# TEXT\_LONDONLUTON\_PRELIM\_SESSION1 \_10082023

## 02:47

So, good morning, everyone. Lovely to see you all here today. So just before I begin, can I confirm that everyone can hear me clearly? Can I also confirm with Miss Evans that the live streaming of this event has commenced? Thank you.

## 03:11

My name is Joe Dowling. I'm a planning inspector and chartered town planner. I've been appointed by the Secretary of State to be the lead member of the panel to examine this application. I'm now going to ask my fellow panel members to introduce themselves. Then I can go from my right

## 03:34

yeah. Apollo apologies. Apologies. Good morning. I am Sarah Holmes. I'm a police inspector and a chartered civil engineer.

## 03:48

Good morning. My name is Dr. Richard Hunt. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered environmentalist.

## 03:56

Good morning. My name is Andrew Robinson. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered town planner.

## 04:03

Good morning everyone. My name is Beth Davis. I'm a planning inspector and a chartered geologist.

## 04:10

Thank you. I can confirm that all members of the examining authority have made a formal declaration of interests and that there are no known conflicts of interest with regard to us examining this application. Together we constitute the examining authority or ESA for this application. I'm now going to hand over to Dr. Hunt who will deal with arrangements for this meeting. And item two of the agenda.

## 04:36

For those of you who are present in the room, may have already spoken to or heard from Sean Evans, who's the case manager for this project is Evans is accompanied by Mark Normand the inspectorates, Operations Manager for transport projects, and is supported today by Bernie sorry, remail. Bernie, our case officer. For those of you who have joined us virtually, you will have spoken to our other Case Officer, Ben Chan. Together they are the case team for this project. And if you have any questions or queries, they should be your first point of contact. Their contact details can be found at the top of any

letter you received from us, or on the project page at the National Infrastructure website. Before we consider the items on the agenda today, we need to deal with a few housekeeping matters. I'll try to get through these as quickly as possible. Can everyone attending please make sure that your phone is switched off or turned silent. toilet facilities including disabled facilities can be found through in the lobby. As far as I'm aware, no requests will be made for any special measures or arrangements to enable participation in this preliminary meeting. If anyone needs any special measures or arrangements, please speak to the case team at the back. This event is being live streamed and recorded a letter dated 13th of July, which we'll refer to as the rule six letter from now on. Explain that because we retain and publish the digital recordings. They form a public record to which the general data protection regulation or GDPR applies. The planning Inspectorate publishes and retains recordings for a period of five years from the Secretary of State's decision. So if you participate in today's preliminary meeting, it's important that you understand that you'll be recorded and that you therefore consent to the retention and publication of the digital recording. The essay will only ask, ever asked for information to be placed on the public record that is important and relevant to the planning decision will only be in the rarest of circumstances that you might be asked to provide personal information of the type that most of us would prefer to keep private or confidential, such as your address details, financial circumstances, or details of medical conditions. Therefore, to avoid the need to edit the digital recordings, what we would ask is that you try your best not to add information to the public record that you would normally wish to be kept private or confidential. Does anyone have any questions with regards to this matter, either in the room or online.

#### 07:26

For those attending, virtually, can I repeat the request made in the arrangements conference, that in order to minimize background noise, you also make sure that your phone is switched off, or turned to silent, and that you stay muted with your camera turned off, unless you are speaking. As this is a blended event. It's been structured in such a way that questions or points that you may wish to raise can be done. So the relevant points in the proceedings. When we get to those points, I'd ask that if you want to speak you switch your camera on and either use the raise your hand function in MS teams, or asked to speak at the appropriate time. Can I also remind people that the chat function on teams will not work. So please don't try to use this to ask questions or post any comments. Do we have any members of the press in attendance today? Please could you make yourself known to our case team at the back will provide you with details of the planning inspectors press team.

#### 08:32

No fire test is planned for today. Shouldn't alarm sound it's an emergency emergency event and will need to vacate the building. Emergency exits are located in each corner of the room. And you can also exit through the main doors that you entered through the fire assembly points in the main carpark. On the far side, if any, if anyone would need a sense assistance in the event of needing to evacuate the building. Can you please let the case team know again who has sat at the back of the room? Does anyone intend to film or record this event?

#### 09:11

Are there any comments or questions regarding any of the points just raised? Online this meeting will follow the agenda set out in the rules six letter. If you have a copy of that letter. To hands the agenda is

Annex A Could I ask the case team share it on the screen as well. We're currently on ice and one of the agenda.

#### 09:54

We will have the agenda up in a second I'm sure the real six letter and agenda are also available. on the project page at the National Infrastructure website, the address of which is at the top of the letter. It can also be found in the examination library. That reference PD wo seven will introduce the agenda items in turn, and make any introductory comments on them. Following that, we'll invite the interested parties who've registered to speak on that item to comment will then invite comments from other parties. If at any point you wish to speak about an item on the agenda, we ask that you raise your hand if you're in the room, or the MS teams hand racing function for those persons joining online. If you don't manage to answer your question or raise your points at the relevant points in the meeting, there will be an opportunity at the end of the meeting for you to raise this under Agenda Item six on any other matters. The preliminary meeting is scheduled to finish by 1pm. And we're confident of concluding all matters by then, should the preliminary meeting take the full allotted time, we may need to take a mid morning break. If this happens, those of you participating virtually in the meeting will need to switch off your camera and microphone for the duration of the break. For those people watching the live stream will have to stop the live stream in order to give us clear recording files. As a result. At the point we recommence the meeting and restart the live stream. You'll need to refresh your browser browser page to review the restarted stream. We remind you of these arrangements again, should we need to adjourn. Are there any comments on the procedure for speaking in the room

#### 11:30

or online.

#### 11:36

This is a working meeting we intend to run it fairly and efficiently allowing everyone who wishes to do so to participate. However, we will endeavor to make sure that your and our contributions are as to the point as focused as possible. So that we make the best use of the time available and allow everyone who wishes to speak an opportunity to do so. We hope that you will support us in this endeavor. Notes and digital recordings of today's meeting are being taken. And these will be placed on the project page at the National Infrastructure website as soon as practicable after the close of the preliminary meeting. For the purposes the notes recordings, when you do speak, could you state your name, and if you're representing someone who misses you represent. Please also bear in mind that the only official records of today's proceedings are the notes and the digital recordings, tweets, blogs, and similar communications arising out of this meeting will not be accepted as evidence in the examination of this application. Thank you. Now the case team have provided me with a list of those interested in other parties who have expressed wish to be heard today. I'm now going to ask those people to introduce themselves. I'll start with the applicant. Then ask the council's those representing groups and finally send to individuals. When I say your name, please introduce yourself stating your name, your title, Mr, Mrs. cetera and who it is you represent. For example, Mr. Joe Bloggs local residents. If you're attending virtually please switch on your camera and microphone when I call your name. So if we can turn to the applicant

Thank you, sir. Good morning panel. And good morning everyone. My name is Tom Henderson. I'm a partner and solicitor with the law firm BDB Pitmans. And we're legal advisors to the applicant alongside me are members of the applicants team. I wasn't proposing to introduce them at this stage you'll probably only be hearing from me today but if we do need to call on others then we can introduce them at that point.

