

Gareth Leigh
Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

My ref:
Contact:
Direct dial:
Email:
Address:

MWP1/S46
James Willcock, Project Manager
01934 426414
James.Willcock@n-somerset.gov.uk
MetroWest Phase 1
Highways and Transport
North Somerset Council
Town Hall
Weston-super-Mare
BS23 1UJ

18 October 2017

Dear Gareth

Portishead Branch Line (MetroWest Phase 1)

Consultation from 23 October 2017 to 4 December 2017

Section 42 Planning Act 2008

MetroWest Phase 1

The MetroWest project is a package of major rail improvements for the West of England region which is being delivered by the West of England councils (North Somerset District Council, Bristol City Council, South Gloucestershire Council and Bath and North East Somerset Council), working in partnership with Network Rail and Great Western Railway. The MetroWest proposals are being delivered in two phases, Phase 1 and Phase 2.

As part of Phase 1 of the MetroWest proposals (**MetroWest Phase 1**), North Somerset District Council (**NSDC**) proposes to re-open the Portishead branch line for passenger train services. NSDC is the promoter of MetroWest Phase 1 on behalf of itself and the three other West of England councils.

The element of MetroWest Phase 1 comprising the re-opening of the railway from Portishead to Pill comprises a “nationally significant infrastructure project” as defined under the Planning Act 2008 (the **2008 Act**). As a result, NSDC is required to submit an application for a Development Consent Order (**DCO**) to the Planning Inspectorate, who will examine the application on behalf of the Secretary of State.

Notice under Section 46 of the 2008 Act

Please treat this letter as notice to the Planning Inspectorate, under Section 46 of the 2008 Act, of NSDC's proposed DCO application in relation to MetroWest Phase 1. In accordance with Section 46 of

the 2008 Act, please find enclosed a USB flash drive of the following documents to be made available to consultees, pursuant to NSDC's duty to consult under Section 42 of the 2008 Act, online at www.travelwest.info/metrowest:

1. **Formal notice** (under Section 48 of the 2008 Act) of the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals, enclosed in hard copy with this letter.
2. **MetroWest Stage 2 Consultation Leaflet** outlining the proposals for the re-opening of the Portishead branch line as part of MetroWest Phase 1.
3. **Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)**, including a Non-Technical Summary of the PEIR's assessment of MetroWest Phase 1's potential environmental impacts.
4. **Land Plan** showing the land required for the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
5. **Works Plan** illustrating the proposed works for the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
6. **Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) Plan** showing the temporary TROs proposed as part of the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
7. **Permanent Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) Plan** showing the permanent TROs proposed as part of the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
8. **Public Rights of Way (PROWs) Diversions Plan** showing the PROWs to be diverted or stopped-up as part of the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
9. **Visualisations** illustrating what the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals will look like at Portishead Station, Pill Station and Ashton Vale once the Portishead branch line has been re-opened.
10. **A Non-Technical Summary of the draft DCO** for the re-opening of the Portishead branch line as part of MetroWest Phase 1.

Consultees can obtain paper copies of these documents by contacting NSDC by email at metrowest@westofengland.org, by telephone on 0117 922 4513, or by writing to James Willcock, MetroWest Phase 1 Project Manager, West of England Councils MetroWest, 3 Rivergate, Temple Way, Bristol, BS1 6ER. A reasonable copying charge may apply, up to a maximum of £500 for the full suite of documents and £5 for an electronic copy on USB flash drive.

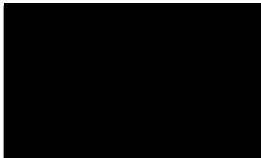
The period for consideration and response to these documents will run from 23 October 2017 to 4 December 2017.

Please note that on the enclosed USB flash drive of the MetroWest Section 42 consultation documents, the PEIR includes the Appendix 9.6 Badger Survey Report, which is marked on the USB as "CONFIDENTIAL." We will not publish Appendix 9.6 with the other consultation documents, and will only provide it on a confidential basis to the appropriate statutory consultee bodies.

