



Meeting note

Project name	M60/M62/M66 Simister Island Scheme
File reference	TR010064
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	26 May 2021
Meeting with	Highways England
Venue	Microsoft Teams
Meeting objectives	Project Update Meeting
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Project Update

The Applicant gave updates in respect of design development, site surveys and investigations and its Statutory Consultation strategy (including preparation of the Statement of Community Consultation). The Applicant explained that it had commenced land referencing and landowner engagement. A series of technical meetings had been held with Bury Council which had included an overview of the Development Consent Order (DCO) process.

The Applicant confirmed that its submission programme had not changed since the Inception Meeting on 12 February 2021 with Statutory Consultation expected to begin in October/November 2021 before submission of its application for a DCO in March 2022.

Scoping report submission

The Applicant explained that it intends to make a digital scoping submission, which it will twin track with a conventional PDF version of the scoping request. The digital tool will include an interactive geographical information system (GIS) based mapping tool, with the ability to download information if required.

The Inspectorate advised that the submission will be considered as a project speed case study because it supports the National Infrastructure Strategy ambition for digital EIA. The Inspectorate confirmed that it will use the digital only version to prepare its Scoping Opinion and that consultation letters will be issued with links to both the PDF and the

digital version. The Inspectorate noted that the Scoping Opinion itself will be in its standard format, as it is unclear what impact the digital tool may have on the preparation of the Scoping Opinion.

The Inspectorate queried whether the Applicant would be willing to work together to complete a combined case study. The Applicant confirmed it would be willing to feed into the case study.

The Applicant stated that it intends to submit a shapefile in late May 2021 and it will submit the Scoping Report in late June 2021. The Inspectorate requested for the Applicant to provide the names of individual contacts at relevant Local Authorities in order to assist the scoping process.