

# TRANSCRIPT\_M60SIMISTER\_PM\_SESSION 1\_110924

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

meeting, examination, application, applicant, examining, issues, comments, agenda item, speak, preliminary, turn, letter, record, good morning, council, room, event, arrangements, introduce, listed

00:05

Good morning before I begin, can I just confirm that everyone can hear me clearly? Yes, thank you. And can I also confirm with the case team that livestream of this event has commenced?

00:17

Thanks. The time is now, 10 o'clock and I'd like to welcome you all to this preliminary meeting which precedes the examination for the M 60, M 60 2m, 66 simlistar Island Interchange project. This is an application for an improvement to the semester Island interchange. The scheme includes widening to the motorway between junctions 17 to 18 of the M 60 from four lanes to five lanes in both directions, and installation of a hard shoulder, widening of the M 66 southbound carriageway through M 60 junction 18, from two lanes to four lanes. The construction of a new link firm known as the northern loop linking the M 60 east bound to the M 60 southbound, and alterations to other slit roads around the M 60 junction 18. The proposed development is a nationally significant infrastructure project, or NSIP for the purposes of the plan act 2008

01:08

as it is for the construction and alteration of a highway. It is for this reason that this application falls to be determined by the Secretary of State for Transport. I'd like to take the opportunity to emphasize that it's the Secretary of State who will make the decision on this application, not the examining authority.

01:25

My name is Sarah Holmes. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered civil engineer. I've been appointed by the Secretary of State to be the lead member of this panel to examine this application. I'm now going to ask my fellow panel member, who has been also appointed by the Secretary of State for this project, to introduce himself.

01:42

Good morning. My name is Andrew Robinson. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered town planner.

01:49

I can confirm that we've both made far more declarations of interests, and there's no known conflicts of interest. With regard to us examining this application, together, we constitute the examining authority, or exa for this application, I will now hand over to Mr. Robinson, who will deal with the arrangements for this meeting.

02:07

For those who are present in the room, you may have already spoken to or heard from, Bart Kobiak, who is the case manager for this project. Mr. Bart Kobiak is supported today by Jo Shanks, our case officer. For those of you who have joined us virtually, then you will have spoken to our other case officer, Melissa Whitlock. Together, they are the case team for this project, and if you have any questions or queries, they should be your first point of contact. Their contact details can be found at the top of any letter you have received from us or on the project page of the national infrastructure website. Before we consider the items on the agenda today, we need to deal with a few housekeeping matters. I will try to get through these as quickly as possible.

02:52

Can everyone attending? Please make sure that your phone is switched off or turned to silent. A fire test is planned today at 10:30am

03:01

therefore we may have a slight pause in proceedings at this point. Should an alarm sound at any other time. It is an emergency event, and we will need to vacate the building. Emergency exits are located in the corner of the room, and the door you entered through. The Fire assembly point is by the clock tower, which is in front of the doors to the building that you entered through. If anyone would like assistance in the event of needing to evacuate the building, can you please let the case team, who are sat at the back of the room know

03:35

toilet facilities can be found outside this room, across the landing and to the right and the left disabled facilities are through the doors opposite the entrance to this room.

03:46

As far as I'm aware, no requests have been made for any special measures or arrangements to enable participation in this preliminary meeting. If anyone needs any special measures or arrangements, please, can you speak to the case team at the side of the room.

04:02

This event is being live streamed and recorded. Our letter dated the seventh of August, which we will refer to as the rule six. Letter from now on, explain that because we retained and published the digital recordings, they form a public record to which the general data protection regulations, GDPR, for short, applies. The planning Inspectorate publishes and retains recordings for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision. So if you participate in today's preliminary meeting, it is important that you understand that you will be recorded and that you therefore consent to the retention and the publication of the meeting,

04:43

we will only ever ask for information to be placed on the public record that is important and relevant to the planning decision. It will only be in the rarest of circumstances that you might be asked to provide personal information of the type that most of us would prefer to keep private or common.

