



Application for Development Consent

Application Reference Number: WWO10001

Examining Authority's Second Written Round of Questions and Requests for Information

Supporting Appendices

Technical Note on Timing of Evaluation

Doc Ref: **APP54.01.01**



1 APP54.01.01 Technical note on timing of evaluation

1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 In the Statement of Common Ground between HBMCE and TWUL, an issue is contained in Section 4: Matters still to be agreed relating to the timing of archaeological evaluation.
- 1.1.2 The purpose of this technical note is to set out TWUL's proposed approach to addressing this request from HBMCE.

1.2 HBMCE matter still to be agreed regarding the timing of archaeological evaluation: para 4.6.8

- 1.2.1 The SoCG text is reproduced verbatim below.
- 1.2.2 HBMCE is content that the extent of pre-construction evaluation required at each of these sites will be agreed with Thames Water through ongoing discussions prior to the start of construction and welcomes Thames Water's recent appointment of specialist consultants to undertake a programme of archaeological evaluation. HBMCE, however, wishes to secure an appropriate timeframe to ensure that these discussions and the evaluation and necessary reporting are not unduly compressed.
- 1.2.3 Similarly, HBMCE's written statement para. 6.10 states:
- 1.2.4 Paragraphs 4.6.8 and 4.6.11b of the SoCG indicate that the parties have not as yet agreed a timetable for conducting archaeological evaluation. HBMCE understands Thames Water's position to be that this should be left for inclusion in the Site Specific Archaeological Written Schemes of Investigation (SSAWSIs) while HBMCE would prefer a stated minimum timeframe to be agreed as a requirement in the DCO or at very least in the OAWSI. HBMCE considers this necessary to ensure that archaeological evaluation is not unduly truncated and archaeological assets potentially mishandled or lost as a result.

1.3 TWUL response

- 1.3.1 The response below has been updated following discussion at a meeting with HBMCE, City of London and London Borough of Southwark on 18th November 2013. TWUL has carefully reviewed HBMCE's comments and is of the view that a collaborative process should be followed, working with stakeholders, to agree a suitable programme of evaluation and mitigation work (the latter which would take place prior to and/or during construction), and timescales for reporting.
- 1.3.2 As agreed through consultation on the Draft Evaluation Framework, under discussion point 5, we will hold regular meetings with HBMCE, City of London and LB Southwark to provide updates on archaeological

evaluation and mitigation. This forum would provide an opportunity to discuss the programme of archaeological evaluation and mitigation.

1.3.3 We understand HBMCE’s wish to ensure a sufficient period is allowed for evaluation and mitigation work. It is similarly in TWUL’s best interests to ensure that this is the case, in order to ensure we are able to effectively manage project risks and to adhere to best practice. We believe that TWUL has demonstrated its commitment to a robust approach to environmental matters, and will continue to take this approach. This is evidenced by the fact that we have in place a dedicated archaeological field work manager, and dedicated teams of archaeologists with contracts in place to deliver land based and foreshore based field evaluation. The scope for both elements of work are in line with the methodology detailed in Section 6 of the revised OAWSI (submitted to PINS with tracked changes on 4th November 2013). Both contracts are underway and TWUL will share and discuss the proposed programmes for both phases of work with HBMCE, City of London and LB Southwark as soon as possible.

1.3.4 In terms of broad timescales, the following is anticipated:

Evaluation	Anticipated timescale
1: Land-based evaluation ie, boreholes/trial trenches	Ongoing (eg, geotechnical borehole monitoring is underway; monitoring of geotechnical trenches underway), with the first tranche of archaeological trial trenches due to occur in Q1 2014 (Chambers Wharf, Hammersmith Pumping Station and Greenwich Pumping Station), with trench work ongoing across sites up to six months prior to start of construction (construction is due to commence in early 2016 at certain sites, with commencement at other sites staggered after this date).
2a: Foreshore evaluation (eg, foreshore surveys, condition monitoring, finds/sampling, vibrocore analysis, recommendations for any further work eg, geophysical/riverbed survey, preparation of evaluation reports for foreshore)	Summer 2013 – through to mid 2014 (tide dependant), with repeat foreshore surveys on-going
2b: Any further foreshore evaluation eg, geophysical/riverbed survey (this would be dependent on findings of 2a)	From late 2013 through 2014 (noting licenses, appointment of specialists, tidal conditions)

1.3.5 Given the complexities of the project and number of sites involved, it is nevertheless possible that some aspects of evaluation could be subject to unavoidable delays for reasons outside of TWUL’s control. For example relating to site access or other unforeseen circumstances. Therefore TWUL cannot commit to completing this phase of work within a specified

timeframe, but again we reiterate that we are keen to work closely with stakeholders to agree and report on a programme of evaluation, and to provide regular progress updates for review with stakeholders.

- 1.3.6 In terms of archaeological mitigation, the intention, as far as practicable, is to undertake mitigation works in the areas of major impact (i.e. shafts, culverts and chambers) ahead of main construction commencing. This will depend on factors such as site access and technical factors, for example, where deep excavation may be required close to the river wall it would not be feasible to undertake this ahead of the main construction phase. The intention therefore is to undertake early mitigation, as far as practicable, at the following sites:
- a. Barn Elms
 - b. King George's Park
 - c. Falconbrook Pumping Station
 - d. Hammersmith Pumping Station
 - e. Chelsea Embankment Foreshore (in area of land based connection culvert, Interception and Overflow Weir Chamber)
 - f. Greenwich Pumping Station.
- 1.3.7 At all sites, a time allowance has been incorporated into the project construction programme to allow excavation to take place, if required on the basis of evaluation findings e.g. time allowances for excavation as shafts are sunk. At foreshore sites, a time allowance has been included for archaeological excavation within cofferdams, subject to the findings of evaluation.
- 1.3.8 In order to support a collaborative approach to the planning of archaeological works through engagement with stakeholders, as per the commitment in the OAWSI (see section 11.2 Consultation), we propose to undertake the following:
- a. Utilise a pro forma for providing regular updates on archaeological work undertaken and planned. It is proposed that this is provided on a monthly basis, until such time as a more frequent report would be beneficial (to be agreed with stakeholders); if there are periods where no works of archaeological relevance are taking place reports would not be provided. A template will be circulated for comment in January 2014.
 - b. Establish a programme of progress meetings with key stakeholders to provide updates on work undertaken, findings of this, and forthcoming work. A series of dates for the pre-construction phase will be circulated in January 2014.
 - c. Provide programme information on timeframes for evaluation, and high level information on timeframes built into construction phase programmes for archaeological mitigation. This information will be provided as soon as possible.
 - d. Develop an online document store, to ensure all relevant stakeholders can access the most up-to-date archaeological documentation (Site

Specific Archaeological Written Schemes of Investigation, Evaluation Reports etc). This will be developed in due course, and progress on this will be provided to stakeholders.

- 1.3.9 It is considered that the above approach represents a credible and collaborative approach to defining and delivering archaeological works.

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