



Planning Inspectorate
Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

Section 55

Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Version: December 2024

A46 Coventry Junctions (Walsgrave) Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Relevant sections of the Planning Act 2008 can be viewed at legislation.gov.uk, here: <http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/>

All other secondary legislation referred to in this checklist is searchable, here: <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/>

DISCLAIMER: This Checklist is a non-statutory checklist for the Planning Inspectorate to complete. Completion or self-assessment by the Applicant does not hold weight at the Acceptance stage. Unless specified, all references to the Planning Inspectorate are made in relation to functions being carried out on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government.

| Section 55(2) Acceptance of Applications | | | | |
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| 1 | Within 28 days (starting day after receipt) the Planning Inspectorate must decide whether or not to accept the application for Examination. | Date received | 28-day due date | Date of decision |
| | | 14 November 2024 | 12 December 2024 | 12 December 2024 |
| Section 55(3) – the Planning Inspectorate may only accept an application if it concludes that: | | Planning Inspectorate comments | | |
| Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c): It is an application for an order granting development consent | | | | |
| 2 | In accordance with sections(s) 14 to 30 of the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), is the development a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that, in accordance with s31 of the PA2008, it is an application for a Development Consent Order (DCO) under the PA2008, or equivalent words? Does the application specify the development to | <p>Yes</p> <p>The Proposed Development set out in Schedule 1 of the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1) includes development falling within the categories in s14 of the PA2008. The development is for the construction of an alteration to a Highway and satisfies Section 14(1)(h) of the PA2008 as well as 22(1)(b), 22(3) and 22(4)(b).</p> <p>This is consistent with the summary provided in section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.1) which states that the application is for an NSIP.</p> <p>Section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.1) states:</p> | | |

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| | <p>which it relates (i.e. which category or categories in s14 to 30 does the Proposed Development fall)?</p> <p>If the development does not fall within the categories in s14 to 30, has a direction been given by the Secretary of State under s35 of the PA2008 for the development to be treated as development for which development consent is required?</p> | <p>“The Scheme is defined as an NSIP under the Planning Act 2008 by virtue of the fact that it meets the following conditions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the highway is wholly in England the Applicant as a strategic highways company, will be the highway authority for the highway the area of land on which the highway is to be altered and any adjoining land expected to be used in connection with its alteration, is greater than the limit of 12.5 hectares; and the speed limit for any class of vehicle on the highway is to be 50 miles per hour or greater.” |
| 3 | Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c) | The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Draft DCO (Doc 3.1) includes development for which development consent is required. |
| Section 55(3)(e): The Applicant in relation to the application made has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure) | | |
| 4 | In accordance with Regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (the EIA Regulations), did the Applicant (prior to carrying out consultation in accordance with s42) either (a) request the Planning Inspectorate adopt a Screening Opinion in respect of the development to which the application relates, or (b) notify the Planning Inspectorate in writing that it proposed to provide an Environmental Statement in respect of that development? | <p>Yes</p> <p>On 30 June 2023 the Applicant notified the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with Regulation 8(1)(b) of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 of its intention to provide an Environmental Statement (ES) in respect of the Proposed Development. The notification was received before the start of statutory consultation on 25 October 2023.</p> <p>A copy of the notification letter is provided at Annex B1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2).</p> |
| 5 | Have any Adequacy of Consultation Representations been received from ‘A’, ‘B’, ‘C’ | Yes |

