



National Infrastructure  
Planning  
Temple Quay House  
2 The Square  
Bristol, BS1 6PN

Customer 0303 444 5000  
Services:  
email: [HinckleySRFI@planninginspectorate.gov.uk](mailto:HinckleySRFI@planninginspectorate.gov.uk)

---

All Interested Parties and Statutory Parties

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR050007

Date: 22 September 2023

---

Dear Sir/ Madam

## **Planning Act 2008 – Section 89 and The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 – Rule 8, 9 and 13**

### **Application by Tritax Symmetry (Hinckley) Limited for an Order Granting Development Consent for the Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange**

#### **Examination Timetable, procedure and Notification of Hearings**

This letter (the Rule 8 letter) provides important information about the Examination of this application. The letter includes:

- the Examination Timetable
- an invitation to submit Written Representations
- a request for Local Impact Reports from Local Authorities
- other Procedural Decisions made by the ExA
- notification of Hearings
- information about Hearings
- information about the availability of Examination Documents
- guidance on the use of the 'Make a submission' tab on the project webpage.

All documentation associated with this Examination, including a note of the Preliminary Meeting and the recording of that meeting, can be viewed under the [documents tab](#) on the project webpage of the National Infrastructure Planning website ([project webpage](#)).

#### **The Examination Timetable**

We have made a Procedural Decision about the way the application will be examined. The final Examination Timetable is attached at **Annex A** to this letter.

The Examination Timetable replaces the draft timetable that was included in our [Rule 6 letter](#). In finalising the Examination Timetable, we have sought to accommodate requests

and suggestions made orally or in writing to the Preliminary Meeting. A list of the main changes we made to the draft Examination Timetable is set out at **Annex B** to this letter.

Please note that the Examination Timetable contains a number of Deadlines for receipt of information by the Planning Inspectorate. All Deadlines are at 23:59 hours on the date specified. Please ensure submissions arrive by the Deadline. If you do not make your submissions by the dates specified in the timetable, we may disregard them.

We request that all Interested Parties make their submissions using the [Make a submission tab](#) on the project webpage on or before the applicable Deadline. **Annex E** to this letter provides further information about using the [Make a submission tab](#).

If we consider it necessary to vary the Examination Timetable during the Examination, notification will be sent to Interested Parties and Statutory Parties invited to the Preliminary Meeting. The changes will be published on the [project webpage](#).

## Written Representations

All Interested Parties are now invited to submit Written Representations and any comments on the Relevant Representations already submitted. These should be submitted by **Deadline 1 (10 October 2023)** in the Examination Timetable.

Written Representations can cover any relevant matter and are not restricted to the matters set out in our [Initial Assessment of Principal Issues](#).

Any person, other than the Applicant, who submits a Written Representation must identify those parts of the application with which they agree and those parts with which they do not agree, explaining the reasons why. Interested Parties should also provide with their Written Representations any data, methodology and assumptions used to support their submissions to avoid delays in the Examination (see paragraph 74 of [Planning Act 2008: Guidance for the examination of applications for development consent](#)).

We have requested further types of written submissions at various points in the Examination (see **Annex A**).

Any Written Representations and any further written submissions requested during the Examination, that exceed 1500 words, should also be accompanied by a summary which should not exceed 10% of the original text. The summary should set out the key facts of the written submission and must be representative of the submission made.

Representations **must not include hyperlinks** to documents/evidence hosted on third party websites. Please see the Planning Inspectorate's [Advice Note 8.4: The Examination](#) for further information about Written Representations.

## Examining Authority's Written Questions

We are preparing written questions (ExQ1) about the application and the representations received. We will further refine these in light of the representations made in the future. These questions will be published on the project webpage after **Deadline 3 on Tuesday 28 November**. Responses are due by **Deadline 4, Tuesday 9 January 2024**.

## Format of Examination Events

It is expected that both blended (part in-person and part virtual) and fully virtual events will form part of this examination.

We therefore remain flexible and will confirm the format of any hearings when we provide formal notification of each hearing at least 21 days in advance of it taking place.

## Hearings and Site Inspections

As explained in our Rule 6 letter and at the Preliminary Meeting, the Examination will principally be a written process (see [Advice Note 8.4: The Examination](#)), supplemented where necessary by various types of hearings (see [Advice Note 8.5: Hearings and site inspections](#) and [Advice Note 8.6: Virtual Examination events](#)).

We have made a Procedural Decision to hold the hearings:

- **Open Floor Hearing 1 (OFH1)** (if required). Blended event on Monday 30 October 2023.
- **Issue Specific Hearing 2 (ISH2) on Traffic and Transport.** Blended event on Tuesday 31 October 2023
- **Issue Specific Hearing 3 (ISH3) on Environmental Matters.** Blended event on Wednesday 1 November 2023.
- **Issue Specific Hearing 4 (ISH4) on Need and Socio-Economic Matters.** Blended event on Wednesday 1 November 2023.
- **Open Floor Hearing 2 (OFH2).** Blended event on Thursday 2 November 2023.
- **Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 2 (CAH2).** Blended event on Thursday 2 November 2023.
- **Issue Specific Hearing 5 (ISH5) into draft Development Consent Order.** Virtual event on Friday 3 November 2023.

