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All Interested Parties, Statutory Parties and
any Other Person invited to the Preliminary
Meeting

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010064

Date: 17 September 2024

Dear Sir/ Madam

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

Application by National Highways for an Order Granting Development Consent for the M60/M62/M66 Simister Island Interchange Project

Examination Timetable and procedure

This letter (the Rule 8 letter) provides important information about the Examination of this application. The letter includes:

- The Examination Timetable
- An invitation to submit Written Representations
- A request for Local Impact Reports from Local Authorities
- Other Procedural Decisions made by the ExA
- Information about Hearings
- Information about the availability of Examination Documents
- Guidance on the use of the 'Have your say' section of the project webpage

All documentation associated with this Examination, including a note of the Preliminary Meeting and the recording of that meeting, can be viewed under the [Documents tab](#) on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website ([project webpage](#)).

The Examination Timetable

We have made a Procedural Decision about the way the application will be examined. The final Examination Timetable is attached at **Annex A** to this letter.

The Examination Timetable replaces the draft timetable that was included in our [Rule 6 letter](#). In finalising the Examination Timetable, we have sought to accommodate requests and suggestions made orally or in writing to the Preliminary Meeting. A list of the main changes we made to the draft Examination Timetable is set out at **Annex B** to this letter.

Please note that the Examination Timetable contains a number of Deadlines for receipt of information by the Planning Inspectorate. All Deadlines are at 23:59 on the date specified. Please ensure submissions arrive by the Deadline. If you do not make your submissions by the dates specified in the timetable, we may disregard them.

We request that all Interested Parties make their submissions using the 'Have your say' section of the [project webpage](#) on or before the applicable Deadline. **Annex D** to this letter provides further information about the 'Have your say' section.

If we consider it necessary to vary the Examination Timetable during the Examination, notification will be sent to Interested Parties, Statutory Parties and Other Persons invited to the Preliminary Meeting. The changes will be published on the [project webpage](#).

Written Representations

All Interested Parties are now invited to submit Written Representations and any comments on the Relevant Representations already submitted. These should be submitted by **Deadline 1** in the Examination Timetable.

Written Representations can cover any relevant matter and are not restricted to the matters set out in our [Initial Assessment of Principal Issues](#).

Any person, other than the Applicant, who submits a Written Representation must identify those parts of the application with which they agree and those parts with which they do not agree, explaining the reasons why. Interested Parties should also provide with their Written Representations any data, methodology and assumptions used to support their submissions to avoid delays in the Examination (see paragraph 009 of the [government's guidance on the examination stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects](#) for further information about Written Representations).

We have requested further types of written submissions at various points in the Examination (see **Annex A**).

Any Written Representations and any further written submissions requested during the Examination, that exceed 1500 words, should also be accompanied by a summary which should not exceed 10% of the original text. The summary should set out the key facts of the written submission and must be representative of the submission made.

Representations **must not include hyperlinks** to documents/evidence hosted on third party websites. See the Planning Inspectorate's Advice for members of the public: [Advice for submitting representations or comments](#) for important information about making written submissions.

Local Impact Reports (LIR)

A LIR is a report in writing giving details of the likely impact of a Proposed Development on a local authority's area (or any part of that area). For more information about the importance and content of LIRs see our [Advice Note One: Local Impact Reports](#).

Other Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority

Annex B to this letter contains important details and clarifications about other Procedural Decisions we made at, or following, the Preliminary Meeting. These include:

- Examination Timetable;
- Changes to land interests; and
- Additional submissions.

Format of Examination Events

Both blended (part in-person and part virtual) and fully virtual events will form part of the operating model. We remain flexible and will confirm the format of any hearings when we provide formal notification of each hearing at least 21 days in advance of it taking place.

Managing Examination correspondence

Given the volume and frequency of letters the Planning Inspectorate needs to send to Interested Parties during an Examination, we aim to communicate with people by email as electronic communication is more environmentally friendly and cost effective for the taxpayer.

If you have received a letter from the Planning Inspectorate but are able to receive communications by email, please inform the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter as soon as possible.

As the Examination process makes substantial use of electronic documents, it will be useful for you to become familiar with the [project webpage](#).

The 'Have your say' section of the [project webpage](#) provides a portal through which parties should make written submissions at relevant deadlines during the Examination. Further information about the 'Have your say' section is provided at **Annex D** to this letter.