#### 13:42

Okay, thank you. Next we have Luton Borough Council

#### 13:51

Good morning sir. My name is Mrs. Susan frost from Luton Borough Council. I'm

#### 13:57

the service director for sustainable development.

#### 14:02

Good morning, sir. My name is excuse me sorry. My name is David Gertler. I'm the Project Officer for Luton Borough Council.

#### 14:15

Good morning, sir. My name is Sonny Sahadi. I'm head of planning at least America

#### 14:21

can I just offer I've seen it on your website. But CBC central Bedfordshire have asked me to read out a short statement because they can't they can't be present. So it has been put up on your website by the program officer. But if I could just is very short.

#### 14:40

Yeah, please go ahead.

#### 14:44

Central Bedfordshire counselors project officer is no longer able to attend the preliminary meeting due to a family bereavement. As it's the summer holidays, there are no other officers available to participate at the meeting on the project of officers behalf. Notwithstanding this Central Bedfordshire Council remain fully engaged in the process and are willing to answer any questions when the project officer returns. as set out in the central Bedfordshire councils relevant representations, there are significant concerns with the proposal, and it is requested that the issue specific hearings are held for surface axis noise and green controlled growth. The letter that they wrote was put up on your website last night. Thank you.

#### 15:29

If we can now move on to Buckingham share counsel. Good morning.

My name is Mark Westerlund Smith, I'm a barrister and I appear on behalf of Buckingham Shire Council. And to my right is Daniel gig is the team leader development management planning growth and sustainability at the council

## 15:56

if we can move on to decorum Borough Council.

## 16:02

Morning Sir, my name is Ron Rome. Strategic planning manager.

## 16:10

Thank you. And half chair county council.

## 16:19

Morning Mr. Paul Donovan Hartfordshire county council

## 16:27

North Hartfordshire.

## 16:33

Good morning. So, Louise Symes from North Hampshire District Council, this strategic infrastructure and Projects Manager

## 16:43

and next if we could move to national highways.

## 16:49

Good morning. My name is Jeremy Blum. I am representing national high wages on this project.

## 16:57

Thank you, Pat. Next we have ladder can.

## 17:02

Morning sir. I'm Mr. Andrew lamborn the chair of ladder Ken and community group

## 17:10

stop Luton Airport Expansion.

## 17:13

Good morning everyone. Mr. Chris Hayden, volunteer stop Luton Airport Expansion

## 17:22

holiday extras

Good morning sir. My name is Mr. Tim north. I'm Tim north and Associates limited charter town planners and I'm representing holiday extras

## 17:38

and we then move on to a number of individuals so we have Alison Mitchell.

## 17:49

Alison Mitchell was due to be joining us online now I'll just ask case teams check whether Alison will be joining us and we'll we'll come back to her later on. Now you'll have to forgive my pronunciation the next name I have on my list is I think John Mikhail called you George you

#### 18:16

know again our last case teams check their attendance toward VITAS Molina's.

# 18:29

Joseph Kelly

18:40 Steve Haines haste

18:49 and Harish Chandra, on radio

## 18:57

Okay, a few names will check there. So, can I just confirm that I've now heard from everyone who wishes to speak about the procedure for the examination at today's event in the room? Is there anyone I've missed? Now, or online?

#### 19:25

Okay, in that case, I think we can now move on to agenda item two. So, item two on the agenda is the examining authorities remarks about the examination process. In Annex B of our rule six letter, the examining authority set out in detail, the purpose of the preliminary meeting, and how it intends to carry out the examination. for expediency, I'm assuming that everyone has read this. Therefore, I don't propose to spend time reading it out. Now. Let me briefly explain what This morning's meeting is about, we will be focusing on how we intend to examine this application. And we will only be discussing the procedural aspects of the examination. So we're not taking evidence and will not discuss the merits, or any concerns that you may have about this application at this point in time. Those matters will only be considered following the close of this meeting. The first opportunity for you to talk about to us about your issues is this evenings open floor hearing, or the open floor hearing tomorrow morning. Now, I know the number of you have already registered to speak at these events. And thank you for doing that in advance. If you haven't already done so and you think that you may wish to speak, please do speak to the case team at the back of the room. And we'll see if we can accommodate you at either of those

events. Hopefully, by the end of this meeting, you'll be assured that there'll be sufficient opportunities throughout the examination for you to express your views. It's important to us the all clear in your understanding of the examination process. If there's anything you're unsure about, then please do ask. And your first point of contact should be the case team. I'd like to take this opportunity to advise those of you who may be unfamiliar with the development consent process, that the examination and evidence to be provided in this format. As you'll see from the draft timetable, which is in Annex D of the rule six letter we've timetabled numerous deadlines, where you'll be able to submit information into the examination. In the event that you don't feel you've been given the opportunity to make your representations, for example, due to time constraints, please do provide them in written format, following any meeting or hearing. So on the basis, the information set out in Annex B, which includes the format of future events, does anyone have questions about the way in which we intend to examine this application that aren't covered under other sections of the agenda? Either in the green? Yes,

#### 22:09

sir. Mr. Andrew Lambo, and from ladder can again, I have a question about how sustainable development is defined for the purposes of the examination. It's listed as one of the overarching issues in the role six letter. But we all know that the word sustainable is becoming a kind of badge of respectability for brands and companies. And it will be helpful to know whether the definition of the term accords with the UN Brandman definition of meeting the needs of the president without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs, or some other definition that pertains more to planning decisions. So that would be that will be helpful.

## 22:55

Applicant hand over to his darling, thank you.

## 22:59

Thank you very much, I think that the best way that we can respond to you is in formalizing that in a rule eight letter, which will be coming out in the next couple of days after this meeting, so that you'll have that in writing and be able to refer to it and then if you've got any further concerns with regards to how that's defined, and you can come back to us again, so if you're happy for this, to take it forward in that way, then we'll move on from that for this purposes for today's meeting.

#### 23:25

I'm happy and thank you for that. I have another question about documentation, which is probably relevant to this section. And that is change control. There have been a number of revisions already. And when a new document appears, it's not always clear what changes have been made where and with limited resource, one doesn't want to have to reread the whole thing, would it be possible either, or each new revision to be issued with a parallel copy with change control marked up or at the beginning of the document to have a table saying what the changes were and where they were made.