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| | <p>and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they confirm that the Applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?</p> <p>Section 55(4) of the PA2008 provides that the Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the Consultation Report, and any Adequacy of Consultation Representations received.</p> | <p>There are 18 host and neighbouring authorities, of which 7 responded to the Planning Inspectorate's invitation to make an Adequacy of Consultation Representation (AoCR) dated 14 November 2024.</p> <p>All 7 responding authorities confirmed in their AoCR that either the Applicant had complied with its duties under s42, s47 and s48 of the PA2008 and/ or that their authority had no comments/ objections to make. These local authorities were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • North Warwickshire Borough Council (A authority) • Stratford-on-Avon District Council (A authority) • Coventry City Council (B authority) • Rugby Borough Council (B authority) • Warwickshire County Council (C authority) • Leicestershire County Council (D authority) • Staffordshire County Council (D authority) <p>All AoCRs received have been carefully considered and are available to view on the National Infrastructure Planning website: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/TR010066/documents</p> |
| Section 42: Duty to consult | | |
| Did the Applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application? | | |
| 6 | <p>Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed?</p> <p>The persons prescribed are the statutory consultees set out in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed</p> | <p>Yes</p> <p>The Applicant has provided a list of persons consulted under s42(1)(a) on 25 October 2024 at Annex G of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2).</p> |

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| | Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations). | <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(a) consultees is provided at Annex H of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate has identified the following parties based on a precautionary interpretation of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (the APFP Regulations) that were not consulted by the Applicant under s42:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ESP Pipelines Ltd <p>The Applicant's Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) does not explain why the bodies identified above have not been consulted. However, it is noted that the licences held by these bodies cover Great Britain or various smaller areas and the operational areas of each are not clear from information in the public domain.</p> <p>None of the bodies listed above have been identified by the Applicant as having an interest in the Order lands and are not listed in the Book of Reference (Doc 4.3).</p> <p>Section 51 advice has been issued to the Applicant in respect of the above matter: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/TR010066</p> |
| 7 | <p>Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management Organisation(MMO)?</p> <p>The MMO must be consulted in any case where the Proposed Development would affect, or would be likely to affect, any of the areas specified in s42(2) of the PA2008.</p> | n/a |
| 8 | <p>Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43?</p> <p>Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application</p> | Yes |

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| | <p>land is in the authority's area; the 'A' authority where any part of the boundary of A's area is also a part of the boundary of B's area; the 'C' authority (upper tier) where the application land is in that authority's area; the 'D' authority (upper tier) where such an authority shares a boundary with a 'C' authority.</p> | <p>Table 4-4 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) lists the relevant local authorities that were identified and consulted under s43 and s42(1)(b) on 25 October 2024.</p> <p>The host 'B' authority was consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Coventry City Council • Rugby Borough Council <p>The host 'C' authority was consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warwickshire County Council <p>The boundary 'A' authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hinkley and Bosworth Borough Council • Harborough District Council • Blaby District Council • North Warwickshire Borough Council • Warwick District Council • Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council • Stratford-on-Avon District Council • West Northamptonshire Council • Solihull Metropolitan Borough Council • Birmingham City Council <p>The boundary 'D' authorities were consulted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Worcestershire County Council • Oxfordshire County Council |
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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leicestershire County Council • Staffordshire County Council • Gloucestershire County Council <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42(1)(b) relevant authorities is provided at Annex H of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> |
| 9 | Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)? | n/a |
| 10 | <p>Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44 categories?</p> <p>Category 1: owner, lessee, tenant or occupier of land; Category 2: person interested in the land or has power to sell and convey the land or to release the land; Category 3: persons who would or might be entitled to make a relevant claim.</p> | <p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 4.3.7 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that a letter was sent to all section 42 prescribed consultees on 24 October 2023 via post.</p> <p>Paragraph 4.3.8 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that a letter was sent to all section 42(1)(d) Category 1 and Category 2 land interests.</p> <p>Paragraph 4.3.9 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that the Applicant became aware of Category 3 land interests for the Scheme after the consultation period had begun. Paragraph 4.3.10 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that letters were sent to Category 3 land interests on 9 November 2023 and set a deadline of 22 December 2023 for the submission of consultation feedback.</p> <p>Paragraph 4.3.4 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that the methodology used for identifying land interests as defined in section 42(1)(d) and section 44 of the 2008 Act is detailed in the Statement of Reasons. The full methodology undertaken by the Applicant is provided in sections 4.4, 4.5 and 4.6 of the Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.1).</p> <p>A sample of the letter is provided at Annex H of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2).</p> |

| Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation | | |
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| 11 | Did the Applicant notify s42 consultees of the deadline for receipt of consultation responses; and if so was the deadline notified by the Applicant 28 days or more starting with the day after receipt of the consultation documents? | <p>Yes</p> <p>A sample of the letter sent to s42 consultees is provided at Annex H of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>The sample letter dated 24 October 2023 confirmed that consultation commenced on 25 October 2023 and closed on 6 December 2023, providing more than the required minimum time for receipt of responses.</p> |
| Section 46: Duty to notify the Planning Inspectorate of proposed application | | |
| 12 | Did the Applicant supply information to notify the Planning Inspectorate of the proposed application; and if so, was the information supplied to the Planning Inspectorate on or before the date it was sent to the s42 consultees? Was this done on or before commencing consultation under s42? | <p>Yes</p> <p>The Applicant gave notice under s46 on 19 October 2023, which was before the beginning of s42 consultation. A further notice was provided to the Planning Inspectorate on 9 November 2023 following the identification of parties that had not been previously identified.</p> <p>A copy of the s46 notification letters are provided at Annex I of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and a copy of s46 notification acknowledgement letter from the Planning Inspectorate is provided at Annex I of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> |
| Section 47: Duty to consult local community | | |
| 13 | Did the Applicant prepare a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) on how it intended to consult people living in the vicinity of the land? | <p>Yes</p> <p>A copy of the final SoCC is provided at Annex E of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> |
| 14 | Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if | Yes |

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| | so, was the deadline for receipt of responses 28 days beginning with the day after the day that 'B' and, where applicable, 'C' authorities received the consultation documents? | The Applicant sent the draft SoCC to Coventry City Council, Rugby Borough Council ('B authorities') and Warwickshire County Council ('C' authority) on 19 July 2023 and set a deadline of 17 August 2023 for responses; providing more than the required minimum time for responses to be received. |
| 15 | Has the Applicant had regard to any responses received when preparing the SoCC? | <p>Yes</p> <p>Annex D of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2) provides the full responses received from Coventry City Council, Rugby Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council in respect of the draft SoCC.</p> <p>Table 4-1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2) provides a summary of the responses received from Coventry City Council, Rugby Borough Council and Warwickshire County Council in respect of the draft SoCC and demonstrates how the Applicant had regard to their content.</p> <p>Examples of changes from the draft SoCC to the final SoCC include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removal of reference to the terms 'hard to reach' and 'seldom heard' • Mention of consultation specifically with businesses • Addition of events in Binley Woods, Ansty or Brinklow • Map including event locations, deposit locations and the consultation zone • Offer of special briefing sessions with members and senior officers <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant had regard to the responses received when preparing the SoCC.</p> |
| 16 | Has the SoCC been made available for inspection on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the | <p>Yes</p> <p>The final SoCC was made available at the following locations, which is reasonably convenient having regard to the location of the Proposed Development:</p> |

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| | vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected? | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Caludon Castle School and Community Library • Coventry Council House • Rugby Borough Council Town Hall • Warwickshire County Council Shire Hall • Willenhall Library • Wolston Library and Information Centre <p>A notice stating when and where the final SoCC could be inspected was published in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • London Gazette, 19 October 2023 • Coventry Observer, 20 October 2023 & 27 October 2023 • Rugby Observer, 20 October 2023 & 27 October 2023 • The Times, 20 October 2023 <p>The published SoCC notice, provided at Annex F of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2) states where and when the final SoCC was available to inspect.</p> <p>Clippings of the published advertisements are provided at Annex F of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2).</p> |
| 17 | In accordance with Regulation 12 of the EIA Regulations, does the SoCC set out whether the development is EIA development; and does it set out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information? | <p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 3.7 of the final SoCC at Annex E of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) sets out that the development is EIA development and sets out how the Applicant intended to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information.</p> |