There is also a function on the right-hand side of the project webpage called 'E-mail updates'. This provides you with an opportunity to register to receive automatic e-mail updates at key stages during the Examination.

Your status in the Examination

You have received this letter because you are a person or organisation who is involved in the NSIP process. See the Planning Inspectorate's Advice for members of the public:

[National Infrastructure Projects and the people and organisations involved in the process](#) for further details.

If, having read the advice, you are still unsure about how you are involved in the process please contact the Case Team using the details at the top of this letter.

Awards of costs

All parties will normally be expected to meet their own costs. Costs can be awarded against a party who has acted unreasonably and has caused the party applying for the award of costs to incur unnecessary or wasted expense during the Examination. You should be aware of the relevant costs guidance [Awards of costs: examinations of applications for development consent orders](#).

Management of information

Information, including representations, submitted in respect of this Examination (if accepted by the Examining Authority) and a record of any advice which has been provided by the Planning Inspectorate is published on the [project webpage](#).

Examination Documents can also be viewed electronically at the locations listed in **Annex C** to this letter.

Please note that in the interest of facilitating an effective and fair Examination, it is necessary to publish some personal information. To find out how we handle your personal information please view our [Privacy Notice](#).

We look forward to working with all parties in the Examination of this application.

Yours faithfully

Sarah Holmes

Lead Member of the Examining Authority

Annexes

- A** Examination Timetable
- B** Other Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority
- C** Availability of Examination Documents
- D** Information about the 'Have your say' section

This communication does not constitute legal advice.
Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to **complete** the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

The Examination of the application primarily takes the form of the consideration of written submissions. The ExA will also consider any oral representations made at hearings.

Item	Matters	Date
1	<p>Procedural Deadline A</p> <p>Deadline for receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to the Rule 6 letter including any written submissions on the Examination procedure and draft Examination Timetable • Requests to be heard orally at the Preliminary Meeting including which agenda items you wish to speak on, points you wish to make and why these need to be made orally rather than in writing. • Requests by Interested Parties to be heard orally at the Open Floor Hearing (OFH) on Wednesday 11 September 2024. • Requests by Interested Parties to be heard orally at Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) on Thursday 12 September 2024. • Suggested locations for site inspections (Accompanied (ASI) or Unaccompanied (USI)), including justification, for consideration by the ExA. 	<p>Wednesday 28 August 2024</p>
2	Preliminary Meeting	Wednesday 11 September 2024 at 10:00
3	Open Floor Hearing (OFH1)	Wednesday 11 September 2024 at 14:00
4	Issue Specific Hearing 1 (ISH1) on the dDCO	Thursday 12 September 2024 at 10:00
5	<p>Issue by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Examination Timetable (the Rule 8 letter) 	As soon as practicable after the close of the Preliminary Meeting

Item	Matters	Date
6	<p>Deadline 1</p> <p>For receipt by ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification by Statutory Parties of their wish to be considered as an IP by the ExA. • The Applicant's updates – refer to Annex E of the Rule 6 letter • Comments on Relevant Representations (RR). • Written Representations (WR) and summaries for any that exceed 1500 words. • Applicant's draft itinerary for ASI (if required). • Requests by Interested Parties to be heard at any further Open Floor Hearings (OFH). • Requests by Affected Persons (defined in section 59(4) of the Planning Act 2008) to be heard at a Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH). • Written submissions of oral submissions made at Hearings held during w/c 9 September 2024. • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. 	<p>Tuesday 24 September 2024</p>
7	<p>Deadline 1A</p> <p>For receipt by ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Local Impact Reports (LIR) 	<p>Monday 30 September 2024</p>
8	<p>Deadline 2</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Comments on WRs. • Comments on the LIRs. • Comments on the Applicant's draft itinerary for the ASI. • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/submissions received by Deadline 1. 	<p>Tuesday 15 October 2024</p>

