



# 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 4 dealing with matters relating to the draft Development Consent Order (DCO)

<b>Issue Specific Hearing 4:</b>	Draft Development Consent Order
<b>Date:</b>	Tuesday 2 March 2021
<b>Joining available from:</b>	9:30am <sup>1</sup>
<b>Meeting start time:</b>	10:00am <sup>2</sup>
<b>Location:</b>	Virtual event

### Issue Specific Hearings

All Interested Parties are invited to attend issue specific hearings but as this is a virtual event it would assist the running of the hearing if you could let the Inspectorate's Case Team ([Metrowest1@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:Metrowest1@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)) know by **Friday 26 February 2021** 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.

Each Interested Party is entitled to make oral representations at hearings. However, this is subject to the Examining Authority's (ExA) power to control hearings.

The virtual event will be open 30 minutes prior to the start of the hearing to enable a prompt start. Hearings will finish as soon as the ExA deems that all those present have had their say and that all matters have been covered.

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

---

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

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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. Should the consideration of these issues take less time than anticipated, the ExA may conclude the Hearing as soon as all relevant contributions have been made and all questions asked and responded to.

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 the session for longer on the day. Alternatively, it may be necessary to prioritise matters and defer others to further written questions.

**Please Note:**

**In order to ensure timely publication of the agenda, this has been drafted shortly before the receipt of submissions for Deadline 5 which includes the responses to the ExA's further written questions. As such, any references to documents may have been superseded by Deadline 5. Therefore, the ExA may need to adjust the agenda at the meeting to allow for responses received, and updated documents submitted at this deadline.**

**Agenda**

The main purpose of the Issue Specific Hearing 4 is to undertake an examination of the draft DCO Articles and Schedules [REP3-005].

In particular to:

- Clarify issues around how the draft DCO is intended to work – what would be consented, the extent of the powers and what requirements, provisions and agreements are proposed;
- Identify any possible issues of prevention, mitigation or compensation which are not covered by the DCO as currently drafted;
- Establish or confirm the views of other Interested Parties as to the appropriateness, proportionality or efficacy of the proposals.

**Please note that Protective Provisions (Part 5 and Schedule 16) will be examined at the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing on Wednesday 3 March 2021 at 10:00am.**



The Planning  
Inspectorate

# Agenda

<b>Title of meeting</b>	Portishead Branch Line – MetroWest Phase 1 Issue Specific Hearing 4 on the draft DCO
<b>Date</b>	Tuesday 2 March 2021
<b>Time</b>	10.00 am
<b>Venue</b>	Online via Microsoft Teams invitation
<b>Attendees</b>	Invitees

## **1. Welcome, introductions, arrangements for the hearing**

## **2. Articles and Schedules of the draft DCO (excluding Schedules 2, 16 and 17)**

The ExA will then ask questions in respect of DCO powers, seeking responses where appropriate from the Applicant, the local councils, the Environment Agency (EA), Natural England (NE) and other Interested Parties. Interested Parties will also be invited to ask questions of clarification in relation to DCO Articles and Schedules.

## **3. Schedule 2 of the DCO – Requirements**

The Applicant will be asked to provide an update on the Requirements in light of recent submissions, the change requests and on-going discussions with Interested Parties. The ExA will then ask questions, seeking responses where appropriate from the Applicant, the local councils, the EA, NE and other Interested Parties. Interested Parties will also be invited to ask questions of clarification in relation to DCO requirements.

## **4. Schedule 17 of the DCO – Documents to be certified**

To review the documents to be certified and seek views as to whether the list is complete and if not, what additional documents would need to be included and when this list will be updated.

## **5. Action points arising from the Hearing**

## **6. Any other business**

## **7. 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 the Lead Local Flood Authority;
- North Somerset District Council in its role as the Highways Authority;
- Bristol City Council;
- The Environment Agency;
- Network Rail; and
- Natural England.