



# Department for Transport

Great Minster House  
33 Horseferry Road  
London, SW1P 4DR

Telephone: 0300 330 3000

Email:

Web: [transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk](mailto:transportinfrastructure@dft.gov.uk)  
[www.gov.uk/dft](http://www.gov.uk/dft)

---

To: Natural England, National  
Highways and all other  
Interested Parties

Date: 30 August 2023

---

Dear Sir/Madam

## **PLANNING ACT 2008 AND THE INFRASTRUCTURE PLANNING (EXAMINATION PROCEDURE) RULES 2010**

Application by National Highways (“the Applicant”) for an Order granting Development Consent for the proposed A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project.

## **CONSULTATION SEEKING COMMENTS FROM THE APPLICANT and ALL INTERESTED PARTIES**

### **REQUEST FOR INFORMATION**

1. Following the completion of the Examination on 29 May 2023, the Examining Authority (“ExA”) submitted to the Secretary of State on 7 August 2023 a report and recommendation in respect of its findings and conclusions on the above application. In accordance with section 107 of the Planning Act 2008, the Secretary of State must make his decision on the application by 7 November 2023.
2. On 11 August 2023 the Secretary of State initiated a [consultation](#)<sup>1</sup> on a number of outstanding issues. The deadline for response was 25 August 2023. The [representations received](#)<sup>2</sup> in response to the consultation have now been

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/wp-content/ipc/uploads/projects/TR010062/TR010062-002223-Letter%20from%20Secretary%20of%20State%20-%2011%20August%202023.pdf>

<sup>2</sup> <https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-west/a66-northern-trans-pennine-project/?ipcsection=docs>

published and the Secretary of State invites **all Interested Parties** to provide comments on them. In particular, the Secretary of State invites:

- **Natural England** to provide comments on the information contained in the Applicant's letter dated 25 August 2023 in relation to the Habitats Regulations Assessment and the information attached at Annex 1; and
- The **Applicant** to provide a response on the issues raised in the representations submitted by other Interested Parties.

## DEADLINE FOR RESPONSES

3. Responses to the requested information should be submitted by email only to [A66Dualling@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:A66Dualling@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) by 23.59 on 8 September 2023.
4. Responses will be published on the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project page of the National Infrastructure Planning website as soon as possible after 8 September 2023:
  - [A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project | National Infrastructure Planning \(planninginspectorate.gov.uk\)](#)
5. This letter is without prejudice to the Secretary of State's consideration of whether to grant or withhold development consent for the proposed A66 Northern Trans-Pennine Project. Nothing in this letter is to be taken to imply what the eventual decision might be or what final conclusions the Secretary of State may reach on any particular issue which is relevant to the determination of the application.

Yours faithfully,

Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit