

Richard Allen Planning Inspectorate (via email) Contact: Ann Biggs

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Dear Richard

## Southampton to London Pipeline Rule 6 Letter – Response to Draft Examination Timetable

We are in receipt of the Rule 6 letter in respect of the Southampton to London Pipeline (SLP) scheme accepted by the Planning Inspectorate under the Development Consent Order regime.

As a host authority for the route, Spelthorne Borough Council has confirmed its attendance at the Preliminary Meeting to be held on 9 October 2019. We wish to give advance notice to the Examining Authority that we will be raising the following matter at meeting.

It appears from the Draft Examination Timetable that the hearings are proposed to be topic-based, covering issues along the length of the route. It is the view of Spelthorne and the other host authorities in Surrey (Runnymede Borough Council, Surrey Heath Borough Council and Surrey County Council) that it would be more practical and productive if the hearings were organised geographically, so that each hearing covered a section of the route with all relevant issues relating to a given section being heard on that day. This would allow for matters to be discussed at greater depth and would be more practical for attendees and participants. We also suggest that the hearings themselves be conducted at a location close to the section of the route being heard on that day and Runnymede BC have offered its council chamber as a potential venue for a hearing covering the northern section of the route.

We hope you agree that this would be a pragmatic solution to dealing with a linear scheme that will extend through multiple boroughs and districts for some 90km.

I am happy to discuss this further with you but will be at the Preliminary Meeting in any case.

Yours sincerely



Ann Biggs Strategic Planning Manager