



Meeting note

Project name	Lower Thames Crossing
File reference	TR010032
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	24 May 2022
Meeting with	Gravesham Borough Council
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Meeting objectives	Discussion with Gravesham Borough Council ahead of the anticipated resubmission.
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Priority issues

Gravesham Borough Council (GBC) outlined their concerns regarding outstanding issues and the potential timing of the resubmission. The Inspectorate advised that the LA should be clear at what they considered the priority areas to be and that, if the application is accepted, the Local Impact Report (LIR) is a valuable place to set out the LA viewpoint. The LIR can help the Examining Authority (ExA) quickly grasp the areas of disagreement.

In advance of that, the Inspectorate advised GBC to work backwards from the potential submission date looking at topics with the Applicant, working out the date when they should aim to come to an agreed position on them. This can help both GBC and the Applicant to focus resources leading up to the resubmission.

Looking ahead

In a discussion about scheme delivery the Inspectorate advised that, in examination, an ExA would explore project delivery, should the DCO be made. The Inspectorate advised GBC to look at the proposed requirements the implications for their role and whether they would have the right resources in place including technical experts.

Precedent

The Inspectorate advised that considering precedent can be useful although it must be relevant to the Application.