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18th January 2024

Our ref: A66D-AFP090

Your ref: TRO10062

Sent by email to: A66Dualling@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

Dear Sir / Madam,

RE: APPLICATION BY NATIONAL HIGHWAYS FOR AN ORDER GRANTING CONSENT FOR THE A66 TRANS-PENNINE DUALLING PROJECT CONSULTATION SEEKING FURTHER COMMENTS FROM CUMBRIA POLICE

Thank you for your letter dated 5th January 2024. In response to your letter Cumbria Constabulary wish to provide the following comments.

From a Cumbria Police Headquarters Estates Perspective:

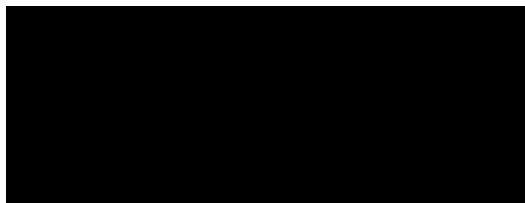
- The final design drawings outlining exact access and egress arrangements to Cumbria Police / Cumbria Fire & Rescue Headquarters Site including levels.
- The anticipated duration of build-phase is currently unknown.
- Arrangements for temporary diversions around the site and around Kemplay Roundabout during the build phase.
- Arrangements for temporary access and egress to and from the site during the build phase.
- Impact on traffic flow to A686 Carleton Avenue – how will access be maintained?
- Impact on traffic flow to A6 Eamont Bridge – how will access be maintained and where is the diversion? Impact on J40 of the M6?
- Assurance of continuity of services into and out of the site during the build phase and emergency arrangements for the potential event of interruption of these services.

From a Cumbria Police Operational Perspective:

- Kendal Calling 1st to 4th August 2024 (Repeated yearly) – The A66 / A6 / M6 are strategic arterial routes which are used for diversions and increase in traffic volume due to the event and increased visitors from out of county.
- Appleby Fair – May (Phase 1) to June 6th to 9th (Phase 2) – The A66 is the strategic arterial route which is used for access / egress to the event, including an increase in vulnerable road users (Horse / Carts)
- The following critical functions are located at Cumbria Police HQ – Control Room, Firearms Training, Driver Training, ICT, Radio, Dog Section, Learning & Development, Occupational Health– In addition there are hundreds of staff who either work full time at this location or use this site for training / welfare purposes.
- Where are the strategic diversion ‘blue routes’ for all emergency services travelling East of Penrith?
- There are risks associated with Serious & Organised Acquisitive Crime on the Eastern border of Cumbria with Durham – does the project include sufficient preventative measures such as ANPR / CCTV / HGV parking facilities that are secure and well lit? Stainmore Café is the only current facility that provides little security or road safety initiatives. This has been subject to criminality and KSI collisions.
- The A66 east of Penrith is a high harm area in respect of KSI collisions in the county – what preventative measures are being implemented to prevent this and will activity be linked to the Cumbria Road Safety Partnership? Is there any consideration to implementing average / fixed speed cameras, similar to that of the A590 to improve road safety? The speeds on this stretch of road will be higher given dual carriageway status. Will the speed limit be 70 MPH throughout? Will there be locations for safe vehicle stops and safety camera van enforcement zones.
- Cumbria Police authorise Abnormal Load Movements and Escorts between counties to strategic locations – HGV’s account for around 25% of total traffic on the A66 - is there any consideration around the impact on other routes such as A69 / A65?

I would like to thank you for the opportunity to provide comment.

Yours sincerely



Jonathan Blackwell
Assistant Chief Constable