

M60/M62/M66 Simister Island Interchange

TR010064

7.12 Statement of Common Ground with Historic England

APFP Regulation 5(2)(q)

Planning Act 2008

Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed
Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

Infrastructure Planning

Planning Act 2008

**The Infrastructure Planning
(Applications: Prescribed Forms and
Procedure) Regulations 2009**

**M60/M62/M66 Simister Island Interchange
Development Consent Order 202[]**

Statement of Common Ground with Historic England

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STATEMENT OF COMMON GROUND

**This statement of Common Ground has been prepared and agreed by
National Highways Limited and Historic England**

Signed 

Nicola Eastwell

Project Manager

On behalf of National Highways

Date: 23/09/24

Signed: 

Andrew Davison

Inspector of Ancient Monuments

On behalf of Historic England

Date: 23rd September 2024

1 Introduction

1.1 Purpose of this document

- 1.1.1 This Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared in respect of the M60/M62/M66 Simister Island Interchange (the “Scheme”) following the application made by National Highways (the “Applicant”) to the Secretary of State for Transport, via the Planning Inspectorate (the “Inspectorate”) for a development consent order (DCO) under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 (the “2008 Act”). A detailed description of the Scheme can be found in Chapter 2 of the Environmental Statement (ES) [APP-041].
- 1.1.2 This SoCG does not seek to replicate information which is available elsewhere within the application documents. All application documents are available on the Inspectorate’s website.
- 1.1.3 This SoCG has been produced to confirm to the Examining Authority where agreement has been reached between the parties to it, and where agreement has not yet been reached. SoCGs are an established means in the planning process of allowing all parties to identify and focus on specific issues that may need to be addressed during the examination.

1.2 Parties to this Statement of Common Ground

- 1.2.1 This SoCG has been prepared between 1) National Highways as the Applicant and 2) Historic England.
- 1.2.2 National Highways (previously known as Highways England) became the Government-owned Strategic Highways Company on 1 April 2015. It is the highway authority in England for the strategic road network and has the necessary powers and duties to operate, manage, maintain, and enhance the network. Regulatory powers remain with the Secretary of State. The legislation establishing National Highways made provision for all legal rights and obligations, including in respect of the application, to be conferred upon or assumed by National Highways.
- 1.2.3 Historic England is the non-departmental public body that helps people care for, enjoy and celebrate England’s historic environment. It does this by championing historic places, identifying and protecting England’s heritage, supporting change, understanding historic places and providing expertise at a local level. Historic England’s remit includes assessment, processing grants, giving advice to developers and local authorities, as well as designation, heritage data, government policy and communications. Historic England is a prescribed consultee for the Application under Sections 42(1)(a) and 56(2)(a) of the 2008 Act.
- 1.2.4 1.2.4 Collectively National Highways and Historic England are referred to in this SoCG as ‘the parties’.

1.3 Terminology

- 1.3.1 Within the table in Section 3, Issues, of this SoCG, the terminology is as follows:

- “Agreed” indicates area(s) of agreement;
- “Under Discussion” indicates area(s) of current disagreement where resolution remains possible, and where parties continue discussing the issue(s) to determine whether they can reach agreement by the end of the examination; and
- “Not Agreed” indicates a final position for area(s) of disagreement where the resolution of the divergent positions will not be possible, and parties agree on this point.

1.3.1 It can be assumed that any matters not specifically referred to in Section 3, Issues, of this SoCG are not of material interest or relevant to Historic England and therefore have not been the subject of any discussions between the parties. As such, those matters can be read as agreed, only to the extent that they are either not of material interest or relevance to Historic England.

2 Record of Engagement

2.1.1 A summary of the meetings and correspondence that has taken place between the Applicant and Historic England in relation to the application is outlined in Table 2.1 below.

Table 2.1: Record of Engagement

Date	Form of Correspondence	Key topics discussed and key outcomes
22/08/23	Phone conversation between the Applicant and Historic England	Initial discussion to update on the Scheme and request a meeting to discuss the developing draft Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the environmental statement
07/09/23	Teams meeting between the Applicant and Historic England	The Applicant led a presentation to Historic England to present the Scheme changes since the Preliminary Environmental Information Report published at Statutory Consultation, to present the key aspects of the developing draft Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the environmental statement and specific viewpoints from the developing Chapter 7: Landscape and Visual figures, and to detail the engagement with Greater Manchester Archaeology Advisory Unit on behalf of Bury Metropolitan Borough Council
21/06/24	Email from the Applicant to Historic England	Request to meet to provide a Scheme update and to discuss the production of the SoCG

23/07/24	Teams meeting between the Applicant and Historic England	The Applicant provided an update in relation to the upcoming examination, discussion on relevant representations and the next steps for the developing the SoCG. Approval/sign off process for the SoCG was also discussed.
20/09/24	Teams Meeting between the Applicant and Historic England	Meeting to finalise the SoCG ready for submission to the Examining Authority at examination deadline 1.