**Annex C** provides details about what Interested Parties should include in a request to be heard at a hearing, and the procedure that will be followed at hearings.

We have put two dates for Open Floor Hearings, which are the evening of Monday 30 October and the morning of Thursday 2 November. Depending on the number, if any, of the requests made, we may need to allocate those who wish to make representations to one or other of the events. Therefore, if you have a specific date or preference to only attend one event, please make this clear in your request and we will do our best to accommodate this. However, should there only be the need for a single Open Floor Hearing then such requests made may not be met.

We may also undertake site inspections. Where we are able to view the site from public land we are likely to do this unaccompanied and a note of the site inspection will be published on the project webpage. The Examination Timetable also reserves time for us to undertake an Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) on Wednesday 15 and/ or Thursday 16 November 2023. We will consider each suggested site location to determine if it could be viewed from public land on an unaccompanied basis or if it is necessary to view it on an accompanied basis. We will also consider if it would be appropriate to make arrangements



for access only to be provided to specific sites such that they could be inspected as part of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection on an access required basis. Should we conclude that an Accompanied Site Inspection is required, we will provide a list of locations to the Applicant with a view to it making appropriate arrangements.

**Annex C** provides details about what Interested Parties should include in a request to be heard at a hearing, and the procedure that will be followed at hearings. It also provides important information about the Accompanied Site Inspection and attendance at the inspection.

## Managing Examination correspondence

Given the volume and frequency of letters the Planning Inspectorate needs to send to Interested Parties during an Examination, we aim to communicate with people by email as electronic communication is more environmentally friendly and cost effective for the taxpayer.

If you have received a letter from the Planning Inspectorate but are able to receive communications by email, please inform the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter as soon as possible.

As the Examination process makes substantial use of electronic documents, it will be useful for you to become familiar with the [project webpage](#).

A [Make a submission tab](#) is available on the website which provides a portal through which parties should make written submissions at relevant deadlines during the Examination. Further information about the 'Make a submission' portal is provided at **Annex E** to this letter.

There is also a function on the right-hand side of the project webpage called 'E-mail updates'. This provides you with an opportunity to register to receive automatic e-mail updates at key stages during the Examination.

## Your status in the Examination

You have received this letter because you fall within one of the groups described in the Planning Inspectorate's document [What is My Status in the Examination?](#)

If your reference number begins with '2003' '2004' 'HRFI', 'HRFI-0', 'HRFI -AFP', 'HRFI -S57' 'HRFI -APP' you are in Group A. If your reference number begins with 'HRFI -SP' you are in Group B. If your reference number begins with 'HRFI -OP' you are in Group C. The meaning and purpose of those groups are explained in the document published at the link above.

If having read this document you are still unsure about your status, please contact the Case Team using the details at the top of this letter.

## Awards of costs

All parties will normally be expected to meet their own costs. Costs can be awarded against a party who has acted unreasonably and has caused the party applying for the award of costs to incur unnecessary or wasted expense during the Examination. You should be aware of the relevant costs guidance [Awards of costs: examinations of applications for development consent orders](#).

## Management of information

Information, including representations, submitted in respect of this Examination (if accepted by the Examining Authority) and a record of any advice which has been provided by the Planning Inspectorate is published on the [project webpage](#).

Examination Documents can also be viewed electronically at the locations listed in **Annex D** to this letter.

Please note that in the interest of facilitating an effective and fair Examination, it is necessary to publish some personal information. To find out how we handle your personal information please view our [Privacy Notice](#).

We look forward to working with all parties in the Examination of this application.

Yours faithfully

*Robert Jackson*

## Lead Member of the Examining Authority

### Annexes

- A** Examination Timetable
- B** Other Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority
- C** Notification of Hearings and requests to participate
- D** Availability of Examination Documents
- E** Information about the Make a submission tab

This communication does not constitute legal advice.  
Please view our [Privacy Notice](#) before sending information to the Planning Inspectorate.

## Examination Timetable

The Examining Authority (ExA) is under a duty to **complete** the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months beginning with the day after the close of the Preliminary Meeting.

The Examination of the application primarily takes the form of the consideration of written submissions. The ExA will also consider any oral representations made at hearings.

