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15th March 2022

The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
Bristol
BS16PN

Sharefirst My Journey to School 20029723

Deadline 6

Response to 2nd Written Questions from the Examining Authority
A57 Link Roads TR010034

Dear Sirs,

As part of the Examining Authority's Second Written Questions, Interested Parties have been requested to submit views on overall assessment methodology for climate change as part of the scheme (8.5 Climate Change Overall Assessment Methodology) .

The Applicant states that in Environmental Impact Assessment terms there are no established criteria or threshold that can be used to define whether GHG emissions due to a project can be considered significant and the ExA asks for views around taking into account previous judgements on comparator schemes. We were made aware in the Hearings that significant levels for air quality have also to be determined.

The Transport Decarbonisation Plan recognises the importance of road improvements as part of the solution to reduce congestion. Community engagement, added Community Voice and additional Unaccompanied Site Inspections by the Planning Inspectorate in response to community concerns of the A57 Link Roads Scheme can only continue to enhance the environmental credentials of the A57 Link Roads Scheme and set it apart from comparator Schemes.

There is unique regional context in Derbyshire at this present time with the pending decision of funding for implementation of the DCC Bus Service Improvement Plan and the proposed network of new Transport Hubs across Derbyshire, including a Glossop Transport Hub, bringing unique regional context to the A57 Link Roads Scheme. This potentially offers a springboard for new opportunities for integrated sustainable travel and enhanced environments, to move the dial to the next level.

Supporting R&D, with funding and guidance programmes and enabling trials for potential demonstration projects and potential innovative technologies can help move in an agile way towards establishing criteria and thresholds for GHG emissions and air quality. Perhaps the A57 Link Roads Scheme can set a new exemplar for Environmental Impact Assessments moving forwards.

Yours sincerely,

Carole Hallam

Sharefirst My Journey to School

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Community Voice

Deadline 6

A57 Link Roads TR010034

I regularly see people walking to school slipping on inclines when the path is muddy
Local high school student

If we could have half of what they've got on the A555 Airport Relief Road we'd be happy
Local high school student

Close proximity of traffic and speed of traffic to equestrian riders can cause horses to react differently to humans
Local horse rider

It took me 3 years to get improvements to a local footpath so mums could walk with their prams and children to school away from the road
Local mum

I've been campaigning for over 6 years for action on safety of the Dinting Road crossing point. I have seen a number of Near Misses on a well-used school route. We now have the funding. When will improvements to the crossing be made?
Local mum and school governor

Wouldn't it be great to have a safe cycle route and multi-user access route away from the road from Shirebrook Park, via Glossop and all the way to Glossopdale School, and beyond to TPT, Longdendale Trail and NCN62.
Many local residents

Sharefirst My Journey to School hopes this document helps to bring added Community Voice to the Unaccompanied Site Inspection by the Planning Inspectorate to the Dinting area to consider matters raised by **Sharefirst My Journey to School** as part of the Examining Authority process for A57 Link Roads Scheme. In the notes which follow, various stakeholders and **Sharefirst My Journey to School**:community interest group have raised a number of suggestions to help continue to support a sustainable planning balance, decision-making and a statement of Common Ground for Glossop. Included in Appendix A and B are notes from a couple of local community meetings about the Dinting area, surrounding villages and onwards to Glossop and Snake Pass. Suggestions listed below.