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| 18 | Has the Applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC? | <p>Yes</p> <p>Paragraph 4.5.15 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that the community consultation was carried out in line with the final SoCC.</p> <p>Table 4-9 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) set out how the community consultation was carried out in line with the final SoCC.</p> <p>Annex J and M of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2) provide evidence that the commitments within the final SoCC have been carried out.</p> |
| Section 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application | | |
| 19 | Did the Applicant publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 4(2) of the (as amended) APFP Regulations 2009? | <p>Yes</p> <p>Table 6-1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states:</p> <p><i>“The Applicant publicised the proposed application in fulfilment of Section 48 of the 2008 Act by publishing a notice nationally in The Times on 19 October 2023, as well as in the London Gazette on 19 October 2023. The notice was published twice locally in the Coventry Observer and Rugby Observer on 20 October 2023 and 27 October 2023.”</i></p> <p>Table 4-3 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) displays the newspapers and dates of s48 publicity as set out below.</p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice is provided at Annex F of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2).</p> <p>Clippings of the published notices set out below are provided at Annex F of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2):</p> |
| Newspaper(s) | | Date |

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| a) | for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the Proposed Development would be situated; | <ul style="list-style-type: none">Coventry ObserverRugby Observer | 20 October 2023 & 27 October 2023 |
| b) | once in a national newspaper; | <ul style="list-style-type: none">The Times | 20 October 2023 |
| c) | once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and | <ul style="list-style-type: none">London Gazette | 19 October 2023 |
| d) | where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal? | n/a | n/a |
| 20 | Did the s48 notice include the required information set out in Regulation 4(3) of the (as amended) APFP Regulations 2009? | Yes The published s48 notice, supplied at Annex F of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2) , contains the required information as set out below: | |
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| Information | | Paragraph | |
| a) | the name and address of the Applicant. | 1 | |
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| c) | a statement as to whether the application is EIA development | 5 | |
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| Information | | Paragraph | |
| b) | a statement that the Applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State | 1 | |
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| d) | a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the Proposed Development | 3 | |
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| e) | a statement that the documents, plans and maps were available on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant. The statement must include: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• The nature and location of the Proposed Development• The address of the website• The place on the website• A telephone number which can be used to contact the Applicant for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps. | 9 | f) | the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection | 8 |
| g) | whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge | 10 | h) | details of how to respond to the publicity | 7 |
| i) | a deadline for receipt of those responses by the Applicant, being not less than 28 days following the date when the notice is last published | 8 | | | |
| 21 | Are there any observations in respect of the s48 notice provided above? | | | | |
| | Yes There are no paragraph numbers. | | | | |
| 22 | Has a copy of the s48 notice been sent to the EIA consultation bodies and to any person | Yes | | | |

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| | notified to the Applicant in accordance with Regulation 13 of the EIA Regulations? | <p>A copy of the s48 notice was sent to the EIA consultation bodies as part of the s42 consultation, as confirmed in paragraph 4.3.1 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1).</p> <p>A sample of the s42 consultation letter provided at Annex H of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) confirms a copy of the s48 notice was enclosed.</p> |
| s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity | | |
| 23 | Has the Applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation? | <p>Yes</p> <p>Annex M of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.2) sets out how the Applicant had regard to the consultation responses received; including whether or not responses led to changes to the application.</p> <p>The actions informed by the consultation responses appear to be reflected in the final form of the application as submitted. Where a particular response has not led to a change in the application, it is sufficiently clear that regard was had to it.</p> |
| S50(3) Regard to guidance about pre-application procedure | | |
| 24 | <p>To what extent has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Pre-application stage for Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects'?</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the Applicant has had regard to guidance issued under s50.</p> | <p>Chapter 6 of the Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) states that the Applicant has taken into consideration all relevant statutory and other guidance.</p> <p>Having reviewed the application, the Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant has identified and had regard to the relevant statutory guidance.</p> |
| 25 | Summary: Section 55(3)(e) | The Applicant has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure) of the PA2008. |

