

CPRE PEAK DISTRICT AND SOUTH YORKSHIRE BRANCH

A57 LINK ROADS TR010034 RESPONSE TO DEADLINE 5 SUBMISSIONs CPRE REBUTTAL OF NH REP5-021 DEADLINE 6th March 2022

A number of Interested Parties, including CPRE, have referred to REP2-090, which we will refer to as the BBA documents. They are the Combined Modelling and Transport Appraisal Report, the Economic Appraisal Package, the Transport Forecasting Report and the Transport Modelling Package for the A57 Link Roads, which CPRE submitted as individual documents to the Examination for Deadline 2. They were published, all four combined, as REP2-090. For most of the Examination NH has ignored the many references made to the BBA documents. However, in response to Daniel Wimberley's Deadline 3 submission REP3-032, which drew attention to and interrogated the BBA documents, NH in its REP5-021, page 13, stated:

'It is not normally appropriate to release partial information into the public domain in advance of the full package of information being submitted with the Development Consent Order application. This is because partial information would potentially be misleading or misunderstood in the absence of all the supporting information for the Scheme that enables full comprehension of all aspects of the Scheme assessment in combination'.

With this statement NH is attempting to mislead the Examination. The full package of information accompanying the DCO application was accepted by the Planning Inspectorate on 26 July 2021. The BBA documents were released by NH to CPRE on 12 November 2021, nearly 4 months after the DCO application was accepted, not in advance of submission of the DCO application and its documents.

Having had a chance to review the BBA documents CPRE submitted them to the Examination for Deadline 2, 14 January 2022. These documents are not 'partial information' but fundamental and essential background documents to understanding the 'partial' Transport Assessment Report, which is not fit for the purpose of examining a major highway scheme. Much of the text of the Transport Assessment Report has been copied from the BBA documents. Furthermore, as the BBA documents were submitted 4 months after the DCO application and its supporting information were accepted by PINS, the ExA and Interested Parties have always been able to read them in the context of all the supporting information for the scheme. The BBA documents should be used to rigorously assess the results of the traffic modelling. Reliable assessment of the impacts of the scheme on the environment depends on it.