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[A66Dualling@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:A66Dualling@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

15 May 2023

Dear Sir/Madam

**Planning Act 2008 (as amended) - Section 88 and 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 - Rules 6 and 8**

**Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the A66 Trans-Pennine Dualling Project**

**Deadline 8 – 15 May 2023**

**Durham County Council Reference No. 20032071**

I write in response to the 'Rule 6' letter dated 17 October 2022 and the 'Rule 8' letter dated 8 December 2022 which, amongst other matters, sets out information which is required to be submitted to the Examining Authority (ExA) by Deadline 8. In addition, I note the letter dated 31 January 2023 from the ExA (the 'Rule 13 and 16' letter).

**Final draft DCO to be submitted by the Applicant in the SI template with the SI template validation report**

Not applicable to Durham County Council (DCC).

**Final Book of Reference (BoR) and schedule of changes to BoR**

Not applicable to DCC.

**Final Explanatory Memorandum**

Not applicable to DCC.

**Final Statement of Reasons**

Not applicable to DCC.

**Final Compulsory Acquisition Status of Negotiations Schedule**

Not applicable to DCC.

**Continued ...**

**Regeneration, Economy and Growth**

Durham County Council, Planning Development (Strategic), Room 4/123-128, County Hall,  
Durham DH1 5UL Main Telephone: 03000 262 830

**Final Statutory Undertakers Status of Negotiations Schedule**

Not applicable to DCC.

**Final Statements of Common Ground**

DCC has signed a final Statement of Common Ground which is being submitted by the Applicant.

**Final Statement of Commonality of Statements of Common Ground**

Not applicable to DCC.

**Final Guide to the Application**

Not applicable to DCC.

**Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010**

Not applicable to DCC.

**Comments on any further information/submissions received by Deadline 7**

DCC has no comments to make at this time.

**General**

DCC would reiterate that it does not object to the proposed junction at Rokeby; however, given the lesser impact of the “Blue” route, referred to in the Statutory Consultation, in relation to increased traffic on the B6277 The Sills, the strong preference of the Council remains for the “Blue” route. The reasons for this are set out in Appendix 1 of the Council’s Relevant Representation to PNS dated 31 August 2022 (Application Document RR-073) and in subsequent documents submitted to the ExA by the Council.

DCC considers that there continues to be a need for the Applicant to liaise with DCC regarding the ongoing and final highway design of the scheme as well as other related matters.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you have any queries regarding this letter.

Yours sincerely

A solid black rectangular box used to redact the signature of the Principal Planning Officer.

Principal Planning Officer