



Department for Transport

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To Gateshead Council

10 November 2020

Dear Sir/Madam

Planning Act 2008 (as amended) and the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010

Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A1 Birtley to Coal House Improvement Scheme

REQUEST FOR COMMENTS FROM GATESHEAD COUNCIL

The Secretary of State notes from the Local Impact Report [[REP2-025](#)] that the draft Making Spaces for Growing Places document was intended to be adopted in spring/summer 2020. Please can Gateshead Council provide an update on the status of this policy document and any subsequent implications on the above proposed development.

The deadline for a response is 27 November 2020.

Given the coronavirus (COVID 19) emergency, the Planning Inspectorate are currently unable to accept hard copies of consultation responses. Responses to the matter outlined in this letter should therefore be submitted by email to SM-A1BirtleytoCoalHouse@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The responses will be published on the project page for the A1 Birtley to Coal House Improvement Scheme DCO on the Planning Inspectorate's website as soon as possible after the above deadline at:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-east/a1-birtley-to-coal-house-improvement-scheme/>

This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's decision whether or not to grant development consent for the A1 Birtley to Coal House Improvement Scheme DCO and nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what that decision might be.

Yours faithfully

Colin Dunn