<b>Item</b>	<b>Matters</b>	<b>Date</b>
<b>1.</b>	<b>Procedural Decision Deadline A</b> Deadline for receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to the Rule 6 letter</li> <li>• Submission of additional or updated drawings as requested in Annex D</li> <li>• Requests to be heard orally at the Preliminary Meeting and under which part of the agenda set out in Annex A</li> <li>• Notification of intention to attend the Issue Specific Hearing 1.</li> <li>• Requests by Affected Persons to be heard orally at the Compulsory Acquisition Hearing 1</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 5 September 2023</b>
<b>2.</b>	<b>Preliminary Meeting</b>	<b>Tuesday 12 September 2023 (10.00am)</b>
<b>3.</b>	<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH1)</b> on the Project Definition and draft Development Consent Order	<b>Wednesday 13 September 2023 (10.00am)</b>
<b>4.</b>	<b>Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH1)</b> on the Applicant's general case	<b>Thursday 14 September (10.00am)</b>
<b>5.</b>	<b>Issue by the ExA of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Examination Timetable</li> </ul>	<b>As soon as practicable after the Preliminary Meeting</b>
<b>6.</b>	<b>Deadline 1</b> For receipt by the ExA of:	<b>Tuesday 10 October 2023</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on any updates to application documents submitted by the Applicant before or at the PM</li> <li>• Comments on Relevant Representations (RRs)</li> <li>• Summaries of all RRs exceeding 1500 words</li> <li>• Written Representations (WRs)</li> <li>• Summaries of all WRs exceeding 1500 words</li> <li>• Local Impact Reports (LIRs)</li> <li>• Notification by Statutory Parties of their wish to be considered as an IP by the ExA</li> <li>• Notification of wish to be heard at any subsequent Issue Specific Hearings (ISH) (see below for details)</li> <li>• Requests to be heard at any subsequent Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH). Requests by Affected Persons (defined in section 59(4) of the Planning Act 2008) to be heard at a CAH</li> <li>• Request to be heard at an Open Floor Hearing (OFH)</li> <li>• Post-hearing submissions including written submissions of oral cases</li> <li>• Notification of wish to have future correspondence received electronically</li> <li>• Suggestions for locations for the ASI (if any) together with reasoning</li> <li>• Updated Funding Statement from Applicant</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA</li> <li>• Comments on any additional submissions accepted by the ExA</li> </ul>	
7.	<p><b>Deadline 2</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on WR</li> <li>• Comments on the LIRs</li> <li>• The Applicant's revised dDCO</li> <li>• Status of Negotiations / Compulsory Acquisition Schedule</li> <li>• Draft Statements of Common Ground – see Annex D</li> <li>• Statement of Commonality on Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA</li> </ul>	<p><b>Tuesday 24 October 2023</b></p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Comments on any additional submissions received by Deadline 1</li> </ul>	
8.	<b>Open Floor Hearing (OFH1)</b>	<b>Monday 30 October 2023 (6.00pm)</b>
9.	<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH2)</b> on Traffic and Transport	<b>Tuesday 31 October 2023 (10.00am)</b>
10.	<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH3)</b> on Environmental Matters	<b>Wednesday 1 November 2023 (10.00am)</b>
11.	<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH4)</b> on Need and Socio-Economic Matters	<b>Wednesday 1 November 2023 (2.00pm)</b>
12.	<b>Open Floor Hearing (OFH2)</b>	<b>Thursday 2 November 2023 (10.00am)</b>
13.	<b>Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH2)</b>	<b>Thursday 2 November 2023 (2.00pm)</b>
14.	<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH5) dDCO</b>	<b>Friday 3 November 2023 (10.00am)</b>
15.	<p><b>Procedural Deadline B</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of details of participation in Accompanied Site Inspection (if held)</p>	<b>Tuesday 8 November 2023</b>
16.	<p><b>Deadline 3</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Updated Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>Updated Statements of Commonality on Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>Receipt of Written Statements of Oral Cases at ISH2, ISH3, ISH4, CAH2, OFH1 and OFH2</li> <li>Comments on the Applicant's revised dDCO</li> <li>Comments on any additional submissions received by Deadline 2</li> </ul> <p>Any further information requested by the ExA.</p>	<b>Tuesday 14 November 2023</b>