05:00

Confidential, such as your address, details financial circumstances or details of any medical conditions. Therefore, to avoid the need to edit the digital recordings, what we would ask is that you try your best not to add information to the public record that you would normally wish to be kept private or confidential. Does anyone have any questions with regard to this matter?

05:24

Don't see any hands in the room, and I don't see any online. Alternatively, you can speak to the case team

05:33

for those attending virtually. Can I repeat the request made in the arrangements conference that in order to minimize background noise, you also make sure your phone is switched off or turned to silent, and that you stay muted with your camera turned off unless you are speaking as this is a blended event. It has been structured in such a way that questions or points that you may wish to raise can be done so at the relevant point in proceedings. When we get to those points, I would ask that if you want to speak, you switch your camera on and either use the raise hand function in teams or ask to speak at the appropriate time. Can I also remind people that the chat function on teams will not work, so please do not try to use this to ask any questions or post any comments.

06:18

Do we have any members of the press in attendance.

06:23

I don't see any hands up in the room or online. And does anyone intend to film or record the event?

06:31

No, that's

06:33

fine. Are there any comments or questions regarding any of the points that I have just made, either in the room or online?

06:42

I don't see any hands.

06:45

This meeting will follow the agenda settled in the rule six letter. If you have a copy of that letter to hand, the agenda is at Annex A Could I ask the applicant to share it on the screen as well? I believe it already is, which is very handy. We're currently on item one of the agenda,

07:06

so the rule six letter and agenda are also available on the project page of the national infrastructure website, the address of which is at the top of the letter. It can also be found in the examination library at reference PD, 008,

07:20

we will introduce the agenda items in turn and make any introductory comments on them. Following that, we will invite the interested parties who have registered to speak on that item to comment. We will then invite comments from other parties if at any point you wish to speak about an item on the agenda, we ask that you raise your hand if you're in the room, or the MS teams hand raising function for those persons joining online, if you do not manage to ask your question or raise your point at the relevant point in the meeting, there will be an opportunity at the end of the meeting for you to raise this under agenda item six, any other matters. We

08:00

anticipate that the preliminary meeting will take up to two hours to complete, and we're confident of concluding matters by 12 o'clock today. Should the preliminary meeting take the full allotted time? We may need to take a mid morning break. If this happens, those of you participating virtually in the meeting will need to switch off your camera and microphone for the duration of the break for those people watching the live stream, we will have to stop the live stream in order to give us clear recording files. As a result, at the point we recommence the meeting and restart the live stream, you will need to refresh your browser page to view the restarted stream. We will remind you of these arrangements again, should we need to adjourn? Are there any comments on the procedure for speaking in the room or

08:47

online?

08:49

No, okay, this is a working meeting, and we intend to run it fairly and efficiently, allowing everyone who wishes to do so to participate. However, we will endeavor to make sure that your and our contribution. Contributions are as to the point and as focused as possible, so that we make the best use of the time available and allow everyone who wishes to speak an opportunity to do so. We hope that you will support us in this endeavor. Notes and digital recordings of today's meeting are being taken, and these will be placed on the project page of the national infrastructure website as soon as practicable after the close of the preliminary meeting, for the purposes of the notes and recordings, when you do speak, could you state your name, and if you are representing someone, whom it is you represent,

09:37

please bear in mind That the only official records of today's proceedings are the notes and the digital recordings, tweets, blogs and similar communications arising out of this meeting will not be accepted as evidence in the examination of this application.

09:54

The case team have provided me with a list of those interested in other parties who have expressed a wish.

10:00

To be present and heard today. I'm now going to go around and ask those people present today to introduce themselves. So when I say your name, please introduce yourself, stating your name, your title and who it is you represent. If you are attending virtually, please switch on your camera and microphone when introducing yourself. So firstly, can I ask the applicant to introduce themselves?

