



Meeting Note

File reference	TR040005 Redditch Branch Enhancement Scheme
Status	Final
Author	Kate Mignano

Meeting with	Network Rail (NR), Bromsgrove District Council (BDC), Redditch Borough Council (RBC), Worcestershire County Council (WCC)
Meeting date	24 April 2012
Attendees (Planning Inspectorate)	Robert Upton (RU) (Pre-application Inspector) Katherine Chapman (KC) (Case Leader) Kate Mignano (Case Officer)
Attendees (non Planning Inspectorate)	Matthew Haddlington, Roger Clarke, Colin Field John Staniland, Roger Hollingworth, Kit Taylor, Carole Gandy, Dale Birch, Ailith Ruth, Emma Baker, Louise Jones, David Balme
Location	Bromsgrove District Council, The Council House, Burcot Lane, Bromsgrove, Worcestershire B60 1AA

Meeting purpose	Inception Meeting to explain the role of the Planning Inspectorate and the 2008 Planning Act Process.
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Summary of key points discussed and advice given	<p>RU explained Planning Inspectorate policy on openness and transparency and that the issues discussed and advice given will be recorded on the National Infrastructure Planning section of the Planning Portal website in accordance with Section 51 of the Planning Act 2008 (PA 2008). Any advice given does not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) can rely.</p> <p>Network Rail (NR) outlined the proposed scheme which is currently in the pre-application stage of the process (A full project description can be found in the note of the meeting held on 29 June 2011).</p> <p>NR confirmed phase one of their consultations had been completed and phase two was currently underway and that a summary of activity will be provided to the Local Authorities at the end of phase two consultation.</p> <p>A Screening Opinion was issued by the IPC in July 2011 (Predecessor to the National Infrastructure Directorate within The Planning Inspectorate) The project was considered not to be EIA Development.</p> <p>NR confirmed a draft Development Consent Order (DCO) had been issued as part of the S.42 consultation documents. The</p>
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Planning Inspectorate requested a copy of the draft document and explained that the Local Authority is responsible for discharging requirements within the DCO. NR stated the requirements are listed in section 9 of the draft planning statement. KC explained there is limited scope for change once the application has been submitted at Acceptance.

Acceptance

RU advised NR that during the Acceptance stage The Planning Inspectorate may request consultation responses from s.47 and s.42 consultation. NR was advised to prepare these in advance of a request to minimise any delay during the acceptance stage of the process.

Examination

It was explained that as part of the examination process, the Examining authority will invite relevant local authorities to submit Local Impact Reports (LIRs) by a given deadline. The deadline given for the submission of the LIR following the preliminary meeting is likely to be short. Therefore, Local Authorities are strongly encouraged to use the pre-application period to start their own evaluation of the local impacts of the proposal. Local Authorities should ensure any necessary internal authorisation and processes are in place to meet the timetable. NR asked if Local Delegation Authorities were able to make joint LIRs. It was confirmed by KC that it is acceptable for Local Authorities to submit a joint LIR.

The Planning Inspectorate gave a presentation which can be viewed in full at attachment 1. The presentation in summary covered

- The abolition of the IPC
- The current caseload of the National Infrastructure Directorate in The Planning Inspectorate
- The pre-application process leading to submission
- What to expect in the process
- How we can assist in the process

During the presentation it was explained that as a result of The Localism Act (2011) a number of changes had been made to the application process. Guidance note one which covered the pre-application stage of the process has been repealed and the constituent parts can be found in advice notes under legislation and advice on the National Infrastructure Planning page of the Planning Portal. The classification of Local Authorities has also changed as a result of The Localism Act (2011). It was advised that Local Authorities and the developer should seek their own legal advice regarding status for the purpose of this application.

RU explained that as the developer submitted their S.46

	<p>notification prior to The Localism Act enactment they fall under transitional arrangements.</p> <p>It was explained that the relevant representations period which takes place during the pre-examination stage is a period of time set by the developer which will be at least 28 days for people to register as Interested Parties. The Planning Inspectorate stated that under the new legislation Local Authorities, statutory bodies and anybody else who wishes to take part in the examination of the application must register as an Interested Party during the pre-examination stage of the process by completing a relevant representation on the prescribed form which is accessible online through the Planning Portal website. Details of the relevant representations period will be publicised by the developer. Each stage of the process and timescales involved were explained as part of the presentation.</p> <p>NR explained a summary of activity will be provided to Local Authorities at the end of phase two consultation.</p> <p>BDC asked if other Local Authorities could submit their views to The Planning Inspectorate concerning the adequacy of the developer's consultation report during the Acceptance stage of the process. KC explained that BDC will be invited to comment on the developer's consultation report but that other Local Authorities may submit their views also.</p> <p>NR confirmed submission of the application to The Planning Inspectorate will be during August 2012.</p> <p>It was noted by NR that the National Policy Statement for Transport is not currently in place. However, it is expected to be put in place during examination.</p> <p>It was explained that RU is the pre-application Inspector and will therefore have no further involvement with the application if it is accepted for Examination.</p>
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Specific decisions/ follow up required?	NR to forward draft DCO to The Planning Inspectorate
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Circulation List	All Attendees
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