

Highways Commissioning  
Block 5, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor East  
Shire Hall  
Gloucester GL1 2TH  
Telephone: 01454 662377

30<sup>th</sup> July 2024

## M5 Junction 10 Improvements Scheme

Dear Mr Maund,

### Application by Gloucestershire County Council for an order granting Development Consent for the M5 Junction 10 Improvements Scheme

#### Planning Act 2008 – Section 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rule 8 and 9, 13 and 16

Further to the Examining Authority's Rule 8 letter, dated 14 June 2024, I write in respect to the information requested from the Applicant at Deadline 3 (30 July 2024).

#### Documentation submitted at Deadline 3

Please find enclosed the following documents which have been requested from the Applicant at Deadline 3:

1. Responses to Examining Authority's First Written Questions:

The Applicant can confirm that the following document has been submitted at Deadline 3:

- Applicant's Response to Examining Authority's First Written Questions (ExQ1) (TR010063/APP/9.43 – Rev 0)

In addition to the above, the Applicant has submitted the following documents to support its responses to the Examining Authority's First Written Questions:

- Environmental Statement Chapter 13 Population and Human Health (TR010063/APP/6.11 – Rev 3.0) as a further consistency check has been undertaken in responding to Q1.0.7: Tracked and Clean versions submitted
- Appendix 7.13 Habitat Regulations Assessment - Screening (TR010063/APP/6.15 – Rev 1.0) as per request from ExA for figures, cross referencing and aligning pathways to be updated in Q3.1.1, Q3.1.2 and Q3.1.3: Tracked and Clean versions submitted
- Appendix 7.14 Habitats Regulations Assessments - Statement to Inform and Appropriate Assessment (TR010063/APP/6.15 – Rev 1.0) as per request from ExA for figures, cross referencing, aligning pathway and appendices to be updated and clarifications to be added in Q3.1.1, Q3.1.2, Q3.1.3, Q3.1.10 and Q3.1.6: Tracked and Clean versions submitted

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- Appendix 8.2 WFD Compliance Assessment (TR010063/APP/6.15 – Rev 2) as per request from the ExA in Q16.1.1: Tracked and Clean versions submitted
- Appendix 9.1 LVIA Chapter Figures (TR010063/APP/6.15 – Rev 1) Figure 9.3 as per request from ExA in Q11.0.2: Tracked and Clean versions submitted
- Register of Environmental Commitments and Register (TR010063/APP/7.4 Rev 3.0) Tracked and Clean versions submitted - Updates have been made following the request for further information from ExA in Q16.0.3, Q16.0.4 and Q16.0.12.
- Transport Assessment (TR010063/APP/7.5 – Rev 2) Amended version to address comments received from National Highways and to report the results of the refined operational (PARAMICS) traffic modelling, which also addresses National Highways comments: Tracked and Clean versions submitted.
- Bat Addendum Technical Appendix (TR010063/APP/9.45 – Rev 0) - Addendum to Appendix 7.3 as per request from ExA for the applicant to provide the 2023 emerging survey results in Q3.0.1.
- Project Design Report (TR010063/APP/9.47 – Rev 0) to support the applicants response to Q7.0.1 from ExA.
- JCS Transport Evidence Base (TR010063/APP/9.48 – Rev 0) to support the Applicant's response to Q1.2.2
- Naturespace Great Crested Newt District Licencing Scheme (TR010063/APP/9/51 – Rev 0) as per request from ExA in Q3.0.5.
- West Cheltenham Link Road Route Corridor Assessment (Feb 2021) (TR010063/APP/9.52 – Rev 0) as per request from ExA in Q16.0.8.
- Multimodal Study (TR010063/APP/9.53 – Rev 0) submitted in support of the Applicant's response to ExA Q1.3.2
- Road Safety Audit 1 Response Report (TR010063/APP/9.54 – Rev 0) .This is to provide evidence to support Applicant's response to National Highways SoCG Item 5.46 regarding road safety (TR010063/APP/8.3 Rev 2)
- Additional information relating to Applicant Response to ExA Q6.0.8 and Q6.2.1 (TR010063/APP/9.55 – Rev 0)
- Additional Information relating to ExA Q12.9, 12.14 and Q12.16 (TR010063/APP/9.56 – Rev 0)
- Additional information relating to ExA 1.0.14 (TR010063/APP/XXX – this is the Applicant response to Appendix B of National Highways Relevant Representation RR-026.

## 2. Comments on submissions for Deadline 2

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The Applicant can confirm that the following document has been submitted at Deadline 3:

- Applicant Response to Comments on Deadline 2 Submissions (TR010063/APP/9.44 – Rev 0)

### 3. Updated Land Rights Tracker:

The Applicant can confirm that the following document has been submitted at Deadline 3:

- Land Rights Tracker (TR010063/APP/9.29 – Rev 1.0): the updated Land Rights Tracker is submitted as a clean version only.

The Applicant has provided a clean version only. The Applicant has done this due to the difficulty in creating a tracked change copy of an excel sheet, which the Applicant understands is the preferred format of this document.