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| | | In respect of the minor consultation discrepancies identified, s51 advice has been provided to the Applicant in this regard, available here: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010066-000254 |
| s55(3)(f) and s55(5A): The application (including accompaniments) achieves a satisfactory standard having regard to the extent to which it complies with section 37(3) (form and contents of application) and with any standards set under section 37(5) and follows any applicable guidance under section 37(4) | | |
| 26 | Is it made in the prescribed form as set out in Schedule 2 of the APFP Regulations, and does it include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate; and a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it is a linear scheme? | <p>Yes</p> <p>Section 4 of the Application Form (Doc 1.1) explains why the development falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>Section 5 of the Application Form (Doc 1.1) provides a brief non-technical description of the site and section 6 provides the location of the Proposed Development.</p> <p>A Location Plan (Doc 2.1) has been provided.</p> |
| 27 | Is it accompanied by a Consultation Report? | <p>Yes</p> <p>The application is accompanied by a Consultation Report (Doc 5.1) and Consultation Report Appendices (Doc 5.2).</p> |
| 28 | In accordance with Regulation 5(4) of the APFP Regulations, where a plan comprises three or more separate sheets, has a key plan been provided showing the relationship between the different sheets? | Yes |
| 29 | Is it accompanied by the documents and information set out in APFP Regulation 5(2)? | The documents and information required by APFP Regulation 5(2) are set out in the documents and locations within the application as listed below: |

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| Information | | Document | |
| a) | Where applicable, the Environmental Statement required under the EIA Regulations and any scoping or screening opinions or directions | The Application is accompanied by: Environmental Statement (Doc 6.1) Environmental Statement Figures (Doc 6.2) Environmental Statement Appendices (Doc 6.3) Non-Technical Summary (Doc 6.4) Scoping Opinion (Doc 6.9) | |
| | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30) | |
| c) | An Explanatory Memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO | Explanatory Memorandum (Doc 3.2) | |
| Information | | Document | |
| b) | The draft Development Consent Order (DCO) | Draft Development Consent Order (Doc 3.1) | |
| | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes | |
| d) | Where applicable, a Book of Reference | Book of Reference (Doc 4.3) | |

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| e) | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes | f) | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes |
| | A copy of any Flood Risk Assessment | Environmental Statement - Appendix 13.1 Flood Risk Assessment (Doc 6.3) | | A statement whether the proposal engages one or more of the matters set out in section 79(1) of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 (statutory nuisances) and if so how the Applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them | Statement Relating to Statutory Nuisance (Doc 6.6) |
| | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30 and s51 advice) | | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes |
| h) | A Statement of Reasons and a Funding Statement (where the application involves any Compulsory Acquisition) | Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.1) Funding Statement (Doc 4.2) | i) | A Land Plan identifying:- (i) the land required for, or affected by, the Proposed Development; (ii) where applicable, any land over which it is proposed to exercise powers of Compulsory | Land Plans (Doc 2.2) |

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| | | | | <p>Acquisition or any rights to use land;</p> <p>(iii) any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements, servitudes and other private rights; and</p> <p>(iv) any special category land and replacement land</p> | |
| | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in Box 30 and s51 advice) | | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes |
| j) | <p>A Works Plan showing, in relation to existing features:-</p> <p>(i) the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and</p> | Works Plans (Doc 2.4) | k) | <p>Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation</p> | Rights of Ways and Access Plans (Doc 2.4) |

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| | (ii) the limits within which the development and works may be carried out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO | | | | |
| | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes | | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes |
| l) | <p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:-</p> <p>(i) any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation eg sites of geological or landscape importance;</p> <p>(ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and</p> <p>(iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan,</p> | <p>(i) ES Figure 8.1 - Designated Sites, Priority Habitats, Ancient Woodland and Veteran Trees (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Appendix 8.12, Figure 2 - Habitats Regulations Assessment Report (Doc 6.3)</p> <p>The assessment of effects is contained within:</p> <p>ES Chapter 8 – Biodiversity – (Doc 6.1)</p> | m) | <p>Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory or non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment, (eg scheduled monuments, World Heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields) together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures likely to be caused by the Proposed Development</p> | <p>ES Figure 6.1 – Designated Heritage Assets (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 6.2 – Non-Designated Heritage Assets (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 6.3 – Heritage Events – (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 6.4 – Historic Building Recording – Location Plan (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>The assessment of effects is contained within:</p> <p>ES Chapter 6 – Cultural Heritage – (Doc 6.1)</p> |