We would be grateful for your confirmation by return letter that this letter and the accompanying documentation fully satisfy the requirements of Section 46 of the 2008 Act. If you wish to discuss this or any other issues in connection with MetroWest Phase 1, please contact James Willcock, MetroWest Phase 1 Project Manager by email to James.Willcock@n-somerset.gov.uk, or by post at North Somerset Council, Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1UJ.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Yours faithfully



James Willcock
MetroWest Phase 1 Project Manager
18 October 2017

Enclosures:

- 1. Notice under Section 48 of the 2008 Act.**
- 2. USB flash drive of the MetroWest Section 42 Consultation Documents.**
- 3. Index of USB flash drive at Enclosure 2.**

**Section 48 Planning Act 2008
Regulation 4 Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure)
Regulations 2009**

**PORTISHEAD BRANCH LINE (METROWEST PHASE 1) ORDER
NOTICE PUBLICISING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT
ORDER**

Notice is hereby given that North Somerset District Council (**the Applicant**), of Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Road, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset, BS23 1UJ, proposes to apply to the Secretary of State under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 for the above-mentioned Development Consent Order (**the Application**).

The Application relates to the re-opening for passenger services of the railway branch line between Portishead and Pill, North Somerset, and to works to improve the existing railway line between Pill and Ashton Junction, Bristol (**the Project**). The Project is part of the MetroWest Phase 1 programme to enhance the West of England's local rail network. The Applicant is the promoter of the Project on behalf of itself and Bristol City Council, Bath & North East Somerset Council and South Gloucestershire Council.

The proposed Development Consent Order will, amongst other things, authorise:

1. Construction of a 5.4km railway line from Portishead to Pill;
2. A new railway station at Portishead, including a car park, pedestrian and cycle access, and associated highways works;
3. A pedestrian bridge over the Portishead branch line near Trinity Anglican Methodist Primary School, Portishead;
4. A permanent compound and rail access point at Sheepway, on the northern side of the Portishead branch line and western side of Sheepway;
5. A temporary compound and haul road south of the Portishead branch line and north of the Portbury Hundred highway;
6. Works to the existing bridleway forming part of National Cycle Network Route 26 between Portishead and Pill;
7. Temporary compounds and haul roads north of the Portishead branch line on the north side of and beneath the M5 Motorway;
8. A temporary compound and haul road between the Portishead branch line and Lodway Close, Pill;
9. Re-opening the railway station at Pill, including a car park, pedestrian and cycle access, and associated highways works;
10. Works to the existing Portbury Freight Line between Royal Portbury Dock and Ashton Junction, Bristol, including repairs and/or modifications to bridges, tunnels, culverts and retaining walls, as well as replacement of track, sleepers and ballast;
11. A permanent compound at Chapel Pill Lane, Ham Green, Pill;
12. A new compound and permanent railway access at Clanage Road, Bower Ashton;
13. A new pedestrian ramp next to the existing railway in the vicinity of the existing Ashton Vale Road level crossing;
14. Closure of the footpath crossing over the existing railway at Barons Close in Bristol;
15. The permanent and/or temporary compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights for the Project;
16. Powers for temporary and permanent traffic regulation orders on highways and streets;
17. Overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land for the Project;
18. Extinguishment of accommodation crossings;
19. The application and/or disapplication of legislation relevant to the Project including legislation relating to compulsory purchase;

20. Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, permits or consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

The Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development, and an Environmental Statement will be submitted as part of the Application.

