

National Highways
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Date: 16 November 2022

Dear Sirs

A66 Dualling
Participation at the Preliminary Hearing

Please consider this request to participate at the preliminary hearings to be made on behalf of both North Yorkshire County Council and Richmondshire District Council (The Councils).

Attendance at the Preliminary Meeting and Issue Specific Hearings

The Councils confirm that we will attend the preliminary meeting virtually. We do not have anything specific to contribute to the preliminary meeting at this stage.

The Councils wish to register to attend the issue specific hearings virtually. A full attendance list can be provided closer to the time. At this stage it is likely that the Councils will participate primarily in the Environmental Matters hearing and a detailed list of participants can be provided closer to the time upon receipt of a more detailed agenda.

Accompanied Site Inspections

The Councils do not have a specific request for an accompanied site visit to Scotch Corner (Scheme 11) or Mainsgill Farm Shop and Moor Lane Junction (Scheme 9) following the unaccompanied visits to those sites.

The Councils consider it is appropriate at this stage to point out the potential for the Town and County Planning Act application at the Moor Lane junction. The Councils understand this will include the development of a large compound with accompanying infrastructure developments including a temporary roundabout at the junction to Moor Lane. The Councils do not have any more detail than that at this stage and early discussions are being scheduled. Had this application been part of the DCO it is likely that the Councils would have suggested an accompanied site visit was appropriate

given the scale of the proposed compound. The Councils leave it to the discretion of the Examining Authority as to whether it considers a further site visit in light the proposed TCPA application would be appropriate.

Examination Timetable and other matters

The Joint Local Authorities Group (JLAG), comprising Cumbria County Council, Eden District Council, Durham County Council, North Yorkshire County Council and Richmondshire District Council, is submitting a letter setting out observations in respect of the examination timetable. In addition, the letter sets out a number of matters which JLAG seeks assurance will be covered during consideration of the three phases of construction, operation and decommissioning. The letter from JLAG should therefore be read in conjunction with this letter from the Councils.

Yours faithfully

Michael Reynolds
Senor Policy Officer (Infrastructure)