



The Planning Inspectorate
Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Section 55

Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Appendix 3 of Advice Note Six: Preparation and submission of application documents

Version: June 2021

A417 Missing Link: Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 can be viewed at [legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk), here:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/section/55>

DISCLAIMER: This Checklist is for information only and is not a formal application document. It is a non-statutory checklist for the Planning Inspectorate to complete. Completion or self-assessment by the Applicant does not hold weight at the Acceptance stage. Unless specified, **all references to the Planning Inspectorate are made in relation to functions being carried out on behalf of the Secretary of State for Housing, Communities and Local Government.**

Section 55(2) Acceptance of Applications				
1	Within 28 days (starting day after receipt) the Planning Inspectorate must decide whether or not to accept the application for Examination.	Date received	28 day due date	Date of decision
		1 June 2021	29 June 2021	29 June 2021
Section 55(3) – the Planning Inspectorate may only accept an application if it concludes that:			Planning Inspectorate comments	
Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c): It is an application for an order granting development consent				
2	Is the development a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project ¹ (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that it is an application for a Development Consent Order ² (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), or equivalent words? Does the application specify the development to which it relates (i.e. which category or categories in ss14 to 30 does the Proposed Development fall)?	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Proposed Development set out in Schedule 1 of the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1) includes development falling within the categories in s14(h) of the PA2008.</p> <p>The Proposed Development is for the construction of a highway and satisfies s22 of the PA2008; including s22(1)(a), s22(2) and s22(4).</p> <p>This is consistent with the summary provided in section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.3) which states that the application is for an NSIP.</p>		

¹ NSIP is defined generally in s14 with the detailed thresholds for each of the specified categories being set out in ss15 to 30

² Development consent is required for development to the extent that the development is or forms part of an NSIP (s31 of the PA2008)

	If the development does not fall within the categories in ss14 to 30, has a direction been given by the Secretary of State under s35 of the PA2008 for the development to be treated as development for which development consent is required?	
3	Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c)	The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1) includes development for which development consent is required.
Section 55(3)(e): The Applicant in relation to the application made has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure)		
4	In accordance with the EIA Regulations ³ , did the Applicant (prior to carrying out consultation in accordance with s42) either (a) request the Planning Inspectorate adopt a Screening Opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates, or (b) notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing that it proposed to provide an Environmental Statement in respect of that development?	Yes On 14 May 2019 the Applicant notified the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with Regulation 8(1)(b) of the EIA Regulations of its intention to provide an Environmental Statement (ES) in respect of the Proposed Development. The notification was received before the start of statutory consultation which commenced on 27 September 2019. The same letter also requested a Scoping Opinion under Regulation 10(1) of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017.
5	Have any Adequacy of Consultation Representations ⁴ been received from 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they confirm that the Applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?	Yes There are 20 host and neighbouring authorities, of which 15 responded to the Planning Inspectorate's invitation to make an Adequacy of Consultation Representation (AoCR) dated 1 June 2021. All 15 responding authorities confirmed in their AoCR that either the Applicant had complied with its duties under s42, s47 and s48 of the

³ Regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations), or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 6 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (2009 EIA Regulations)

⁴ Section 55(4) of the PA2008 provides that the Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the Consultation Report, and any Adequacy of Consultation Representations received

PA2008 and/ or that their authority had no comments/ objections to make. These local authorities were:

- Forest of Dean District Council ('A' authority)
- Cheltenham Borough Council ('A' authority)
- Stroud District Council ('A' authority)
- Wychavon District Council ('A' authority)*
- Malvern Hills District Council ('A' authority)*
- Stratford-on-Avon District Council ('A' authority)
- South Gloucestershire Council ('A' authority)
- Vale of White Horse District Council ('A' authority)
- Wiltshire Council ('A' authority)
- Cotswold District Council ('B' authority)
- Tewkesbury Borough Council ('B' authority)
- Gloucestershire County Council ('C' authority)
- Worcestershire County Council ('D' authority)
- Oxfordshire County Council ('D' authority)
- Swindon Borough Council ('A' and 'D' authority)

*Wychavon District Council and Malvern Hills District Council submitted a joint AoCR dated 11 June 2021. Whilst the AoCR makes an observation that *"the consultation was somewhat silent on the determination of the project's budget and therefore costs for route options may not have been directly comparable"*, it confirms that it considers the consultation to be adequate.

All AoCRs received have been carefully considered and are available to view on the National Infrastructure Planning website:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/south-west/a417-missing-link/>.

Section 42: Duty to consult

Did the Applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application?

6 Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed⁵?

Yes

Paragraphs 6.2.20 and **9.2.26** of the **Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)** confirm that the Applicant undertook two rounds of statutory consultation between:

- 27 September 2019 and 8 November 2019; and
- 13 October 2020 and 12 November 2020.

The Applicant has provided a list of persons consulted under s42(1)(a) on 27 September 2019 at **Appendix 6.1** of the **Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2)**, and a list of persons consulted under s42(1)(a) on 13 October 2020 at **Appendix 9.1** of the **Consultation Report (Doc 5.2)**.

