

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Price, Richard](#)  
**Cc:** [REDACTED]; [A428 Black Cat](#); [Patten, Candice](#)  
**Subject:** RE: DfT Route Map Query  
**Date:** 15 February 2021 18:48:52  
**Attachments:** [image001.png](#)

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Hi Richard

Thanks for providing advice on the DfT Route Map query.

As mentioned at the meeting today we will be submitting an additional standalone document as part of our DCO application that sets out our strategy for addressing uncertain outcomes relating to COVID-19. This takes into account the points you have raised in your email below and also sets out our intention to undertake a sensitivity test once the application has been submitted.

Kind regards, Naomi

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**From:** Price, Richard <RICHARD.PRICE@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Sent:** 05 February 2021 15:45  
**To:** Naomi Kretschmer (Aecom) [REDACTED] >  
**Cc:** Anne-Marie Rogers [REDACTED]; Ted Doherty (Aecom) [REDACTED]; Alan Netley (HE) [REDACTED]; Phil Wayles (Aecom) [REDACTED]; Tony King (Aecom) [REDACTED]; A428.Blackcat <A428.Blackcat@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>; Patten, Candice <candice.patten@planninginspectorate.gov.uk>  
**Subject:** RE: DfT Route Map Query

Hi Naomi

Thanks for your enquiry, and apologies for the short delay in providing this response.

You state that for the A428 scheme, following the updates to TAG expected this month, you intend to carry out sensitivity testing that would be reported to the Planning Inspectorate/Examining Authority in June/July 2021. We presume that this reporting would therefore emerge late in the Pre-Examination period (without prejudice to the forthcoming Acceptance decision).

On the basis of the information provided we cannot tell how significantly you expect the updates to TAG will affect the case for the A428 scheme. If your expectation is that the effect of the updates will be relatively minor, your intended approach sounds reasonable. You should acknowledge the circumstances within the application and, framed by the minor effect predicted, provide justification for the approach you have chosen and explain why you have confidence in it.

Please let me know if you have any questions in respect of this advice.

Kind regards

Richard Price  
Operations Manager – National Infrastructure and Transport



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**From:** Naomi Kretschmer (Aecom) [REDACTED]  
**Sent:** 13 January 2021 14:40  
**To:** Patten, Candice <[candice.patten@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:candice.patten@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)>; A428 Black Cat <[A428.Blackcat@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:A428.Blackcat@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)>  
**Cc:** Anne-Marie Rogers (HE) [REDACTED]; Ted Doherty (Aecom) [REDACTED]; Wood, Steven [REDACTED]; Alan Nettey (HE) [REDACTED]; Phil Wayles (Aecom) [REDACTED]; Tony King (Aecom) [REDACTED]  
**Subject:** DfT Route Map Query

Hi Candice,

Following our meeting this morning, I said I would email the query we had about the DfT Route Map.

By way of background, the Route Map was prepared by DfT in response to a number of unexpected events that could impact transport scheme appraisals, including the COVID pandemic. The Route map sets out the approach DfT plan to take to gain a better understanding of these issues and manage their combined implications for appraisal. The Route Map sets out that an update to the appraisal guidance will be provided in early 2021 to *“recognise the value of combining significant updates where feasible and the importance of having the best available evidence to support decision making”*.

The Route Map can be located using the following link:

[https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/951075/tag-route-map-2020.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/951075/tag-route-map-2020.pdf)

Attached is a note that has been prepared which highlights the issues addressed in the Route Map and the implications for the A428 scheme.

What we are looking for is a steer from the Planning Inspectorate on the expectations relating to what is needed to address the uncertainty concerning future forecasts and economics particularly with respect to the DfT Route Map. Our current position is that our forecasts and economics were prepared in Spring/Summer 2020 prior to the release of the DfT Route Map. We are proposing to carry out some sensitivity testing to assess the impact of the revised forecasts of economic growth on future demand and also to assess the change in economic benefits. This will be reported and submitted following the DCO submission, (best estimate at the moment around June/July).

If you have any queries in relation to this query please let me know. Otherwise we look forward to hearing from you.

Kind regards, Naomi

**Naomi Kretschmer**  
**A428 – Black Cat to Caxton Gibbet Improvements – DCO Lead**  
E-Mail: [REDACTED]

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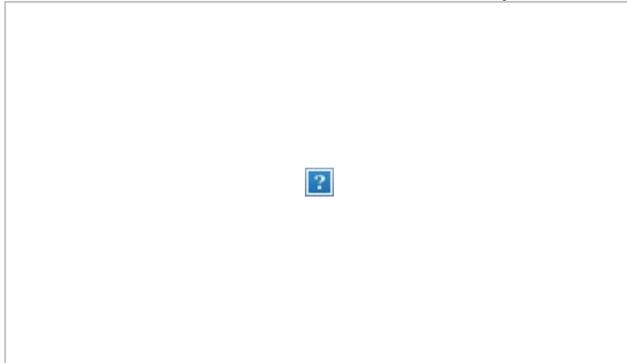
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