



## Meeting note

<b>File reference</b>	M60/M62/M66 Simister Island Scheme
<b>Status</b>	<b>Final</b>
<b>Author</b>	The Planning Inspectorate
<b>Date</b>	26 August 2021
<b>Meeting with</b>	Highways England
<b>Venue</b>	Microsoft Teams
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Project Update Meeting
<b>Circulation</b>	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 ongoing surveys and engagement and confirmed construction phase planning and sequencing had begun. The Applicant explained that work was ongoing to establish the location and extent of flood attenuation features associated with the scheme. Once this detail had been finalised the Order limits would be fixed enabling statutory consultation to commence early in Q1 2022. The Applicant confirmed that formal consultation with relevant local authorities on its Statement of Community Consultation was already underway.

The Applicant explained that the timescales had shifted slightly since the last project update meeting on 26 May 2021 and that submission of its application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) was now expected in June/July 2022.

### Scoping Opinion

There were no specific questions from the Applicant in respect of the Scoping Opinion issued on 12 August 2021.

It was noted that Bury Council, the host local authority, had not replied to the Inspectorate's consultation on the Scoping Report. The Inspectorate advised that the Applicant seek to ascertain whether Bury Council had chosen not to submit a

response, or whether a late scoping response might be forthcoming (which would then be published on the National Infrastructure website). The Applicant explained that they had an established relationship with Bury Council and were engaging constructively with them on the project as a whole.

The Inspectorate advised that feedback on the Digital Environmental Scoping Report (ESR) had been positive and that further piloting would take place on future projects. The next step in the process would be for the Inspectorate and stakeholders to establish how a Digital ESR could be relied upon solely, rather than requiring duplicate submission of an electronic report copy of the Digital ESR information. Work towards this is ongoing.