



# The Planning Inspectorate

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Kevin Ludden

Your Ref:

Our Ref: TR010034

Date: 22 July 2021

**By email only**

Dear Mr Ludden

Thank you for contacting the Planning Inspectorate about the application by Highways England for an order granting development consent for the A57 Link Roads scheme (formally the Trans Pennine Upgrade Programme).

## The Acceptance stage

The application was submitted on 28 June 2021 and the Acceptance decision must be taken on or before 26 July 2021. The decision will be published on the project webpage, here:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/north-west/a57-link-roads-previously-known-as-trans-pennine-upgrade-programme/?ipcsection=docs>

If the application is accepted, the following documents will also be published on the project webpage:

- The application documents (if they are not already published)
- Any Adequacy of Consultation Representations submitted by relevant local authorities.
- The Planning Inspectorate's acceptance checklist.

## The Acceptance tests

Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 states that an application can be accepted provided:

- it is an application for an order granting development consent;
- that development consent is required for any of the development to which the application relates;
- the Applicant has, in relation to a proposed application that has become the application, complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure); **and**
- that the application (including accompaniments) is of a standard that the Secretary of State considers satisfactory.

The following must be considered when making the decision:

- a) The Consultation Report received with the application.
- b) Any Adequacy of Consultation Representations received by the Planning Inspectorate from a local authority consultee.
- c) The extent to which the Applicant has had regard to government guidance.

If you have sent comments about the **Pre-application consultation**, these can be considered in addition to the statutorily required acceptance tests when making the decision about whether or not to accept the application. However, it will be for the decision maker (the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State) to decide the weight to give to the views expressed based on the individual facts of the case.

If you have sent comments about the **merits of the Proposed Development** (eg setting out support for or objection to the principle of the Proposed Development) these cannot be considered at the acceptance stage. If the application is accepted for examination, in order to make comments about the merits of the Proposed Development to an appointed Examining Authority, you will need to register as an Interested Party by making a Relevant Representation at the appropriate time. For more information about how and when you can have your say, please see our Advice Note 8.2: How to register to participate in an Examination:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/legislation-and-advice/advice-notes/>

Kind regards

The A57 Link Roads Case Team

This communication does not constitute legal advice.

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