



Meeting note

File reference	TR020002
Status	Final
Author	Richard Price
Date	12 May 2017
Meeting with	RiverOak Strategic Partners (RSP)
Venue	Teleconference
Attendees	RSP Tony Freudmann - RSP George Yerrall - RSP Rob Grinnell – RSP Alex Hallatt - Bircham Dyson Bell Toby Gibbs - Amec Foster Wheeler Ross Pearson – Copper Consultancy
	The Planning Inspectorate Tom Carpen (Infrastructure Planning Lead) Richard Hunt (Senior EIA and Land Rights Advisor) Richard Price (Case Manager)
Meeting objectives	Project Update
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given:

The Planning Inspectorate advised on its openness policy, explaining that any advice given would be recorded and placed on the Planning Inspectorate website under section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (as amended) (the PA2008). Any advice given under section 51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Pre-application programme

RSP gave an overview of activity since the last project update meeting held on 16 February 2017. It was confirmed that the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) was close to completion, and that statutory consultation under sections 42 and 47 of the PA2008 was scheduled to commence on 12 June 2017. The PEIR was intended to be as close to a draft Environmental Statement as possible, whilst allowing for flexibility to respond to consultee comments and gaps in outstanding baseline data. The statutory consultation period would run for 42 days, closing on 23 July 2017.

RSP stated that it anticipated that the application for development consent would be submitted to the Planning Inspectorate in Q4 2017. The Planning Inspectorate advised for RSP to build-in to its programme sufficient time to have regard to relevant responses to its statutory consultation, and to allow for the Planning Inspectorate to review draft application documents and provide feedback.

RSP confirmed that it actively engaging with the Environment Agency, Civil Aviation Authority (CAA) and Natural England regarding the project but that contact with Thanet District Council had been limited.

Section 53 authorisation

The Planning Inspectorate confirmed that the second application for authorisation to enter land under s53 of the PA2008 was in the process of being considered against the statutory tests.

Airspace change/ licensing

RSP enquired about the possibility of arranging a tripartite meeting with the Planning Inspectorate and the CAA in respect of airspace change/ licensing, potentially in June. The Planning Inspectorate advised that such a meeting would most appropriately take place following the elapse of the statutory consultation period. Consideration would therefore be given to scheduling at the appropriate time.

Outreach

RSP enquired about the possibility of the Planning Inspectorate holding an outreach event in the vicinity of the proposed development to explain the PA2008 process to the local community. The event would help to clarify the PA2008 process following:

- purported misinformation entering the public domain through social media etc; and
- information about the application for development consent not being made available on Thanet District Council's website.

The Planning Inspectorate again advised that such an event would most appropriately take place following the elapse of the statutory consultation period. Consideration would therefore be given to scheduling at the appropriate time.

Specific decisions / follow up required?

- The Planning Inspectorate and RSP to arrange a project update meeting following the elapse of the statutory consultation period.
- The Planning Inspectorate to consider scheduling of tripartite meeting with RSP and the CAA following elapse of statutory consultation period.
- The Planning Inspectorate to consider scheduling an outreach event in the vicinity of the proposed development following elapse of statutory consultation period.