

Our Reference: SHARE/ 74707066
Your Reference: TR050005

Patrick Thomas
Asset Manager

The Planning Inspectorate
Temple Quay House
Temple Quay
Bristol
BS1 6PN

The Cube
199 Wharfside Street
Birmingham B1 1RN

Direct Line: 0300 4703407

05 July 2019

via Email:

WMInterchange@planninginspectorate.gov.uk

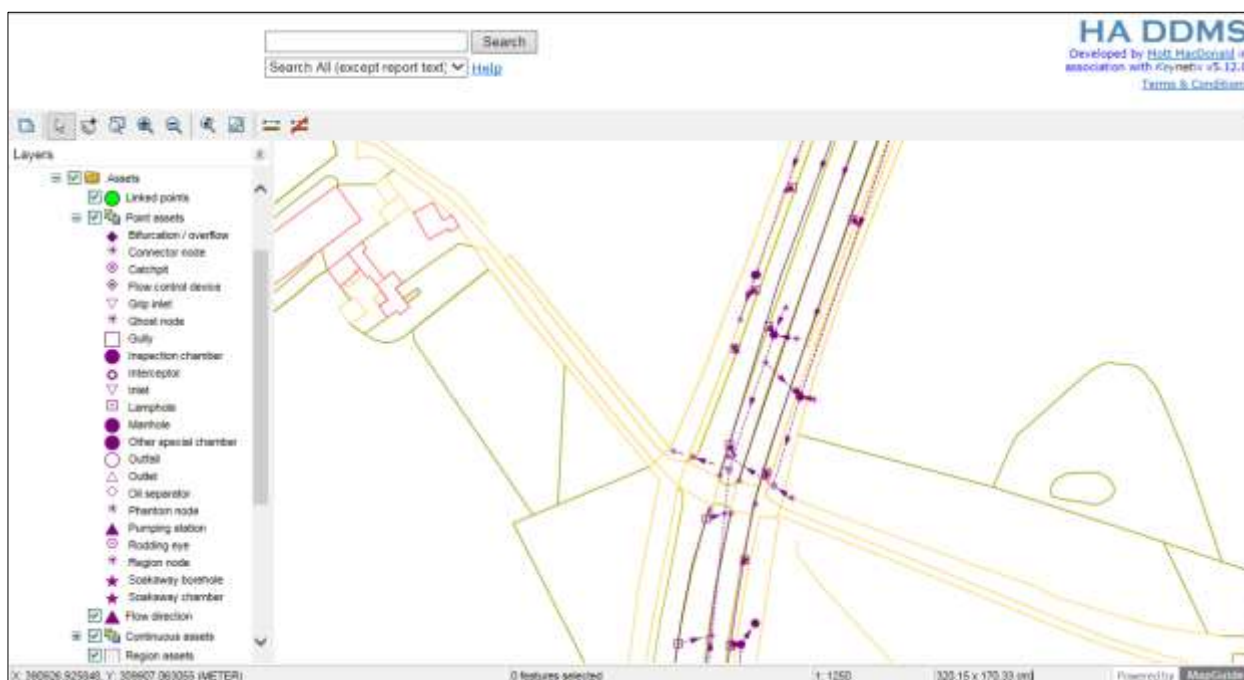
Dear Sirs

WEST MIDLANDS INTERCHANGE DCO - DEADLINE NO. 5 SUBMISSION

Highways England makes the following comments in respect of Deadline 5 and to provide a progress update on the matters that remain unresolved at this time. In addition to this commentary we have completed a pro-forma setting our responses to the ExA's further written questions. We have completed the pro-forma in respect of only the matters of relevance to ourselves.

Site Drainage

As agreed with the applicant at Deadline No. 4 we have supplied details of the highway drainage system held in our "HA DDMS" database of drainage assets. A screen shot image overleaf indicates the records held and identifies the A449 culvert, which the applicant has challenged the ownership of, to be a Highways England controlled asset. On this basis we reiterate our previously stated view that DfT Circular 02/2013 paragraph 50 applies with no connection between the highway and site drainage systems permitted. As such we require the draft DCO to be updated with an amendment to Works No. 7 sub-paragraph (s) to reference the provision of a new culvert in this location independent of the highway drainage system.



Landscaping Design

We have received a further set of landscape design drawings from the applicant of site landscaping adjacent to the JSRN. These are subject to our review. When this review is completed, we shall advise the applicant and ExA of the outcome.

Road Safety Audit

We are currently reviewing the latest road safety audit information provided by the applicant in respect of issues identified at M6 junction 12 by the initial audit work. When this review is completed, we shall advise the applicant and ExA of the outcome.

In terms of other outstanding road safety issue related to the proposed A449 access roundabout pedestrian crossing we have concluded our review of the updated information and provided a response with a view to agreeing the revised design and audit information are acceptable. We and the applicant are now taking the necessary steps to document and close this issue.

Rail Terminal

The applicant has recently provided further information that seeks to analyse the traffic implications of not having an active rail terminal in operation post the proposed cap on development floor space 187,000m² before this occurs. We are carefully considering this new information and its implications for the SRN. We shall advise the applicant and ExA of the outcome of this review.

Requirement for timing of rail terminal delivery

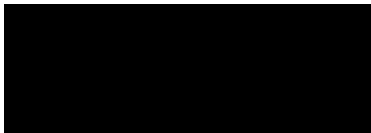
The applicant has agreed in principle that any amendment to the requirement setting out the timing of delivery of the rail terminal would be subject to consultation and agreement by both South Staffordshire District Council and Highways England. We agree that this is an appropriate approach and look forward to confirming this on review of the next draft DCO.



Amendment to existing TROs

We have agreed in principle that the question of verge parking on the SRN in the vicinity of the site can be dealt with by way of variation to the existing clearway Traffic Regulation Orders as opposed to the making of new Orders. We agree that this is an appropriate approach and look forward to confirming this on review of the next draft DCO.

Yours sincerely,



Patrick Thomas
Asset Manager

Email: Patrick.Thomas@highwaysengland.co.uk