

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [A46 Newark Bypass](#)  
**Subject:** Comments on SOCG  
**Date:** 12 November 2024 15:58:15

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Hello

Can you add this to the responses

Steve Parkhouse

A46 Active Travel Partnership (20048929) 12<sup>th</sup> November 2024 - Response to SOCG

Involvement in the SOCG process is proving very difficult. After our meeting with the applicants on the 7<sup>th</sup> December further items were added to Issues section rather than Record of Engagement but last minute changes have been made on the version of the SOCG that I received at 15:14 today. It is now a reasonable starting point with the key issues identified and under discussion rather than 'Not Agree'. It is to be hoped that this does not meet the same fate as the one and only Working Party meeting 13<sup>th</sup> December 2022.

The main issue that affects all three routes is the deliverability of anything proposed by the applicants. During the meeting I introduced an email from National Highways received on the 5<sup>th</sup> Nov (included in written statement of case) regarding a very similar problem affecting the A52 Nottingham Roundabouts scheme which makes it clear the referral to Designated Funding will not deliver. The applicants rejected this as not being relevant but the context is almost identical. The A52 scheme is to increase the volume of traffic that the Nottingham Knight and Wheatcroft roundabouts can handle to reduce congestion. Very tight Order Limits have been drawn that excluded two bridleways and a footpath that cross the SRN between the two roundabouts. The crossings are already dangerous and increased traffic flows will make it even more dangerous so the A52 Active Travel Partnership have pressed for one of the bridleways to be diverted through an existing cattle underpass. Not only will this make crossing the A52 much safer it will also create a NMU route between the two roundabouts as per NNNPS2024. The email reply had been prompted by my suggestion that National Highways could offer to underwrite the cost of the Councils using their public rights of way Creation powers as a way to avoid changing the OLs. It is clear that this will not be done. Deliverability remains the key issue.

It is very unsatisfactory that the applicants are making the SOCG process difficult when it should involve exploring key issues to map them out and find a way through. They have had two years to work on these issues.