## 24:06

So again, if I can just respond on that one, if you look in the rules, six letter in the procedural decisions, at the end, what will be produced going forward is something called a guide, what we've requested that

the applicant produce going forward is something called a guide to the application. And what that will do is it will list all of the documents submitted with the application. And then every time there's a new version, that it will flag up that there's a new version, and then in the final column, it will it will advise you what those changes are that have been made to those documents at each version. But I'm happy to ask the applicant here now if they want to respond if they're prepared to provide track change versions. So if you bear with me, I'd like to just turn to the applicant on that

## 24:53

Tom Henderson for the applicant Thank you madam I think generally Yes, we are content to supply track change version I just have a slight note of caution that there's an extremely large amount of paperwork already under management. And so if every document requires a track change and the clean version that's that's adding to the, the burden for both us and you as recipients of that information, and indeed others to then manage the information. So I think as a, as a general rule, we wouldn't want to submit every single document in tracking clean format, obviously, the audit, we will do that. But I'm a bit cautious about committing to that for the entirety of the document production process.

## 25:33

So if I can go back to the ladder can, given we've got the guide to the application, do you think that would be a good starting point? And then if there's a further problem going forward, you could let us know. And then we could maybe review whether or not we need to track changes of documents, given the point that the applicants made with regards to the volume of documents that are being submitted,

## 25:52

and appreciate the point in the applicants made? And I think if it's clear in the guide, where the changes are and what they were, then that would suffice. Thank you.

#### 26:00

Thank you. So if I can just go back to the applicant, obviously, that's going to be quite a key document going forward to enable people to navigate them set them selves around the documentation. So can you take on board the concerns that being raised and make sure that it's clear within that document? What changes are made so that people can track them?

#### 26:18

Tom Anderson to the applicant? Certainly we will take that away, madam. Thank you. Thank you.

#### 26:27

Thank you slam on there any other questions in the green? Or online? Sorry,

#### 26:37

pulled off and Hartfordshire. County council in our in our written submission to the to the preliminary meeting, we asked whether a question about the engagement of the Hartfordshire authorities working together moving forward, would it be appropriate to raise that level? Will we get a response to that after we got a response?

We'll cover that under their procedural decisions section Dilijan. Were there any other questions now, and I don't see any more questions or hands raised online. So that end section or item to the agenda. I'll now hand over to Mr. Robinson to deal with item three on the agenda.

#### 27:20

Thank you, Dr. Hunt. turn now to Item three, which is the initial assessment of principle issues. For those of you with copies of our rule six letter, it would be useful to have Annex C in front of you. But for those that don't, we have a summary on the screen behind me. The principal issues have been compiled alphabetically, and not in order of importance, the subject matters listed have been arrived at by taking into account the application documents, the comments in the relevant representations and other submissions we have received. The purpose is to identify broad matters to guidance in forming a provisional view as to how the application is to be examined. Importantly, it does not stop us from removing or adding issues at later stage in the process. We're not looking to get into the detail of these issues at this stage. So for example, taking the subject of noise, we won't be looking at the details of any impacts experienced in this meeting. We'd be glad to hear these types of comments or the open floor hearing sessions that have been held this evening. And tomorrow morning or at the later issue specific hearings. We've received comments from a number of parties that procedural deadline a with regards to the principal issues, and these have been published on the national infrastructure website. Of those I can see that the following have requested to speak on this item. The applicant, Luton Borough Council ladder can holiday extras limited. And also Alison Mitchell, although we can see that she is not currently present. Before I take comments from those parties, is there anyone who has expressed a wish to speak on this item? But I haven't called out their name. I don't see any hands in the room and I don't see any hands up online. So I'll firstly go through the parties that I called out first to see whether you want to add to the comments provided a procedural deadline a turning to the applicant first please.

#### 29:34

Thank you, Sir Tom Henderson for the applicant. So just to summarize what what we've said in our procedure, deadline a letter we are broadly happy with the list of principal issues. There are only two points that we noted that we would consider material input and important in relation to the need case and national and local policy, which we don't believe were explicitly listed but we would assume would naturally form part of the examination, but we noticed that that both Luke and Barry Council and the Hartfordshire authorities have raised that same point. So we would be supportive of those being added as, as principal issues. Thank you.

#### 30:18

I'm happy to repeat that, again, Tom Henderson for the applicant. We are broadly satisfied with the list of principle issues. We had two matters that we thought should be added, namely, the need case, and the national and local policy context. And we noted that Luton Borough Council and the Hartfordshire authorities had made the same point so we would be supportive of those being added to the list. Thank you.

#### 30:47

Thank you, Mr. Henderson. I think I'll respond to this because it might be of interest to other parties, as we've noted that this has been raised another submission. So we absolutely recognize that need for the expansion is one of the principal issues that we need to consider the opening paragraph to our list of principle issues in Annex C of the rule letter, which is obviously shown on the screen behind me to set this out. The way that we've framed this, we've essentially included this as an overarching principle issue. And then we've in the table, we've listed what we consider looking like this stage to be the potential adverse effects on the environment and living conditions that could weigh against this. But whilst we haven't listed it is our intention to consider relevant policy contexts and other publications that may also turn out to be important and relevant in the consideration of this item. Okay, thank you. Is there anything else that you'd wish to add on this item? Okay, thank you very much for your contributions, and turning to Luton Borough Council, please.

# 31:50

Thank you, David Gertler, Luce. Amira, Council, you've answered the first point that we made about need. And I think our second one, which related to which issues the examining authority might consider to be the principal ones, probably comes up in either the procedural decisions, or in the examination timetable, where you talk about the different sessions. So I'll leave it at that.

## 32:19

Thank you. Yes, we will, obviously go on to discuss the timetable at this stage. It's too early to indicate what are the likely issues that's the purpose of this meeting. And also, as well, when we have deadline one and two, we will review the comments that are submitted, but we but for reassurance, we will be publishing agendas in advance of the meeting, which will include topics and also more detailed agendas at least five days before those sessions take place. Is there anything else that you would you'd like to add on this item? No, thank you.

## 32:53

And keep

## 32:59

turning to ladder can now please.

# 33:00

Thank you, sir. Andrew Lambo and Chair of ladder can my reading of the guidance was to perhaps be helpful to the panel to have a brief summary of the group as by way of introduction, so if you're happy for me to do that, I'm happy to give you a brief summary.

# 33:20

That would be helpful. Yes, please.

