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Suffolk County Council
c/o Jon Barnard
Project Manager Lake Lothing 3rd Crossing
By email

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010023

Date: 9 August 2018

Dear Mr Barnard

Planning Act 2008 – Section 51

Application by Suffolk County Council for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Lake Lothing Third Crossing

Advice following issue of decision to accept the application for examination

On 9 August 2018 the Secretary of State decided to accept the above application for examination.

This letter comprises advice to the Applicant provided under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). It should be read in conjunction with the Lake Lothing Third Crossing s55 Acceptance of Applications checklist (the Checklist) issued alongside it.

In applying the Acceptance tests to the application documents, the Planning Inspectorate noted some omissions/ discrepancies in the information provided, about which it seeks clarification/ resolution at the Pre-examination stage.

The Applicant should pay close attention to the content of this letter, and consider carefully how appropriate action might be taken in response to the advice issued within it.

The Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1)

Reference is made in Chapter 11 of the Environmental Statement (ES) to Figure 11.7, although no such plan appears to have been included with the application documents. The appointed Examining Authority (ExA) is likely to request for the plan to be provided, or otherwise seek confirmation that the references made to it in the ES are in error, early in the Pre-examination stage.

None of the plans provided in the application documents show all of the designated nature conservation sites identified in the ES and the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report. The appointed ExA is likely to request for a plan consolidating these sites to be provided early in the Pre-examination stage.

The Applicant is advised that the appointed ExA may request for the provision/ preparation of detailed technical plans and elevations for the design of the bridge, the bridge abutments and the control tower to inform the examination of design matters.

Habitats Regulations Assessment Report (Doc 6.5)

It is noted that the HRA Report contains Screening Matrices for the European sites considered in the assessment. The appointed ExA is likely to request for Integrity Matrices for the European sites carried forward to the appropriate assessment stage to be provided early in the Pre-examination stage. This advice is reflected in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note Ten: Habitats Regulations Assessment: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

Reference is made in the HRA Report to Figure 1, although no such figure appears to have been included with the application documents. The appointed ExA is likely to request for the figure to be provided, or otherwise seek confirmation that the references made to it in the HRA Report are in error, early in the Pre-examination stage.

Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1)

The appointed ExA is likely to request for the Applicant to provide a validated Word version of the Draft DCO, free from errors and omissions, early in the Pre-examination stage.

The Consultation Report (Doc 5.1 and Doc 5.2)

In respect of section 42(1)(a) prescribed persons, it appears on the basis of the information provided by the Applicant that the potentially relevant persons identified in Box 6 of the Checklist were not consulted at the Pre-application stage.

Unless there is a good reason in each case why the Applicant considers that these persons are not relevant to the Proposed Development, the Applicant is advised to include these persons, or their appropriate successors, in its s56 notification exercise or to otherwise proactively draw their attention to the Relevant Representation period. The Applicant is advised to ensure that an up to date and inclusive database is available for its future notifications in the course of the examination, and beyond.

I trust that this advice is useful to you and that it will aid your preparation for the examination of the application. If you have any questions about the content of this letter, please do not hesitate to contact me using the details provided.

Yours sincerely

Richard Price

Richard Price
National Infrastructure Case Manager

Tel. 0303 444 5654

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