



Meeting note

Project name	M54 to M6 Link Road
File reference	TR010054
Status	FINAL
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	16 April 2019
Meeting with	Highways England
Venue	Teleconference
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 an overview of the work to date on the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) including informal discussions with the relevant host authorities and the current formal consultation process.

The Applicant noted that due to very minor amendments to the description of the scheme to include new and amended lighting, part of the red line boundary had crossed into Wolverhampton administrative area. The Applicant confirmed that they were consulting with Wolverhampton on the draft SoCC. The Inspectorate highlighted that there may be consequential changes to the list of relevant authorities that the Applicant would need to consult under s43 PA2008.

The Applicant explained that it had reviewed the "Reg 11" list that formed part of the Scoping Opinion – this is a list of consultation bodies who were consulted in the preparation of the Scoping Opinion. The Inspectorate noted that some bodies on that list may have been consulted under a precautionary approach but strongly encouraged applicants to provide explanation in the Consultation Report of any body listed that they had chosen not to consult under the statutory consultation.

The Applicant provided an overview of the anticipated consultation material for the upcoming statutory consultation. It was noted that the consultation material may contain a reference to the potential availability of Designated Funds associated with this scheme. The Inspectorate sought clarification that matters/elements funded through Designated Funds would not be necessary to mitigate the impacts of the project and therefore would

not be part of any Development Consent Order application. The Applicant noted that the consultation material would seek to make clear the relationship between the project, the PA2008 regime, a Development Consent Order and any application for Designated Funds.

The Applicant noted that the scheme name had changed. The Inspectorate updated its records and website accordingly.