# 33:22

Thank you. For the past 10 years, I've chaired ladder cam, which stands for the Luton and District Association for the control of aircraft noise, which is a constituted Community Group, with over 300 members living all around Luton Airport, from roughly Patan in the north to St Albans in the south, trying

in the West to Stevenage in the East, including Luton and the surrounding villages. And people join us by asking if they can or making a contribution to our running costs so they come to us rather than us going to them. We engage with the airport operator as members of the London Luton Airport Consultative Committee, It's noise and track subcommittee, It's noise insulation subcommittee, and its airspace change focus groups as and when they meet. We speak for communities at the Department of transports airspace and noise engagement group, and our members of the airspace change organizing groups community panel. Over the years we have participated in DFT and CIA consultations on aviation noise issues. That again seeks constructive engagement and focuses particularly on the quality and effectiveness of aircraft noise monitoring, content modeling and noise data analysis, as well as the effects of the way aircraft have flown on their noise impacts. I participated in the Luton rising noise envelope design group, and recently helped the airport operator and analyze the effects of a modified departure procedure trial. We tend to act as an umbrella group and as such, we represented communities. As a rule six party to the planning inquiry last year. Whatever evidence involves processing the airport's annual noise monitoring data from 2018 and 2019. So that's by way of introduction turning to the two particular points, we raised some principal issues. We specifically asked for finance to be considered, because we're not clear whether this is already covered by Issue five under adequacy of security for project delivery. But if not, we feel it's important for the examining authority to satisfy itself that the responsibilities of the statutory undertaking can be delivered. Even if there are economic headwinds. Two sets of auditors have raised concerns about the app or valuation related aspects of the applicant's recent accounts and its levels of indebtedness to Luton Borough Council is considered significant. The funding statement, reference a PP dashes. 012 doesn't really provide any clarity and neither is it entirely clear which body would be operating the airport post 2031. Secondly, we raised the issue of covenants. And there are matters in this regard, which have a relevant bearing on the recent history of what we'll describe as faster than expected growth. And hence the context for this application, which touched on the close interlock between the two different legal entities, namely Luton rising and Luton Borough Council, given that there is a pool of people common to both entities. Governance is a key aspect of green controlled growth. And we ask that the academy examination processes assess whether the governance of the council's corporate arrangements in respect of the airport are adequate. Now, on the other headline topics, we share the comments of others, which is to say that there are some topics which have no subtopics and green controlled growth is one of those. And in particular, we're keen that the noise envelope design and the thresholds that apply to it, and the way that it's covered should be part of what is examined. And also the climate change issues has no subtopics. But we're assuming that issues raised in relevant wraps will be included. Thank you for your attention.

## 37:51

Thank you Mr. lamborn for the for those comments. We will take all of those comments on board in our in our end to respond in our ruling eight letter. But of course, we are aware of a number of relevant representations that have raised issues of finance so we will take those on board. Okay. Thank you for your comments and turning now next to holiday extras please.

#### 38:14

Like Mr. Tim north to North associates limited representing holiday extras limited. The point I wish to make really sure I think we raised at the open hearing sessions this evening, but I can raise it now in

part. The fact is, we are here basically to look at long term off airport car parking division, and its contribution to access gently to Luton Airport. One of our main concerns rests with the relationship of interrelationship as we see it between traffic and transportation and more particularly surface access and green controlled growth as a separate topic, and we're concerned that those two topics may be considered individually. But when they are close into connections between the two, we feel that they should be considered jointly at the appropriate times. Green control Grove clearly has implications in terms of thresholds for surface access. It certainly has implications in terms of limits to although they don't seem to apply to my clients, despite us being on site for more than 20 years. And we've had no discussions with the applicant on the issues. Although we have raised representations at each stage. Were also concerned with respect to traffic and transportation in terms of surface access and its relationship to extending the airport of airport on airport car parking into what I would call we call value car. And the justification for that in terms of the numbers of additional car parking provisions or parking spaces as opposed to be provided these or our general concerns. And there are matters which I would like to raise a little bit more detail later on this evening, if I may.

## 40:12

Thank you very much Miss North, if I can just come back to you in a couple of items, I think I always use the example of a Venn diagram when we're dealing with applications for development consent, in that the issue that we have as a an examining authority is that lots of these issues overlap. So it's very difficult sometimes to unpick them and put them in separate categories. So what I wanted to do was just to take the opportunity to reassure people that just because something isn't explicitly stated in this list, it doesn't mean it will be considered. And we will, you will find it as we progress, the issue specific hearings that the same topics will come up and be considered under other under each of the individual topic items. So for example, the issue that you've raised with regards to off street, offsite parking may be considered under green control growth, it may also be considered under air quality, because obviously, traffic movements, and so and also under noise. So there's lots of opportunities where it will come up. And we will obviously, at this point in time, these are the high level issues, as my colleague has said, that we consider that need to be considered. And that's one of the reasons we haven't delve down into lots of sub detail underneath them. But we recognize that those sub detail is there. With regards to the points that you've made with your concerns, you are more than welcome to attend the open pool hearing this evening, and also for future issues, specific hearings, which will be on specific topics such as traffic. So it may be again that those are opportunities there for you to to raise that. But with regards to the actual initial assessment of principal issues, which is what this agenda item is, is there anything specifically you would want to raise with regards to that list and the concerns that your client has?

## 42:02

Timnath to Moulton Associates representing holiday extras, madam, that's very clear. Thank you very much for that, because that I didn't find that clear with respect when I read your rule six letter, but that now does clarify matters and hopefully will mean that I can foreshorten what I was going to say this evening, but I'm grateful for you. Thank you very much.

## 42:31

Thank you, and we're moving on. We had Alison Mitchell, who requested to speak. So if if I what I'll do is I'll just very quickly answer the comments that was made by Miss Mitchell, effectively of whether we will be considering equalities act and SPS changes. Firstly, on the Equality Act, we've listed that as it's an integral component that we will be considering as part of the process. And on SBS changes, we've noted comments that have been made on this and we will provide comments in our rule eight letter on that. And if Miss Mitchell is watching back on the recording, then she's welcome to submit any kind of further comments, the deadline one, which is currently set for the 22nd of August. That brings me to the end of everybody who's requested to speak on this item. So what I'm going to do now is I'm going to open it up is that is there anybody who would like to contribute or make any comments on this discussion of principle issues? It's either in the room or online. Yes.

## 43:51

Chris Hayden's Luton Airport Expansion. I assume that the when we put our relevant representations in there were many subject areas that are not covered here. And I have made the assumption before this meeting, that they will be picked up and they will be covered. The one principle issue that I don't see on there is health. And I can assume that each of those pick up on health, but it's not an identified principle issue. And I just want to clarify that that will be covered.