A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(a) consultees on 27 September 2019 is provided at **Appendix 6.4A** of the **Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2)**, and a sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(a) consultees on 13 October 2020 is provided at **Appendix 9.3A** of the **Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2)**.

The Planning Inspectorate has identified the following party, based on a precautionary interpretation of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations), which does not appear to have been consulted by the Applicant under s42:

- ES Pipelines Ltd.

The **Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)** does not explain why this body has not been consulted. However, it is acknowledged that the operational areas of the licences held by this body are not clear from information in the public domain. Additionally, it is noted that other ESP bodies have been consulted, such as (but not limited to) ESP Connections Ltd and ESP Electricity Limited.

ES Pipelines Ltd. has not been identified by the Applicant as having an interest in the Order land and is not listed in the **Book of Reference (Doc 4.3)**.

⁵ Statutory consultees set out in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations)

		<p>Section 51 advice has been issued to the Applicant in respect of the above matter: http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010056-000641</p>
7	Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management Organisation ⁶ ?	Not applicable
8	Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43 ⁷ ?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraphs 6.2.8 to 6.2.10 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) list the relevant local authorities that were identified under s43 and consulted in accordance with s42(1)(b) of the PA2008, on 27 September 2019 and on 13 October 2020.</p> <p>The host 'B' authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotswold District Council; and • Tewkesbury Borough Council. <p>The host 'C' authority was consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloucestershire County Council. <p>The boundary 'A' authorities were consulted:</p>

⁶ In any case where the Proposed Development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in s42(2) of the PA2008

⁷ Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application land is in the authority's area; the 'A' authority where any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area; the 'C' authority (upper tier) where the application land is in that authority's area; the 'D' authority (upper tier) where such an authority shares a boundary with a 'C' authority

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stroud District Council; • Gloucester City Council; • Forest of Dean District Council; • Cheltenham Borough Council; • Wychavon District Council; • Malvern Hills District Council; • South Gloucestershire Council; • Wiltshire Council; • Swindon Borough Council; • Vale of White Horse District Council; • West Oxfordshire District Council; and • Stratford-on-Avon District Council. <p>The boundary 'D' authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worcestershire County Council; • Warwickshire County Council; • Oxfordshire County Council; • Monmouthshire County Council; • Herefordshire County Council; and • Swindon Borough Council. <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(b) relevant authorities on 27 September 2019 is provided at Appendices 6.4B and 6.4C of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2), and a sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(b) relevant authorities on 13 October 2020 is provided at Appendices 9.3B and 9.3C of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2).</p>
9	Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)?	Not applicable

10	Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44 categories ⁸ ?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 6.2.19 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that all persons identified under s42(1)(d) of the 2019 statutory consultation were consulted on 27 September 2019, and paragraph 9.2.25 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that all persons identified under s42(1)(d) of the 2020 statutory consultation were consulted on 13 October 2020.</p> <p>Paragraph 6.2.15 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) summarises how the Applicant made diligent inquiry to seek to identify and consult persons with an interest in lands affected by the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1) for the purposes of the 2019 statutory consultation. Paragraphs 9.2.17 to 9.2.22 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) summarise how the Applicant made diligent inquiry to seek to identify and consult persons with an interest in lands affected by the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1) for the purposes of the 2020 statutory consultation. The full methodology undertaken by the Applicant is provided in Section 4 of the Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.1).</p> <p>The persons consulted under s42(1)(d) on 27 September 2019 are listed at Appendix 6.3 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2), and persons consulted under s42(1)(d) on 13 October 2020 are listed at Appendix 9.2 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2).</p> <p>Samples of the letters sent on 27 September 2019 are provided at Appendices 6.4D and 6.4E of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2), and samples of the letters sent on 13 October 2020 are provided at Appendices 9.3D and 9.3E of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2).</p> <p>Paragraphs 11.1.4 to 11.1.9 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) confirm that the Applicant undertook five additional targeted consultations with s42(1)(d) parties due to changes to the scheme design; additional information becoming available about the expected type of land acquisition required; and the identification of additional land interests/ persons who may be entitled to make a relevant claim. Paragraphs 11.2.3, 11.2.18,</p>
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⁸ Category 1: owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land; Category 2: person interested in the land or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land; Category 3: persons who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim. There is no requirement on the Planning Inspectorate to check the accuracy of the list(s) provided

		11.2.27, 11.2.36, and 11.2.46 state that the relevant parties were consulted on 13 January 2020, 11 March 2020, 19 March 2020, 22 April 2020 and 8 February 2021.
Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation		
11	Did the Applicant notify s42 consultees of the deadline for receipt of consultation responses; and if so was the deadline notified by the Applicant 28 days or more starting with the day after receipt of the consultation documents?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Samples of the letters sent to s42 consultees as part of the 2019 statutory consultation are provided at Appendix 6.4 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2), and samples of the letters sent to s42 consultees as part of the 2020 statutory consultation are provided at Appendix 9.3 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2).</p> <p>The sample letters dated 27 September 2019 confirmed that the 2019 consultation commenced on 27 September 2019 and closed on 8 November 2019, and the sample letters dated 13 October 2020 confirmed that the 2020 consultation commenced on 13 October 2020 and closed on 12 November 2020. The letters therefore provided more than the required minimum time for receipt of responses.</p> <p>Sample letters sent to those s42(1)(d) parties consulted as part of the five targeted consultations are provided at Appendices 11.1, 11.3, 11.5, 11.7 and 11.9 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2). Paragraphs 11.2.4, 11.2.19, 11.2.28, 11.2.37 and 11.2.47 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) state that each letter was sent via Royal Mail first class post in advance to help ensure arrival by the relevant consultation commencement date. Therefore, the Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the letters provided at least the required minimum time for receipt of responses for each consultation.</p>
Section 46: Duty to notify the Planning Inspectorate of proposed application		
12	Did the Applicant supply information to notify the Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application; and if so, was the information supplied to the Planning Inspectorate on or before the date it was sent to the s42	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Applicant gave notice under s46 on 26 September 2019, which was before the beginning of the s42 consultation held between 27 September 2019 and 8 November 2019. The Applicant also gave notice under s46 on</p>

