

A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling Scheme TR010036

8.17 Statement of Common Ground with Wessex Water

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)
Planning Act 2008
Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009
April 2018



Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

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

**A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling
Scheme**

Development Consent Order 201[X]

STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

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Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference	TR010036
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Author:	A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling Scheme Project Team, Highways England

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A	March 2019	Draft submission for deadline 4

STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

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

Signed.....
[NAME]
[ROLE]
on behalf of Highways England
Date: [DATE]

Signed.....
[NAME]
[ROLE]
on behalf of Wessex Water
Date: [DATE]

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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 A303 Sparkford to Ilchester Dualling ("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) Wessex Water.
- 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 Wessex Water is a licensed water and sewerage undertaker, supplying water and sewerage services to more than 2.8 million customers in an area covering around 10,000 km². Wessex Water is regulated by The Water Services Regulation Authority, the Drinking Water Inspectorate and the Environment Agency.

1.3 Terminology

- 1.3.1 In the tables in 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 Wessex Water, 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 Wessex Water.

1.4 Record of Engagement

- 1.4.1 A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between Highways England and Wessex Water in relation to the Application is outlined in Table 1.1.

Table 1.1: Record of engagement

Date	Form of correspondence	Key topics discussed and key outcomes (the topics should align with the issues tables)
08/01/16	Records search	Highways England's agent (Mott MacDonald-Sweco) search of Wessex Water's plant records to determine presence of Wessex Water's plant within the scheme area.
29/02/16	Letter	Highways England's agent (Mott MacDonald-Sweco) request budget estimate for diversionary or protection works to Virgin Media's plant.
25/04/16	Letter	Wessex Water provision of budget estimate for diversionary works.
27/03/17	Meeting	General project update
08/09/17	Meeting	To discuss preliminary design and request Wessex Water's assistance in the provision of preliminary layouts for input to the Development Consent Order (DCO) application.
13/12/17	Email	Further provision, by Wessex Water, of budget estimate and outline layout plans to assist with the preparation of the DCO application.
22/11/18	Telecon and follow up email	Highways England's agent (Mott MacDonald-Sweco) outlining the status of the scheme, key elements of the DCO application, and requesting input to a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG).
08/01/19	Telecon	Catch-up regarding production of SoCG
15/02/19	Telecon	Catch-up regarding production of SoCG
01/03/19	Telecon	Wessex Water provision of input to draft SoCG.

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

2. Issues

Topic	Sub-section	Wessex Water comment	Highways England response	Status
Mitigation of the effects of the project on the transmission/distribution systems	Sch 1. Work No.32 – The diversion of 500 metres of water distribution apparatus, shown on sheet 2 of the Works Plans between points JD and JJ.	Appears acceptable subject to notes below.	Noted	AGREED
	Sch 1.Work No.44 – The diversion of 1470 metres of water supply apparatus, shown on sheets 2 and 3 of the Works Plans between points JR, JS, JN, JO and KA.	Appears acceptable subject to notes below.	Noted	AGREED
	Sch. 1 Work No.46 – The diversion of 250 metres of water distribution apparatus, shown on sheets 2 and 3 of the Works Plans between points JU and JX.	Appears acceptable subject to notes below.	Noted	AGREED
	Sch. 1 Work No.68 – Works to the existing 'Stear Hill', shown on sheet 3 of the Works Plans between points EA and AH. To include: (a) Installation of surface water	There are water mains and sewers at this location. The water main here is being abandoned subsequent to works 44 & 46.	Noted	UNDER DISCUSSION

Topic	Sub-section	Wessex Water comment	Highways England response	Status
	drainage. (b) Utilities diversions.			
	Sch. 1 Work No.74 – The diversion of 320 metres of public sewer, shown on sheet 3 of the Works Plans between points JX and KP.	Agreement will need to be made as to the relocation of existing manholes, maintaining suitable cover levels and dualling the sewer to lessen the risk of Highway works in the future.	Agreed. It is anticipated that Highways England will design and construct this sewer diversion in accordance with the Specifications in Sewers for Adoption. Design will take place in the second half of 2019 and Wessex Water will be consulted during this process.	UNDER DISCUSSION
	Sch. 1 Work No.77 – The diversion of 50 metres of water distribution apparatus, shown on sheet 3 of the Works Plans between points KH and KI.	Mains level to be altered with the road and contained within a duct. Twinned ducts preferred to ensure security of supply and lessen the risk of Highway works in the future. Specifications to be agreed and subject to the notes below.	Agreed. Detail design will take place in the second half of 2019 and Highways England will request a detailed design and specification for this and all other works to Wessex Water's distribution system in accordance with the procedure set out in Appendix C4 of the code of practice "Measures necessary where apparatus is affected by major works (diversionary works)".	UNDER DISCUSSION
General Work Plans		The Work Plans show all utilities in one colour. For clarity the following conventions must be used: Water mains (light blue) Foul sewers (red)	Agreed. Highways England do not intend to amend the DCO Work Plans although a suitable colour coding convention will be adopted for use in all construction plans.	UNDER DISCUSSION

