
From: Simon Tucker [mailto:slt@dtatransportation.co.uk]
Sent: Friday, August 09, 2013 9:27 AM
To: Knutsford to Bowdon
Cc: a556knutsfordbowdon@highways.gsi.gov.uk
Subject: 14065 - A556 Knutsford to Bowden Highway Improvement Scheme

Dear Sirs,

I act on behalf of Whitbread PLC and Premier Inn Hotels Ltd and confirm, on their behalf that they object to the proposed DCO for the reasons set out below. We would further confirm that we wish to reserve our right to make representations on behalf of client at the Examination in Public.

By way of background, I attach our letter of 16th April 2012 which provides both the context for the two Whitbread operated sites in relation to the proposed new highway. It also confirms details of existing usage of the two sites. Despite having provided this information to the HA, the ES fails to properly assess the impact of the Bucklow Hill Site and fails to assess the one at Mere at all. This is a serious and fundamental omission which relates to the overall quantification of cost benefit assessment of the scheme, with dis-benefits arising from loss of local trade and indeed employment which have not been accounted for.

The ES is further deficient in that whilst it identify an adverse impact (Para 14.6.9 of the ES), it does not quantify the impact. Based on the criteria set out in table 5.1 of the ES magnitude of the impact is clearly "major". The value of the receptor is consider medium (as it involves local employment) and therefore the impact is **Moderate or Large Adverse**.

The ES discusses mitigation prior to a proper consideration of the impacts which is wholly contrary to good practise and whilst in principle the mitigation suggested may be acceptable to deal with the impact, the details of such a signing scheme are not provided. At this stage therefore it is not possible to confirm whether the identified impact has been, or can be adequately mitigated against. On this basis, the ES is deficient as are the conclusions of residual impacts.

On the basis of the above, it is essential that the signage proposals are understood now so that the impacts of the scheme can be properly addressed. We would therefore repeat our request made in April 2012 that the HA forward such details so that we can seek to agree a mutually acceptable outcome. I have copied this letter direct to the Highways Agency and would very much welcome contact from them to discuss this.

Regards

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