1. Reduce slips, trips and falls, the #1 cause of accidents by far, by improving safe, multi-user access for local public rights of way all year round, for community wellbeing all year round. Some local public rights of way are considered passable only in a boot rather than a school shoe in winter. Space for changing facilities on school premises is limited, presenting daily challenges for storage of outerwear for all weathers or changes of footwear;
2. Potholes in roads can cause accidents for users of mobility scooters;
3. Safety of the Dinting Road crossing point has been of concern in the community for a number of years where students walking, cycling, travelling by road, bus or train to school cross Dinting Road. The crossing point is used significantly by students at peak school travel times and by all of the community of all impairments and mobilities to access leisure at all times of day. Please find notes from 2 meetings organised by [Sharefirst My Journey to School](#) in June 2021 with our local MP Robert Lorgan and local residents and in November 2021 to see what can be done to help improve safe crossing of Dinting Road. See Appendix A and B below for further detail;
4. Continue to improve local safety and access for equestrian users by enhancing multi-user access and improving the equine crossing point near to the recycling centre on the A57 close to the proposed Glossop Spur Road exit. Extend the Pennine Bridleway for leisure enjoyment of a new off-road Trans Pennine Trail route to Bottoms Reservoir, Longdendale Trail and NCN62;
5. Connect the Longdendale Valley from Bottoms Reservoir with Hayfield and Glossop, over Monks Road. [Sharefirst My Journey To School](#) has identified opportunities for more connected footpaths, cycleways and bridleways and can offer assistance with both mapped routes and future mapping of routes;
6. Local equestrians are equally concerned about knock on impacts of anticipated traffic volume increases for horse-riders through Charlesworth and Broadbottom;
7. Looking towards Tameside and Greater Manchester, there are opportunities to better connect Hadfield, Broadbottom and Hattersley to Godley Turntable for wider off-road access to Greater Manchester;
8. A collective package of projects to support a sustainable planning balance in Glossop can help continue to improve air quality, create local jobs, improve local skills and training and have a positive impact on biodiversity, the environment, leisure time and community wellbeing.
9. Continued integration and long term investment to continue to improve safety, quality and sustainability of local school journeys can continue to strengthen, improve and encourage participation in sustainable travel to school.
10. Distributing traffic flow and access to routes throughout conurbations is an opportunity which can help ease traffic congestion and better maintain air quality. One way that has been considered in High Peak is bringing empty properties back into use. Repurposing Empty Properties reduces embodied carbon and can ultimately assist improvements to biodiversity and the environment for community wellbeing, carbon reduction and delivery of net zero carbon commitments. Further information can be provided.
11. There could also be an opportunity to ask Glossopdale School and Sixth Form for participation through their Student Voice Forums which could be organised by Tracy-Jane Fielding, School Governor for Health and Wellbeing, Community and Travel.

Appendix A

Notes from [Sharefirst My Journey to School](#) meeting with local residents, Glossopdale School and Sixth Form (Health and Wellbeing, Community and Travel Governor) and Robert Largan MP 17.6.21

Safety at Dinting Road Crossing Point – Local Community Discussion

Concerns

We discussed a number of concerns including existing speed limits 40mph on the brow of a hill which additionally prevents approval of the footpath route by Sustrans; proximity to Dinting railway station; increased footfall as a result of staggered start and finishes to the school day with students using both front entrances and rear entrances to help mitigate infection in the pandemic; increased footfall as a result of relocation of the school site in 2018. The school governor present confirmed this footpath route is a significant and well-used route for students from Glossop, Simmondley, Gamesley and those travelling by train to Dinting Station, or arriving by bus at the bottom of the footpath on the A57 by Dinting Arches. We agreed we needed to consider the whole route. The group discussed a number of options, and recommended the following:

- Timed 20mph zones for Dinting Road Crossing Point, similarly to those in Padfield and Broadbottom;
- Remove obscuring vegetation from 30mph sharp bend sign approaching the crossing from Glossop;
- Review lighting on Dinting Road which lights the road rather than the path and is only on one side;
- Review options to enhance a safe crossing facility and public right of way to adequately accommodate the needs of deaf students, disabled students and students with other impairments;
- Review sensitive lighting options for the existing PRoW, commensurate with the surrounding meadow land and access and use of the new Glossopdale School community leisure facility over extended hours beyond the school day and use of the public right of way for leisure and wellbeing beyond the school day;
- Maintain assurances the £50k funding allocated towards an improved safe crossing point will be ring fenced and not lost as part of any other development plans;
- Review future budget, resources and funding for example for a Public Rights of Way Officer in order to support continued and improved monitoring and maintenance as a result of heavier footfall from relocation of the school site and heavier use in mitigation measures to help protect safety of students and staff in the pandemic.

