



**Canal &
River Trust**

Making life better by water

Paul Singleton,
Examining Inspector
The Planning Inspectorate
National Infrastructure Planning
Temple Quay House
2 The Square
Bristol
BS1 6PN

Your Ref TR050005

Our Ref West Mids NSIP

Friday 5th April 2019

Dear Mr Singleton,

Application by Four Ashes Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the proposed West Midlands Interchange

Examination timetable – Deadline 2 submissions

Thank you for your consultation in respect of the above.

We are the charity who look after and bring to life 2000 miles of canals & rivers. Our waterways contribute to the health and wellbeing of local communities and economies, creating attractive and connected places to live, work, volunteer and spend leisure time. These historic, natural and cultural assets form part of the strategic and local green-blue infrastructure network, linking urban and rural communities as well as habitats. By caring for our waterways and promoting their use we believe we can improve the wellbeing of our nation. As you will be aware, the Trust is a statutory undertaker for the purposes of S.127 Planning Act 2008 ("the 2008 Act") and a statutory party for the purposes of s.88(3)(c) of the 2008 Act. In addition, the Trust are also a landowner

As you are aware the Trust have been in discussions with the Promoter during the pre-application stages, responded to the Scoping consultation and attended the Preliminary Meetings and Issue Specific Hearing into the draft Development Consent Order in February 2019.

In relation to the Examination of the application the Trust wish to make submissions as required under 'Deadline 2 of the Examination timetable. These submissions are attached and comprise:

- **Document 1** - Summary of Relevant Representation
- **Document 2** - Written Representation
- **Document 3** - Summary of Written Representation
- **Document 4** - Response to ExA's Written Questions
- **Document 5** - Proposals for Accompanied Site Inspection

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The Trust received a first draft of a '*Statement of Common Ground*' from FAL on the 11th March 2019 and have been reviewing this document as a matter of urgency. It has not been possible, in this short period of time, to agree a final version of this document. The Trust have now provided FAL with our comments on this first draft. The concerns of the Trust are however clearly set out in the above Documents.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any queries you may have.

Yours sincerely,

Anne Denby MRTPI

Area Planner

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