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Andrew Dawson  
Project Manager  
Highways England

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010034

Date: 26 July 2021

**By email only**

Dear Mr Dawson

## **Planning Act 2008 (as amended) – Section 51**

### **Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A57 Link Roads scheme**

#### **Advice following issue of decision to accept the application for examination**

On 26 July 2021 the Secretary of State decided that the application for the above project satisfied the acceptance tests under section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA2008). The Planning Inspectorate's (the Inspectorate) acceptance checklist and the application documents have been published and made available on the project page of our website.

In undertaking checks at the acceptance stage, the Inspectorate has made some initial observations in relation to the application. This letter comprises advice to the Applicant provided under section 51 of the PA2008 in respect of these initial observations. The Applicant should pay attention to its content and consider how appropriate action might be taken in response.

#### **Consultees identified on a precautionary basis**

Given the individual circumstances of this case, the Inspectorate advises taking a precautionary approach to consultation under s42(1)(a) of PA2008 to ensure that all persons and organisations potentially affected by, or potentially likely to have an interest in the application are given the opportunity to participate fully in the Examination of the application. On this basis, the Applicant is advised to serve notice on the bodies listed in Box 6 of the section 55 checklist when it serves notice of the accepted application under s56(2)(a) of the PA2008; unless there is a specific justification why this is not necessary.

#### **Relevant local authorities**

The Inspectorate noted that one of the neighbouring local authorities was not consulted for the 2020 consultation under s42(1)(b) of PA2008. On this basis, the

Inspectorate advises you to serve notice on the local authority listed in Box 8 of the section 55 checklist when it serves notice of the accepted application under s56(2)(a) of the PA2008 in order that there can be certainty they have been notified and are afforded the opportunity to submit a relevant representation; unless there is a specific justification why this is not necessary.

## **Plans**

The Inspectorate identified some discrepancies while checking the plans submitted as part of the application documents. Examples of errors are provided in Box 30, the Applicant is advised to thoroughly check the plans for any corrections necessary.

## **Environmental matters**

The Inspectorate identified some inconsistencies while checking the environmental documents examples of which are listed in Box 30. The Applicant is advised to thoroughly check the plans for any corrections necessary.

Please pay close attention to the advice set out in this letter and act on it accordingly. This will contribute towards a more efficient examination and give any future Examining Authority comfort that the documentation is complete and accurate.

We trust you find this advice helpful, however if you have any queries on these matters please do not hesitate to contact our office using the contact details at the head of this letter.

Yours sincerely

*Bart Bartkowiak*

Bart Bartkowiak  
**Case Manager**

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