



Your reference TR010031/20023039

Our reference JOHNMD/43283-2971

25 February 2020

BY EMAIL

A1BirtleytoCoalHouse@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Dear Sir or Madam

**Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for The A1 Birtley to Coal House Improvement Scheme (Order)
Deadline 2 Submission on behalf of Network Rail Infrastructure Limited (Network Rail)
Statement of Common Ground**

We act for Network Rail in relation to this matter.

In its Rule 6 letter dated 10 December 2019, the Examining Authority requested that Network Rail and the Applicant submit a Statement of Common Ground to the Examining Authority at Deadline 2.

However, we only received a first draft of the Statement of Common Ground from the Applicant on Saturday 22 February; consequently, our client only received it yesterday morning. Network Rail has therefore had insufficient time to review and comment on the draft. Any draft Statement submitted by the Applicant at this Deadline 2 has not therefore been approved by Network Rail.

The draft Statement of Common Ground has been sent by our client to Network Rail's Asset Protection Team and the Scheme Project Manager and Network Rail will do its best to liaise with the Applicant and agree a Statement as soon as possible and by the next Examination deadline on 10 March (Deadline 3).

Yours faithfully

Addleshaw Goddard LLP

Direct line

Email

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