

M54 to M6 Link Road

TR010054

Volume 6

6.3 Environmental Statement

Appendices

**Appendix 6.4 Further Scoping Opinion
Responses**

Regulation 5(2)(a)

Planning Act 2008

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

January 2020

Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

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

**M54 to M6 Link Road
Development Consent Order 202[]**

**6.3 Environmental Statement Appendices
Appendix 6.4 Further Scoping Opinion Responses**

Regulation Number	Regulation 5(2)(a)
Planning Inspectorate Scheme Reference	TR010054
Application Document Reference	6.3
Author	M54 to M6 Link Road Project Team and Highways England

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1	January 2020	DCO Application

1. Appendix 6.4 Further Scoping Opinion Responses

1.1 The proposed scope of the cultural heritage assessment was detailed in Chapter 7 of the EIA Scoping Report (Ref 1) submitted to the Inspectorate on 11 January 2019. An overview of the Inspectorate’s Scoping Opinion in relation to cultural heritage effects is presented in Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement (ES), Table 6.2 [TR010054/APP/6.1]. Further points raised by statutory consultees in the Scoping Opinion are shown in Table 1 below. Where the assessment has been undertaken in accordance with the Scoping Opinion point, a response and the relevant ES paragraph or section is provided. Where an alternative approach has been agreed with the relevant stakeholders, an explanation is provided.

Table 1: Scoping opinion and response

Scoping Opinion	Where addressed in the ES
Staffordshire County Council	
Paragraph 7.4.1 - Mentions 29 archaeological sites within the Study Area; however, Appendix 7.1 only lists 17 archaeological sites within the Study Area.	All data has been reviewed and the information updated. See paragraph 6.6.2 [TR010054/APP/6.1] and Appendix 6.1 [TR010054/APP/6.3].
Paragraph 7.4.5 - it is welcomed that the cluster of significant and Scheduled Roman sites located just outside the Study Area have been identified and acknowledged here.	Noted. Further information in paragraph 6.6.13 of the ES [TR010054/APP/6.1].
Paragraph 7.4.8 - it is agreed that the ridge and furrow may contain elements of post medieval archaeology, but also note that the potential for ridge and furrow to obscure/cover archaeology from earlier periods should not be discounted.	Noted.
Paragraph 7.4.14 - it is suggested that A15, a possible WW2 searchlight battery, potentially located within the proposed scheme 'land take', be included here.	Asset misidentified during the scoping process. Amended in paragraph 6.6.31 of the ES [TR010054/APP/6.1].
Paragraph 7.4.16 - An assessment of previous archaeological interventions (details of which can be provided by the Staffordshire HER) in this area would be useful to better understand the nature and potential of these undated features.	Noted and used as appropriate.
Paragraph 7.4.17 - this assessment is supported.	Noted
Paragraph 7.4.25 - it would have been useful to delineate the boundaries of these historic landscapes on a map.	See Figure 6.3 and Figure 6.4 [TR010054/APP/6.2].
Paragraph 7.5.2 - Agreed, the proposed scheme has the potential to have physical impacts upon archaeological features and on the setting of heritage assets.	Noted.

Scoping Opinion	Where addressed in the ES
Paragraph 7.6.2 - The potential mitigation measures are supported; however, the option for preservation in situ should not be discounted at this stage.	Noted.
Paragraph 7.6.3 - Agreed that a staged programme of archaeological investigation and recording would be appropriate to mitigate the proposed development's impact on the buried archaeological resource. Based on current information it is suggested that this comprise a geophysical survey, which will inform the scale and scope of evaluation trenching, followed by excavation where necessary. The geophysical survey and review of previous archaeological investigations in the area should assist in making decisions on the scale and scope of further mitigation.	Refer to paragraphs 6.6.35 – 6.6.39 and 6.8.3 – 6.8.7 of the ES [TR010054/APP/6.1].
Paragraph 7.6.3 - It is welcomed that an archaeological watching brief during construction is regarded as likely to be required to mitigate effects on previously unrecorded remains.	Noted.
Paragraph 7.6.3 - It should not be discounted that the proposed suite of cultural heritage mitigation works are implemented as part of a Historic Environment Management Plan (HEMP). Construction phase mitigation such as archaeological watching brief should form part of the wider Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP).	Refer to paragraphs 6.8.1 – 6.8.7 of the ES [TR010054/APP/6.1].
Paragraph 7.8.4 - As noted above, we very much agree that a review of previous archaeological fieldwork undertaken within the study area will be required to inform the appropriate level of evaluation and mitigation. It is recommended that the relevant Historic Environment Assessments for this part of South Staffordshire and studies such as the Staffordshire Historic Farmsteads Study should also be utilised in this exercise.	Noted. Information used as appropriate.
Paragraph 7.8.4 - Agreed that a geophysical survey should be undertaken in the first instance, the results of this combined with the understanding provided by a review of previous archaeological work in the area should be used to inform further mitigation. A cultural heritage site walkover, as suggested in 7.9.2 would be a useful exercise in advance of geophysical survey work.	Refer to paragraphs 6.6.36 – 6.6.39 of the ES [TR010054/APP/6.1].
At Fig 7.1. Moseley Old Hall Cottage (B25) does not appear to be on the map.	Noted, this has been amended.
Appendix 7.1. Only sites A1 to A25 are included here, what about A27 to A28? Likewise, the list of historic buildings only runs to B17- there are a lot more B numbers of the map.	Noted, this has been amended.

References

- Ref 1 Highways England (2019) M54-M6/M6 Toll Link Road: PCF Stage 3 Scoping Report. Available online at: <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/uploads/projects/TR010054/TR010054-000025-54M6-Scoping%20Report.pdf>