

## **A1 Birtley to Coal House Improvement Scheme**

### **Agenda for Further Issue Specific Hearing**

**Date:** Tuesday 14 July 2020  
**Time:** 10.00am (Arrangements  
Conference at 9.30am)  
**Venue:** Virtual Hearing via  
Microsoft Teams

#### **Introduction**

The Examining Authority (ExA) has accepted a proposal to amend the application and to include Additional Land. The main purpose of the Further Issue Specific Hearing (ISH) is to enable those additional Affected Persons and/or Interested Parties who have notified of their wish to speak to make oral representations on matters that have been discussed at previous ISHs.

Agendas, audio recordings and written summaries of oral submissions relating to previous ISHs have been published in the Examination Library.

Details on participation, conduct and management of the Hearing are included in **Annex A** of this agenda and should be read by all participants in advance of the Hearing. Participation will be subject to the ExA's ability to control the Hearing.

All participants of this virtual hearing are also requested to read the [Virtual Hearings Arrangements Letter \(v2\) dated 6 July 2020](#).

#### **Requested Participants**

The ExA would find it helpful if the following parties could attend this Hearing.

- The Applicant
- Gateshead Council
- Persons who have notified the ExA of their wish to make oral representations at this ISH

The details set out below are indicative and the ExA may find it necessary to include additional agenda items or to amend the order in which the items are dealt with.

#### **Agenda Items**

- 1. Introductions, purpose of and arrangements for the hearing**
- 2. Oral representations**

The ExA will invite interested parties to make oral representations on matters that have been discussed at previous ISHs, namely:

- ISH1 into the Draft Development Consent Order (DCO)
- ISH2 into landscape and visual matters (including matters relating to the Angel of the North)
- ISH3 into water environment and drainage
- ISH4 into transport and traffic (including non-motorised forms of transport)
- ISH5 into the Draft Development Consent Order (DCO)

The Applicant will be provided with the opportunity to respond to any oral representations.

**3. Residential living conditions**

The ExA will ask questions regarding matters raised in relevant representations regarding the Additional Land.

**4. Any other matters (at the discretion of the ExA)**

**5. Action points and next steps**

**6. Closing**

## **Annex A**

### **Conduct and Management of the Hearing**

Guidance under the Planning Act 2008 and the Examination Procedure Rules provides that at Hearings it is the ExA that will probe, test and assess the evidence through direct questioning of persons making oral representations. Questioning at the Hearing will therefore be led by the ExA. Parties wishing to make a representation will be invited to do so at the ExA's discretion.

The ExA will start the Hearing by making introductory comments, introductions and running through housekeeping matters and how the Hearing will be conducted. The ExA's expectation is that the Hearing will typically last for one to two hours. However, the actual duration will depend on the progress made on the day and will be subject to the ExA's powers of control over the conduct of the Hearing.

Questioning at the Hearing will be led by the ExA. Cross-questioning of the person giving evidence by another person will only be permitted if the ExA decides it is necessary to ensure representations are adequately tested or that a person has had a fair chance to put their case.

The Agenda may be amended by the ExA at the start of the Hearing session. Furthermore, the ExA may wish to raise matters arising from oral submissions, Relevant Representations and Written Representations, and pursue lines of inquiry in the course of the discussion which are not listed on the Agenda.

The Hearing is being held at the discretion of the ExA to consider matters that it considers to be important and relevant to the effective and robust examination of the application. Consequently, the business of a Hearing will be limited to the matters identified in the agenda or otherwise raised by the ExA..

Oral participation is at the invitation and discretion of the ExA. Oral submissions must address the matters, issues and questions identified in the hearing agenda and raised by the ExA at the hearing. Oral submissions on other subject matters or from persons who have not been invited to speak by the ExA may only be heard at the discretion of the ExA, who may decide that such matters are not heard in the interests of relevance or time efficiency.

If any party is unable to make an oral representation due to technical difficulties or not being able to participate in the hearing then the ExA may decide to accept any such submissions in writing.

Recordings of the Hearing will be published by the Planning Inspectorate and any Interested Party may make a written submission on specific matters either included in the agenda or arising at the hearing by Deadline 11 on 17 July 2020.