

Application for Development Consent for the Silvertown Tunnel

Case Ref: TE010021

Panel's note of its final Unaccompanied Site Inspection

Monday 27 March 2017

Background

The Examining Authority (the Panel) undertook a further unaccompanied site inspection to support its examination of an application for development consent for the proposed Silvertown Tunnel ('the application') on Monday 27 March 2017. The site inspection was undertaken by car and on foot. No inspections were undertaken on private land, advance permission to enter land was not required and so on that basis the inspection could be undertaken on an unaccompanied basis.

Particulars of the Site Inspection

The inspection was undertaken by all three members of the Panel; Peter Robottom; Austin Smyth and Lillian Harrison. The Panel did not encounter any interested parties during the Site Inspection.

Weather conditions were bright and sunny with good visibility and were, at all times, adequate to appreciate long range views at the various locations.

The inspection commenced at about 14:15 and finished at approximately 16:30.

The following viewpoints and locations were inspected: -

South of the River

- From Greenwich town centre via Creek Road/Evelyn Street/Lower Road (A200) with the only material delay caused by an opening of the Deptford Creek Bridge;
- The British Land Canada Water development area near Surrey Quays, including driving along Surrey Quays Road, Redriff Road, Rotherhithe Street and Brunel Road;
- Jamaica Road, which leads into Tooley Street, as far as the junction with Tower Bridge Approach Road; and returning to travel -
- Through the Rotherhithe Tunnel, noting that there were no queues on the approach roads beyond those typical at any roundabout and traffic was flowing smoothly through the tunnel at that time.

North of the River

- Gallions Reach, stopping at Atlantis Avenue/Magellan Boulevard in order to observe the River Thames at this point where the new DLR crossing is proposed together with possible bridge location; and thence to -
- The southbound Free Woolwich Ferry terminal, crossing the river on the ferry, noting there were no queues for the ferry at that time, arriving just as a ferry departed, having to wait circa 10 minutes behind a single vehicle for the next ferry to arrive.

South of the River

- To North Greenwich via A206 and Bugsby's Way/Millennium Way, noting free-flowing traffic;
- The bank of the River Thames near the North Greenwich Clipper pier, to observe the river walls both the stepped form in the vicinity of the pier on the south side and the vertical piled form on the opposite river bank over which EA and others have raised concerns. At the time of the site inspection, at circa 16:15, it was around mid-tide, so the river walls were visible;
- Continuing back to our starting point via A2023 Blackwall Lane and the A206 through the Greenwich WHS.