



Meeting note

Project name	A27 Arundel Bypass
File reference	TR010045
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	20 May 2022
Meeting with	National Highways
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.

Supplementary Consultation

The Applicant stated it is aiming to hold Supplementary Consultation this summer on design refinements it has made since Statutory Consultation. The Inspectorate queried the status of the Supplementary Consultation. The Applicant noted the current assumption is that it would be a non-statutory public consultation, but this is yet to be confirmed. The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to be clear regarding this point and to duly record it in the Consultation Report.

The Applicant noted it is still confirming what will be within the scope of the Supplementary Consultation. The Applicant explained potential content could include measures for mitigating traffic impacts in Walberton village and on options for the Golf Course at Avisford Park.

The Applicant explained that proposed changes in Walberton are around Tye Lane, Fontwell West (roundabout) and the A27 exit onto old Arundel Road. The Inspectorate queried if signals being put in place on Fontwell West are intended as pre-commencement requirements. The Applicant confirmed it is considering this.

In regard to the Avisford Park Golf Course, the Applicant confirmed it consulted on 2 options as part of their formal s42 and s47 consultation material and it is now also looking at a potential third option to develop a shorter 18-hole course primarily within the footprint of the existing golf course. The Applicant noted it has engaged a golf course architect to see what commercially viable options there are, and it has also consulted with England Golf.

Programme

The Applicant outlined its stakeholder engagement to date. Some examples given were meetings with SEBs and elected representatives forum focus groups.

The Applicant stated it is aiming to complete supplementary consultation by end of July and its DCO submission is expected to be Q4 2022.

The Applicant noted it will not include Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) as part of the suite of application documents formally submitted. The Inspectorate advised that SoCG are useful when submitted before Examination even if in draft form as they can be useful in clearly defining areas of agreement and disagreement.

Arundel Alternative

The Applicant explained what the Arundel Alternative compromises of. The Applicant stated that points from its advocates are that a small change makes a big difference and therefore negates the need for the bypass scheme. The Applicant noted it was discounted because it doesn't provide sufficient capacity to meet the objectives for the scheme. The inspectorate encouraged the applicant to establish a clear narrative for this in the application documents in preparing to respond to any representations made in this regard during examination.

The Inspectorate noted that a key topic on construction and operation of recent road scheme projects has been net carbon emissions and the impact proposed developments on the carbon budget. It was also noted that alternatives to proposed developments have been an important subject / consideration in recent decisions issued by the SoS.

Method of electronic submission of DCO application

The discussion noted the preferred route through which the Application documents should be formally submitted. The Inspectorate advised that electronic file share has worked successfully for many projects, usually using a sharepoint site to submit documents. The Inspectorate explained it can run a test and provide email addresses to test offline if needed.