend on the sequencing of works.

3.8 Reinstatement

The Playground

Once the construction works within the park are complete and the construction compound removed, the children's play area will be reinstated with new equipment and surfaces. This will be undertaken as soon as it is safe to do so.

The Cycle/Pedestrian Path

The path and lighting will be reinstated once the Open Cut installation is complete. Details will be in agreement with Rushmoor Borough Council.

The Eastern Pond

3.8.3 The largely overgrown pond at the eastern end of the park within the auger bore site will be reinstated as a wildlife pond.

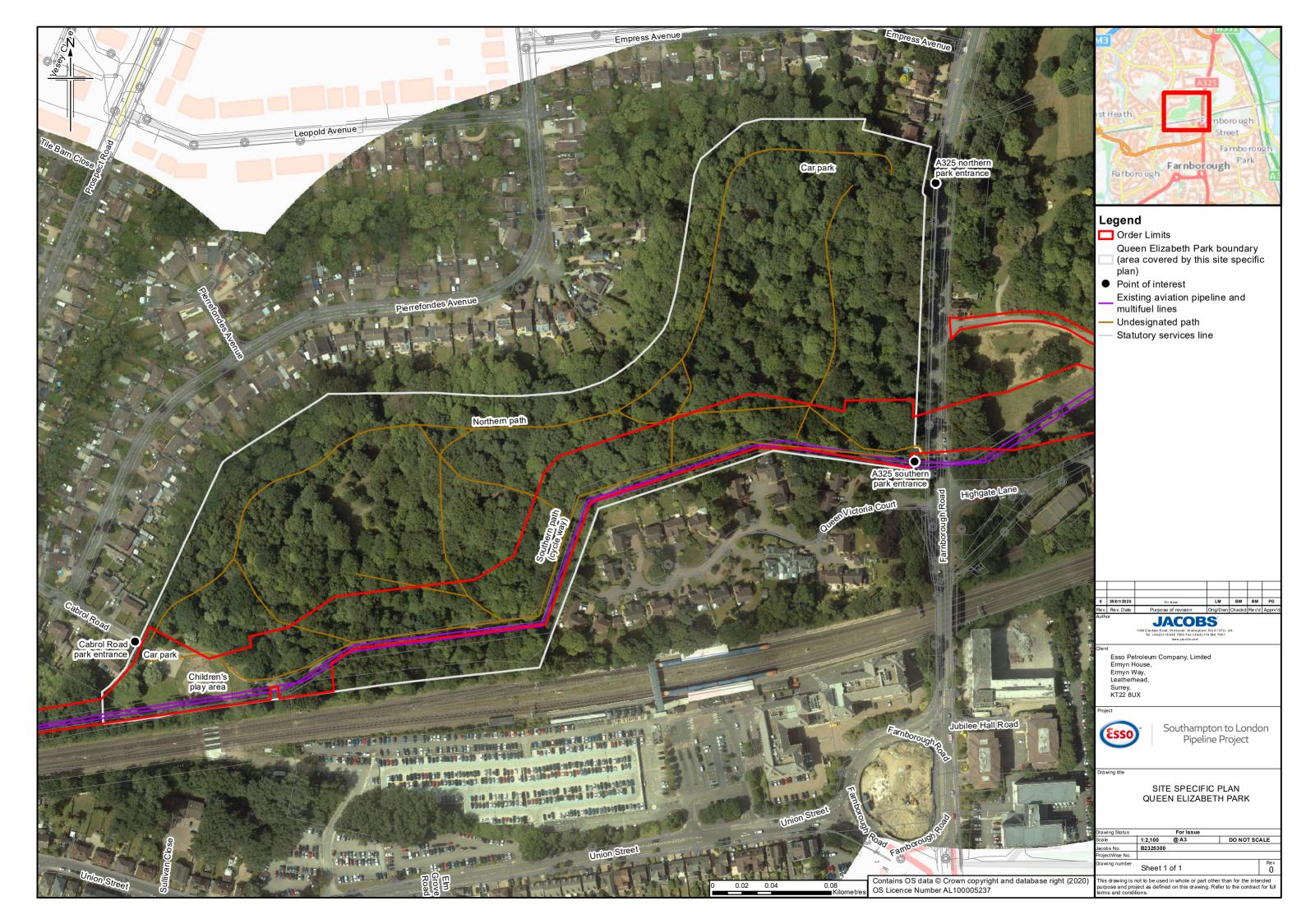


Vegetation Reinstatement

- Vegetation will be reinstated as shown in the reinstatement plan attached in Appendix B. This reinstatement plan will be included within Appendix B of the Landscape and Ecological Management Plan (LEMP) (**Document Reference 8.50**) for the approval of the relevant planning authority as per Requirement 8(1)(b) and Requirement 12 of the DCO (**Document Reference 3.1 (5)**).
- 3.8.5 It has been proposed that areas of rhododendron either side of the cycle/pedestrian path will be reinstated with a mix of woodland species, which will create the feel of a woodland ride and lead to an increase in biodiversity.
- 3.8.6 The vegetation will be subject to a five-year aftercare period to ensure it becomes established.
- 3.8.7 Drawings of vegetation reinstatement can be found in Appendix B.
- 3.8.8 Note: This document does not cover activities offered by Esso as part of its voluntary Environmental Investment Programme.



Appendix A – Area Plans





Appendix B – Construction and Reinstatement Plans