Topic	Sub-section	Wessex Water comment	Highways England response	Status
		Surface water sewers (dark blue)	Detail design will take place during the second half of 2019.	
Land	Submission reference 4.3: Book of Reference	Wessex Water noted as within Category 2 as set out in section 57 (categories for purposes of section 56(2)(d)). A person is within Category 2 if they are interested in the land or have the power to sell and convey or release any of the Order land. Category 3 persons whose entitlement to enjoy private easements or rights may be extinguished, suspended or interfered with. Please explain the implications of this	Highways England would be happy to discuss this further.	UNDER DISCUSSION
Development Consent Order drafting, including requirements	Draft Development Consent Order, Part 3, Article 11	Please explain the need / risk of (a) break up or open the street, or any sewer, drain or tunnel under it.	Article 11(a) provides Highways England as the Undertaker with the authority to undertake all work necessary on any street within the Development Consent Order Boundary in order to construct the works. Risks of undertaking this work will be consistent with conventional construction practice regarding excavation and will be controlled accordingly. Part 1 of Schedule 8 to the draft Development Consent Order (Protective Provisions) has been prepared to ensure Wessex Water's	UNDER DISCUSSION

Topic	Sub-section	Wessex Water comment	Highways England response	Status
			exposure to such risks is appropriately managed.	
	Draft Development Consent Order, Part 3, Article 13	Any highway (other than a trunk road) to be constructed under this Order must be completed to the reasonable satisfaction of the local highway and, unless otherwise agreed in writing with the local highway authority, the highway including any culverts or other structures laid under it must be maintained by and at the expense of the local highway authority from its completion. Please clarify "structures", does this include water mains and sewers? Wessex Water will continue to own and operate any of our apparatus in the affected highways.	The term "structures" is intended to mean road infrastructure structures (such as bridges, ground works, embankments, large tunnels, etc.). Highways England will consider whether this can be clarified within the DCO.	UNDER DISCUSSION
	Draft Development Consent Order, schedule 8, part 1, paragraph 7, sub paragraph 2	Please clarify the 28 days written notice for diversion? We will work with the Undertaker to develop a scheme in accordance with the works programme.	Highways England suggests that further discussions take place with Wessex Water to clarify this point during development of the detailed design for the scheme.	UNDER DISCUSSION

Topic	Sub-section	Wessex Water comment	Highways England response	Status
	Draft Development Consent Order, schedule 8, part 1, paragraph 7, sub paragraph 6	Diversion works will be non-contestable.	This sub-paragraph gives Highways England the ability to carry out the diversion works itself, subject to providing notice in writing to Wessex Water in advance.	UNDER DISCUSSION
	Draft Development Consent Order, schedule 8, part 1, paragraph 10, sub paragraph 5	Clause noted regarding deducting payment if the diversion causes Wessex Water to defer subsequent renewal dates. This appears to be unworkable. Exclusion or further discussion is required.	Highways England would be happy to discuss this further.	UNDER DISCUSSION
	Diversion Notes General	Any customer private services should be located and left in situ if able. A new duct must be installed next to existing apparatus with chambers provided by WW at either end of road crossings	Detail design will take place in the second half of 2019 and Highways England will request a detailed design and specification for this and all other works to Wessex Water's distribution system in accordance with the procedure set out in Appendix C4 of the code of practice "Measures necessary where apparatus is affected by major works (diversionary works)".	UNDER DISCUSSION
		Diverted mains and sewers must remain in publicly accessible land	Agreed	AGREED
		Diversions must be completed before abandonment of existing apparatus	Agreed	AGREED

Topic	Sub-section	Wessex Water comment	Highways England response	Status
	Diversion Notes (WW)	<p>Diversion works will be non-contestable. Subject to agreement, Wessex Water will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supply lay and install all materials and fittings pressure test, chlorinate, sample. • Arrange main shutdown deliver warning letters to properties. • Make connections to existing network. • Transfer any existing services with equivalent size and material 	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Highways England may wish to carry out the diversion works itself, subject to providing notice in writing to Wessex Water in advance.</p>	UNDER DISCUSSION
	Diversion Notes Developer (Undertaker)	<p>If the excavated trench is not fit for purpose or delays occur due to the developer, additional mobilisation/demobilisation charges will be applied</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Highways England's intention is to manage the works, including the relationship between Highways England and Wessex Water, in accordance with the procedures set out in the code of practice "Measures necessary where apparatus is affected by major works (diversionary works)".</p>	UNDER DISCUSSION
		<p>Wessex Water will require further information regarding line and level of the proposed road works.</p>	<p>Accepted. This information will be provided following the preparation of the detail design of the roadworks. Detail design will take place in the second half of 2019 and Highways England will, on the</p>	UNDER DISCUSSION

Topic	Sub-section	Wessex Water comment	Highways England response	Status
			basis of the detailed line and level design, request a detailed design and specification for works to Wessex Water's distribution system in accordance with the procedure set out in Appendix C4 of the code of practice "Measures necessary where apparatus is affected by major works (diversionary works)".	
		Further discussion is required regarding the provision of storage facilities for materials, the supply of plant/ machinery to lift pipe into trench, provision of pipe bedding, backfill and surround material, disposal of material, traffic management, welfare facilities, reinstatement works, treatment of redundant pipework, land entry / access, trench supports and other temporary works, environmental information and information regarding trees subject to tree preservation orders, conservation areas, listed buildings and any archaeology and details of contaminated land.	Accepted. These aspects will be resolved during detail design and construction planning during the second half of 2019.	<i>UNDER DISCUSSION</i>

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