



The Planning Act 2008

Application for Development Consent for the Southampton to London Pipeline Project

Case Ref: EN070005

The Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection

Background

The Examining Authority ('the ExA') undertook an unaccompanied site inspection to support the examination of an application for development consent for the proposed Southampton to London Pipeline ('the application') on Tuesday 25 February 2020.

In the interest of efficiency, the ExA carried out its unaccompanied site inspection from publicly accessible land (roads, footpaths and bridleways). No inspections were undertaken on private land, advance permission to enter land was not required and so these inspections could be undertaken on an unaccompanied basis.

The site inspection was undertaken in order to view the route of the existing pipeline and the proposed scheme, roads and the surrounding area.

Particulars of the Site Visit

The visit was undertaken by: Richard Allen, Jo Dowling, Kevin Gleeson and Neil Humphrey, except for viewing the proposed logistics hub at Chawton from St Swithun's Way, which Kevin Gleeson and Neil Humphrey did not attend.

The visit was undertaken by car and foot. Weather conditions were variable with showers and sunshine, with a temperature circa five degrees centigrade. Weather conditions were at all times adequate to appreciate long range views.

Inspections commenced at approximately 14:30 and finished at approximately 17:00. A list of the locations visited is attached in Annex A.



The Planning Inspectorate

Annex A: List of locations visited on the Unaccompanied Site Inspection

The ExA undertook a site inspection at the following locations.

St Catherine's Road Suitable Alternative Natural Greenspace (SANG) – the ExA looked at the car park and layout of the SANG in relation to the location of the proposed construction compound and stringing out area. The ExA walked the circular path and visited the adjoining Frimley Woods and observed how this could be accessed through the SANG.

Southwood Country Park SANG – the ExA parked at the Premier Inn and proceeded into the SANG, they walked northwards through the park along the route of the proposed pipeline, noting the location of Cove Brook, the existing pipeline and Cove Brook Cricket Club. The ExA then returned to their starting point and walked southwards along the route of the proposed pipeline towards the A327/Elles Road/Ively Road roundabout.

Proposed logistics hub, Chawton – the ExA parked in Chawton and walked along St Swithun's Way crossing the A32 to view the location of the proposed logistics hub from the South Downs National Park. The ExA followed the footpath to the point where it turned southwards.