Item	Matters	Date
9	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ExA's First Written Questions (ExQ1). 	Tuesday 22 October 2024
10	<p>Deadline 3</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to ExQ1. • The Applicant's updates – refer to Annex E of the Rule 6 letter • Notification of a wish to attend the ASI, ISH, CAH and OFH (if requested) on the w/c 25 November 2024. • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/submissions received by Deadline 2. 	Tuesday 5 November 2024
11	<p>Dates reserved for ASI's and hearings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issue Specific Hearings (ISH) (if required) • Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) (if required) • Further Open Floor Hearings (OFH) (if required) • ASI (if required) 	w/c 25 November 2024
12	<p>Deadline 4</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Written post hearing submissions including written submissions of oral cases made at Hearings the w/c 25 November 2024. • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/submissions received by Deadline 3. 	Tuesday 10 December 2024
13	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Second Written Questions (ExQ2) (if required). 	Tuesday 17 December 2024

Item	Matters	Date
14	<p>Deadline 5</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Responses to ExQ2 (if required). • The Applicant's updates – refer to Annex E of the Rule 6 letter • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/submissions received by Deadline 4. 	Friday 10 January 2025
15	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) and any associated questions (if required). 	Tuesday 14 January 2025
16	<p>Dates reserved for hearings:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further Issue Specific Hearings (ISH) (if required) • Further Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) (if required) • Further Open Floor Hearings (OFH) (if required) 	w/c 27 January 2025
17	<p>Deadline 6</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Post-hearing submissions including written submissions of oral cases (if held). • Comments on the RIES (if issued) and responses to any associated questions. • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. • Comments on any further information/submissions received by Deadline 5. 	Tuesday 11 February 2025
18	<p>Publication by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ExA's commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the dDCO (if required). 	Friday 14 February 2025

Item	Matters	Date
19	<p>Deadline 7</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary statements from parties regarding matters that they have previously raised during the Examination and that have not been resolved to their satisfaction. • Comments on the ExA's dDCO/Schedule of changes (if required). • The Applicant's closing summary statement. • The Applicant's final updates – refer to Annex E of the Rule 6 letter. • Comments on the Deadline 6 submissions and any other information requested by the ExA for Deadline 7. • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. 	<p>Thursday 27 February 2025</p>
20	<p>Deadline 8</p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Any further information requested by the ExA under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. 	<p>Friday 7 March 2025</p>
21	<p>The ExA must complete the Examination of the application within six months.</p>	<p>Tuesday 11 March 2025</p>

Submission times for Deadlines

The time for submission of documents at any Deadline in the timetable is 23:59 on the relevant Deadline date, unless instructed otherwise by the ExA.

Publication dates

All information received will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable after the Deadlines for submissions.

Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES)

Where an applicant has provided a No Significant Effects Report or a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report with the application, the ExA may decide to issue a RIES during the Examination. The RIES is a factual account of the information and evidence provided to the ExA on HRA matters during the Examination up to the date of the publication of the RIES, for the purposes of enabling the Secretary of State, as competent authority, to undertake its HRA. It is not the ExA's opinion on HRA matters. Comments on the RIES will be invited by the ExA and any received will be taken into account as part of the ExA's Recommendation to the Secretary of State. The ExA may also raise questions in the RIES to confirm or clarify matters that remain outstanding.

The Secretary of State may rely on the consultation on the RIES to meet its obligations under Regulation 63(3) of The Habitats Regulations 2017 and/or Regulation 28 of The Offshore Marine Regulations.

Other Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority (ExA)

We have made a number of Procedural Decisions following the Preliminary Meeting:

1. Examination Timetable

Local Impact Reports (LIR)

Following representation made by Bury Council for the extension of the deadline for the submission of their LIR, the ExA has carefully considered this request and has inserted a new deadline, **Deadline 1A** which is Monday 30 September 2024, for submission of LIRs. Local Authorities, defined in section 56A of the Planning Act 2008, are invited to submit LIRs by Deadline 1A.

Written post hearing submissions

Following the representation made by the Applicant [PD1-001] for the extension of the deadline for the written post hearing submissions following the hearings in the week commencing 25 November 2024, the ExA has carefully considered this request and has amended the timetable so that **Deadline 4** is now Tuesday 10 December 2024. Considering the timetabled hearings week commencing 27 January 2025 the ExA has amended the timetable so that **Deadline 6** is now Tuesday 11 February 2025.