17.	<b>Accompanied Site Inspections</b> (if needed)	<b>Wednesday 15 and/ or Thursday 16 November 2023</b>
18.	<b>Publication by the ExA of:</b> Written Questions	<b>Tuesday 28 November 2023</b>
19.	<b>Dates reserved for:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Open Floor Hearings</b> (if required)</li> <li>• <b>Issue Specific Hearings</b> (if required)</li> <li>• <b>Compulsory Acquisition Hearings</b> (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Week commencing 11 December 2023</b>
20.	<b>Deadline 4</b> For receipt by the ExA of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Post-hearing submissions including written submissions of oral cases (if held)</li> <li>• Responses to the ExA's Written Questions</li> <li>• The Applicant's revised dDCO</li> <li>• Status of Negotiations / CA Schedule</li> <li>• Updated Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>• Updated Statement of Commonality of Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>• Draft Planning Obligations under Section 106, Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended)</li> <li>• Comments on any additional submissions received by Deadline 3</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA.</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 9 January 2024</b>
21.	<b>Publication by the ExA of:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Further Written Questions (if required)</li> <li>• Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES) (if required)</li> <li>• ExA's commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the dDCO (if required)</li> </ul>	<b>Friday 19 January 2024</b>
22.	<b>Deadline 5</b> For receipt by the ExA of:	<b>Friday 9 February 2024</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Responses to ExA's Further Written Questions (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on the Applicant's revised dDCO (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on any additional submissions received by Deadline 4</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA.</li> </ul>	
<b>23.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 6</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Comments on the RIES (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on ExA's commentary on, or schedule of changes to, the dDCO (if required)</li> <li>• Comments on any additional submissions received by Deadline 5</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA.</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 20 February 2024</b>
<b>24.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 7</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final dDCO to be submitted by the Applicant in the SI template with the SI template validation report</li> <li>• Final Book of Reference (BoR) and schedule of changes to BoR</li> <li>• Final Status of Negotiations / Compulsory Acquisition Schedule</li> <li>• Final Funding Statement</li> <li>• Final Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>• Final Statement of Commonality of Statements of Common Ground</li> <li>• Final Guide to the Application</li> <li>• Final text Planning Obligations under Section 106, Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended)</li> <li>• Comments on any additional submissions received by Deadline 6</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA.</li> </ul>	<b>Tuesday 27 February 2024</b>
<b>25.</b>	<p><b>Deadline 8</b></p> <p>For receipt by the ExA of:</p>	<b>Friday 8 March 2024</b>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Completed Planning Obligations under Section 106, Town and Country Planning Act, 1990 (as amended)</li> <li>• Final draft SoCGs between IPs where agreement has not been reached setting out where agreement/ disagreement remains outstanding and status of negotiation.</li> <li>• Comments on any additional submissions received by Deadline 7</li> <li>• Any further information requested by the ExA.</li> </ul>	
<b>26.</b>	The ExA is under a duty to complete the Examination of the application by the end of the period of six months	<b>Tuesday 12 March 2024</b>

### Submission times for Deadlines

The time for submission of documents at any Deadline in the timetable is 23:59 hours on the relevant Deadline date, unless instructed otherwise by the ExA.

### Publication dates

All information received will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable after the Deadlines for submissions.

### Report on the Implications for European Sites (RIES)

The applicant has provided a Shadow Habitats Regulations Assessment [[APP-199](#)] with the application. In light of this the ExA may decide to issue a RIES during the Examination. The RIES is a factual account of the information and evidence provided to the ExA on Habitats Regulation Assessment (HRA) matters during the Examination up to the date of the publication of the RIES, for the purposes of enabling the Secretary of State, as competent authority, to undertake its HRA. It is not the ExA's opinion on HRA matters. Comments on the RIES will be invited by the ExA and any received will be taken into account as part of the ExA's Recommendation to the Secretary of State. The ExA may also raise questions in the RIES to confirm or clarify matters that remain outstanding.

The Secretary of State may rely on the consultation on the RIES to meet its obligations under Regulation 63(3) of The Habitats Regulations 2017.

## Other Procedural Decisions made by the Examining Authority (ExA)

We have made a number of Procedural Decisions following the Preliminary Meeting:

### 1. Examination Timetable

The following are the main changes made to the Timetable following the Preliminary Meeting:

Change	Date in Final Timetable	Reason
Requests to attend Accompanied Site Inspections (if held)	Procedural Deadline B, 8 November	To allow those who may wish to attend to do so
Provision of updated Funding Statement	Deadline 1, 10 October 2023	Omitted in draft timetable
Responses to ExA's Written Questions	Deadline 4, 9 January 2024	Omitted in draft timetable
Draft Planning Obligation(s)	Deadline 4, 9 January 2024	Omitted in draft timetable
Final text of Planning Obligation(s)	Deadline 7, 27 February 2024	Omitted in draft timetable
Final updated Funding Statement	Deadline 7, 27 February 2024	Omitted in draft timetable
Completed Planning Obligation(s)	Deadline 8, 8 March 2023	Omitted in draft timetable

There were a number of other queries where responses and clarifications are set out below:

- the Applicant was concerned that it may not be fully able to respond to the submissions at Deadline 1, 10 October 2023, by Deadline 2, 24 October 2023. The submissions at Deadline 1 should follow the Relevant Representations already made or be likely to be known through pre-application discussions. It is therefore considered that there should be sufficient time for a response, but we are content for later responses on specific items to be made where absolutely necessary. However, these should be made by Deadline 3, 14 November 2023, to ensure that Interested Parties are able to comment on the responses should they wish.
- there was a request that Open Floor Hearings (OFHs) be held in locations such as village halls in the vicinity of the Application site. Due to the amount of audio-visual equipment necessary to ensure that the events can be provided on-line, including the set-up and dismantling time, this is not practical. However, the two OFHs to be held in the Leonardo Hotel is in close proximity to the Application site. Participation can take place virtually for those who might find difficulties in attending in person.
- there was a request that any Accompanied Site Inspections (ASIs) take place on Fridays. Firstly, it is not confirmed that there will be any ASIs since until submissions have been made this is not known. Secondly, ASIs are not the opportunity to make representations, so attendance by a particular individual is

not imperative since the site requests should set out what that individual wishes the ExA to view.

