



The Planning Inspectorate

Planning Act 2008 – Section 91

Application by North Somerset District Council for an Order granting Development Consent for the Portishead branch line – MetroWest Phase 1

Agenda for Issue Specific Hearing 2 dealing with Environmental Matters

Issue Specific Hearing 2:	Environmental Matters: Design, Landscape and Visual Impact; Transport, Highways and Public Rights of Way; and Construction Practices (Day 1 of 2)
Date:	Monday 11 January 2021
Joining available from:	9:30am ¹
Meeting start time:	10:00am ²
Location:	Virtual event

Participation, conduct and management of the Hearing

This is the second Issue Specific Hearing to be held in this Examination. It is being held because the Examining Authority (ExA) wishes to question the Applicant and hear from Interested Parties about environmental matters arising from the documentation submitted with the application documents, together with any updates and responses at the preceding submission Deadlines.

All Interested Parties are invited to attend Issue Specific Hearings, but as this is a virtual event you need to let the Inspectorate's Case Team (Metrowest1@planninginspectorate.gov.uk) know of a wish to participate in the Hearing so that the relevant instructions can be sent for you to join the event. The event will also be livestreamed and a link for watching the livestream will be posted on the project page of the National Infrastructure website closer to the event date.

Interested Parties may be invited to make oral representations at the Hearing (subject to the ExA's power to control the Hearing). The ExA may ask questions about written representations or ask the Applicant or other parties to comment or respond. Questioning at the Hearing will therefore be led by a member of the Panel, supported by other Panel members.

¹ Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance of the meeting to those who register to participate.

² If you are joining as an active participant, please follow the joining instructions for the virtual event carefully and connect to the Hearing in good time. In common with traditional Hearings, the event will start on time irrespective of any late arrivals, for whom access may not be possible.

The agenda is for guidance only. It is not designed to be exclusive or exhaustive. The ExA may add other issues for consideration, may alter the order in which issues are considered and will seek to allocate sufficient time to each issue to allow proper consideration of them. Any lack of discussion of a particular issue at a hearing does not preclude further examination of this issue, including the asking of further written questions.

Every effort will be made to ensure that the issues will be discussed on the day that they are scheduled for. However, should consideration of these issues take less time than anticipated, in order to make an efficient use of time the ExA may choose to start consideration of some of the items that are on the agenda for day 2. **Consequently, can participants therefore please make sure that they are available for both days.** Equally, if there are additional matters to be dealt with or there are submissions that take a considerable amount of time, there may be a need to continue for longer on the day or to continue discussions on day 2. Alternatively, it may be necessary to prioritise matters and defer others to further written questions.

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Please Note:

In order to ensure timely publication of the agenda, this has been drafted before the receipt of submissions for Deadline 3. As a consequence, the ExA may need to adjust the agenda at the meeting to allow for responses received at this deadline.

Agenda

The main purpose of the second Issue Specific Hearing is to undertake an examination of various environmental matters. In particular to examine:

- Design of the railway stations, Trinity footbridge and other associated development and their visual effects on landscape, the urban environment and living conditions of nearby occupiers.
- Operational effects on transport, highways and public rights of way.
- The proposed construction practices and the effects that they would have on land use, traffic and transportation and communities.



Agenda

Title of meeting	Portishead Branch Line – MetroWest Phase 1 Issue Specific Hearing 2 on Environmental Matters (Day 1 of 2)
Date	Monday 11 January 2021
Time	10.00 am
Venue	Online via Microsoft Teams invitation
Attendees	Invitees

1. Examining Authority's opening remarks

2. Purpose of the Hearing and introductions

3. Design, Landscape and Visual Impact

- Design approaches and any mitigation in respect of visual effects on landscape and the urban environment for the following:
 - i) Portishead Station and car park
 - ii) Trinity Footbridge
 - iii) Pill Station and car park
 - iv) Fencing of railway through the Avon Gorge Woodland SAC
 - v) Design of acoustic and safety fencing
 - vi) Other associated development including lighting and masts
- Use of the 'Rochdale Envelope' and design principles.
- Consideration of alternatives.
- Impacts upon living conditions including effects of lighting.

4. Transport, Highways and Public Rights of Way (operational effects)

- Frequency and capacity of services.
- Car parking in Portishead and Pill.
- Interaction between freight trains to/ from Royal Portbury Dock and passenger services.
- Effects on the Cala/ Ashton Vale trading estate from increased use of the existing level crossing.
- Permanent public right of way diversions and alternatives (including permissive paths).
- Station travel plans.

- Dust generation and how it would be managed in relation to Royal Portbury Dock.
- Measures for rail replacement measures in Pill.

5. Construction Practices

- The Construction Environment Management Plan.
- Construction hours – start time.
- The number of, location, scale and accesses to the construction compounds.
- Re-instatement of land and accesses at temporary construction compounds.
- The need for permanent compounds and mitigation.
- Construction traffic around Pill/ Easton-in-Gordano/ Ham Green and its effect on the local environment and living conditions.
- Availability of the existing railway for use by freight trains to/ from Royal Portbury Dock during construction.
- Temporary diversions of public rights of way (and permissive paths) during construction.
- Construction workers' travel plan.
- Dust generation and how it would be managed in relation to Royal Portbury Dock.

6. Action points arising from the Hearing

7. Any other business

8. Close of Hearing

Attendees:

All Interested Parties are welcome to attend the hearing. However, the ExA considers that representatives for the following parties should consider attending because the ExA believes that the material that they have submitted raises issues that may need to be explored at the hearing:

- The Applicant;
- North Somerset District Council in its role as the Local Planning Authority;
- North Somerset District Council in its role as Highways Authority;
- Bristol City Council;
- Network Rail;
- Freightliner Limited;
- Bristol Port Company;
- Highways England;
- Babcock Integrated Technology Limited;
- Manheim Auctions Ltd;
- ETM Contractors Ltd;
- Flynn Ltd; and
- Interested Parties who have raised concerns regarding design, construction and operational impacts.