



Meeting note

Project name	Western Rail Link to Heathrow
File reference	TR040009
Status	Final
Author	The Planning Inspectorate
Date	17 January 2018
Meeting with	Network Rail
Venue	Temple Quay House
Attendees	The Planning Inspectorate Kathryn Dunne Emre Williams [REDACTED] Richard Hunt (part attendance by telephone) Richard Price (part attendance by telephone)
Meeting objectives	Network Rail Anna Holbrook Malcolm Armstrong Michaela Payne Project Update
Circulation	All attendees

Summary of key points discussed and advice given

The Applicant and the Planning Inspectorate (the Inspectorate) case team introduced themselves and their respective roles. The Inspectorate advised that a note of the meeting would be taken and published on its website in accordance with section 51 (s51) of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008)(as amended). Any advice given under s51 would not constitute legal advice upon which applicants (or others) could rely.

Background to Scheme

The Applicant provided a brief background to the scheme for the benefit of the Inspectorate's Western Rail Link to Heathrow case team.

Consultation

The Applicant is aiming to undertake statutory consultation in May 2018, however this is dependent upon other schemes in the area. The Inspectorate advised that the case team could review the draft Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC) and consultation advertisement notices, prior to formal consultation being undertaken. The Applicant stated they would take this into consideration.

The Applicant informed the Inspectorate that a caravan park was in close proximity to the proposed development and advised that when undertaking non-statutory



consultation they had previously used a drop box at the caravan park to notify residents. The Inspectorate advised that the letter should be sent to each individual plot and some form of record should be used to ensure that all parties are consulted when undertaking their statutory consultation. This would need to be evidenced within the Applicant's Consultation Report.

Review of Programme

The Applicant advised that the DCO submission date will be Q2 2019.

Interface with other Proposed Developments

The Applicant confirmed that the project is not dependent on the Heathrow expansion project and that it proposed to produce a Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) with Heathrow regarding the proposed works at Shaft 4 and other matters relating to the scheme.

The Applicant also proposes to produce a SoCG with Thorney Lane LLP. The Inspectorate recommended that any draft SoCGs submitted with their DCO application should include matters of agreement and disagreement between parties. The Inspectorate advised that it was common during the Examination for the appointed Examining Authority to request SoCGs between relevant parties if none have been submitted and therefore it was recommended that the Applicant take this into consideration. The Inspectorate recommended that the Applicant review the example documents published to the National Infrastructure website, specifically the "Statement of Commonality".

The Applicant is exploring options for beneficial reuse of spoil from tunnel boring excavations. The Inspectorate advised that any options must be covered in Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) for consultation. When considering the submission of options within an application Applicants must show how they meet the legislative tests for compulsory acquisition where this is proposed for each option.

Transitional provisions in the EIA Regulations

It was noted that the project was scoped under the old Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2009). The Applicant proposes to include some of the aspects from the new regulations within its Environmental Statement (ES). The Inspectorate advised the Applicant to clearly set out in its ES how the transitional provisions in the 2017 EIA Regulations apply to the Proposed Development.

Specific decisions/ follow-up required

The Applicant was requested to provide any updates relating to the Western Rail Link to Heathrow project description depicted on the case specific page of the National Infrastructure website.