- Issue Specific Hearing 2 on Traffic and Transport will include road and public right of way effects as well as road traffic.

## 2. Submission of Amended Documents

When submitting an amended document to the Examination, it should be provided in two formats, firstly 'clean' and secondly with 'tracked change' from the last submitted version of the document. This is for clarity and to allow for easy interrogation of the changes made.

Should a document be replaced, then this should be made clear, along with an explanation of the changes as part of a frontispiece to the document. Replacement documents should only be submitted where absolutely necessary, with amended documents preferred.

Where drawings are amended, then these should include on the face of the drawing the change in revision number and an explanation of the change. Should this be too extensive to provide on the drawing itself, then the amendments should be set out in an accompanying document.

## 3. Examining Authority's Written Questions

Our Written Questions are timetabled to be issued on the 28 November 2023 with responses received by **Deadline 4, 9 January 2024**. Whilst most of our written questions are directed at specific parties, no other party should feel inhibited or restricted in responding to any question we ask, even if it is directed elsewhere.

Some of our questions are directed to specific Statutory Parties which have not, at the time of writing, confirmed that they wish to become Interested Parties for the purposes of the Examination of the application.

All relevant Statutory Parties are requested to check our Written Questions carefully in order that they may identify and respond to any questions posed to them.

For the avoidance of doubt, Statutory Parties are defined as the parties listed in Schedule 1 to [The Infrastructure Planning \(Interested Parties and Miscellaneous Prescribed Provisions\) Regulations 2015](#). Statutory Parties, including relevant local authorities, that have not already registered to become an Interested Party should consider notifying the ExA of their wish to be considered as an Interested Party, under Section 89(2A)(b) of the Planning Act 2008 as soon as possible.

## 4. Statements of Common Ground (SoCG)

The Applicant is taking the lead in the preparation of SoCGs and it will aid the smooth running of the Examination if all Interested Parties who are participating in the preparation of SoCGs liaise and co-operate with the Applicant in respect of their production. We set out in **Annex D** of our [Rule 6 letter](#) the SoCGs we request are

submitted during the Examination of this application. Final signed versions of the SoCGs listed below are requested to be submitted **by the Applicant to Deadline 8:**

1. SoCG between the Applicant and **Blaby District Council**
2. SoCG between the Applicant and **Hinckley & Bosworth Borough Council**
3. SoCG between the Applicant and **Leicestershire County Council**
4. SoCG between the Applicant and **Rugby Borough Council**
5. SoCG between the Applicant and **Harborough District Council**
6. SoCG between the Applicant and **Warwickshire County Council**
7. SoCG between the Applicant and **National Highways**
8. SoCG between the Applicant and **Network Rail**
9. SoCG between the Applicant and **Environment Agency**
10. SoCG between the Applicant and **Natural England**
11. SoCG between the Applicant and **Historic England**

As we said in the Rule 6 letter, for each of those areas that are in dispute, it would be beneficial if each party would put their estimation as to the likelihood that disagreement will remain by the end of the Examination. This should be done on a “Low” (Green), “Medium” (Amber) and “High” (Red) traffic light model. This will allow the ExA to assess those areas where oral discussions may be most beneficial.

**All of the SoCGs listed above should cover the Articles and Requirements in the draft Development Consent Order.** Any Interested Party seeking that an Article or Requirement is reworded should provide the form of words which are being sought.

The content of SoCGs will help to inform us about the need to hold any Issue Specific Hearings during the Examination, and to enable us and the Applicant to give notice of such hearings at least 21 days in advance of them taking place.

## **5. Local Impact Reports (LIR)**

A LIR is a report in writing giving details of the likely impact of a Proposed Development on a local authority’s area (or any part of that area). For more information about the importance and content of LIRs see our [Advice Note One: Local Impact Reports](#).

Local Authorities, defined in section 56A of the Planning Act 2008, are invited to submit LIRs by **Deadline 1 (10 October 2023)**.

## **6. Additional Submissions**

In addition to the documentation submitted by Procedural Deadlines A we have exercised our discretion and made a Procedural Decision to accept Additional Submissions from the following:

- Coal Authority [AS-002]

## 7. Changes to land interests

When the Applicant becomes aware that there has been a change in ownership, or a new interest, in relevant land the Applicant is requested to make the relevant person aware that they can make a request to the ExA to become an Interested Party under section 102A of the PA2008 by completing the [form available on the project webpage](#). The Examination Timetable includes various Deadlines for the submission of an updated Book of Reference and schedule of changes to the Book of Reference, which should include confirmation that relevant persons have been informed of their rights under section 102A.

