



Meeting note

Project name	A63 Castle Street Improvement Scheme
File reference	TR010016
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	1 November 2017
Meeting with	The Applicant
Venue	Temple Quay House
Attendees	The Planning Inspectorate Gareth Leigh – Infrastructure Planning Lead Richard Hunt – Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor Alison Down - EIA and Land Rights Advisor Emre Williams – Case Manager Kate Mignano – Case Manager Highways England (HE) Darlene Procter – DCO & Statutory Process Manager, HE James Holmes – Project Manager, HE
Meeting objectives	Project Update Meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Project Update

The Applicant gave an overview of the project. The objectives were noted as improving connectivity between the north and south of the city and access to the Port of Hull, improving safety and to relieve congestion.

The Applicant described the project as an 'improvement' under the definition of the Planning Act 2008 and explained the proposals in brief as creating a new split-level junction at Mytongate by lowering the A63 and widening the existing eastbound carriageway to 3 lanes between Princes Dock Street and Market Place. The proposals also include some permanent and temporary road closures and alternate access proposals. Six sets of traffic lights will be removed and two bridges will be constructed, at Porter Street and a bridge in front of Princes Quay shopping centre. The length of the scheme is approximately one mile.

Since the last project update meeting it was confirmed by the Applicant that there have been no large scale changes to the scheme but more detail regarding some of the complex engineering challenges has been worked up with greater certainty around the

construction technique proposals. The revised cost estimates and economic assessments have deemed that the scheme remains value for money.

Princes Quay Bridge

Following the delays to the programme, lobbying from the local MP and Hull City Council Highways England are now proposing to deliver the bridge in advance of the main scheme. Early delivery of the bridge is dependent on securing the land required by agreement with the affected landowners. Construction on the bridge is planned to commence by Autumn 2018 prior to the Development Consent Order decision. The proposal is to deliver this through the Hull City Council Planning Application that was approved in October 2015. The Inspectorate asked how this would affect the proposed Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. The Applicant confirmed the proposals had been assessed under a number of scenarios in the Environmental Statement and the programme implications are currently being assessed. The Inspectorate asked if the Applicant intended to re-scope the project. The Applicant is considering this approach but as the proposals have not fundamentally changed, it seems unlikely.

Consultation

Further statutory and non-statutory consultation was held early in 2017, in relation to additional areas of land required for site compounds and to seek views on the changes that have been made to the proposals in response to the 2013 consultation.

The Applicant confirmed they have now identified a set number of compound sites, including Bentonite compounds. Targeted consultation is taking place November - December 2017 to those directly affected by the Bentonite compounds and in relation to statutory undertaker diversions.

Communication with Hull City Council and other stakeholders is ongoing. Some of the earlier issues regarding statutory undertakers land have been resolved and the Applicant reports negotiations are ongoing with the Holiday Inn, regarding diversion of a sewer pipe.

Timeline

Submission of the Application is expected summer 2018.