



Meeting note

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| File reference | A47 Alliance |
| Status | Final |
| Author | Kate Mignano |
| Date | 03 March 2017 |
| Meeting with | Various attendees from the following organisations: Highways England Norfolk County Council Waveney District Council Great Yarmouth Borough Council Suffolk County Council South Norfolk Council Norfolk County Council Borough Council of Kings Lynn & West Norfolk Broadland District Council Fenland District Council Breckland District Council Cambridgeshire County Council Peterborough City Council Breckland & South Holland District Council RAC Foundation Norfolk Chamber of Commerce Suffolk Chamber of Commerce Amey |
| Venue | Assembly Room, Town Hall, Hall Plain, Great Yarmouth, NR30 2QF |
| Attendees | The Planning Inspectorate - Tom Carpen |
| Meeting objectives | To provide an overview of the Planning Act 2008 process to the A47 Alliance Steering Group Meeting |
| Circulation | |

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

This note is not intended to be a full record of the meeting, but provides an overview of the issues discussed in relation to the Planning Act 2008 process. To view the notes of the meeting produced by the A47 Alliance Steering Group, please see the link below to their website:

<http://www.a47alliance.co.uk/a47alliancemeetings/>

The Inspectorate gave a presentation to the group about the Planning Act 2008 process which can be viewed in full in the attachment which accompanies this note.

The presentation covered:

- Principals and background of the Planning Act 2008.
- Stages of the Development Consent Order process.
- Roles and responsibilities of the Applicant, local authorities, statutory parties and the Inspectorate.
- Effective participation in the process.

Advice

Following the presentation the following issues were discussed and the Inspectorate provided advice:

Planning Performance Agreements (PPA)

A PPA is an agreement between a local authority and the Applicant. The Inspectorate is impartial and cannot provide advice regarding PPA's. The importance of the role a local authority has during the examination of an application was explained and this is reflected in the legislation.

Dualling of existing single carriageway roads

It was put to the Inspectorate that where an NSIP development is dualling of an existing single carriageway there are unlikely to be new impacts on the landscape. The Inspectorate explained that each application will be examined on the facts of its case. There are many considerations that must be taken into account when examining a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project, as well as environmental effects. An Examining Authority will take account of National Policy Statements, Local Impact Reports and important and relevant matters, before making a recommendation to the relevant secretary of state.

How proposed NSIPs are assessed

The Inspectorate was asked how the A47 schemes would be examined; would they be assessed as a package or on the individual merits of each scheme. It was explained that each application would be considered on its own merits, however, if schemes are related, the Inspectorate would examine interrelationships and the cumulative impact.

Advice on Mitigation during Pre-application

The Inspectorate was asked about the advice it can give during the Pre-application stage of the process specifically in relation to an Applicant providing mitigation as part of the application. The Inspectorate confirmed that the Applicant determines the contents of a proposed application and any proposed mitigation at the pre-application stage would be a consideration for the Applicant.

Specific decisions / follow up required?

None