## 8. Revised documents

When parties submitted revised documents, as opposed to new submissions, then they should submit two versions, a 'clean' version and one in 'tracked change' from the previous version submitted.

## 9. Letter to Applicant

We have today written a letter under Rule 17 of the Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010 (as amended) to the Applicant:

- responding to the Applicant's request to make a proposed change to the Application in relation to land rights; and
- asking the Applicant to provide certain information if that information was not provided in the Applicant's response to the Relevant Representations in relation to the following matters:
  - provision of maps in relation to information already submitted in Chapter 8: Traffic and Transport in the Environmental Statement;
  - recent publications on traffic forecasting;
  - travel modes and modelling;
  - the Narborough level crossing;
  - associated assessments;
  - Railway bridge design; and
  - a Health Impact Assessment.

### Notification of Hearings and requests to participate

We advise you that the following Hearings will be held under Sections 91, 92 and 93 of the Planning Act 2008. The Hearing(s), apart from Compulsory Acquisition Hearing on Friday 3 November, will be Blended Events, with participants attending either in person or virtually via Microsoft Teams. The Compulsory Acquisition Hearing will be held virtually.

<b>Hearing</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Start time</b>	<b>Location</b>
<b>Open Floor Hearing (OFH1)</b>	<b>Monday 30 October 2023</b>	<b>Registration and seating available from: 5.00pm</b>  <b>Virtual Registration Process from: 5.15pm</b>  <b>Event start: 6.00pm</b>	<p>All hearings will be blended events at:</p> <p><b>Leonardo Hotel Hinckley Island - Formerly Jurys Inn, Watling Street, Burbage, Hinckley LE10 3JA</b></p> <p>and</p> <p><b>By virtual means using Microsoft Teams</b></p> <p>Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered</p>
<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH2) on Traffic and Transport</b>	<b>Tuesday 31 October 2023</b>	<b>Registration and seating available from: 9.00am</b>  <b>Virtual Registration Process from: 9.15am</b>  <b>Event start: 10.00am</b>	
<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH3) on Environmental Matters</b>	<b>Wednesday 1 November 2023</b>	<b>Registration and seating available from: 9.00am</b>  <b>Virtual Registration Process from: 9.15am</b>  <b>Event start: 10.00am</b>	
<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH4) on Need and Socio-Economic Matters</b>	<b>Wednesday 1 November 2023</b>	<b>Registration and seating available from: 1.30pm</b>  <b>Virtual Registration Process from: 1.30pm</b>  <b>Event start: 2.00pm</b>	
<b>Open Floor Hearing (OFH2)</b>	<b>Thursday 2 November 2023</b>	<b>Registration and seating available from: 9.00am</b>  <b>Virtual Registration Process from: 9.15am</b>  <b>Event start: 10.00am</b>	



<b>Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH2)</b>	<b>Thursday 2 November 2023</b>	<b>Registration and seating available from: 1.30pm</b>  <b>Virtual Registration Process from: 1.30pm</b>  <b>Event start: 2.00pm</b>	
<b>Issue Specific Hearing (ISH5) dDCO</b>	<b>Friday 3 November 2023</b>	<b>Virtual Registration Process from: 9.15am</b>  <b>Event start: 10.00am</b>	<b>By virtual means using Microsoft Teams</b>  Full instructions on how to join online or by telephone will be provided in advance to those who have pre-registered
<b>NOTE: If any of the above Hearings are no longer required then notification will be published as soon as practicable on <a href="#">the project webpage</a> of the National Infrastructure Planning website, providing reasonable notice to Interested Parties of the decision to cancel.</b>			

### **Applicant's notification duties**

The Applicant is reminded of its duty to notify and publicise hearings under Rule 13(6) and 13(7) of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010.

### **Purpose of Hearings**

Please refer to the Planning Inspectorate's [Advice Note 8.5: The Examination: hearings and site inspections](#) for information about the purpose of Open Floor, Issue Specific and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings.

### **Registration and requests to participate in Hearings**

Interested Parties are required to notify the Examining Authority (ExA) in writing of their wish to take part in an Open Floor Hearing (OFH) or Compulsory Acquisition Hearing (CAH) on or before **Tuesday 10 October** (see **Deadline 1**). We remind Interested Parties that this date was set as a Procedural Decision issued with the [Rule 6 letter](#).

Any request to participate in a hearing **should include** the following information:

- name and unique reference number (found at the top of any letter or email from the Planning Inspectorate);
- email address (if available) and contact telephone number;

- name and unique reference number of any person/organisation that you are representing (if applicable);
- for blended events, confirmation of whether you will participate virtually or in-person;
- confirmation of the hearing(s) you wish to participate in, the agenda item(s) on which you wish to speak and/or brief details of the topic(s) that you would like to raise;
- for Open Floor Hearings, if attendance can only be made at one of the two dates in the week commencing 30 October 2023, then this should be made clear;
- for Compulsory Acquisition Hearings, the plot number(s) of the relevant land provided in the [Book of Reference](#) and the [Land Plans](#); and
- the [Examination Library](#) reference number (with paragraph/ page number where appropriate) of any documents you wish to refer to.

