



The Planning Inspectorate

The Planning Act 2008 - Application for Development Consent for Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange Case Ref: TR050007

Examining Authority's Note of an Unaccompanied Site Inspection (USI) 3: Inspection of Narborough Station and Junction 21 of the M1 with Junction 3 of M69

This note is a brief record to inform the Applicant, Interested Parties and other parties of the actions taken by the Examining Authority (ExA).

The ExA undertook an unaccompanied visit in the middle of the afternoon of Thursday 2 November 2023. The weather was wet and windy with poor visibility, but as the aim of the Inspection was to look at matters in close order this did not affect our ability to undertake the Inspection.

Starting from the Leonardo Hotel in Hinckley, the ExA drove in an easterly direction along the A5 to its junction with the B4114. We then drove in a north-westerly direction through the village of Sharnford, to the roundabout at the junction of King Edward Avenue with Desford Road in Narborough. We then drove along Desford Road, Coventry Road and Station Road to park in the Narborough Station car park on the southern side of the station arriving at 15:33 hours.

We then walked to the level crossing, at which point the red lights and sirens started with the level crossing barrier closing. The 15:38 Birmingham New Street to Leicester service arrived, stopping at the station.

Before the service arrived, the ExA walked over the pedestrian bridge and then walked up to the junction of Station Road, Coventry Road and Leicester Road and observed the length of the queues.

Following the departure of the passenger service the barrier remained lowered, with a freight train travelling in a southerly direction then passing at around 15:40.

We waited adjacent to the Station Road, Coventry Road and Leicester Road roundabout until the queues caused by the lowering of the barrier had dissipated.

We then walked south along Station Road and across the level crossing to the junction with Riverside Way before returning to the car and driving off.

From Narborough Station we returned to the B4114 via Coventry Road and Desford Road, and then travelled in a northerly direction to the junction with the A563 at Fosse Park. We then travelled along the A563 to Junction 21 of the M1, before travelling south on the M69, noting traffic conditions on the northern carriageway, back to junction 1 of the M69 and the Leonardo Hotel, arriving back at 16:20 hours.

End of USI3