Safe Access using Front and Rear Entrances to Glossopdale School

School action in order to help achieve segregation and staggered start times to help mitigate against risks of infection in the COVID-19 pandemic has resulted in increased and heavier use of access to both front and rear entrances. In addition and uniquely to Glossopdale School relocation of the school site in 2018 and heavier use by students as a result has placed added pressure on local Public Rights of Way in the area. The group recommends that as a result, local Public Rights of Way for safe access to school may require an increased budget in order to better support maintenance and monitoring of local PRoW in light of the impacts of heavier use. One suggestion by the group could

be funding and budget allocation to help additionally support a PRow monitoring officer(s), given the value and emphasis on safe outdoor access continuing across the country in the pandemic.

Front Entrance At the front entrance there is increased parking on footpaths requiring students to move into the road in order to continue their journey and a number of near misses have been observed. Construction traffic for a small housing development at The Shaw has caused obstruction and blocked access to existing routes, created hazards Dodging Diggers, and longer journey times using routes to avoid The Shaw.

Rear Entrance A document highlighting issues with the existing Public Rights of Way GLO FP201 and GLO FP 65 at Dinting Road Crossing Point from a walk in January 2021 carried out by [Sharefirst My Journey to School](#) and further inspection by the Peak and Northern Footpath Society was shared with all those attending.

Public Rights of Way Standing water due to pockets forming as a result of heavy use, current surface quality and poor drainage and vegetation creates safety issues and the recommendation to wear a boot to walk the path safely in the weather conditions seen in January. We all agreed students should be able to wear their school uniform with pride and we agreed one way forward could be to consider improvements to the surface in order to improve drainage and avoid standing water when wet, slippy, muddy paths, particularly on gradients create trip hazards, discomfort for the school day and create a barrier to students, staff, parents, carers making journeys away from the road in poor weather and particularly in winter time. We agreed safety improvements to the surface should be carried out sensitively and commensurate with the existing landscape.

Appendix B

Extract of notes from [Sharefirst My Journey to School](#) Community and Elected Members Meeting 30.11.21, arranged by [Sharefirst My Journey to School](#) to continue discussions of safety of the Dinting Road Crossing Point. Attending were various stakeholders, with representatives from [Sharefirst My Journey to School](#); SPEED Bridleways; High Peak Access; Derbyshire County Council; Glossopdale School and Sixth Form; Peak and Northern Footpath Society.

- The group was unanimous in considering that at least a temporary surface upgrade should be undertaken given the issues observed with the paths in winter weather 2021 and risks to student safety using the paths that have been observed. These should be carried out independently of pending planning application decisions. Surface upgrade proposals will require landowner approval;
- We touched on the impact of the planning application to the path FP201 across the land. We agreed increased potential safety hazards arising as a result of as a result of the new path route and increased likelihood of students spilling into roads is a key concern across the group. Concerns were also raised around additional new potential hazards for example arising from access of heavy construction vehicles to the construction site during school hours. It is likely that conditions to the planning application may be necessary, for example on hours of delivery, to ensure student safety given close proximity of the building site to the school;
- The group was unanimous that Glossopdale School and Sixth Form should be consulted and involved in the design for the safety improvements to the Dinting Road Crossing Point and

that the final design should support all students and residents, disabled, deaf, partially-sighted or with other impairments with safe crossing of DInting Road and access to the paths. High Peak Access may also have valuable advice and input.

Carole Hallam

Sharefirst My Journey to School

Tracy-Jane Fielding

Governor for Health and Wellbeing, Community and Travel

Glossopdale School and Sixth Form