10:26

Good morning. I'm Tony Weston, and I'm a partner at Gowling Wlg, and I'm the Lead legal advisor for the applicant.

10:36

If it's acceptable, I'll just let everybody else introduce themselves. Absolutely, yes. So perhaps starting at the end with Nicola Hi. I'm Nicola eastwell. I'm the project manager for national highways for the summers trial and scheme. Good

10:50

morning, everyone. I'm Andy Pierce. I'm the engineering manager for scheme.

10:55

Good morning. My name's Phil Aniston. I'm the DCO lead for Costain for the applicant.

11:00

Good morning. My name is Richard thurling, Legal Director at Gowling Wlg, and I'm a legal advisor to the applicant.

11:09

Thank you very much.

11:13

Could I now turn to bury Council? Please?

11:18

Good morning, sir. Good morning, madam. My name is piers Riley Smith. I'm a barrister instructed on behalf of the council. I'm instructed by Sarah dirty, who sits to my right. So in a similar manner to the applicant, I'm going to ask the rest of the team to introduce themselves, and just remind them to turn on their microphone when they do so, so the virtual recording can pick up what they're saying.

11:49

Hi, is that working? Is it working? Yeah, so my name is John O'Connor. I'm the Group Manager highway network and asset management for berry Council

12:02

and Andy Southgate, I'm the Group Manager for major projects for bury Council.

12:08

Good morning. My name is David mano. I'm the Head of Development management for bury Council's planning department.

12:15

Good morning. I'm Helen Leach. I'm a team leader in development management for bury Council planning department.

12:22

Good morning. I'm Dean clapworthy. I'm a Senior Planning Officer in development management at bury Council.

12:30

Thank you very much.

12:34

I have listed that we also have a representative from the Environment Agency. Are they either in the room or online?

12:47

No, I don't see any hands.

12:50

That's everybody who I had listed, who had registered to speak beforehand. Can I just confirm that I've now heard from everyone who wishes to speak about the procedure for the examination at today's event, or is there anybody in the room or online who has registered to speak who have not called out?

13:10

I don't see any hands up in the room or online.

13:16

In that case, thank you. And I'll now pass over to Ms Holmes to take us through agenda item two.

13:23

Thank you.

13:25

Agenda Item two is the examining authority's remarks about the examination process in Annex B of our rule six. Letter we set out in detail the purpose of the preliminary meeting and how we intend to carry out the examination for expediency. I'm assuming that everyone has read this and therefore I don't propose to spend time reading it out. Now, let me briefly explain what this meeting is about. This morning, we will focus on how we intend to examine this application. We will only be discussing the procedural aspects of the examination, so we're not taking evidence, and we will not discuss the merits. Any concerns that you may have about this application, those matters will be considered following the close of this meeting. The first opportunity for you to talk to us about your issues with this project is at this afternoon's open floor hearing. And I know so far, we have one person registered to speak at this event, and I thank you please speak to the case team if you've not registered to speak this afternoon, and think you may wish to do so tomorrow morning, we have our first issue specific hearing. This hearing is to allow us to explore and discuss a number of matters related to the draft development consent order. This hearing is a without prejudice conversation for all parties involved. So if I can just explain the examining authorities required, regardless of whether we recommend this application for approval or refusal to put to provide a draft development consent order with our report to Secretary of State

14:50

so they could be able to use it if they wish to grant consent. The discussion tomorrow no indicates whether or not the application will be recommended for approval or.

