

Date: **04 April 2023**
Our ref: 15928
Your ref: TR010062



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BY EMAIL ONLY

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Dear Mr. Allen

**TR010062: Application by National Highways for the A66 Trans-Pennine Dualling Project
The Examining Authority's Written Questions and requests for information. Issued on 24 March 2023**

User Code: A66D-EIA006

Title: Natural England's Response to the ExA's written questions

Examining authority's submission Deadline 6: 4th April 2023

Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.

Our response to the written questions are in the table below.

Ref	Topic	Question	Natural England Response
AQ 2.1	Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) LA105 Assessment The Applicant Natural England (NE)	<p>Natural England (NE) state in their Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statement (PADSS) [REP5-060] "Natural England have discussed the chosen methodologies with the air quality specialists from National Highways, we are awaiting the promised technical notes to be produced. It is likely that Natural England's concerns will be addressed in these technical notes and therefore during examination".</p> <p>This position is the same as the previous NE PADSS [REP3-063]. It is stated in the NE Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) [REP5-009], that "A technical note which sets out National Highways</p>	<p>Natural England have provided comments on the current air quality methodology used by National Highways for the A66 project in both of our representations and kept these comments up to date in our Statement of Common Ground. Please see our updated Principal Areas of Disagreement Summary Statement (PADSS) submission alongside our Deadline 6 response.</p> <p>Natural England continue to work with NH to determine a mutual understanding of the assessment methodology used for the A66 project. Natural England are awaiting the technical note that was discussed with NH consultants on the 9th of December. On receipt of the technical note, Natural</p>

		position is being produced and will be shared with Natural England during the week commencing 13th March 2023". Explain whether this matter been progressed and can both parties summarise the progress to date and detail whether they will be able to reach agreement within the Examination period.	England will review and update the air quality sections of the PADSS table. It is likely that Natural England's concerns will be addressed in these technical notes and therefore during examination.
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For any further advice on this consultation please contact the case officer Niamh Keddy and copy to consultations@naturalengland.org.uk.

Yours sincerely

Niamh Keddy

Sustainable Development Strategic Solutions Senior Advisor