The Applicant is consulting on its proposals for the Project. The consultation will take place from Monday 23 October 2017 to Monday 4 December 2017. The following consultation documents will be available for inspection free of charge from 23 October 2017 to 4 December 2017 at the locations and during the hours set out below:

1. **MetroWest Stage 2 Consultation Leaflet** outlining the proposals for the re-opening of the Portishead branch line as part of MetroWest Phase 1.
2. **Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)**, including a Non-Technical Summary of the PEIR's assessment of MetroWest Phase 1's potential environmental impacts.
3. **Land Plan** showing the land required for the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
4. **Works Plan** illustrating the proposed works for the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
5. **Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) Plan** showing the temporary TROs proposed as part of the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
6. **Permanent Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) Plan** showing the permanent TROs proposed as part of the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
7. **Public Rights of Way (PROWs) Diversions Plan** showing the PROWs to be diverted or stopped-up as part of the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
8. **Visualisations** illustrating what the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals will look like at Portishead Station, Pill Station and Ashton Vale once the Portishead branch line has been re-opened.
9. **A Non-Technical Summary of the draft Development Consent Order** for the re-opening of the Portishead branch line as part of MetroWest Phase 1.

Location	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Castlewood North Somerset Council Office, Tickenham Road, Clevedon BS21 6FW	08-30 to 17-00	08-30 to 17-00	08-30 to 17-00	08-30 to 17-00	08-30 to 17-00	Closed	Closed

Long Ashton Library, Lovelinch Gardens, Long Ashton BS41 9AH	Closed	*09-30 to 12-30; 13-30 to 17-00 (*10-00 on the 3 rd Tuesday of the month)	Closed	09-30 to 12-30; 13-30 to 17-00	Closed	09-30 to 13-00	Closed
Pill Library, Crockerne House, Underbanks, Pill BS20 0AT	Closed	09-30 to 12-30; 13-30 to 17-00	Closed	Closed	09-30 to 12-30; 13-30 to 17-00	09-30 to 13-00	Closed
Portishead Library, Horatio House, 24 Harbour Road, Portishead BS20 7AL	Closed	*09-30 to 17-00 (*10-00 on the 2 nd Tuesday of the month)	09-30 to 17-00	09-30 to 17-00	09-30 to 17-00	09-30 to 13-00	10-30 to 14-30
Weston-super-Mare Library, Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Road, Weston-super-Mare BS23 1UJ	08-30 to 20-00	08-30 to 20-00	08-30 to 20-00	08-30 to 20-00	08-30 to 20-00	08-30 to 19-00	Closed
Bedminster Library, 4 St Peter's Court, Bedminster Parade, Bristol BS3 4AQ	10-00 to 19-00	Closed	10-00 to 19-00	10-00 to 17-00	10-00 to 17-00	10-00 to 17-00	Closed
Bristol Central Library, College Green, Bristol BS1 5TL	10-00 to 19-00	10-00 to 19-00	Closed	10-00 to 19-00	10-00 to 17-00	10-00 to 17-00	13-00 to 17-00
Marksbury Road Library, Marksbury Road, Bedminster, Bristol BS3	Closed	10-00 to 17-00	Closed	10-00 to 17-00	Closed	11-00 to 17-00	Closed

5LG							
Citizen Service Point, Bristol City Council, 100 Temple Street, BS1 6AG	09-00 to 17-00	09-00 to 17-00	09-00 to 17-00	09-00 to 17-00	09-00 to 17-00	Closed	Closed

The PEIR and other consultation documents will be available online from 23 October 2017 at www.travelwest.info/metrowest. Paper copies of the consultation documents can be obtained by contacting the Applicant by email at metrowest@westofengland.org, by telephone on 0117 922 4513, or by writing to James Willcock, MetroWest Phase 1 Project Manager, West of England Councils MetroWest, 3 Rivergate, Temple Way, Bristol, BS1 6ER. A reasonable copying charge may apply, up to a maximum of £500 for the full suite of documents and £5 for an electronic copy on USB flash drive.

