



Meeting note

Project name	Lower Thames Crossing
File reference	TR010032
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	24 May 2022
Meeting with	London Borough of Havering
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Meeting objectives	Discussion with the London Borough of Havering 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

In a discussion around key issues, the Inspectorate advised that there are clear opportunities to enable the local authorities (LAs) to raise matters and make sure they are heard at an early stage, should the application be accepted. The Examining Authority (ExA) would be looking at Relevant Representations to inform their Initial Assessment of Principal Issues and the Preliminary Meeting (PM) is when Interested Parties can make representations about other issues that it considers should be a principal issue. The Inspectorate also advised that the Local Impact Reports are a very important part of the process and advised the LPA to look at the detail of s104 of the Planning Act 2008

Impact on businesses

The London Borough of Havering (LBH) raised the matter of the impact on businesses where they need to close or where access is affected by the construction. The Inspectorate advised them to talk to their legal team.

Other local authorities

There was a discussion about working with other host LAs, both North and South of the river. The Inspectorate asked whether the host LAs have come together on common issues to collate what they agree on and considered that there may be merit in doing so. LBH reported that they had used this approach on another NSIP and it was well received. The Inspectorate advised that, in an Examination, the ExA can ask for a statement of commonality between Statements of Common Ground

The Examination

LBH asked if the Inspectorate knew how the examination, should the application be accepted, would be run, eg virtual events etc. The Inspectorate advised that that would be a matter for the appointed ExA.