	<p>consultees? Was this done on or before commencing consultation under s42?</p>	<p>12 October 2020, which was before the beginning of the s42 consultation held between 13 October 2020 and 12 November 2020.</p> <p>A copy of the s46 notification letter dated 26 September 2019 is provided at Appendix 6.5 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) and a copy of s46 notification acknowledgement letter from the Planning Inspectorate is provided at Appendix 6.6 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2). A copy of the s46 notification letter dated 12 October 2020 is provided at Appendix 9.4 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) and a copy of s46 notification acknowledgement letter from the Planning Inspectorate is provided at Appendix 9.5 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2).</p>
<p>Section 47: Duty to consult local community</p>		
13	<p>Did the Applicant prepare a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) on how it intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Applicant prepared SoCCs for the 2019 and 2020 statutory consultations.</p> <p>A copy of the final 2019 SoCC is provided at Appendix 5.4 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2), and a copy of the final 2020 SoCC is provided at Appendix 8.4 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2).</p>
14	<p>Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if so, was the deadline for receipt of responses 28 days beginning with the day after the day that 'B' and (where applicable) 'C' authorities received the consultation documents?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>The Applicant sent the draft 2019 SoCC to Cotswold District Council ('B Authority'), Tewkesbury Borough Council ('B Authority') and Gloucestershire County Council ('C' Authority) on 9 July 2019, setting a deadline of 8 August 2019 for responses; providing more than the required minimum time for responses to be received.</p> <p>The Applicant sent the draft 2020 SoCC to the same 'B' and 'C' Authorities on 10 August 2020, setting a deadline of 7 September 2020 for responses; providing the required minimum time for responses to be received.</p>
15	<p>Has the Applicant had regard to any responses received when preparing the SoCC?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

Table 5-2 of the **Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)** provides a summary of the consultation responses from Cotswold District Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council and Gloucestershire County Council in respect of the draft 2019 SoCC and demonstrates how the Applicant had regard to their content.

Examples of changes from the draft 2019 SoCC to the final 2019 SoCC include:

- Gloucester County Council suggested making several formatting and grammatical alterations; for example, it suggested taking the last sentence from **paragraph 1.2** in the draft 2019 SoCC at **Appendix 5.1** of the **Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2)** and making this into its own paragraph. The final 2019 SoCC at **Appendix 5.4** of the **Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2)** shows that this change was made.
- Cotswold District Council suggested amending the draft 2019 SoCC to clarify whether the SoCC would be published in more than one local newspaper. The Applicant accordingly amended the text in the “*Statutory notices*” box in **Table 7.1** of the draft 2019 SoCC (see **Table 1** of the final 2019 SoCC).
- Cotswold District Council confirmed that it was happy to share information about the consultation through its communication channels, and suggested the Applicant seek a similar arrangement with Gloucester County Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council. In response to this, the Applicant amended **Table 7.1** of the draft 2019 SoCC so that the final 2019 SoCC included a dedicated “*Partner communications*” box, confirming that it would share material with local authorities so that they could publicise it through their own channels (see **Table 1** of the final 2019 SoCC).

The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant had regard to the responses received when finalising the 2019 SoCC.

Table 8-3 of the **Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)** provides a summary of the joint consultation response from Cotswold District Council, Tewkesbury Borough Council and Gloucestershire County Council (“the Councils”) in respect of the draft 2020 SoCC and demonstrates how the Applicant had regard to its content.

		<p>Examples of changes from the draft 2020 SoCC to the final 2020 SoCC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Councils commented that the text in the “<i>Stakeholder briefing</i>” box in Table 1 of the draft 2020 SoCC at Appendix 8.1 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) was too vague, and required further information about which stakeholders would be briefed, which subjects would be addressed, and when briefings would be held. In response, the Applicant added further detail in the final 2020 SoCC at Appendix 8.4. • The Councils requested that BBC Radio Gloucestershire be added to the distribution list for media updates as shown in the “<i>Media releases</i>” box of Table 1 of the draft 2020 SoCC. The Applicant made the requested change as shown in Table 1 of the final 2020 SoCC. • The Councils requested that the fifth bullet point of the scheme summary under section 3 of the draft 2020 SoCC be amended to clarify where the new multi-purpose crossing would be. The Applicant amended the relevant text to clarify the location of the crossing in the final 2020 SoCC. <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant had regard to the responses received when finalising the 2020 SoCC.</p>
16	<p>Has the SoCC been made available for inspection in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>The final 2019 SoCC was made available at the following locations, which are reasonably convenient having regard to the location of the Proposed Development:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cotswold District Council, Main Offices, Trinity Road, Cirencester, GL7 1PX. • Gloucestershire County Council, Shire Hall, Westgate Street, Gloucester, GL1 2TG. • Tewkesbury Town Hall, High Street, Tewkesbury, GL20 5AL. • Brockworth Community Library, Moorfield Road, Brockworth, Gloucester, GL3 4EX.