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| | <p>together with an assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the Proposed Development</p> | <p>ES Appendix 8.12 - Habitats Regulations Assessment Report (Doc 6.3)</p> <p>(ii) As above</p> <p>(iii) ES Figure 13.1 – Surface Water Features (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 13.2 – WFD Surface Waterbody Catchments (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>ES Figure 13.5 – WFD Groundwater bodies (Doc 6.2)</p> <p>Assessment of effects is contained within:</p> <p>ES Chapter 13 – Road Drainage and Water Environment (Doc 6.1)</p> | | | |
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| n) | | <p>ES Appendix 13.2 - Water Framework Directive Compliance Assessment – (Doc 6.3)</p> <p>ES Appendix 13.3 - Water Quality Assessment (Doc 6.3)</p> <p>ES Appendix 13.4 Groundwater Assessment (Doc 6.3)</p> <p>(iv) ES Appendix 13.5 - Hydromorphological Report (Doc 6.3)</p> | o) | | |
| | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes | | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes |
| | Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land | Special Category Land and Crown Land Plans (Doc 2.3) | | Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal showing details of | <p>Location Plan (Doc 2.1)</p> <p>Classification of Roads (Doc 2.10)</p> <p>Hedgerow and Tree Plans (Doc 2.11)</p> <p>Works Plans (Doc 2.3)</p> |

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| p) | | | q) | design, external appearance, and the preferred layout of buildings, structures, drainage, surface water management, means of vehicular and pedestrian access, any car parking and landscaping | Engineering Drawings and Sections (Doc 2.5A) Engineering Drawings and Sections (Doc 2.5B) General Arrangement (Doc 2.6) Drainage and Surface Water Plans (Doc 2.7) Special Category Land Plans (Doc 2.8) Traffic Regulation Plans (Doc 2.9) |
| | Is this of a satisfactory standard? | Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30) | | Are they of a satisfactory standard? | Yes (with minor discrepancies as noted in box 30) |
| | Any of the documents prescribed by Regulation 6 of the APFP Regulations: | Engineering Drawings and Sections Part A (Doc 2.5) Engineering Drawings and Sections Part B (Doc 2.5) General Arrangements (Doc 2.6) | | Any other documents considered necessary to support the application | Introduction to the Application (Doc 1.3) Consents and Agreements Position Statement (Doc 3.3) First Iteration Environmental Management Plan (Doc 6.5) Pre-commencement Plan (Doc 6.7) Case for the Scheme (Doc 7.1) National Networks National Policy Statement Accordance Tables (Doc 7.2) |

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| | | Drainage and Surface Water Plans (Doc 2.7) | | | Transport Assessment (Doc 7.3) Scheme Design Report (Doc 7.4) Outline Traffic Management Plan (Doc 7.5) Equality Impact Assessment (Doc 7.6) Potential Main Issues for the Examination (Doc 7.7) |
| | Are they of a satisfactory standard? | Yes | | Are they of a satisfactory standard? | Yes |
| 30 | <p>Are there any observations in respect of the documents provided at Box 29 (a) to (q) above?</p> <p>Plans</p> <p>The Applicant should ensure that all key features are clearly identified on plans. For example, on the Special Category Land Plans (Doc 2.8), plots 2/2 and 2/1e not clearly identified as open space land. Also, in General Arrangement (Doc 2.6), the proposed maintenance layby and Hungerley Farm Overbridge are not clearly identified.</p> <p>Statement of Reasons (Doc 4.1)</p> <p>Plots 2/2 and 2/1e should appear in the last line of the table as open space land only to be compulsorily acquired for a temporary purpose.</p> <p>Environmental Statement - Appendix 7.1 – ZTV and Verified Photomontage Methodology (Doc 6.3)</p> <p>The cover page for the Environmental Statement Appendix 7.1 ZTV and Verified Photomontage Methodology has been incorrectly labelled as 6.1 instead of 6.3.</p> <p>Environmental Statement – Appendix 13.1 – Flood Risk Assessment (Doc 6.3)</p> <p>Whilst it is noted that the exception test appears to consider the requirements of Flood Zone 3b, the FRA does not provide specific information to differentiate between land within Flood Zones 3a and 3b (See accompanying s51 advice).</p> | | | | |

