



## Meeting note

<b>Project name</b>	A46 Newark Bypass
<b>File reference</b>	TR010065
<b>Status</b>	Final
<b>Author</b>	The Planning Inspectorate
<b>Date</b>	5 December 2023
<b>Meeting with</b>	National Highways
<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.

### Stakeholder Engagement

The Applicant (National Highways) stated they continue to be committed to engaging with all stakeholders regularly by email, calls and meetings.

The Applicant is continuing to work on approximately 10 Statements of Common Ground (SoCG) with a number of statutory consultees, businesses and local groups and are having regular meetings with the Local Authorities and have recently increased engagement with Nottingham County Council. The Applicant also stated they recently attended a public engagement event with Urban and Civic.

### Traffic figures

The Applicant explained they will be producing an end of year summary which will comprise of a short online brochure. The Applicant have liaised with the local council and a QR code will also be available which will direct people to the website so they can see the brochure.

### Landowner update

The Applicant stated they have contacted all landowners and put in processes regarding the purchase of land by agreement with a number of agreements being negotiated.

The Applicant stated they have nearly completed on one sale of agricultural land. The Planning Inspectorate (PINS) asked if the sale would still go ahead if the Application for the DCO was not accepted. The Applicant confirmed this would be the case.

## **Flood model update**

The Applicant explained they have the sign off in principle by the Environment Agency (EA) and are likely to get formal approval by the end of 2023.

## **Ongoing engagement**

### Traffic modelling

The Applicant explained that during a consultation event two or three consultees noted the Annual Average Daily Traffic (AADT) label was not included on a relevant plan. In response to this, the Applicant stated they updated the website to explain the correction and highlight that the label had now been added to the relevant plan. The Applicant confirmed this will be explained in the Consultation Report.

## **Pelham Street update**

The Applicant explained at the previous project update meeting that Pelham Street was showing an abnormal traffic flow in the strategic model which was being investigated. This work has clarified that traffic numbers are acceptable and no further action is required.

## **Governance**

The Applicant stated the scheme is a Tier 1 scheme and this has passed National Highways governance.

The Applicant hopes to have HM Treasury decision early in 2024. If this is the case, they intend to submit their application to PINS around the end of February 2024.

PINS asked the Applicant if they see anything that could potentially delay the submission and what are the implications if this was to happen. The Applicant stated that the current submission date is based on achieving HM Treasury approval early in 2024.

## **Next steps**

The Applicant stated the next steps were –

- Tier 1 Governance to go through.
- Provide PINS an update as to project status prior to Christmas.
- Continue to work on Statements of Common Ground (SOCG).
- Arrange an update meeting at the beginning of February 2024.

PINS signposted the Applicant to look at other highways projects, pointing out relevant information regarding APFP regs that should be included with the submission.

EST stated that it would be beneficial to receive the SOCG with EA regarding the flood modelling at the application stage.