- Cheltenham Library, Clarence Street, Cheltenham, GL50 3JT.
- Churchdown Library, Parton Road, Gloucester, GL3 2AF.
- Cirencester Library, The Waterloo, Cirencester, GL7 2PZ.
- Coleford Library, The Main Place, Railway Drive, Coleford, GL16 8RH.
- Crickley Hill Visitor Centre.
- Gloucester Library, Brunswick Road, Gloucester, GL1 1HT.
- Hucclecote Library, Hucclecote Road, Gloucester, GL3 3RT.
- Moreton Area Centre, High Street, Moreton-in-Marsh, Gloucestershire, GL56 9QU.
- National Star College, Ullenwood, GL53 9QU.
- Stroud Library, Landsdown, Stroud, GL5 1BB.
- Tewkesbury Library, Sun Street, Tewkesbury, GL20 5NX.

A notice stating when and where the final 2019 SoCC could be inspected was published in:

- Western Daily Press (20 September 2019 and 27 September 2019).
- Gloucestershire Echo (19 September 2019 and 26 September 2019).

The published 2019 SoCC notice, provided at **Appendix 5.5** of the **Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2)** states where and when the final 2019 SoCC was available to inspect in physical format. The notice does not provide the full list of locations where the SoCC was available to inspect; only Cotswold District Council, Gloucestershire County Council and Tewkesbury Town Hall were specified. However, these locations are reasonably convenient in themselves, and **Table 5-3** of the **Consultation Report (Doc 5.1)** confirms that the SoCC was available to view at the full list of locations during the consultation period.

Clippings of the published advertisements are provided at **Appendix 5.5** of the **Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2)**. No clipping is provided to evidence that the s47 notice was published in the Western Daily Press on 20 September 2019.

		<p>Paragraphs 8.5.2 and 8.5.3 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) state that the final 2020 SoCC was made available for inspection online only, as opposed to at deposit locations, due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The 2020 SoCC was available to view on the websites of the following organisations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Highways England. • Cotswold District Council. • Gloucestershire County Council. • Tewkesbury Borough Council. <p>A notice stating when and where the final 2020 SoCC could be inspected was published in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Western Daily Press (2 October 2020 and 9 October 2020). • Gloucestershire Echo (1 October 2020 and 8 October 2020). <p>The published 2020 SoCC notice, provided at Appendix 8.5 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) states where and when the final 2020 SoCC was available to inspect, although the SoCC notice provided is not fully legible.</p> <p>Clippings of the published advertisements are provided at Appendix 8.5 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2).</p>
17	Does the SoCC set out whether the development is EIA development ⁹ ; and does it set out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Section 5 of the final 2019 SoCC, at Appendix 5.4 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2), sets out that the development is EIA development, and confirms that the Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report would be published as part of the consultation material. Section 7 sets out how the Applicant intended to consult on the consultation material, and section 8 sets out how to respond to the consultation material. Section 9 sets out how the Applicant intended to publicise the consultation material, including the PEI Report.</p> <p>Section 5 of the final 2020 SoCC, at Appendix 8.4 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2), sets out that the scheme will “<i>require an</i></p>

⁹ Regulation 12 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 10 of the 2009 EIA Regulations
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		<p><i>Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)</i>". Section 5 also confirms that the PEI Report would be published as part of the consultation material. Section 7 sets out how the Applicant intended to consult on the consultation material, and section 8 sets out how to respond to the consultation material. Section 9 sets out how the Applicant intended to publicise the consultation material, including the PEI Report.</p>
18	<p>Has the Applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC?</p>	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraphs 6.2.34 to 6.2.63 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) set out how the 2019 community consultation was carried out in line with the final 2019 SoCC. Paragraphs 9.2.43 to 9.2.75 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) set out how the 2020 community consultation was carried out in line with the final 2020 SoCC.</p> <p>Appendix 5.6 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) sets out how the Applicant has complied with the commitments set out in the final 2019 SoCC. Appendix 8.6 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) sets out how the Applicant has complied with the commitments set out in the final 2020 SoCC.</p> <p>Chapter 6 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and Appendices 5.5, 5.6, 6.1, 6.4, 6.7, 6.8, 6.10, 6.11, 6.12, 6.13, 6.14, 6.18 and 7.1 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) provide evidence that the commitments within the final 2019 SoCC have been carried out.</p> <p>Chapter 9 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and Appendices 8.5, 8.6, 9.1, 9.3, 9.6, 9.7, 9.8, 9.9, 9.10, 9.11, 9.12 and 9.13 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) provide evidence that the commitments within the final 2020 SoCC have been carried out.</p> <p>The following observations have been noted with regards to certain commitments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2019 SoCC contains a commitment to "<i>send either emails or letters advising of the consultation and how to get involved to ... MEPs representing the South West region</i>". The Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) does not provide any information about whether this was done.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The 2019 SoCC contains a commitment to “<i>try to ensure that [the] consultation has due regard to other consultations taking place in the locally [sic]</i>”. The Applicant has not provided evidence of how this was complied with. • The 2020 SoCC contains a commitment to “<i>write to all registered users ... of the Highways England project website and respondents of the previous consultation that wished to stay in touch</i>” to provide them with an invitation to the ‘Have Your Say’ pre-consultation campaign. However, paragraphs 9.4.2 to 9.4.16 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) do not confirm whether this was done. • The 2020 SoCC contains a commitment to “<i>provide a digital pack of information about the consultation including blocks of text and images to stakeholders so that they can promote the forthcoming consultation on their own communications channels</i>”, and that this would include “<i>directly affected local authorities, GFirst LEP and other stakeholders.</i>” Appendix 9.9 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) provides copies of the stakeholder information packs; however, the Applicant does not directly confirm that these were sent to affected local authorities and GFirst LEP. <p>The above bullet points do not, either individually or collectively, alter the Planning Inspectorate’s conclusion that the Applicant has complied with its statutory duties under s47 of the PA2008.</p>
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Section 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application

