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Unique Interested Party Reference: LTC-SP097
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Planning Service
Culture and Community
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By project webpage submission only

Dear Mr Smith

Comments on Applicant's submission at Deadline 1

Please accept this letter on behalf of Medway Council regarding the Applicant's Deadline 1 submission ['9.10 Post-event submissions, including written submission of oral comments, for ISH1'](#), specifically paragraphs A.4.4 to A.4.7 which respond to an [oral submission on behalf of Medway Council during Issue Specific Hearing 1](#). The oral submission introduced the constraint to development at M2 junction 1.

Paragraph A.4.6 states that the oral submission should be considered against the overall benefits resulting from the Project. At a local level, Table 1.7 of ['7.9 Transport Assessment Appendix B Journey Time Changes 2030' \(APP-531\)](#) shows journey time reductions ranging from 16 to 27 minutes in the AM peak in 2030. However, paragraphs 4.3.16 to 4.3.18 of [Medway Council's Local Impact Report \(LIR\)](#) question the journey time reductions for route No.5 (A289 – Four Elms Roundabout to M2 junction 1), given the potential for the Hoo Peninsula as a significant supplier location, the omission of relevant planned development and the withdrawal of upfront funding for a highway scheme.

Paragraph A.4.7 refers to some reductions in available capacity at certain locations on the network, with potential consequences for new development. This disregards a location of strategic economic significance, particularly for the energy sector, and underplays the potential wider implications for one of the largest conurbations in the region. This demonstrates why relevant matters are not agreed in the [Statement of Common Ground](#).

Sites at Kingsnorth and Grain are allocated for development in the Medway Local Plan 2003; they are among the largest sites for economic growth in the Thames Estuary. The omission of relevant planned development in these locations, whilst claiming journey time benefits, is contrary to the scheme objective "to support sustainable local development and regional economic growth in the medium to long term." The subsequent submissions of [Medway Council's LIR](#) and a [Written Representation](#) set out a detailed position for consideration, including the challenges for local plan-making.

Medway Council requires a detailed response from the Applicant at Deadline 2 (3 August).

Yours sincerely

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