

Application by Transport for London for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Silvertown Tunnel

(Planning Inspectorate Reference: TR010021)

London Borough of Tower Hamlets

(Reference no: SILV-396)

Response to the Examining Authority's first written questions

November 2016

INTRODUCTION

The London Borough of Tower Hamlet responses to the Written Questions is limited to those matters which relevant to LBTH and which are not otherwise dealt with in the Local Impact Report and Written Representations. In particular the council has commented on a number of matters raised by the ExA in relation to the Articles and Requirements as set out in the DCO. The responses below are listed in the same order as published by the Planning Inspectorate on 18th October 2016.

DC11: Article 2(1) – The Blackwall Tunnel Area

Part (a) of this question is matter for the Applicant, but in respect to Part (b) it is essential that there is clarity as to the extent of the tunnels and approach roads which is subject to other Articles of the DCO including those listed by the ExA

TE4: Terrestrial Ecology

Not applicable

TE11: East India Dock Basin

We have sought the Lee Valley Park Authority's views on this matter and at the time of submission were awaiting a response.

AQ1: Air Quality

LBTH is generally satisfied with the use of the year 2021 as the modeling base year

AQ2: Air Quality – assessment of air quality

The council has commented in the LIR on the methodology used by the applicant and expressed some reservations

AQ4: Air Quality – use of traffic data

The council accepts that the Applicant's modelling follows national guidelines - it's the input data to the model which is the key, and the Assessed Case is still not agreed by the Host Boroughs

AQ8 & AQ9: Air Quality – modeling and impacts

The questions raised are considered in the LIR where it will be noted that the council has some concerns about both methodology and mitigation

AQ14 & AQ15: Air Quality – targets, objectives and impacts

The impacts of the scheme on air quality in the borough are discussed in the LIR.

NV4 & NV5: Noise and Vibration Assessment

The council is satisfied that the noise assessment process for the operation phase is satisfactory and that the locations of receptors were discussed and agreed with the council. The council has no comments on the noise assessment of construction works

NV10: Noise and Vibration – Construction Hours

Although LBTH is unlikely to be affected by construction works, the council would support the use a Requirement to control working hours

NV16: Noise and Vibration

Although unlikely to be affected, the council is aware from its experience of the Crossrail construction works that vibration from tunneling works can have unacceptable impacts on residential properties that are not always easy to predict. The council therefore accepts that ‘professional judgment’ may be necessary in respect to vibration impacts

NV19: Noise and Vibration - Lorry Routes

Lorry routes should be subject of a planning requirement and the council agrees that the use of routes outside those agreed could lead to significant noise and air pollution impacts not assessed by the ES

NV28: Noise and Vibration – compliance with NPPF

The council does not accept the outputs from the assessed case, but if demonstrated that the impacts are as predicted, the council considers that the requirements of the NPPF in respect to noise impacts would be satisfied

SE3: Socio-economic - impact upon economic growth

The socio economic impacts of the Scheme on LBTH are considered at length in the LIR

SW7: Surface Water etc – ground water monitoring

The council has no objection to the Applicant’s proposals in respect of this matter.