Requests to participate should be made using an **Event Participation Form** which will be provided with the notification of the hearing.

Joining instructions for Hearings will be issued by the Case Team via email shortly before the Hearing dates.

**Please contact the Case Team if you require any support or assistance to attend any Hearing, either virtually or in person.**

If you simply wish to observe any of the Hearings then you can either:

1. Watch a livestream of the event - a link to the livestream will be made available on the project webpage shortly before the event is scheduled to begin; and/or
2. Watch the recording of the event which will be published on the project webpage shortly after the event has finished.

We may also choose to hold Issue Specific Hearings (ISH) about topics that we think need to be explored orally. The decision to hold an ISH about a particular topic is not connected to how relevant or important we consider an issue or topic to be.

### **Arrangements for hearings**

Our Examination will be principally undertaken through the exchange of written submissions however the Examination Timetable reserves periods of time for hearings to be held (if required).

### **Hearing agendas**

High-level agendas for these hearings will be published no later than 10 working days prior to the hearing on the [project webpage](#) to help inform your decision about whether to register to participate.

For Issue Specific Hearings and Compulsory Acquisition Hearings the ExA will publish a detailed draft agenda on the project website at least five working days in advance of the hearing date. However, the actual agenda on the day of each

hearing may be subject to change at the discretion of the ExA. For Open Floor Hearings an agenda may not be published.

### Procedure at hearings

The Examination will principally be a written process (see the Planning Inspectorate's [Advice Note 8.4: The Examination](#)), supplemented where necessary by various types of hearings. Please refer to the [Advice Note 8.5: Hearings and site inspections](#) and [Advice Note 8.6: Virtual Examination events](#) as these provide important information about hearing procedures.

The procedure to be followed at hearings is set out in Rule 14 of The Infrastructure Planning (Examination Procedure) Rules 2010. The ExA is responsible for the oral questioning of a person giving evidence and the process affords very limited scope to allow cross-questioning between parties.

### Hearing livestream and recording

A link to a livestream for each hearing will be made available on the [project webpage](#) shortly before any hearing is due to open. The livestream is available to anybody who wishes to observe a hearing in real time.

All hearings are recorded, and the recordings will be made available on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable after the close of the hearing. The recordings allow any member of the public who is interested in the application and the Examination to find out what has been discussed.

### Accompanied Site Inspection (ASI) and requests to attend

Time has been reserved in the Examination Timetable to undertake an ASI, if required, on Wednesday 15 and/ or Thursday 16 November.

As requested in **Annex E** of our [Rule 6](#) letter, suggestions, including justification, for locations to be included in the ASI were submitted by **Deadline 1 (Tuesday 10 October)** and will be published on the project webpage.

We will then review the comments received and determine whether an ASI is required. The final itinerary for the ASI, if one is required, will be published on the project webpage on or before **1 November 2023**.

Please note that for logistical and safety reasons it may be necessary to limit the numbers of persons who accompany us for the whole ASI, However it should be possible for arrangements to be made for Interested Parties (or their representatives) to join the inspection at specified locations within the itinerary.

Requests by Interested Parties to attend the ASI should be provided by **Procedural Deadline B** and should include confirmation of whether the request is to attend for the whole inspection or just specific locations. The request must be submitted separately from any other written submission.

Please select the appropriate Deadline and Submission Item under the [Make a submission tab](#). **Annex E** provides further information about the Make a submission tab.

**Interested Parties should be aware that ASIs are not an opportunity to make any oral representations to us about the Proposed Development.** However, we may invite participants to indicate specific features or sites of interest.

**Please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter if you require any support or assistance to attend the ASI.**

## Availability of Examination Documents

The application documents and Relevant Representations are available to view on the [project webpage](#).

All further documents submitted in the course of the Examination will also be published under the [Documents tab](#) of the project webpage.

## The Examination Library

For ease of navigation, please refer to the [Examination Library](#) (EL) which is accessible by clicking the blue button under the Documents tab. Due to the number of Relevant Representations, these are included in a separate document. This can be found in the [Relevant Representations Library](#) or hyperlinked from the EL. The EL is updated regularly throughout the Examination.

The EL records and provides a hyperlink to:

- each application document;
- each representation and submission made to the Examination; and
- each Procedural Decision made by the Examining Authority.

Each document is given a unique reference number which will be fixed for the duration of the Examination. **Please quote the unique reference number from the EL when referring to any Examination Documents in any future submissions that you make.**

## Electronic deposit locations

Documents can be viewed electronically, free of charge, at the electronic deposit locations listed in the table below. Please note that you may need to bring a form of identification and register as a library member in order to use a computer at these locations.