15:00

Sent. And equally, your positive participation in the discussions does not detract from any comments you may have made with regard to your concerns about this proposal. So please speak to the case team if you have not already registered to speak tomorrow of meeting, and you think you may wish to do so,

15:15

hopefully, by the end of this meeting, you will be assured that there will be sufficient opportunities throughout the examination for you to express your views. It's important to us that you are clear in your understanding of the examination process. If there's anything that you've been sure about, then please do ask, and your first point of contact should be the case team. I would like to this opportunity to advise those of you who may be unfamiliar with the development consent process that the examination is a predominantly written process, and as a result, we will expect the majority of information and evidence to be provided in this format, as you will see from the draft examination timetable, which is in IXD of the rule six letter, we've timetabled numerous deadlines where you able to submit information into the examination in the event that you don't feel that you've been given the opportunity to make any representations at any meeting or hearing, for example, due to time constraints, please do provide them a written format. So on the basis of the information set out in Acts B, which includes the format of future events, does anyone have any questions about the way which we tend to examine this application that aren't covered under this section or later sections of the agenda in the room online.

16:25

Okay, thank you. I'll hand over to Mr. Robinson to deal with

16:29

item three, turning nose at item three, which is the initial assessment of principal issues, or we'll just refer to it as iapi From now on, going forward, for those of you with copies of our rule six letter, it would be useful to have annexe C in front of you. For those who don't, we will show it on the screen behind me.

16:50

The principal issues have been compiled alphabetically and are not in order of importance. The subject matters listed have been arrived at by taking into account the application documents, the comments and the relevant representations and other submissions we have received. The purpose is to identify broad subject matters to guiders in forming a provisional view as to how the application is to be examined.

17:16

It does not stop us from removing or adding to issues later in the process.

17:23

We're not looking to get into detail of these issues at this stage. So for example, taking the subjects of noise or air quality, we won't be looking at the details of any impacts experienced in this meeting. We'd be glad to hear those types of comments at the open floor hearing session this afternoon or at the later issue, specific hearings I understand from the applicant's submission, which is P, d1,

17:47

001, that they would like to speak on this item. Therefore, is it miss Weston or Mrs. Weston?

17:56

Mrs. Fine. Ms, yeah. Okay. MS, Weston, would you like to provide any comments the applicant has on the IP, that's then the issues listed within it. Thank you, sir. Tony Weston, for the applicant, just before I do just to mention sure that you're aware you might not be able to see it above your head, but there is a little bit of a lag between sharing things on screen. So we have tried to share the principal issues, but they're not actually displaying on the screen above at the moment, so it may be people at home can't see them either.

18:29

Okay, so that doesn't think that we could try and resolve, just to try and make it helpful for anybody. Just looking at our production, 78 colleagues at the back.

18:41

Okay,

18:43



okay, in that case, we'll try and continue. But if anybody's having any issues with that, do raise a hand and let us know, and we'll see what we can we can try and do so. Thanks for bringing that to my attention. If you just like to continue. Thank you. Yes, and we agree with the list of principal issues. The only comment that we had was in respect of line two of the table on biodiversity. And we just wanted to update the examining authority that the

19:14

the second bullet point refers to the impact of the proposed development on protected species. And we just wanted to make the examining authority aware that we have now received a letter of no impediment in respect of the proposed badgers license, and we are going to send that to you at deadline one, so you'll be updated at deadline one in respect of that. And similarly, the consents and agreements position statement will be updated to reflect the fact that the learning has been secured. Okay, thank you for that update, obviously, if you want to state that in your posting submissions, but also you'll probably have seen we've got on the agenda item tomorrow in the DCO hearing updates on position statements. So you could also.

20:00

Provide an update then, as well as part of that hearing, thank you. Is there anything else that you wish to raise on the principal? Okay, no worries. Thank you very much. Can I turn to the council now please? Yes. Thank you, sir. Piers Riley Smith for the council, so we have no comments or concerns on the issues set up.

20:20

Thank you very much. Is there anyone else in the room or online who would like to raise any comments in respect of the issues raised?

20:30

I don't see any hands in the room and I don't see any hands up online. Okay, yes, comments.

20:40

Yeah,

20:43

okay, I think what we'll do then,

20:47

in order to allow you the opportunity, can, can we see whether we it is possible? Can we just pause for a second to see whether we can actually get those issues up onto the screen, please, so that everyone can see it. You.