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| | <p>Section 51 advice has been issued to the Applicant in respect of the above matters: https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/document/TR010066-000254</p> | |
| 31 | <p>In accordance with Regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP Regulations, is the application accompanied by a report identifying any European site(s) to which Regulation 48 of The Conservation (Natural Habitats, &c.) Regulations 1994 applies; or any Ramsar site(s), which may be affected by the Proposed Development, together with sufficient information that will enable the Secretary of State to make an appropriate assessment of the implications for the site if required by Regulation 48(1)?</p> | <p>Yes</p> <p>A Habitat Regulations Assessment (HRA) Report is provided at Appendix 8.12 of the Environmental Statement (Doc 6.3).</p> <p>The HRA Report identifies relevant European sites and the likely effects on those sites. It is considered that the information provided in the report is adequate for acceptance.</p> <p>Note: The Examining Authority will be able to ask questions during the Examination. This may result in additional information being required to inform the HRA Report and the competent authority. Depending upon the type and availability of information required it may not be possible to obtain this during the statutory timetable of the Examination.</p> |
| 32 | <p>In accordance with Regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP Regulations, if requested by the Planning Inspectorate, have two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans been provided?</p> | <p>No hard copies requested.</p> |
| 33 | <p>Has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance'?</p> | <p>Yes</p> <p>Section 3 of the Covering Letter (Doc 1.2) explains how the Applicant has had regard to statutory guidance on the form of the application.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate is satisfied that the Applicant has demonstrated regard to the guidance principles.</p> |

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| 34 | Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A) | <p>The Planning Inspectorate concludes that the application (including accompaniments) has been prepared to a standard that it considers satisfactory.</p> <p>In respect of the discrepancies identified in Box 30 of this checklist, to help facilitate an efficient and effective examination of the application s51 advice has been provided to the Applicant in conjunction with the decision to accept the application. That advice is published on the National Infrastructure Planning website, here: https://national-infrastructure-consenting.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/TR010066</p> |
| The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 (as amended) | | |
| Pre-application fee | | |
| 35 | <p>Were all pre-application fees paid before the application was made?</p> <p>Pre-application services for which a fee can be charged is defined in Regulation 2A(8) and includes services listed within Schedule 1 of the Fees Regulations 2010. Fees for pre-application services apply to all proposed applications, from the inception meeting. These fees must be paid within 28 days of the invoice. If the applicant fails to pay the fee within 28 days, the Planning Inspectorate will not provide the applicant with any further pre-application services or take any further steps in relation to the proposed application.</p> | <p>Not applicable. The Applicant is not required to pay any pre-application fees under Regulation 2A of the Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 (as amended).</p> |
| Fees to accompany an application | | |

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| 36 | <p>Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made?</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate must charge the Applicant a fee in respect of the decision by the Planning Inspectorate under section 55 of the PA2008. If the Applicant fails to pay the fee, the Planning Inspectorate need not consider the application until payment is received. The fee must be paid at the same time that the application is made</p> | The fee was received on 08 November 2024; before the application was made. |
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| Role | Electronic signature | Date |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Case Manager | <i>Ewen Keates</i> | 12 December 2024 |
| Acceptance Inspector | <i>Richard Morgan</i> | 12 December 2024 |