19	Did the Applicant publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 4(2) of the APFP Regulations?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 6.1.13 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states:</p> <p><i>“Under section 48 of the Act, Highways England is required to publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner, which is defined in Regulation 4 of the APFP Regulations and Regulation 13 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations).”</i></p>
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		<p>Paragraphs 6.2.64, 6.2.65, 9.2.76 and 9.2.77 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) demonstrate compliance in this regard.</p> <p>Tables 6-2 and 9-2 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) list the newspapers and dates of the s48 publicity in respect of the 2019 and 2020 statutory consultations, as set out below.</p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice for the 2019 and 2020 statutory consultations are provided at Appendices 6.11 and 9.10 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2).</p> <p>Clippings of the published notices set out below are provided at Appendix 6.11 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) in respect of the 2019 s48 notice, and Appendix 9.10 in respect of the 2020 s48 notice.</p> <p>The following observations were noted in respect of the clippings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No clippings have been provided evidencing the 2019 s48 notice in the Gloucestershire Echo. • One clipping of the 2019 s48 notice has been provided under the heading "<i>Western Daily Press</i>", however this does not show the full notice and does not show the publication name or date. • A clipping of the 2019 s48 notice in the London Gazette on 20 September 2019 has been provided. • The Applicant states that the 2020 s48 notice was published in the London Gazette on 1 October 2020, however the clipping provided at Appendix 9.10 suggests that the notice was published "<i>between 9 and 11 October 2020</i>". 			
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 75%; text-align: center;">Newspaper(s)</th> <th style="width: 20%; text-align: center;">Date</th> </tr> </thead> </table>				Newspaper(s)	Date
	Newspaper(s)	Date			
a)	for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the Proposed Development would be situated;	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 75%;"> 2019 statutory consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloucestershire Echo </td> <td style="width: 20%; text-align: center; vertical-align: top;"> 19 September 2019 and 26 September 2019 </td> </tr> </table>	2019 statutory consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloucestershire Echo 	19 September 2019 and 26 September 2019	
2019 statutory consultation: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gloucestershire Echo 	19 September 2019 and 26 September 2019				

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Western Daily Press <p>2020 statutory consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Gloucestershire Echo Western Daily Press 	<p>20 September 2019 and 27 September 2019</p> <p>1 October 2020 and 8 October 2020</p> <p>2 October 2020 and 9 October 2020</p>
b)	once in a national newspaper;	<p>2019 statutory consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Guardian <p>2020 statutory consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Telegraph 	<p>20 September 2019 and 27 September 2019</p> <p>14 October 2020</p>
c)	once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and	<p>2019 statutory consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> London Gazette <p>2020 statutory consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> London Gazette 	<p>20 September 2019 and 27 September 2019</p> <p>1 October 2020</p>

d)	where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal?	Not applicable	Not applicable		
20	Did the s48 notice include the required information set out in Regulation 4(3) of APFP Regulations?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Both the s48 notice published in respect of the 2019 statutory consultation and the s48 notice published in respect of the 2020 statutory consultation, supplied at Appendices 6.11 and 9.10 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) respectively, contain the required information as set out below:</p>			
Information		Paragraph			
a)	the name and address of the Applicant.	1	b)	a statement that the Applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State	1
c)	a statement as to whether the application is EIA development	3	d)	a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the Proposed Development	2
e)	a statement that the documents, plans and maps showing the nature and location of the Proposed Development are available for inspection free of charge at the places (including at least one address in the vicinity of the Proposed Development) and times set out in the notice	4 (2019 s48 notice); 5 (2020 s48 notice, albeit in relation to inspecting digital documents only due to the COVID-19 pandemic)	f)	the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection	4 (2019 s48 notice); 5 (2020 s48 notice)

