



# The Planning Inspectorate

## **The Planning Act 2008**

### **Application for Development Consent for the M60/M62/M66 Simister Island Interchange Project**

**Case Ref: TR010064**

### **The Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection**

#### **Background**

The Examining Authority ('the ExA') undertook an unaccompanied site inspection to support the examination of an application for development consent for the proposed M60/M62/M66 Simister Island Interchange Project ('the application') on the afternoon of Monday 1 July 2024.

The ExA carried out its unaccompanied site inspection from publicly accessible land (roads, footpaths and bridleways).

The site inspection was undertaken to view the location of the proposed development, the wider area and the existing highway network.

#### **Particulars of the Site Visit**

The visit was undertaken by: Sarah Holmes and Andrew Robinson.

The visit was undertaken by car. Weather conditions were wet with a temperature circa 13 degrees centigrade. Weather conditions were not suitable to appreciate long range views. The inspections commenced at approximately 15:30 and finished at approximately 18:00. A list of the locations visited is attached at Annex A.



## **Annex A: List of locations visited on the Unaccompanied Site Inspection on the afternoon of Monday 1 July 2024**

The ExA undertook a site inspection at the following locations.

The ExA travelled north on the A56 Bury New Road from M60 Junction (J) 17 to Knowsley Street, stopping to view Bury Town Hall. The ExA then continued north on Knowsley Street to join the A58 eastbound travelling to M66 J2. At M66 J2 the ExA joined the M66 travelling southbound to M60/M62/M66 Simister Island Interchange (Simister Island Interchange). The ExA observed that the M66 southbound was free flowing, traffic was slower and more congested on the northbound carriageway.

At Simister Island Interchange the ExA joined the M62 travelling eastbound to J20, coming off the motorway briefly to travel around the roundabout at J19 and continue travelling eastbound to J20. On arriving at J20 the ExA used the roundabout at the junction to turn around and rejoin the M62 travelling westbound.

The ExA left the M62 at Simister Island Interchange to travel south on the M60 to J19. At J19 the ExA used the roundabout at the junction to turn around and rejoin the M60 travelling northbound. The ExA observed that the M60 southbound was free flowing, traffic was slower and more congested on the northbound carriageway towards Simister Island Interchange.

On returning to Simister Island Interchange the ExA used the dedicated slip road and continued on the M60 travelling westbound to J17. On arriving at J17 the ExA used the roundabout at the junction to turn around and rejoin the M60 travelling eastbound back to Simister Island Interchange.

At Simister Island Interchange the ExA joined the M66 to travel northbound. The ExA then used M66 J2 to turn around and rejoin the M66 to travel southbound back to the Simister Island Interchange. On arriving at the Simister Island Interchange the ExA used the roundabout to join the M60 westbound back to J17. The ExA observed that the M60 westbound was congested.

The route is shown below.



# The Planning Inspectorate