During the consultation period, members of the Project team will be available to answer queries at public information events being held by the Applicant at the following locations and times:

Location	Event	Date / Time
Somerset Hall, The Precinct, High Street, Portishead BS20 6AH	Public Information Day	Friday 10 November between 12.30pm – 7.30pm
Engine Shed, Station Approach, Temple Meads, Bristol BS1 6QH	Public Information Day	Wednesday 15 November between 12.30pm – 7.30pm
Trinity Anglican Methodist Primary School, Marjoram Way, Portishead, Bristol BS20 7JF	Public Information Day	Tuesday 21 November between 1.30pm – 7.30pm
Ashton Gate Stadium, Ashton Road, Bristol BS3 2EJ	Public Information Day	Wednesday 22 November between 12.30pm – 7.30pm
Long Ashton Community Centre, Keedwell Hill, Long Ashton, Bristol, BS41 9DP	Public Information Day	Thursday 23 November between 3.30pm – 7.30pm
Pill Community Centre, Church Place, Pill, Bristol, BS20 0AE	Public Information Day	Friday 24 November between 12.30pm – 7.30pm
Citizen Service Point, Bristol City Council, 100 Temple St, Bristol BS1 6HT	Unmanned Public Information Exhibition	Monday 27 November – Friday 1 December between 9.00am – 5.00pm

If you have any responses to this consultation, or any other representations you would like make or discuss in respect of the Project, you can submit your views in a number of ways:

- by completing the online feedback form at www.travelwest.info/metrowest;

- by email to metrowest@westofengland.org;
- by completing the paper feedback form available at the locations and public information events during the consultation period as listed in the tables above; or
- by post addressed to James Willcock, MetroWest Phase 1 Project Manager, West of England Councils MetroWest, 3 Rivergate, Temple Way, Bristol, BS1 6ER.

Any responses to or other representations in respect of the Project MUST (i) be received by the Applicant **on or before 4 December 2017**; (ii) be made in writing; (iii) state the grounds of the response or representation; (iv) indicate who is making the response or representation; and (v) give an address to which correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent.

Responses and other representations will be made public; comments will not be attributed to individuals and no personal details will be made public.

James Willcock, MetroWest Phase 1 Project Manager, 19 October 2017.

MetroWest Phase 1

Section 42 Consultation: October to December 2017

Index of USB Drive of Consultation Documents

Note: This Index shows the USB's Folders in bold, and the documents within them in italics.

1. Notice under Section 48 of the Planning Act 2008

Section 48 Notice

2. Consultation Leaflet

MetroWest Stage 2 Consultation Leaflet

3. Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)

Volume 1 – PEIR Non-Technical Summary

Non-Technical Summary Cover Sheet

Non-Technical Summary

Volume 2 – PEIR Main Report

Main Report Cover Sheet (with Table of Contents)

Chapter 1 Introduction

Chapter 2 Description of The Study Area

Chapter 3 Scheme Development and Alternatives Considered

Chapter 4 Description of the Proposed Works

Chapter 5 Approach to the Environmental Statement

Chapter 6 Planning Framework

Chapter 7 Air Quality and Greenhouse Gases

Chapter 8 Cultural Heritage

Chapter 9 Ecology and Biodiversity

Chapter 10 Geology, Hydrogeology, Ground Conditions and Contaminated Land

Chapter 11 Landscape and Visual Impacts Assessment

Chapter 12 Materials and Waste

Chapter 13 Noise and Vibration

Chapter 14 Socio-economics and Economic Regeneration

Chapter 15 Soils, Agriculture, Land Use and Assets

Chapter 16 Transport, Access and Non-Motorised Users

Chapter 17 Water Resources, Drainage and Flood Risk

Chapter 18 In-combination and Cumulative Effects Assessment

Chapter 19 Conclusions

Chapter 20 Glossary

Volume 3 – PEIR Book of Figures

Note: where the Figures listed below (from "1-1" to "17-1") are described as "Embedded", they can be found in the relevant PEIR Chapter.

