

A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool Improvement Scheme

TR010035

8.15 Statement of Common Ground with GTC

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Planning Act 2008

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The Infrastructure Planning
(Applications: Prescribed Forms and
Procedure) Regulations 2009

**A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool
Improvement Scheme**
Development Consent Order 201[]

STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND WITH GTC

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STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

This Statement of Common Ground has been prepared and agreed by (1)
Highways England Company Limited and (2) GTC

Signed [REDACTED]

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Project Manager

On behalf of Highways England

Date: 16/04/19

Signed [REDACTED]

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Position (2) GAS ENGINEERING & COMPLIANCE MANAGER

On behalf of GTC

Date: 15/4/19

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1 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground ("SoCG") has been prepared in respect of the proposed A585 Windy Harbour to Skippool Improvement Scheme ("the Application") made by Highways England Company Limited ("Highways England") to the Secretary of State for Transport ("Secretary of State") for a Development Consent Order ("the Order") under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 ("PA 2008").
- 1.1.2 This SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the Application documents. All documents are available in the deposit locations and/or the Planning Inspectorate website.
- 1.1.3 The SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority where agreement has been reached between the parties to it, and where agreement has not (yet) been reached. SoCGs are an established means in the planning process of allowing all parties to identify and so focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.

1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.2.1 This SoCG has been prepared by (1) Highways England as the Applicant and (2) GTC.
- 1.2.2 Highways England became the Government-owned Strategic Highways Company on 1 April 2015. It is the highway authority in England for the strategic road network and has the necessary powers and duties to operate, manage, maintain and enhance the network. Regulatory powers remain with the Secretary of State. The legislation establishing Highways England made provision for all legal rights and obligations of the Highways Agency, including in respect of the Application, to be conferred upon or assumed by Highways England.
- 1.2.3 The Gas Transportation Company (GTC) is an independent utility infrastructure and networks provider that was established in 1995. GTC operates networks with utility connections to over one million homes nationwide. Their product range includes gas, electricity, fibre to the home, water, waste water and sustainable connections and solutions.

1.3 Terminology

- 1.3.1 In the tables, under the Issues chapter of this SoCG, "Not Agreed" indicates a final position, and "Under discussion" where these points will be the subject of on-going discussion wherever possible to resolve, or refine, the extent of disagreement between the parties. "Agreed" indicates where the issue has been resolved.
- 1.3.2 It can be taken that any matters not specifically referred to in the Issues chapter of this SoCG are not of material interest or relevance to GTC, and therefore have not been the subject of any discussions between the parties. As such, those matters can be read as agreed, only to the extent that they are either not of material interest or relevance to GTC.

2 RECORD OF ENGAGEMENT

2.1.1 A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between Highways England and GTC in relation to the Application is outlined in table 2.1.

Table 2-1: Record of Engagement

Date	Form of correspondence	Key topics discussed and key outcomes
29 April 2015	Phone call	Phoned GTC and granted free access to GIS Information.
16 June 2015	Email/Post	The Notification of appointment of O.O. Agent and C2 Preliminary Inquiry letters were sent to GTC.
11 August 2015	Email/Post.	Response to the C2 Preliminary Inquiry received.
31 May 2017	Email	Email to GTC requesting C3 budget estimate.
05 July 2018	Email	Email to GTC requesting C3 budget estimate.
24 July 2017	Email	Email received containing initial C3 budget estimate and plans indicating location of GTC assets.
13 November 2017	Email	Email to GTC requesting a meeting to discuss the proposed utility asset diversion.
01 February 2018	Email	Email to GTC requesting updated C3 budget estimate. (No response received and no meeting took place)
15 March 2018	Email	Email received from GTC containing C3 Version 2 budget estimate for medium pressure gas main diversions.
14 November 2018	Email	Arcadis issued the SoCG and Protective provision to GTC for comment
16 November 2018	Email	Email from GTC indicating the information had been passed internally for review
21 January 2019	Email	Follow up email sent to GTC to see if they had any comments
21 January 2019	Email	Reply email informing GTC

Date	Form of correspondence	Key topics discussed and key outcomes
		are still awaiting internal comment.
28 January 2019	Email	GTC emailed to inform that the SoCG and Protective Provisions had been shared with their legal team for review
28 January 2019	Email	Acknowledgement email sent.
06 February 2019	Email	Follow email sent by Arcadis with offer of a face to face discussion.

- 2.1.2 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of the consultation undertaken between (1) Highways England and (2) GTC in relation to the issues addressed in this SoCG.

3 ISSUES

3.1.1 There is only one location on the preferred route where GTC's underground apparatus must be diverted. The issues at this location are addressed in the following tables.

3.2 Singleton Hall

	Issue	Highways England Comment	GTC Comment	Status
3.2.1	Diversion medium pressure gas main to new Singleton Hall access road. Existing MP mains and CSEP to be abandoned and relocated to a new connection point.		Relocating of the GTC CSEP to the upstream main will be subject to the agreement of the upstream network operator. These discussions will initiate as part of the C4 process. The costs of the new connection will have been included in the C3 budget.	AGREED

3.3 Land Take, Wayleaves and Easements.

	Issue	Highways England Comment	GTC Comment	Status
3.3.1	Development Consent Order limits includes all areas of land take envisaged for utility apparatus diversions. Any additional land take requirements, outside of the Development		GTC would not be prepared to secure land transfers/wayleaves etc under a compulsory	AGREED

	Issue	Highways England Comment	GTC Comment	Status
	Consent Order Limits, for diversions would be the responsibility of the GTC to secure under the compulsory purchase process governed by (1) the enabling statute (i.e. the EA 1989) and (2) the Acquisition of Land Act 1981.		purchase process. Instead we would look to arrange an easement for access to our asset in perpetuity with the relevant land owners. Again, we have not initiated this process as part of the C3 but would look to engage at C4 stage.	
3.3.2	Wayleaves and easements are legal rights that enable utility companies to have access to private land to install and maintain their apparatus in return for some sort of payments	Existing GTC easements crossing the areas within the scheme are to be requested.		AGREED

3.4 Site Investigations for Location of Services.

	Issue	Highways England Comment	GTC Comment	Status
3.4.1	Site Investigations such as ground penetrating radar and slit trench surveys are to be carried out to establish precise location of GTC's buried gas mains after the DCO application submission.			AGREED

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