

From: [Steven Buffery \(Place\)](#)
To: [A57 Link Roads](#)
Subject: A57 Link Roads DCO Rule 6 Letter
Date: 01 November 2021 12:15:51

Dear Case Team,

Planning Act 2008 – Sections 88 and 89; and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rules 4, 6, 9 and 13

Application by Highways England for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A57 Link Roads Scheme

Rule 6 Letter - Appointment of the Examining Authority, draft Examination Timetable, invitation to the Preliminary Meeting, notification of an Open Floor Hearing and Procedural Decisions

Unique Reference A57L-ISP005; Unique Reference: A57L-ISP006; Unique Reference: 20029738: Response by Derbyshire County Council

Thank you for consulting Derbyshire County Council on the Rule 6 Letter for the A57 Link Roads Development Consent Order (DCO) Examination. Derbyshire County Council's response to the three requests for submissions included in the Rule 6 letter are as follows:

Written submissions about how the application should be examined

Derbyshire County Council has no concerns or issues to raise regarding how the application should be examined. Derbyshire County Council's officers were extensively engaged with the recent DCO examination into the A38 Derby Junctions Improvement Scheme between November 2019 and July 2020. The examination was conducted through face-to-face meetings early on during the examination and then, due to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, the remaining part of the examination was conducted through a series of virtual hearing meetings. In Derbyshire County Council's experience, the virtual hearings worked very well and were efficiently organised by the Planning Inspectorate's Case Team; were clear in terms of their technical details and requirements for joining hearings and code of conduct at the hearings; and the Panel of Inspectors conducted the hearings in a very fair and efficient manner, so that no parties appeared to be disadvantaged by holding the sessions in a virtual means compared to face-to-face hearings. Derbyshire County Council's only detailed observation is that each individual section of the virtual hearing sessions should not be too lengthy i.e. each individual topic session should last no more than 2 hours without a short break in between.

Preliminary Meeting

I would confirm that Derbyshire County Council's Officers as set out below **wish to be present** at the Preliminary Meeting on 16th November 2021 but **do not wish to make any oral submissions** to the Panel of Inspectors. Officers will be in attendance primarily in case the Panel have any questions for the County Council.

Steve Buffery 

Geoff Blissett [REDACTED]

Jack Hicklin [REDACTED]

Requests to make oral submissions at Open Floor Hearing 1

I would confirm that Derbyshire County Council's Officers **do not wish to appear at Open Floor Hearing 1** or make any oral submissions.

Kind Regards

Steve

Steve Buffery | Team Leader
Policy and Monitoring
Place | Derbyshire County Council
County Hall, Matlock, Derbyshire, DE4 3AG
[REDACTED]

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