2. Changes to land interests

When the Applicant becomes aware that there has been a change in ownership, or a new interest, in relevant land the Applicant is requested to make the relevant person aware that they can make a request to the ExA to become an Interested Party under section 102A of the PA2008 by contacting the project mailbox:

m60simisterisland@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

The Examination Timetable includes various Deadlines for the submission of an updated Book of Reference and schedule of changes to the Book of Reference, which should include confirmation that relevant persons have been informed of their rights under section 102A.

3. Additional Submissions

In addition to the documentation submitted by Procedural Deadline A we have exercised our discretion and made a Procedural Decision to accept Additional Submissions from the following:

1. Scott Brady [AS-014] ;
2. Theresa Dolan [AS-015] and;
3. Bury Council [PD1-011]

Availability of Examination Documents

The application documents and Relevant Representations are available on the [project webpage](#).

All further documents submitted in the course of the Examination will also be published under the [Documents tab](#) of the [project webpage](#).

The Examination Library

For ease of navigation, please refer to the [Examination Library](#) (EL) which is accessible by clicking the blue button under the [Documents tab](#). The EL is updated regularly throughout the Examination.

The EL records and provides a hyperlink to:

- each application document;
- each representation made to the Examination; and
- each Procedural Decision made by the Examining Authority.

Each document is given a unique reference which will be fixed for the duration of the Examination. **Please quote the unique reference number from the EL when referring to any Examination Documents in any future submissions that you make.**

Electronic deposit locations

Documents can be viewed electronically, free of charge, at the electronic deposit locations listed in the table below. Please note that you may need to bring a form of identification and register as a member/library member in order to use a computer at these locations.

The opening hours and availability of information technology set out in the table below may be subject to changes. Please check the current circumstances with the relevant locations before you attend.

Local authority	Venue/address	Opening hours	Printing costs
Bury Council	Bury Library Manchester Road Bury BL9 0DG	Monday: Closed	A4 BW £0.20
		Tuesday: 10:00am - 4:30pm	A4 COL £0.60
		Wednesday: 10:00am - 4:30pm	A3 BW £0.50
		Thursday: 12:30pm – 7:00pm	A3 COL £1.20
		Friday: 10:00am - 4:30pm	
		Saturday: 9:30am - 1:00pm	
		Sunday: Closed	

Local authority	Venue/address	Opening hours	Printing Costs
Bury Council	Radcliffe Library Stand Lane Radcliffe Manchester M26 1NW	Monday: Closed Tuesday: 10:00am - 4:30pm Wednesday: 10:00am - 4:30pm Thursday: 12:30pm - 7:00pm Friday: 10:00am - 4:30pm Saturday: 9:30am - 1:00pm Sunday: Closed	A4 BW £0.20 A4 COL £0.60 A3 BW N/A A3 COL N/A (Cash only under £5.00)

The 'Have your say' section of the Project Webpage

The 'Have your say' section is available on the [project webpage](#).

You will need to enter your unique reference number ('Your ref' found at the top your postcard or email from the Planning Inspectorate) beginning either 2004 or M60S-AFP, M60S-S57, M60S-SP, M60S-OP. If you are making a submission on behalf of another person or organisation, and do not have your own unique reference number, then you should enter the unique reference number of the person or organisation you are representing. If you are not a registered Interested Party then it is at the discretion of the Examining Authority whether or not your submission is accepted.

Submissions will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the close of the relevant Deadline. For further information about publishing submissions please view our [Privacy Notice](#).

You will be able to submit a document (upload file), make a text representation or both. It is possible to upload multiple files for each individual submission item. Electronic attachments should be clearly labelled with the subject title and not exceed 50MB.

Submissions **must not include hyperlinks** to documents/evidence hosted on a third-party website eg technical reports, media articles etc. See the Planning Inspectorate's [Advice Note 8.4: The Examination](#) for further information about making written submissions. All submissions must be made in a format that can be viewed in full on the National Infrastructure Planning website. Any submissions that exceed 1500 words should also be accompanied by a summary; this summary should not exceed 10% of the original text.

You should select the relevant Deadline for your submission and then, on the next webpage, select the appropriate Submission item as described in the Examination Timetable at **Annex D** to this letter. Please ensure you make a separate submission for each Submission item and **do not duplicate your submission**. If you consider that your submission does not fit the description of any of the Submission items then please select the Submission item 'Other' and ensure that it is titled appropriately.

If you experience any issues when using the 'Have your say' section of the [project webpage](#), please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter and they will assist.