## 44:35

Thank you. Yes. Under the table in number nine, we actually have health and community effects listed as a sub list. So it's what we would consider we will consider it under the item. Okay, thank you. So if you just like to introduce yourself I'm

## 45:07

sorry, just for the benefit of everyone in the room, if you do want to come up and speak and not currently the table because we're recording and there are people virtually listening online, we need to use microphones. So you'll need to come up to the table and just use the microphone, so you just need to press the button in front of you.

#### 45:26

That great, thank you, John Smith, local resident. My question really relates to last year, if you remember, there was a proposal put forward to increase passenger numbers for 80 million to 90 million, as I understand it, so with with the government for approval or not, what happens to that now is that just ditched.

#### 45:47

We're aware of that planning application and and the inquiry that took place last year, but it is a separate process to this, which will be considered separately, but we will be keeping our eye on whether a decision will be made on that application. And what is relevant to this application will be if and when a decision is made during the process of this application.

## 46:10

Okay, thank you.

Surfer information, the guest introduces center Lambo on ladder can, as I understand it, those commitments have been made that a decision will be issued on or before the 22nd of August. In relation to that application, I think my understanding is shared by others. I'm just looking at David Gertler.

#### 46:39

Yes, David Gertler, Luton Borough Council, the planning casework unit wrote to the applicant is the airport operator and advise them that a decision would be issued on or before the 22nd of August, it's being determined by two Secretaries of State Secretary of State for levelling up Housing and Communities and Secretary of State for Transport.

#### 47:05

Thanks very much for that clarification. Thank you. Is there anybody else that would like to make any comments on this item? And is there anybody online that would like to make any comments? I don't see any hands up in the room. And I don't see any hands up online. So. So in that case, thank you all very much for contributing to this item. I will now hand over to Miss Holmes, who will deal with Agenda Item four, which is procedural decisions taken by the examining authority.

#### 47:38

Thank you, Mr. Robinson. And I would now ask that you turn to annex f of the real six letter, where you will note that the examining authority has made several procedural decisions. And I'm hoping that's going to be shared on screen. Yes, thank you. Annex F provides further detail behind these requests. And I therefore do not propose to repeat that now. Obviously, is your deadline a on the 27th of July, we've received correspondence from a number of parties that I'm going to go through in some detail now. The submissions can be found in the examination library, at references PDA double O one, two PDA 101. For the matters raised in this correspondence with regards to initial assessment of principal issues have been dealt with under the previous agenda item. matters regarding the examination timetable and deadlines will be dealt with under the next agenda item to dealing first with the correspondence from the applicant, that's PDA double O one. In addition to the points raised regarding the initial assessment of principle issues, the timetable and deadlines, the applicant provided comment on specific items including statements of common ground, and in particular that they no longer intended to proceed with statements of common ground with showing UK Limited and Network Rail. An update on the transport modeling requested by the examining authority and its rule nine letter of the 13th of June and additional submissions. Firstly statements of common ground, I can confirm having considered the matter further, that the examining authority is of the opinion that statements of common ground with show UK Ltd and Network Rail are not required. This will be formally confirmed in the relate letter. We also note that the applicant proposed developing statements of common ground with practice downstream UK PLC and world fuel service. I note that no relevant representations have been received from either of these parties. Can I just confirm if the applicant is still planning on developing these things for common ground? And if so the reasons why they believe they are necessary.

#### 49:43

Thank you, Madam Tom Madison, the applicant? Yes, we're still developing those so we propose to submit them.

## 49:49

Thank you very much for that. Is there anything else the applicant would like to add on the matter of statements of common ground?

## 49:57

Telemedicine for the applicant? Yes, madam. Thank you. And we're grateful for your procedural decision in relation to the to the shell and Network Rail, same as common ground. We do have some further developments to discuss in relation to the timing of statements of common ground. But we would propose to deal with that under the agenda item relating to the timetable because they're really timetabling issues rather than the production offering.

## 50:19

Yes, thank you. That'd be great. Okay, moving on to the transport modeling, the applicant provided a useful summary as to the progress in relation to updating the transport modeling in line with the Department for Transport guidance. We understand that initial discussions have taken place with national highways and the local highway authorities, would it be possible now for the applicant just to provide us with a brief update?

#### 50:44

Tom handles for the applicant. The we remain on track in terms of the program to deliver the traffic modeling information by December, we can say at this stage that I mean, obviously, it's heavily caveated in terms of awaiting the the output of the modeling, but our expectation is for a small downward reduction in the level of traffic. And therefore, in terms of our surface access case, that would affect the timing, but not the delivery of highway mitigation, which in any event is adaptive is not committed to a specific year. And in relation to the environmental effects, which are consequent on the modeling, we expect no materially new or different effects. So that's the update that we can provide at this stage. And as I say, we remain on track to deliver that information in I think it's the first week of December. That's great. Thank

#### 51:33

you very much for that. Finally, the applicant has requested the access permission to submit an errata documented deadline one, which would capture minor errors, it's identified in the application documents, I can confirm that the examining authority will give permission for this and that that will be formally confirmed in a letter. We ask that when updating a documents that future deadlines that they review for any errors and amended as necessary before submission. Is there anything else the applicant would like to add on this matter or any other matter relating to procedural matters?

#### 52:06

Tom Anderson, the applicant? No, thank you, madam.

#### 52:10

Thank you. And now we'll deal with the correspondence from the happy to host authorities. We understand that the half the show host authorities wish to be dealt with as a collective wherever possible, to allow them to engage in the process effectively and in the interest of efficient use of limited resources. However, they also appreciate there may be occasions when they need to engage individually, I can confirm that we're generally content with this approach. But please ensure that it's clear in all correspondence, whether responses on behalf of all three councils or a specific council or councils, who's representing the host of artists today. Do you want to make any comments on this?

## 52:49

Paul Donovan Hartfordshire Kenda Council, thank you for that confirmation. And we will do that. And I'm planning on doing that and in to meet the deadline one requirements locally prime opponent reps, so we've got that in.

## 53:04

Brilliant thanks very much. Moving on to Huntington District Council. The counselors advises that they do not intend to participate in the examination, and so they will be removed from the consulte database following the issue of the rule eight letter. Since the will six letter was issued, there have been several additional submissions, some of which that were received a procedural deadline a that the examiner authorities accepted into the examination, including grand ballet, which is as 132 was a UK which is as 1332 Shall ravishing Shankar which is as 134 and three rivers District Council, which is as 135. In addition, the examining authority has accepted the request from Hardwick parish council to become another person. And the responses to these submissions should be submitted at deadline one. But in the interim, does anyone have any procedural questions regarding the acceptance of these submissions? No. Thank you for having discuss the specific procedural decision has raised the submissions made it procedural deadline, one, is there anything else other than matters relating to time to blog deadline, which will be covered in the next agenda item that anyone else wants to raise at this point? No, I don't see any hands. Okay, thank you. I will now hand over to Miss Davis who will talk about the draft timetable for the examination hearings and site inspections. Thank you.