Book of Figures Cover Sheet (with Table of Contents)

1-1 MetroWest Phases 1 and 2, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 1

1-2 MetroWest Phase 1, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 1

1-3 Location Plan

1-4 Reference Plan, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 1

4-1 Reference Plan, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 4

4-2 The DCO Scheme (Sheets 0 to 20)

4-3 Location of the tunnels on the existing operational railway, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 4

4-4 Current line configuration and line speeds, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 4

4-5 Proposed line configuration and line speeds to the DCO Scheme, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 4

4-6 Portishead Station Preferred Option (Sheet 1 of 3)

4-6 Portishead Station Preferred Option (Sheet 2 of 3)

4-6 Portishead Station Preferred Option (Sheet 3 of 3)

4-7 Portishead Station Visualisation (View 1 of 8)

4-7 Portishead Station Visualisation (View 2 of 8)

4-7 Portishead Station Visualisation (View 3 of 8)

4-7 Portishead Station Visualisation (View 4 of 8)

4-7 Portishead Station Visualisation (View 5 of 8)

4-7 Portishead Station Visualisation (View 6 of 8)

4-7 Portishead Station Visualisation (View 7 of 8)

4-7 Portishead Station Visualisation (View 8 of 8)

4-8 Portishead Station Preferred Option Trinity Footbridge

4-9 Sheepway Maintenance Track Access Point (Sheet 1 of 2)

4-9 Sheepway Maintenance Track Access Point (Sheet 2 of 2)

4-10 Portbury Hundred Construction Compound / Future Field Access

4-11 National Cycle Route 26 Overbridge Cross Sections

4-12 Royal Portbury Dock Road Equestrian Uncontrolled Crossing Overview

4-13 National Cycle Route (NCN) 26 Bridleway Extension Under Elevated M5

4-14 Pill Station Preferred Option (Sheet 1 of 3)

4-14 Pill Station Preferred Option (Sheet 2 of 3)

4-14 Pill Station Preferred Option (Sheet 3 of 3)

4-15 Pill Tunnel Access (Sheet 1 of 5)

4-15 Pill Tunnel Access (Sheet 2 of 5)

4-15 Pill Tunnel Access (Sheet 3 of 5)

4-15 Pill Tunnel Access (Sheet 4 of 5)

4-15 Pill Tunnel Access (Sheet 5 of 5)

4-16 Clanage Road Permanent Network Rail and Construction Compound

4-17 Ashton Vale Road / Winterstoke Road

4-18 MetroWest Phase 1, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 4

6-1 Environmental and Planning Constraints Legend

6-1 Planning Framework (Sheets 1 to 5)

6-2 Committed Development (Sheets 1 to 5)

7-1 Air Quality Constraints

7-2 Locations of North Somerset (NSC) and Bristol City Council (BCC) Monitoring Sites

7-3 Locations of Receptors (Sheets 1 to 5)

8-1 Cultural Heritage (Sheets 1 to 5)

9-1 Internationally Designated Sites

9-2 Statutory Designated Sites

9-3 Non-Statutory wildlife sites and Ancient Woodland (Sheets 1 to 5)

9-4 Fauna Surveys (Sheets 1 to 11)

10-1 Ground Conditions (Sheets 1 to 5)

11-1 Landscape Baseline Plans (Sheets 1 to 5)

11-2 Indicative Site Specific Landscape Character Areas

11-3 Visual Envelope and Receptors (Sheets 1 to 5)

13-1 Noise Measurement Locations (Sheets 1 to 5)

13-2 Noise Assessment Locations (Sheets 1 to 5)

14-1 MetroWest Phase 1 Study Area, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 14

14-2 Economic activity rates as a proportion of all usual residents aged 16-74,
Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 14

14-3 Unemployment rate as a proportion of all usual residents aged 16-74, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 14

14-4 Claimant count rate: 2004-16, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 14

14-5 Employment deprivation, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 14

14-6 Skills, education and training deprivation, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 14

14-7 Income deprivation, Embedded in Volume 2 Chapter 14

15-1 Agricultural Holdings Affected by the Scheme at Sheepway

17-1 Water Features (Sheets 1 to 5)

Volume 4 – PEIR Technical Appendices

Technical Appendices Cover Sheet (with Table of Contents)