g)	whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge	6 (2019 s48 notice); 8 (2020 s48 notice)	h)	details of how to respond to the publicity	8 (2019 s48 notice); 11 (2020 s48 notice)
i)	a deadline for receipt of those responses by the Applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published	9 (2019 s48 notice); 10 (2020 s48 notice)			
21	Are there any observations in respect of the s48 notice provided above?				
	No				
22	Has a copy of the s48 notice been sent to the EIA consultation bodies and to any person notified to the Applicant in accordance with the EIA Regulations ¹⁰ ?	<p>Yes</p> <p>A copy of the 2019 version of the s48 notice was sent to the EIA consultation bodies as part of the s42 consultation undertaken in 2019, as confirmed in paragraph 6.2.68 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1). A copy of the 2020 version of the s48 notice was sent to the EIA consultation bodies as part of the s42 consultation undertaken in 2020, as confirmed in paragraph 9.2.80 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>Samples of the s42 consultation letters issued as part of the 2019 statutory consultation are provided at Appendix 6.4 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2), and samples of the s42 consultation letters issued as part of the 2020 statutory consultation are provided at Appendix 9.3. These letters confirm that a copy of the s48 notice was enclosed.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate did not notify the Applicant of any persons under Regulation 11(1)(c) of the EIA Regulations who may be affected by the scheme.</p>			
s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity					

¹⁰ Regulation 13 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 11 of the 2009 EIA Regulations
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23	Has the Applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Appendices 7.1 to 7.4 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) set out how the Applicant had regard to the consultation responses received in respect of the 2019 statutory consultation, including whether responses led to changes to the application.</p> <p>Appendices 10.1 to 10.4 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) set out how the Applicant had regard to the consultation responses received in respect of the 2020 statutory consultation, including whether responses led to changes to the application.</p> <p>Appendix 11.11 of the Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) sets out how the Applicant had regard to the consultation responses received in respect of the five targeted statutory consultations, including whether or not responses led to changes to the application.</p> <p>Paragraph 7.2.5 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that the Applicant was not able to distinguish between responses received to s47 consultation and s48 consultation as part of the 2019 statutory consultation, and paragraph 10.2.7 confirms the same in respect of the 2020 statutory consultation. The reason given is that responses were received through the same channels.</p> <p>The actions informed by the consultation responses appear to be reflected in the final form of the application as submitted. Where a particular response has not led to a change in the application, it is sufficiently clear that regard was had to it.</p>
Guidance about pre-application procedure		
24	To what extent has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process' ¹¹ ?	<p>Paragraph 1.1.6 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that the Applicant has taken into consideration all relevant statutory and other guidance.</p>

¹¹ The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the Applicant has had regard to guidance issued under s50 A417 Missing Link: Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist - June 2021

		Having reviewed the application, the Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant has identified and had regard to the relevant statutory guidance.
25	Summary: Section 55(3)(e)	The Applicant has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure) of the PA2008. In respect of the minor consultation discrepancy identified in Box 6, s51 advice has been provided to the Applicant and is available here: http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010056-000641
s55(3)(f) and s55(5A): The application (including accompaniments) achieves a satisfactory standard having regard to the extent to which it complies with section 37(3) (form and contents of application) and with any standards set under section 37(5) and follows any applicable guidance under section 37(4)		
26	Is it made in the prescribed form as set out in Schedule 2 of the APFP Regulations, and does it include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate; and a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it is a linear scheme? 	Yes Section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.3) explains why the development falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate. Section 5 of the Application Form (Doc 1.3) provides a brief non-technical description of the site and section 6 describes the location of the Proposed Development. A Location Plan (Doc 2.1) has been provided.
27	Is it accompanied by a Consultation Report?	Yes The application is accompanied by a Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2) .
28	Where a plan comprises three or more separate sheets, has a key plan been provided showing the relationship between the different sheets? ¹²	Yes

¹² Regulation 5(4) of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009
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29	Is it accompanied by the documents and information set out in APFP Regulation 5(2)?	Yes The documents and information required by APFP Regulation 5(2) are set out in the documents and locations within the application as listed below:			
Information Document Information Document					
a)	Where applicable, the Environmental Statement required under the EIA Regulations ¹³ and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	Non-Technical Summary (Doc 6.1) Environmental Statement (Doc 6.2) Environmental Statement – Figures (Doc 6.3) Environmental Statement - Appendices (Doc 6.4) Scoping Opinion (Doc 6.4, Appendix 4.1)	b)	The draft Development Consent Order (DCO)	Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
c)	An Explanatory Memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO	Explanatory Memorandum (Doc 3.2)	d)	Where applicable, a Book of Reference (where the application involves any Compulsory Acquisition)	Book of Reference (Doc 4.3)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
e)	A copy of any Flood Risk Assessment	Flood Risk Assessment (Doc 6.4, Appendix 13.3)	f)	A statement whether the proposal engages one or more of the	Statement of Statutory Nuisance (Doc 6.6)