### 4. Updated Book of Reference, Statement of Reasons and Schedule of Changes to the Book of Reference

The Applicant can confirm that the following documents have been submitted at Deadline 3:

- Book of Reference (TR010063/APP/4.3 – Rev 3.0): a tracked and clean version has been provided.
- Statements of Reasons (TR010063/APP/4.1 – Rev 3.0): a tracked and clean version has been provided.
- Combined Schedule of Changes to Book of Reference, Statement of Reasons and Land Plans (TR010063/APP/9.22 – Rev 2.0)

The reason for the changes to the Book of Reference and Statement of Reasons is set out in the Combined Schedule of Changes. In summary these have been to address errors identified in Examining Authority First Written Questions, update references to work numbers to align with changes to works plans, and to demote land rights as a result of further discussion and review with local landowners.

Of direct relevance to these changes are the following updated or new documents:

- Land Plans (TR010063/APP/2.2 – Rev 3.0)
- Crown Land plan (TR10063/APP/2.7 Rev 3.0)
- Crown Land letter: This is a letter dated 16 July 2024 from Crown Estate Commissioners to Gloucestershire County Council regarding Hayden Road, Cheltenham TR010063/APP/9.50 Rev 0)

The letter provided dated 16 July 2024 provides a justification for the change to the Crown land plans.

## Additional Submissions at Deadline 3

### 1. Guide to the Application

The Guide to the Application (TR010063/APP/9.26 – Rev 2.0) charts the submission of DCO application documents to the Inspectorate, identifying the current revision for all documents submitted by the Applicant into Examination. This is a live document and will be updated throughout the Examination process and submitted, when updated, for each relevant deadline.

### 2. Draft Development Consent Order (dDCO) and Change Log, and Explanatory Memorandum

The Applicant has provided an explanation for all changes made to the dDCO (TR010063/APP3.1 – Rev 3.0 in its Change Log (TR010063/APP/9.21 – Rev 2.0). The Applicant has provided a clean Deadline 3 version of the dDCO as well as two tracked copies. The first tracked copy compares Deadline 3 against the Applicant's Deadline 1 submission. The second tracked copy compares Deadline 3 against the original submission version.

In response to requests from the Joint Councils the Applicant has also updated the Explanatory Memorandum (TR010063/APP/3.2 Rev 1).

### 3. Statements of Common Ground and Statement of Commonality

The Statement of Commonality (TR010063/APP/8.1 – Rev 2.0) has been updated to reflect the current position with regards to the submitted SoCG's. Clean and Tracked version has been submitted.

The following Statement of Common Ground has been updated:

- National Highways (TR010063/APP/8.3 – Rev 2.0)

Whilst the Applicant acknowledges that it had previously indicated the SoCGs with the various developers who have provided relevant representations and written representations would be submitted at Deadline 3, given the closure of the developer contribution methodology consultation, the Applicant considers that not enough progress has been made on the SoCGs. Draft SoCGs have been shared with the developers and the Applicant aims to progress matters in the SoCG and will update the ExA at the hearings and at Deadline 4.

The Applicant has secured the following letters of support which indicate continuing engagement and co-operation:

- Letters of in Principle Support TR010063/APP/9.63

### 4. Updated Volume 2 Plans

The following updated Volume 2 plans have been issued together with a Schedule of Change summarising the changes:

- Schedule of Change to Volume 2 Plans (TR010063/APP/9.46 – Rev 1.0)
- Works Plans – Part 1 (TR010063/APP 2.4 – Rev 1.0)
- Works Plans – Part 2 (TR010063/APP 2.4 – Rev 1.0)

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- Streets, Rights of Way and Access Plans – Part 1 (TR010063/APP/2.5 – Rev 1.0)
- General Arrangement Plans – Part 1 (TR010063/APP/2.9 – Rev 1.0)
- General Arrangement Plans – Part 2 (TR010063/APP/2.9 – Rev 1.0)
- Environmental Masterplans – Part 1 (TR010063/APP/2.13 – Rev 1.0)
- Environmental Masterplans – Part 2 (TR010063/APP/2.13 – Rev 1.0)

I trust this information provides assistance in considering the matters raised and addresses the Examining Authority's rule 8 letter.

### **Notification of a wish to attend the ASI, ISH, CAH and OFH**

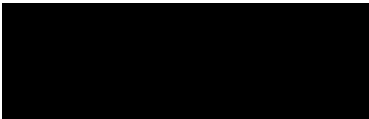
For the avoidance of doubt, the Applicant confirms that it wishes to attend all hearings scheduled for the week commencing 12 August 2024, being:

- ISH3, Tuesday 13<sup>th</sup> and Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> August 2024
- CAH1, Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> August 2024
- OFH (if required)
- ASI, Friday 16<sup>th</sup> August

If it would be of assistance, the Applicant can also provide a preliminary list of attendees.

Looking forward to the hearings to be held in August the Applicant wishes to highlight the resource pressures that are likely to be felt by all parties in preparing for them. As such, if at all possible, early publication of the relevant hearing agendas would be greatly appreciated.

Yours sincerely,



**Chris Beattie**  
**Highways and Infrastructure**  
**Gloucestershire County Council**