



Meeting note

Project name	A46 Newark Bypass
File reference	TR010065
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	08 March 2023
Meeting with	National Highways
Venue	MS 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.

Statutory Consultation Update

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that the statutory consultation period lasted from 26 October to 12 December 2022. The Applicant received a total of 539 responses, including:

- 34 from statutory consultees;
- 94 persons which have land interests; and
- 411 from the local community.

The Applicant engaged in 14 public events which saw over 730 visitors. The types of events include:

- 10 community events;
- Attendance at Newark Lorry Park
- 2 online events; and
- Attendance at a Newark Business Club meeting on 1 occasion.

The Applicant provided a list of the groups that engaged and responded to the Statutory Consultation. This list, however, is not exhaustive, as this only shows a few key groups which include:

- A46 Active Travel Partnership;
- Sustrans;
- No to Noise - Newark Riverside Residents;

- Newark Bypass Environmental Group;
- Crees Lane Residents Association;
- Woodland Trust;
- Project Newark Green Spaces;
- British Horse Society; and
- Think Again Winthorpe Resident's Group.

During the consultation, the Applicant confirmed that almost two-thirds of people strongly agreed that improvements are needed. Additionally, 54% were satisfied and/or very satisfied with National Highway's proposed improvements, 72% were extremely dissatisfied or dissatisfied with current congestion levels, and finally 51% extremely dissatisfied or dissatisfied with the current layout of the roads.

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate on the design change as a result of feedback given by the consultees during consultation, this included changes to the following:

- Size and height of new proposed roundabout at Brownhills junction;
- Location and size of access track near to Winthorpe;
- Use of an access track near to Winthorpe for walkers and cyclists;
- Crossing points for walkers and cyclists at Winthorpe roundabout;
- Temporary and permanent use of footpaths near Farndon roundabout;
- Land access for landowners and farmers during and after construction; and
- Location of environmental mitigation including bunding and landscaping.

The Inspectorate asked the Applicant whether the changes to the location and reduction in extent of the FCAs would impact the flood modelling that has been undertaken for the proposed development. The Applicant confirmed that flood modelling undertaken was still accurate and that the amended FCAs would be capable of holding the same volume of flood waters.

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that they would be sending targeted consultation materials on the proposed changes, including letters and plans, to consultees by 17 March 2023. The Applicant will also provide a 30 calendar day response period ending on 16 April 2023. Additionally, email and freepost response channels will also be provided. The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that they are highlighting ongoing engagement as part of the statutory consultation update and the press release on 6 March 2023.

Targeted Consultation

The Applicant provided further details on updates that will be included as part of the targeted consultation, which includes:

Consultation on Langford Hall access road with persons with land interests, and relevant prescribed Section 42 consultees.

Consultation on Winthorpe Roundabout including persons with land interests, relevant prescribed Section 42 consultees and targeted S47 community stakeholders.

Consultation on Hargon Lane public access route including persons with land interests, relevant prescribed Section 42 consultees and targeted S47 community stakeholders.

Consultation on Kelham and Averham floodplain compensation area including persons with land interests, relevant prescribed Section 42 consultees and targeted S47 community stakeholders.

Consultation on Farndon temporary bridleway (BW2) diversion including persons with land interests, relevant prescribed Section 42 consultees and targeted S47 community stakeholders.

Consultation on Farndon temporary construction holding area including persons with land interests, relevant prescribed Section 42 consultees and targeted S47 community stakeholders.

The Inspectorate advised the applicant to clearly identify in the application whether any supplementary consultation would be statutory or non-statutory.

Key Milestones

Key milestones set out by the Applicant include the following:

- Scoping report submitted to the Inspectorate: Friday 09 September 2022;
- Statutory Consultation: Wednesday 26 October – Monday 12 December 2022, additional consultation w/c 13 March – 16 April;
- Development Consent Order application submission: Summer 2023;
- Start of construction: Summer 2025; and
- Open to traffic: Summer 2028.

Next Steps / AOB

The Planning Inspectorate queried whether the Applicant intends to submit draft documents before the submission date. The Applicant confirmed this. The Inspectorate advised that draft documents of only front end Environmental Statement (ES) chapters should be provided. For example, project description. The Inspectorate also advised that feedback usually takes between 6 to 8 weeks.

The Applicant asked the Inspectorate on when the next project update meeting should be held, to which the Inspectorate suggested that there should be regular meetings building up towards the submission date, and a meeting slot in June.