#### 54:39

This is item five on the agenda. The draft timetable is set out in detail in Annex D of our rule six letter and it will be useful to have it in front of you for this item. We're also putting a summary up on the screen behind us. This timetable covers the whole period of the examination Look, this is for six months to the date of completion, which is the 10th of February 2024. The draft timetable includes dates for future hearings, site inspections and deadlines for submission of written documents. It also includes the dates on which we propose to issue documents such as our written questions, and the proposed schedule of changes to the draft development consent order. The timetable is just provisional at the moment, we'll be listening to everything that you have to say today and will take into account all the written submissions that you've already made before finalizing the timetable. We intend to issue the final timetable as soon as possible after this meeting. As you can see, we've proposed 10 deadlines. I don't intend to go through all of these now, but if you intend to contribute to the examination, it will be a good idea to familiarize yourself with the details. I will pull out some of the key points before inviting comments from the floor. The deadline one is currently timetabled for the 22nd of August. At this deadline, we want to receive full written representations from all interested party will also expect the initial statements of common ground and local impact reports from the local authorities. If anyone wants to make any comments on these submissions, then that will be at deadline to which at the moment is on the 12th of September. Deadline one is also the times let us know if you wish to be heard at any future hearings. So we've provisionally booked two sets of hearings, one for a week at the end of September, and one for a week towards the end of November. The details details of these will be decided once we've considered all of your submissions, but they'll certainly include sessions on the draft development consent order and compulsory acquisition matters will also run issues specific hearings during these weeks. These will focus on particular topics such as noise and air quality. The details of these will be published as soon as possible. We can also hold another open floor hearing later in the examination if anyone requests we're moving on to site inspections. We've already undertaken an accompanied site inspections in May this year, and some more earlier this week. notes of the May inspections can be found on the project page of the national infrastructure website. And we'll publish details of what we've seen this week as soon as possible. These visits have given us a good sense of the proposals and the potential impacts on the wider area, we may need to do additional site inspections though, some of these may need to be accompanied if they're on private land or if someone wants to draw attention to something in particular, we've penciled in the last week of November for an accompanied site inspection just in case one is necessary. If you have any suggestions for future site inspections, then please let us know by deadline one. If you do want to make suggestions, you'll need to provide an explanation of why you consider an inspection at that location as required and what needs to be done to arrange access. You'll also need to let us know if you want to accompany us on any future inspections by deadline five, which currently is the 14th of November. If you do want to attend any future hearings or site inspections, I'd strongly recommend that you read our rules six letter carefully so that you understand the reasons behind them and the procedures around each. You'll see the provision has been made in the timetable for the examining authority to issue two sets of written questions. One set is currently timetables for the first half of October, and the second set in mid December. We can also issue specific requests for information at any point during the examination through a rule 17 letter. That's all clear. I'll now turn to the comments received so far about the draft timetable. So starting with the applicant, who submitted written comments on the timetable in PDA 001 I think your comments are clear. Thank you. Mr. Henderson. Was there anything that you wanted to say about the timetable here or want to add to your previous submissions?

#### 59:27

Thank you, Madam Tom Henderson for the applicant. No, unless you want me to summarize the points again, we've made our submissions within the letter that you've received.

#### 59:38

Yeah, clear. Thank you. Didn't you say there was something you wanted to refer to you about statements of common ground and the timetable section?

#### 59:45

Tom heads of the applicant? Yes. It may actually relate to submissions I don't want to preempt the submissions from from the local authorities, but we noted from their procedural deadline a submissions that they were seeking to I'm pushed back deadline one. Now, obviously that has implications for the proposed amendments. I think all we would say at this stage is if deadline one were to be pushed back

by, say a week, then our submissions in respect of the gap between deadlines one and two will still stand opposition is that we're seeking some more time to in order to be able to thoroughly respond to the local impact reports and written reps, which will, we expect to be extensive. The reason I mentioned that is because whilst the vast majority of the statements and common ground are on track for submission deadline, one, we are coming under some pressure to complete the local, the same. So common ground sorry, with the with the postal authorities, and the UK health security agency. And that's really a combination of time pressures and time of the year. So without going too far into the details, the latest version of the statements of common ground for the highest authorities should be with them on Monday. And so, you know, depending on how much time they required to respond to those, we may not be in a position where they've fully reviewed the latest version before deadline one. So there's a bit of complexity around this, if deadline, one to be deferred, were to be deferred that that may assist in delivering by deadline one, an alternative solution would be to seek your permission to put those ones in a deadline to, which would give us a bit more breathing space. or thirdly, I suppose the only other option would be to submit the draft as it stands at deadline one, which would essentially potentially be unilateral. And so that's a sub optimal position. As far as the authorities are concerned. We we understand that. So we just wanted to bring that point of attention. I suspect we may want to hear from the local authorities, and that may then provide some more clarity. But I think those are the options as we see them. And we just as I say we're ultimately seeking potentially your permission to submit those local authorities and one other one at deadline to

#### 1:02:01

thank you, Mr. Henderson. That's really helpful. Was there anything else you wanted to add? So turning to the local authorities, Mr. Smith, for Buckinghamshire Council. Thank you for providing your concerns in PDA 002, we've noticed that you've got concerns about responding to the proposed deadline, one in time because of the summer holidays. And you're therefore requesting that we delay that deadline by two weeks. Did you have anything you wanted to add to that? Or to respond to Mr. Henderson?

#### 1:02:32

No. Mark Westland Smith for Buckinghamshire Council. No, that is, in broad terms, the point we asked for more time at deadline one for two basic reasons. One is resourcing local authority resources are stretched much of the time and in August, more so still. And the second reason relates to the products that are being produced by local authorities generally at this stage of the process. And IRS have a particular role in the decision making written representations are the fundamental building block of the examination process. So the work that is being done is important and fundamental to the process. And in those circumstances, and with limitations on resources, it would be helpful. We're all under pressure from all angles to have more time at deadline one, how much time as you said, we asked for two weeks. But if it was one week, that would be of assistance as well, that's really something for the panel to have to juggle if they're amenable to the request. Thank you.

#### 1:03:48

Thank you. Yeah, we'll certainly do what we can. And did you have anything specific you wanted to add about the statement of common ground?

