



Meeting note

Project name	M54 to M6/M6 toll
File reference	TR010054
Status	FINAL
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	28 February 2019
Meeting with	Highways England
Venue	Temple Quay House
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.

Project Update

The Applicant provided a scheme update covering matters related to project background and options, objectives and benefits, the main component of scheme design and highways and environmental issues.

The Applicant noted stakeholder engagement to date, including with relevant local authorities, parish councils and land owners. The Applicant described the intention for a statutory consultation period within the next few months and noted that work was underway on a draft Statement of Community Consultation.

In response to the Inspectorate's Scoping Opinion issued on 21 February 2019, the Applicant sought clarification on a number of points. The Inspectorate advised that for all points, the advice in the Opinion stands and it will be for the Applicant to decide the specific approach to the assessments undertaken in order to address the points made. The Inspectorate commented that the information submitted with the request for a Scoping Opinion was of good quality and that none of the points made in the Opinion were related to insufficiency of the information but are made to help facilitate a robust and clear ES.

Highways England confirmed that they intend to meet with consultees before beginning their statutory consultation. The Applicant asked why certain internal drainage boards were identified as consultees at scoping. The Inspectorate explained the precautionary approach taken to identifying consultees at scoping, and reiterated that these consultees are identified for the purposes of Regulation 11 notification and consultation and that the Applicant must make their own diligent inquiries as to the bodies they consider should be included in their consultation.