[7.1 Construction Dust Assessment – Under development and not contained here]

7.2 Air Quality Modelling Methodology

7.3 Air Quality Model Verification

7.4 Air Quality Modelling Results

8.1 Cultural Heritage Gazetteer

8.2 Scheme inter-visibility

9.1 Extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey

9.2 Bat Technical Appendix

9.3A Ornithology of Portbury Wharf Nature Reserve

9.3B Wintering bird surveys, Pill Marshes

9.3C Ornithology Survey Report – WCA Schedule

9.4 Great Crested Newt Survey Report

9.5 Reptile Survey Report

9.6 Badger Survey Report – CONFIDENTIAL

9.7 Dormice Survey Report

9.8 Otter Survey Report

9.9 Water Vole Survey

9.10 Flora Survey: Avon Gorge Woodlands SAC/Avon Woods SSSI

9.10 Flora Survey Figure 1 - The Extent of the Flora Surveys

9.10 Flora Survey Figure 2 - SAC Habitats in Avon Gorge

9.10 Flora Survey Figure 3 - Location of Rare Plants

9.10 Flora Survey Figure 4 - Distribution of Whitebeam

10.1 Risk Classifications

11.1 General Views

11.2 *General Summer and Winter Views*
11.3 *Visual Impact Assessment*
13.1 *Noise and Vibration*
14.1 *Equality Impact Assessment*
14.2 *Health Impact Assessment*
16.1 *Draft Transport Assessment*
16.1 *Draft Transport Assessment Appendices (A to Q)*
[17.1 *Flood Risk Assessment – Under development and not contained here*]
[17.2 *Water Framework Directive Assessment – Under development and not contained here*]
17.3 *Water Receptors*
17.4 *Discharge Consents Maps*
18.1 *Matrix 1 Identification of 'other development'*
18.2 *Matrix 2 Assessment Matrix*

4. Land Plan

Land Plan – Portishead Branch Line (MetroWest Phase 1)

5. Works Plan

Works Plan – The DCO Scheme (Sheets 1 to 20)

Works Plan Insets

Clanage Road Permanent Network Rail and Construction Compound
Figure 4-17 – Ashton Vale Road & Winterstoke Road
National Cycle Route (NCN) 26 Bridleway Extension Under Elevated M5
Pill Station Preferred Option (Sheet 1 of 3)
Pill Station Preferred Option (Sheet 2 of 3)
Pill Station Preferred Option (Sheet 3 of 3)
Pill Tunnel Access (Sheet 1 of 5)
Pill Tunnel Access (Sheet 2 of 5)
Pill Tunnel Access (Sheet 3 of 5)
Pill Tunnel Access (Sheet 4 of 5)
Pill Tunnel Access (Sheet 5 of 5)
Portbury Hundred Construction Compound & Future Field Access

Portishead Station Preferred Option (Sheet 1 of 3)

Portishead Station Preferred Option (Sheet 2 of 3)

Portishead Station Preferred Option (Sheet 3 of 3)

Royal Portbury Dock Road Equestrian Uncontrolled Crossing Overview

Sheepway Maintenance Track Access Point (Sheet 1 of 2)

Sheepway Maintenance Track Access Point (Sheet 2 of 2)

6. Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) Plan

Pill Station Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders

Ham Green Temporary Traffic Regulation Orders

7. Permanent Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) Plan

Portishead Station Permanent Traffic Regulation Orders

Pill Station Permanent Traffic Regulation Orders

Ham Green Permanent Traffic Regulation Orders

8. Public Rights of Way (PROWs) Diversions Plan

Ashton Vale Proposed Public Rights of Way

Diversion Routes for Pedestrians and Cyclists (Sheets 1 to 17)

9. Visualisations

9A – Portishead Station Visualisations

9B – Pill Station Visualisations

9C - Ashton Vale Road Visualisations

10. Non-Technical Summary of the draft DCO

Explanatory Note on the Proposed Content of the Development Consent Order and the Examination Process