



## Meeting note

<b>Project name</b>	A46 Coventry Junction (Walsgrave)
<b>File reference</b>	TR010066
<b>Status</b>	Final
<b>Author</b>	The Planning Inspectorate
<b>Date</b>	26 March 2024
<b>Meeting with</b>	National Highways
<b>Venue</b>	Teams
<b>Meeting objectives</b>	Project Update
<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.

### Changes to Proposed Development

The Applicant stated that the draft order limits around the ponds in the North-West of the scheme map had reduced significantly with the removal of the northern-most balancing pond, it had decided to retain the farm access bridge in the middle of the scheme map for a potential future use as a walking, cycling and horse riding route, and altered the vertical alignment of the B class road to the north of the project.

The Applicant stated that except for these details, the rest of scheme is unchanged from the previous meeting.

### Statutory Consultation Overview

The Applicant informed that the statutory consultation ran from October to December 2023 and detailed the responses received from Coventry City Council, Warwickshire County Council, Rugby Borough Council, Transport for West Midlands, the Environment Agency and Natural England.

The Applicant stated that the initial target for the consultation period was 43 days, but this was later extended to 59 days to accommodate newly identified Category 3 Land Interests.

The Applicant informed that it held three public information events at community venues, four 'pop up' events using the National Highways mobile engagement van, one webinar and briefings with all three host Local Authorities.

The Inspectorate enquired about how the results of the consultation would be addressed in the consultation report. The Applicant stated that it had delegated each individual comment to specialised teams to evaluate and compare with other comments and the Applicant would communicate if and how the proposals are amended along with reasons in the consultation report.



## **Review of Documents**

The Applicant informed that the proposed draft document submission target is late May to early June 2024 and suggested a staggered document submission. The Inspectorate stated that one submission of all the documents was preferable, and that feedback would be sent to the Applicant after the meeting.

## **DCO Submission**

The Applicant gave an updated Development Consent Order (DCO) application submission target of October 2024.

The Inspectorate requested the Applicant to keep the Inspectorate updated regarding submission dates.

## **Any Other Business and Questions**

The Applicant stated that the date of the next meeting is still to be confirmed, but they would like the agenda to cover Draft Order Limits, Scheme Design and Materials, Assets and Waste.

The Applicant asked the Inspectorate about advice with good design and if there were any documents that could be referred to. The Inspectorate responded that good design is becoming increasingly important in Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects (NSIPs) and especially in road schemes, therefore good design needed to be an important part of every stage of the application process.

## **Specific decisions/ follow-up required?**

The following actions were agreed:

- The Inspectorate planned to send further guidance on the submission of draft documents in relation to the Applicant's preference of a staggered submission.
- The Inspectorate and the Applicant to organise a date for a follow-up meeting towards the end of April.