¹³ The 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, the 2009 EIA Regulations
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			matters set out in section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances) and if so how the Applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
h)	A Statement of Reasons and a Funding Statement (where the application involves any Compulsory Acquisition)	Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.1) Funding Statement (Doc 4.2)	i) A Land Plan identifying:- (i) the land required for, or affected by, the Proposed Development; (ii) where applicable, any land over which it is proposed to exercise powers of Compulsory Acquisition or any rights to use land; (iii) any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements, servitudes and other private rights; and	Land Plans (Doc 2.2) Specific Category Land Plans (Doc 2.3) Rights of Way and Access Plans (Doc 2.5)

			(iv) any special category land and replacement land	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with observations in Box 30)
j)	A Works Plan showing, in relation to existing features:- (i) the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and (ii) the limits within which the development and works may be carried out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO	Works Plans (Doc 2.4)	k) Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation	Rights of Way and Access Plans (Doc 2.5) Traffic Regulations Measures Speed Limits (Doc 2.7a) Traffic Regulations Measures Clearways and Prohibitions (Doc 2.7b) Traffic Regulations Measures Classification of Roads (Doc 2.7c) Traffic Regulation Measures De-Trunking Plans (Doc 2.8)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with observations in Box 30)	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with observations in Box 30)
l)	Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:- (i) any statutory/ non-statutory sites or	(i) Environmental Features - Statutory and Non-Statutory Designated Sites of Nature Conservation (Doc 2.9)	m) Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory/ non-statutory sites or features of the historic	Heritage Designation Plans (Doc 2.12) Environmental Statement Chapter 6 (Doc 6.2) Environmental Statement - Figure 6.1 - Designated Heritage

<p>features of nature conservation eg sites of geological/landscape importance;</p> <p>(ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and</p> <p>(iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan, together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the Proposed Development</p>	<p>Environmental Statement Chapters 5, 8 and 9 (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 5.4 - Assessed Ecology Receptors (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 8.1 - Statutory Designated Sites (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 8.2 - Non-Statutory Designated Sites (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figures 9.2- 9.5 Geological Map, Ground Investigation Locations, and Designated Geological Sites - (Doc 6.3).</p> <p>(ii)</p> <p>Habitats of Protected Species, Important Habitats or Other Diversity Features and Water Bodies in a River Basin Management Plan (Doc 2.10)</p> <p>Confidential: Habitats of Protected Species: Location of Badger Setts Plans (Doc 2.11)</p> <p>Trees and Hedgerows to be Removed or Managed Plans (Doc 2.13)</p>	<p>environment, (eg scheduled monuments, World Heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields) together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures likely to be caused by the Proposed Development</p>	<p>Assets Within 1km of the Scheme (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 6.2 - Non-designated Heritage Assets (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 6.3 - Historic Landscape Character Areas (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 7.3 - Designations (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 7.5 - Historic Landscape Characterisation (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement Appendices also provide reports on designated and non-designated heritage and landscape character studies for the Environmental Statement.</p>
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	<p>Environmental Statement Chapters 5 and 8 (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 5.4 - Assessed Ecology Receptors (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figures 8.10-8.12 (Fish Habitats 4,5, and 6) (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figures 8.13-8.14 (Roman Snail Survey) (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figures 8.15-8.19 (Barn Owl surveys/sites) (Doc 6.3).</p> <p>Environmental Statement Appendices also provide reports on habitats and species surveys carried out for the Environmental Statement.</p> <p>(iii)</p> <p>Habitats of Protected Species, Important Habitats or Other Diversity Features and Water Bodies in a River Basin Management Plan (Doc 2.10)</p> <p>Environmental Statement Chapter 13 (Document 6.2)</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.2 - WFD Compliance Assessment (Doc 6.4);</p>			
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	<p>Environmental Statement - Figure 13.3 - WFD Surface Waterbodies (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 13.1 - Surface Water Features (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 13.10 - Groundwater Conceptual Model Cross Sections (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 13.6 - Aquifer Designations (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 13.17 - Groundwater Conceptual Model Sections (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 13.16 - Groundwater Impact Assessment (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 13.18 - Existing Highway Drainage – Plan (Doc 6.3);</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Figure 13.19 - Scheme Highway Drainage – Plan (Doc 6.3);</p>			
Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with observations in Box 30)		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with observations in Box 30)

n)	Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land	Not applicable	o)	Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal showing details of design, external appearance, and the preferred layout of buildings/ structures, drainage, surface water management, means of vehicular and pedestrian access, any car parking and landscaping	Rights of Way and Access Plans (Doc 2.5) General Arrangement Plans (Doc 2.6a) Engineering Drawings and Sections (Doc 2.6b) Traffic Regulations Measures Speed Limits (Doc 2.7a) Traffic Regulations Measures Clearways and Prohibitions (Doc 2.7b) Traffic Regulations Measures Classification of Roads (Doc 2.7c) Trees and Hedgerows to be Removed or Managed Plans Part 1 & Part 2 (Doc 2.13) Environmental Masterplan (Doc 6.3, Figure 7.11)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Not applicable		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with observations in Box 30)
p)	Any of the documents prescribed by Regulation 6 of the APFP Regulations:	General Arrangement Plans (Doc 2.6a) Engineering Drawings and Sections (Doc 2.6b)	q)	Any other documents considered necessary to support the application	Introduction to the Application (Doc 1.1a) Application Document Tracker (1.1b) Application Covering Letter (including section 55 checklist) (Doc 1.2) Environmental Statement Appendix 2.1 Environmental Management Plan (Doc 6.4)