#### 1:03:54

We we're grateful to the applicant for their comments, and it would assist I think were added in with the applicant, it would assist to have more time. And it seems to us there are two options, principal options to get completed an agreed statements of common ground as so far as they can be at this stage one at delayed deadline one or preferably deadline to just to give us that extra extra time. Thank you.

## 1:04:33

Thank you, Mr. Smith. Was there anything else you wanted to add?

# 1:04:37

No, may I just it's a different point. But on the timetable. We've got open floor hearings today and I say this from the perspective of local residents. I know if there is a request and open floor hearing can be accommodated in the future. It may assist local residents given that it's August and they may not be able to tend today to put in a provisional open floor hearing maybe at the same time as the is H is so that there is visibility of that opportunity. Without that visibility. General members of the public might not know they can request it.

# 1:05:18

Thank you. I think that's a valuable point. Were you thinking, the issue specific hearings, the first set or the second set in November would suit better?

# 1:05:29

I'm agnostic on that point. I just think there needs to be a communication with the public that there is a further opportunity outside of holiday season.

# 1:05:42

Thank you. My colleagues just joined to my attention that actually deadline

# 1:05:53

deadline 1717 on the deadline on the timetable. We haven't got that many deadlines. Don't worry. Yeah. Item 70. We have actually reserved some dates if required for additional hearings at the moment at the end of November, and that does include an open floor hearing if one is required, but yeah, thank you. That's that's really helpful. Hartfordshire county council, Mr. Donovan, Miss Symes. I don't know who wants to take this. I, in your submission PDA 003 recommended that we hold issue specific hearings on surface access and green controlled growth. Did you want to say any more about this?

# 1:06:48

pull downs on half or two candy counts Council? No, no, it's just, uh, you know, the current to make a point about that deadline one, please do. I agree with everything that was just said in terms of deadline when, as you know from our written submissions. And in terms of the statement of common ground, we'd welcome a delay of submission of statements or common going to deadline to our technical team so engaging now. And that would be really helpful. Our technical teams are working together in terms of our technical team, the half jaw authorities are working now on their written raps and our local impact reports. And so we wouldn't want any time diverted away from that, if possible. And so a delay to deadline to would be really useful.

## 1:07:39

Thank you. Miss times. Did you want to add anything to that?

## 1:07:48

Sorry, resigns North Archer District Council. No, I have nothing further to add. I concur with what Paul Donovan has said and yes, we would also welcome those deadlines been altered as discussed. Thank you very much.

## 1:08:02

Thank you. Luton Borough Council. Mr. Gertler. You provided comments on the timetable in PDA 005. And I understand from your submission that you'd like to know what we'll be covering in the issue specific hearings. I think one of my colleagues has already mentioned that we'll be setting that out and we will eight letter as far as we can and publish as soon as possible after this meeting. I don't know if you want to add anything or make more suggestions for issues specific hearings for us?

## 1:08:31

No. David Gertler, Luton Borough Council not on the issue specific hearings, that was made clear that you will look at that once you've had the written reps and the LI ours. In terms of deadline one, we would we were suggesting a one week delay. We have key staff who obviously on leave. We've written a draft local impact report, but it needs the technical officers to really have contributed to it. And with the applicant, we concur with a delay on the statement of common ground that has been worked on for for quite a while. It does interrupt with with other work and we would like to give it proper time and actually bottom out things so that you've got less areas of potential disagreement going forward. Thank you.

#### 1:09:21

Thank you. That's very helpful. Is there anything else you wanted to add? That's everybody that I had on my list. Is there anybody else that wants to make any comments on the timetable?

#### 1:09:36

Sorry, Chris Hayden, stop Luton Airport Expansion. There's two points here. One in our relevant representation are did mention the impact of the timetable or any changes on the welfare and the time that volunteer Is have to put in to representing. So we respectively understand that the professionals who are engaged full time on this may not be available, but that doesn't take into account volunteer time that spent in regards to the globes. And also, to be fair, these professionals knew this was coming up, they knew the timescales. Most professional organizations do have to put people into place to cover for people, so we would like the inspectorate to take that in to account. And our second question, which I'm not sure when I should have raised this or but it's under draft timescale is that when stopped Luton Airport Expansion and friends of Wigmore park have put freedom of information requests into Luton Council in the past, there are examples where, or there is a particular example where they've taken more than six months to respond. And that then comes outside of the draft times to table and it probably on some of them, where they've taken over three months to respond would not hit the deadlines for written exam, written with questions now at the moment, stopped Luton Airport Expansion have not put any freedom of information requests in. But we are aware that that could happen. And that

could push out your time tables on responses, unless the examination sort of Trump's freedom of information requests.

# 1:11:57

Thank you for that. And in response to your first point, we do appreciate that the volunteers are putting in a lot of their own time. And we will absolutely try and accommodate that as far as we can. With regard to your second point, the examination period is absolutely fixed in the legislation. There's nothing we can do to go beyond that six months. So it will complete on the 10th of February 2024. We can't control the council does with their responses to freedom of information requests, but anything that's put in front of us, we will take into consideration within those six months. Thank you. Was there anybody else in the room that wants to comment on the timetable? Mr. Henderson?

# 1:12:41

Thank you, Madam just to come back on the sites of common ground and I thought it would be helpful just to clarify what specifically we're asking to be submitted a deadline to rather than deadline one. So that was with reference to your annex F in the rule six letter, the first bullet point lists the host authorities that would be captured by that. So that's when we compare our council central beds, North Hartfordshire Harford County and decorum we would also suggest Buckinghamshire statement of common ground is added to that list. That's that's not mentioned there. So it would be those local authorities that would be coming in at deadline to and as I mentioned, the other one that we're seeking permission for more time to submit is the UK health security agency and office for health improvement. That's your penultimate bullet point. So just for the record, those are the ones that we are seeking some extra time to produce.

# 1:13:36

Thank you. Annex F does actually say that. In addition, having reviewed the application documents and the relevant representations, we consider that the applicant should seek to develop statements of common ground with the following interested persons and that does include Buckinghamshire Council. Yep, so we'll add those to the common ground list for deadline one or deadline two, depending on where we land with this. Thank you, Mr. Henderson. I've got a couple of hands up on line. I think the first person with a hand up is Mr. Layden.

# 1:14:16

Thank you, Madam rollin then decorum product Council. Just to probably complete a circle here with regards to the views from the Hartfordshire authorities. With regards to the time line for statements common ground I think I concur with what has been put forward and suggested by council, Hampshire County Council, North Arts Council and the public. The other authorities with regards to supporting delay of the statement of common ground to deadline to that's all I wish to say right now.

## 1:14:50

Thank you, Miss laden. And then I've got a second hand up from Mr. Bloom.

