



MetroWest+

Portishead Branch Line (MetroWest Phase 1)

TR040011

Applicant: North Somerset District Council

9.30 ExA.CAS.D4.V1 – Applicant's response to Additional Submission of Mr Stuart Tarr (AS-058)

Author: Womble Bond Dickinson (UK) LLP

Version: 1

Date: January 2021



Application by North Somerset Council for an Order granting development consent for the Portishead Branch Line – MetroWest Phase 1

Responses to questions submitted by Mr Tarr prior to Issue Specific Hearing 2 (AS-058) regarding separation of roles and powers – 11 January 2021

DCO Document Reference: 9.30 ExA.CAS.D4.V1

	Issue	Applicant's response
Q1	Is there sufficient functional separation between NSC as the Applicant and NSC as the Planning and Transport Authority to ensure rigorous consideration of the issues raised?	<p>The Applicant refers to its Explanatory Memorandum (Document REP2-006).</p> <p>The Applicant notes in particular that it sets out in part 8 of the Explanatory Memorandum details regarding separation of functions within North Somerset Council, details of which are then provided in Appendix 2 to the Explanatory Memorandum.</p> <p>The Applicant continues to observe the process for separation of functions. The separate representation demonstrated by the Applicant and the officers representing the relevant planning authorities indicate that this structure continues to be fully observed.</p>
Q2	Network Rail: Is the MetroWest Phase 1 Project in effect a joint application with project responsibility shared equally between NSC and Network Rail, in consideration of which NSC as the applicant cannot speak for Network Rail on any matter impinging on or concerning the application of rail safety regulations, e.g. access	<p>The Applicant again refers to its Explanatory Memorandum (Document REP2-006).</p> <p>Part 9 of the Explanatory Memorandum details the relationship between Network Rail and the Applicant.</p> <p>Network Rail provides a number of services to the Applicant to support the MetroWest application.</p> <p>The draft DCO provides for the benefit of the Order to be transferred in whole or in part under Article 9 of the Order. It is anticipated that the railway and the powers it benefits from will be transferred to Network Rail following construction of the authorised development if development consent is issued.</p>

		<p>Network Rail has been separately represented throughout the pre-application and examination process and has provided input to the Applicant's documentation where Network Rail can assist the application and examination process.</p> <p>In summary :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">(a) the application is not a joint application – it is an application made by North Somerset District Council on behalf of itself and the West of England Combined Authority;(b) responsibility is not shared between the Applicant and Network Rail; and(c) the Applicant has asked Network Rail to assist the examination where relevant in relation to matters regarding the railway industry such as safety and access.
--	--	---

Womble Bond Dickinson (UK) LLP

19 January 2021