				Habitats Regulations Assessment: Screening Report and Statement to Inform Appropriate Assessment (Doc 6.5) Case for the Scheme (Doc 7.1) Consents and Agreements Position Statement (Doc 7.2) Statement of Commonality (Doc 7.3) Scheme Assessment Report (Doc 7.4) Route Options Consultation Report (March 2019) (Doc 7.5) Combined Modelling and Appraisal Report (Doc 7.6) Design Summary Report (Doc 7.7) Equality Impact Assessment (Doc 7.8) Technical Appraisal Report (February 2018) (Doc 7.9) Transport Report (Doc 7.10) Cotswold Way National Trail Diversion Report (Doc 7.11)	
	Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with observations in Box 30)		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes (with observations in Box 30)
30	Are there any observations in respect of the documents provided at Box 29 (a) to (q) above?				

Application Document Tracker (Doc 1.1b)

- The Tracker does not list all documents and therefore will have limited scope and benefit. It would be helpful to the future Examination if the Tracker contained a breakdown of the Environment Statement chapters, figures and appendices (**Docs 6.2 - 6.4**).

Volume 2 Plans, Drawings and Sections (Docs 2.2 to 2.8 and 2.10 to 2.13)

- The main Key Plans do not include the proposed highways layout. The inclusion of the same would assist the future Examination by making it easier to identify the required sheet number.

Works Plans (Doc 2.4)

- It is difficult to identify individual works on the plans because of the amount of sub-works, particularly in respect of Work No.1. It would be helpful to the future Examination if the plans could be made clearer.
- There are a number of instances where Work No. annotations do not correspond with the sheet numbers specified in Schedule 1 of the dDCO. The Applicant is advised to carry out a close review of how the Works Plans interact with the dDCO.

General Arrangement Plans (Doc 2.6a)

- It would assist the future Examination if Sheets 1-6 included further high-level information about the scheme, such as shaded areas of environmental mitigation and enhancement, retained woodland etc, as shown on the Environmental Master Plan (Figure 7.11).

Traffic Regulation Measures Classification of Roads (Doc 2.7c)

- The legend annotation between points 1 and 2 on Sheet 1 does not match the solid black line for all other entries made in the corresponding part of the dDCO.

Environmental Features - Statutory and Non-Statutory Designated Sites of Nature Conservation (Doc 2.9)

The scale of Sheet 2 in particular makes it difficult to read. The Applicant should consider how this could be resolved. For example, there is little or no information on the right-hand side of Sheet 2, which could be excluded.

Section 51 advice has been issued to the Applicant in respect of the above matters:

<http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010056-000641>

31	Is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which Regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the Proposed Development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site if required by Regulation 48(1)? ¹⁴	<p>Yes</p> <p>A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Screening Report is provided with the Environmental Statement (Doc 6.5). The HRA Screening Report identifies relevant European sites and the likely effects on those sites as a result of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>A Habitat Regulations Assessment Statement to Inform Appropriate Assessment (Doc 6.5) has also been provided which considers the impacts to the integrity of the Cotswolds Beechwoods SAC.</p> <p>It is considered that the information provided in the report is adequate for acceptance.</p> <p>Note: The Examining Authority will be able to ask questions during the Examination. This may result in additional information being required to inform the HRA Report and the competent authority. Depending upon the type and availability of information required it may not be possible to obtain this during the statutory timetable of the Examination.</p>
32	If requested by the Planning Inspectorate, two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans ¹⁵	The Planning Inspectorate did not request two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans.
33	Has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance', and has this regard led to the application being prepared to a standard that the Planning Inspectorate considers satisfactory?	<p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 1.1.6 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1), Paragraph 3.1 of the Application Cover Letter (Doc 1.2) and the Introduction to the Application (Doc 1.1) list the statutory guidance on the preparation of the application that the Applicant has had regard to.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant has demonstrated regard to the guidance principles.</p>

¹⁴ Regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP Regulations

¹⁵ Regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP Regulations

34	Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A)	<p>The Planning Inspectorate concludes that the application (including accompaniments) has been prepared to a standard that it considers satisfactory.</p> <p>In respect of the discrepancies identified in Box 30 of this checklist, to help facilitate an efficient and effective examination of the application, s51 advice has been provided to the Applicant in conjunction with the decision to accept the application. That advice is published on the National Infrastructure Planning website, here: http://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010056-000641</p>
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The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 (as amended)

Fees to accompany an application

35	Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made ¹⁶ ?	The fee was received on 1 June 2021; the same time that the application was made.
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Role	Electronic signature	Date
Case Manager	<i>Hefin Jones</i>	29 June 2021
Acceptance Inspector	<i>Richard S Jones</i>	29 June 2021

¹⁶ The Planning Inspectorate must charge the Applicant a fee in respect of the decision by the Planning Inspectorate under section 55 of the PA2008. If the Applicant fails to pay the fee, the Planning Inspectorate need not consider the application until payment is received. The fee must be paid at the same time that the application is made