2.1.2 It is agreed that this is an accurate record of key meetings and other forms of consultation and engagement undertaken between 1) the Applicant and 2) Historic England in relation to issues addressed in this SoCG.

3 Issues

3.1 Issues agreed, not agreed or under discussion

3.1.1 Table 3.1.1 below details the issues which have been agreed, not agreed or are under discussion between 1) the Applicant and 2) Historic England

Table 3.1 Issues

Ref	Issue	Doc Ref	Historic England's Position	The Applicant's Position	Agreement Likely	Status	Date
1	Study Area	Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045]	Historic England note that the study area for non-designated and designated historic environment is appropriately defined.	Agree	Yes	Agreed	20/09/24
2	Baseline Conditions	Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045] Appendix 6: Cultural Heritage Desk Based Assessment of the Environmental	Historic England note that the assessment of existing cultural heritage resource has been carried out in accordance with best practice and has correctly identified the archaeological sites, historic buildings and elements of the historic landscape within the study area.	Agree	Yes	Agreed	20/09/24

Ref	Issue	Doc Ref	Historic England's Position	The Applicant's Position	Agreement Likely	Status	Date
		Statement Appendices [APP-081]					
3	Potential construction impacts – designated heritage assets	Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045]	Historic England note that no physical impacts are predicted on any designated heritage assets during the construction phase.	Agree	Yes	Agreed	20/09/24
4	Potential construction impacts – designated heritage assets	Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045]	Historic England note that any temporary changes to the setting of designated assets during construction would not result in significant effects to designated assets	Agree	Yes	Agreed	20/09/24
5	Operational impacts	Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045]	Historic England note that there are no significant impacts upon historic buildings and archaeological remains once the Scheme is operational.	Agree	Yes	Agreed	20/09/24
6	Scope of trail trenching and archaeological monitoring and recording	Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045]	Historic England note that the scope of areas of work required to confirm the existence or otherwise of non-designated archaeological assets through trial trench investigation and archaeological	Agree	Yes	Agreed	20/09/24

Ref	Issue	Doc Ref	Historic England's Position	The Applicant's Position	Agreement Likely	Status	Date
			watching brief (archaeological monitoring and recording) is proportionate to the low level of impact on cultural heritage identified.				
7	Scope of mitigation proposed	Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045] First Iteration Environmental Management Plan [APP-127]	Historic England note that the mitigation proposed in section 6.9 of Chapter 6: Cultural Heritage of the Environmental Statement [APP-045], Commitment CH1 and CH2 in the Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments set out in the First Iteration Environmental Management Plan [APP-127] is appropriate to the low level of impact of the Scheme upon cultural heritage.	Agree	Yes	Agreed	20/09/24
8	Securing archaeological mitigation – draft	Requirement 9 of the draft Development Consent Order [PD1-005]	Historic England has no comments on the wording of Requirement 9 of the draft Development Consent Order [PD1-005]. Historic England note the importance of working with Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service, acting on behalf of Bury Metropolitan Borough Council as the Local Planning Authority, in developing a Written	Noted	Yes	Agreed	20/09/24

Ref	Issue	Doc Ref	Historic England's Position	The Applicant's Position	Agreement Likely	Status	Date
			Scheme of Investigation for the evaluation of areas of potential archaeological interest.				
9	Securing archaeological mitigation	First Iteration Environmental Management Plan [APP-127] Requirement 4 of the Draft Development Consent Order [PD1-005]	Historic England note that Commitment CH1 and CH2 in the Register of Environmental Actions and Commitments set out in the First Iteration Environmental Management Plan [APP-127] will be contained within the Second Iteration Environmental Management Plan and is secured through Requirement 4 of the draft Development Consent Order [PD1-005]. Historic England has no comments on the wording of Requirement 4 of the draft Development Consent Order [PD1-005].	Agree	Yes	Agreed	20/09/24