## 1:14:56

Thank you, Madam Mr. Jeremy bloom representing national highways. I I'm actually registered to speak on a particular issue at this point. But before I get started also to refer to the statements of common ground. We are national highways are an organization that also is to have a statement of common ground with the applicant. I, our view is that we are in a similar position to the local authorities, with time pressures to meet deadlines. And I'd like to ask the consideration to delay this common statement of common ground for national highways, the deadline to as well please.

# 1:15:42

Thank you, and then you said you'd register to speak was it on this item?

# 1:15:53

Mr. Bloom already? Oh, yes, the other issue. So the so I just wanted to explain that understanding the impact of the operation, or the impact of the proposed development on the operation of the strategic road network is absolutely critical in terms of the ability of national highways to discharge its duties under its license that's granted by the Secretary of State for Transport. The key information required for it to enable that to happen is the output of the traffic and transport modeling, which national highways will need to review and digest and discuss with the applicants consultants. I think it's important to note that in addition to the changes that are being made to the demand profile resulting from COVID, as requested by the examination authority, there will also be a material network change for national highways in the modeling. With the removal of all lane running from the 2014 three do minimum scenario, it will be helpful, therefore, to understand how sufficient time will be allowed within the examination timetable, in view of the program to complete the rebase lining exercise in December, I do eat from national highways perspective, the examine the hearing of traffic and transport permutation, I believe should take place following the completion of the traffic and transportation rebase line.

## 1:17:32

Thank you, we are conscious of how important that transport modeling is to getting your representations to us. So what I'm hearing, you want to make sure that you've got an issue specific hearing on transport, following submission of that report from the applicants,

## 1:17:49

ideally following submission and giving us enough time to digest it and review it.

# 1:17:57

Thank you. Mr. Henderson. Did you want to respond to that at all?

## 1:18:02

Thank you, Madam Tom Henderson. For the applicant. We're certainly not opposed to a issue specific hearing being scheduled. For instance, in the second half of January. We understand that there will be some new information and we are reading of the of the timetable, though, obviously, it's a matter of few is that there is there was time for that to be scheduled in. I would just mentioned in passing that the application is submitted contained a sensitivity assessment in relation to the scenario where there's no all day running. So in fact, what's happening is our call scenario will become what was our sensitivity test. So there is information already in the application, although obviously, that's that's to be updated.

And as noted earlier, we're working iteratively with national highways and other local highway authorities as we undertake the work.

## 1:18:54

Thank you. Mr. Blum. Was there anything else you wanted to say about the timetable?

# 1:18:59

No, I mean, I absolutely welcome and support the comments made by Mr. Henderson. Hearing in the second half of January would would work very well for us, we'd support

# 1:19:15

thank you was that anybody else that wanted to say something about the draft timetable either in the room

## 1:19:24

or online?

# 1:19:27

That looks like it. Thank you everyone. We'll take all of those comments into account when producing our rule eight letter which will contain the final timetable. Before I finished I just like to highlight the importance of ensuring that the information is submitted within the set deadlines. The time for submission is always 2359 Or one minute to midnight. It's essential that these deadlines are met to meet for a fair and efficient examination will only accept late submissions in exceptional circumstances. Because late submissions restrict the ability of other parties to respond. Because of this, it's worth noting that if you do submit something late, there's always the chance that it won't be accepted. It's also worth noting that we won't be able to accept any submission after the completion of the examination on the 10th of February next year. there anything else that anybody would like to raise about the timetable before I move on to the next agenda item. This completes item five on the agenda. Thank you. I'll now hand back to Dr. Hunt for item six, which is any other matters?

# 1:20:37

Thank you. The examining authority initially identified one item on the agenda relating to Buckingham share counsel, however, this matter was resolved prior to the meeting through Buckinghamshire Council's written submissions, PDA wo two, which can be accessed through the examination library. And can I just check whether any of the individuals that had requested speak, but were not present earlier on her and now with us? And might wish to raise points at this point in time? Either in the room? Or online? No, apparently not. Does anyone else wish to raise any other matters relating to the procedure for the examination? In the room? Yes.

# 1:21:32

To candidates actual local resident, hung when you were not able to reach the first member of the public online, I might think it was an issue at their end, when there was quite a list of them. I'm wondering if it's a technical issue. So just for the sake of optics, when you engage next, the panel next engages with the public? Could we just have an answer on potentially why was it generating? Did those

particular participants have to click on the link that wasn't active? Whereas Do you not? I mean, some of the people up here are able to engage, that would be really helpful just to make sure the community thinks that the process is transparent.

## 1:22:17

I think I can give you a partial answer already, which is the number of people had registered speak at the preliminary meeting, but actually wanted to be asked an open floor hearing to talk about merits and or concerns about the proposals. So I think a number of people have switched from one to the other. But we'll confirm that and we can make a statement later on. That's really

1:22:39 helpful. Thank you.

#### 1:22:42

Did anyone else wish to make any comments or raise any points. And there's no one raising hands online. So I'll now hand back to Ms. Dowling to close the meeting.

## 1:23:00

Thank you very much Dr. Hunt. And I just also like to take the opportunity to thank you all for contributing so fully and usefully to this meeting this morning. The examining authority very much looks forward to commencing an examination of this application. And I'd just like to take this opportunity to remind you that both notes and digital recording of the proceedings today we'll make it available as soon as is practicable on the project page of national infrastructure website. Likewise, we will aim to issue our rule eight letter with the confirmed examination timetable as soon as possible after the close of this meeting. There are a number of action points that have arisen out of this morning's meeting. I'm not proposing to read them all out now. But we will publish them online as soon as possible after this meeting. And then I think most of them will probably get action through the rule eight letter. So there will be responses to that. But that will obviously be highlighted on the action points. I'd also like to take this opportunity to remind everyone that there is an open floor hearings scheduled for 6:30pm. This evening. And like this morning's preliminary meeting, it's a blended event. So for those of you who are proposing to attend virtually the adjoining conferences from 5:30pm. For those who are proposing to attend in person, the event will be held in this room, which will be accessible from 6pm. We look forward to seeing anyone who is registered to speak then the vent will also be available to livestream and the link for it can be found on the project page of the website. If anyone who is proposing to attend this evening had any questions or queries regarding the open floor hearings. Then for those of you that are here in the room, the case team will be available to deal with any queries at the close of this meeting, and you'll be able to find them at the back of the room. Alternatively, for those of you who have attended virtually today, if you have any questions about this evenings open floor hearing, then please email the case team in the first instance, details or how to do this can be found on the project page of the planning Inspectorate website. So the time is now 1122 I'm just going to check that no one else wants to raise anything at this point. So I'm now going to declare this preliminary meeting for London Luton Airport extension project is now closed. Thank you