



Meeting note

Project name	A428 Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet
File reference	TR010044
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	29 October 2020
Meeting with	Highways England
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Meeting objectives	Project update meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Programme update

The Applicant confirmed that a supplementary non-statutory consultation period had closed on 28 July 2020. The supplementary consultation had dealt with changes to the Applicant's proposals arising from feedback to statutory consultation held in Summer 2019. The Applicant confirmed that since supplementary consultation there had been further more discrete changes made which had engaged new land interests and required minor changes to the Red Line Boundary.

The Applicant confirmed that it expected to submit its application to the Inspectorate in late January 2021.

The Applicant confirmed that whilst the impact of the scheme on Public Rights of Way (PRoW) remained a concern for some parties, recent surveys carried out by the Applicant on the PRoW network had led it to conclude that no additional design changes were required. On this basis the Applicant confirmed that the application would be put forward without a footbridge at Toseland Road as the assessment of impacts on the PRoW were determined to be not significant.

The Applicant confirmed that it continued to seek access to Brook Cottages to carry out further survey work requested by the local authority and Historic England. A call with the property owner was scheduled for November 2020. The Applicant confirmed that the timing of the surveys sought to be carried out at Brook Cottages would not delay the submission of its application in January 2021.

The Applicant summarised recent sensitivity testing carried out in relation to the traffic impacts arising from the scheme. The Applicant confirmed that the results of the sensitivity testing would be submitted with the application. Engagement with relevant local authorities about the Applicant's traffic and transport assessment would be ongoing.

Gas pipeline diversion

The Applicant confirmed that works within the draft Development Consent Order would include the diversion of a high-pressure gas pipeline in order to construct a bridge over the East Coast Mainline railway. The Applicant confirmed that as a result of ongoing assessment it was determined that the route for the gas main diversion would be likely to give rise to significant environmental effects. As a result, the work would be considered a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) in its own right under s20 of the PA2008.

The Applicant confirmed that because the gas main diversion was an NSIP in its own right, in addition to the National Policy Statement (NPS) for National Networks the NPS for Overarching Energy and the NPS (EN-1) and the NPS for Oil and Gas Supply and Storage (EN-4) would also have effect in respect of the scheme. The engagement of EN-1 and EN-4 would be given full consideration in the submitted application.

The Applicant was yet to confirm a consultation, engagement or publicity strategy in respect of this refinement. The Inspectorate did not see that the legislation envisages a scenario where a s48 notice could be updated with comments sought on only part of an application.