



## Meeting note

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|---------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Project name</b>       | A46 Coventry Junctions (Walsgrave) |
| <b>File reference</b>     | TR010066                           |
| <b>Status</b>             | Final                              |
| <b>Author</b>             | The Planning Inspectorate          |
| <b>Date</b>               | 12 June 2024                       |
| <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.

### General Scheme Update

The Applicant stated that the scheme layout has been subject to a number of design revisions, and the updated scheme design includes a signalised pedestrian crossing, new environmental mitigation / compensation areas, the use of 1:3 slopes for embankment design, a re-alignment of B4082, the retention of the Hungerley Hall Farm (HHF) bridge, removal of an existing embankment at the eastern extent of the order limits, upgraded fencing on the highway boundary, the removal of noise barriers which are no longer required after carrying out a noise risk assessment, an enlarged western roundabout, shorter slip roads, a maintenance layby, the removal of a planned construction haul road, provision of a temporary compound for bridge construction and minor adjustments for signage.

The Applicant also listed recent environmental related design changes arising from statutory consultation. These included the provision of ecological mitigation such as badger fencing and tunnels, water management features such as a potential northern pond, temporary flood bund installations and permanent drainage outfall and landscape measures such as mitigation planting and a more developed landscape design. The Applicant also stated that order limits had expanded slightly after statutory consultation to accommodate the changes listed above, to align with title boundaries, and to include land within a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) to enable fencing works.

The Inspectorate asked for clarification that Affected Persons (APs) have been informed of the above changes. The Applicant confirmed the above had been communicated to all APs and that no new landowners are affected.

## **PINS draft documents review and submission date**

The Inspectorate advised the Applicant of the process for submitting draft documents, and for them to inform the Inspectorate of any novel drafting of the Development Consent Order (DCO) compared to previous projects.

The Inspectorate enquired whether there is any consideration in the drafting of the DCO regarding the recent boundary changes in the scheme design. The Applicant responded that they are considering whether additions are required, such as permissions related to working within SSSIs.

## **Materials assets and waste**

The Inspectorate enquired about the Applicant's current position on their previous query on materials assets and waste, and noted that a response to outline their position which was due to be sent to the Inspectorate had not yet been received. The Applicant responded that they would look into this matter and clarify their position afterwards.

The Applicant stated their general approach to date for this issue, which included reviews based on the Design Manual for Road and Bridges (DMRB) requirements and updated material quantities from their DCO design fix. The Applicant also stated that consultation has so far been carried out with the Environment Agency, Rugby Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council, and are awaiting Coventry City Council's response.

## **Implications of Advice Note Fourteen for the consultation report**

The Inspectorate advised The Applicant to pay attention to potential future revisions of Advice Note Fourteen before submission. The Inspectorate also advised that the Applicant should also be aware of a new adoption of the National Networks National Policy Statement (NN-NPS).

## **Any Other Business and Questions**

The Applicant enquired about their obligations under the new Pre-App Prospectus. The Inspectorate advised that they should respond to the Inspectorate by the given deadline stating which tier of pre-application service they wish to enter into.

The Inspectorate proposed that the next project update meeting can be combined with the draft document feedback in late September.

The Applicant confirmed their submission date will be in November 2024.

Post meeting note:

With regard to recent changes to legislation and regulations, the applicant should refer to the transitional provisions as stated in part 1 & 4 of The Infrastructure Planning (Miscellaneous Provision) Regulations 2024 to ensure that the application complies with recent changes to legislation. The Applicant may also wish to familiarise themselves with changes set out in part 6 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) (Amendment) Rules 2024.

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

The following actions were agreed:

- The Applicant to respond regarding their approach to the assessment for material assets and waste.
- The Inspectorate to assess whether this project will be affected by changes to APFP Regulations and the Pre-App Prospectus.
- The Inspectorate and the Applicant to organise a date for a follow-up meeting towards the end of September.