The opening hours and availability of information technology set out in the table below may be subject to change. Please check the current circumstances with the relevant locations before you attend.

Local authority	Venue/address	Opening hours
Leicestershire County Council	Sapcote Library  Church Street, Sapcote, LE9 4FG	Monday: 10:00-13:00 Tuesday: 10:00-12:00 Wednesday: Closed Thursday: 14:00-17:00 Friday: 14:00-17:00

**Annex D**

		<p>Saturday: 10:00-13:00</p> <p>Sunday: Closed</p>
<p>Leicestershire County Council</p>	<p>Burbage Library</p> <p>Church Street, Burbage, Hinckley, LE10 2DA</p>	<p>Monday: 14:00-17:00</p> <p>Tuesday: 14:00-17:00</p> <p>Wednesday: 10:00-13:00</p> <p>Thursday: 10:00-13:00 &amp; 16:00-18:00</p> <p>Friday: Closed</p> <p>Saturday: 10:00-13:00</p> <p>Sunday: Closed</p>
<p>Leicestershire County Council</p>	<p>Hinckley Library</p> <p>Lancaster Road, Hinckley, LE10 0AT</p>	<p>Monday: 08:00-19:00 (staffed 10:00-17:00)</p> <p>Tuesday: 08:00-19:00 (staffed 10:00-13:00)</p> <p>Wednesday: 08:00-19:00 (staffed 10:00-17:00)</p> <p>Thursday: 08:00-19:00 (unstaffed all day)</p> <p>Friday: 08:00-19:00 (staffed 10:00-17:00)</p> <p>Saturday: 08:00-18:00 (staffed 10:00-14:00)</p> <p>Sunday: Closed</p>
<p>Leicestershire County Council</p>	<p>Lutterworth Library</p> <p>George Street, Lutterworth, LE17 4ED</p>	<p>Monday: 08:00-19:00 (staffed 10:00-13:00)</p> <p>Tuesday: 08:00-19:00 (staffed 14:00-17:00)</p> <p>Wednesday: 08:00-19:00 (unstaffed all day)</p> <p>Thursday: 08:00-19:00 (staffed 10:00-13:00)</p> <p>Friday: 08:00-19:00 (staffed 14:00-17:00)</p> <p>Saturday: 08:00-18:00 (staffed 10:00-14:00)</p>

		Sunday: Closed
<b>Printing costs</b>	<b>Black and white</b>	<b>Colour</b>
Sapcote Library – Phone Number: 0116 305 3674		
<b>A4</b>	Single-sided: £0.25 Double-sided: N/A	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A
<b>A3</b>	Single-sided: £0.25 Double-sided: N/A	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A
Burbage Library – Phone Number: 0116 305 3558		
<b>A4</b>	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A
<b>A3</b>	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A
Hinckley Library – Phone Number: 0116 305 2500		
<b>A4</b>	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A
<b>A3</b>	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A
Lutterworth Library – Phone Number: 0116 305 3619		
<b>A4</b>	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A
<b>A3</b>	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A	Single-sided: Contact Library Double-sided: N/A

## Information about the Make a submission tab

The [Make a submission tab](#) is available on the project webpage.

You will need to enter your unique reference number ('Your ref' found at the top your postcard or email from the Planning Inspectorate) beginning either 2002 or 2003, 2004. If you are making a submission on behalf of another person or organisation, and do not have your own unique reference number, then you should enter the unique reference number of the person or organisation you are representing. If you are not a registered Interested Party then it is at the discretion of the Examining Authority whether or not your submission is accepted.

Submissions will be published on the [project webpage](#) as soon as practicable following the close of the relevant Deadline. For further information about publishing submissions please view our [Privacy Notice](#).

You will be able to submit a document (upload file), make a text representation or both. It is possible to upload multiple files for each individual submission item. Electronic attachments should be clearly labelled with the subject title and not exceed 50MB.

Submissions **must not include hyperlinks** to documents/evidence hosted on a third party website eg technical reports, media articles etc. See the Planning Inspectorate's [Advice Note 8.4: The Examination](#) for further information about making written submissions. All submissions must be made in a format that can be viewed in full on the National Infrastructure Planning website. Any submissions that exceed 1500 words should also be accompanied by a summary; this summary should not exceed 10% of the original text.

You should select the relevant Deadline for your submission and then, on the next webpage, select the appropriate Submission item as described in the Examination Timetable at **Annex A** to this letter. Please ensure you make a separate submission for each Submission item and **do not duplicate your submission**. If you consider that your submission does not fit the description of any of the Submission items then please select the Submission item 'Other' and ensure that it is titled appropriately.

If you experience any issues when using the [Make a submission tab](#) please contact the Case Team using the contact details at the top of this letter and they will assist.