



# MetroWest+

## Portishead Branch Line (MetroWest Phase 1)

TR040011

**Applicant: North Somerset District Council**

**9.74 ExA.FI.D7.V1 – Section 135 Crown consent from Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) care of Forestry Commission**

**Author: Womble Bond Dickinson (UK) LLP**

**Version: 1**

**Date: April 2021**



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Also by email: [tom.ewings@wbd-uk.com](mailto:tom.ewings@wbd-uk.com)

Your ref: RG1/TAE1/381278.1

15 April 2021

Dear Mr Ewings

**Your client: North Somerset District Council ("NSDC")**

**Property: Plots 10/10, 10/35, 11/06, 11/07, 11/31, 11/70, 11a/05, 11a/10, 11a/15, 11b/05, 11b/10, 11b/20, 11b/25, 11b/30, 11b/35, 11c/05 and 11c/10 as shown on the Crown Land Plans attached to the Application ("the Property")**

**Application for consent pursuant to section 135 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Application")**

I understand that you are instructed on behalf of NSDC in respect of the Portishead Branch Line (MetroWest Phase 1) Development Consent Order Application ("the DCO").

I am instructed to respond on behalf of the Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs care of the Forestry Commission (SoSEFRA) in respect of the DCO.

The land required for the DCO includes the Property in which the SoSEFRA has an interest and therefore constitutes Crown land as defined in section 227 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the Act").

I understand the Applicant seeks only temporary powers over the Property and there will be no permanent acquisition of SoSEFRA land under the DCO.

The Applicant has confirmed that none of the SoSEFRA's retained rights will be breached by the DCO Scheme being constructed or operated and no release is therefore being sought by NSDC. It is further understood that NSDC does not intend to acquire compulsorily any interests in Crown land which are held by the SoSEFRA. This consent is given on the condition that the rights in the deed dated 31 March 1993 benefitting SoSEFRA, and any obligations to which SoSEFRA is subject will be unaffected by the compulsory acquisition powers in the Order and SoSEFRA will be able to continue to exercise its rights over title no AV227327.

I confirm that the appropriate Crown authority (as defined in section 227 of the Act) is the SoSEFRA.

On the basis of the above, I am authorised to confirm the following:



1. The SoSEFRA hereby gives consent pursuant to section 135(2) of the Act and Article 51(1) of the DCO as drafted to the inclusion of provisions within the DCO which would apply to the Property (to the extent that they relate to the detail specified in the Application); and
2. The SoSEFRA hereby agrees to the wording of Article 51 of the DCO as drafted.

Yours sincerely,

[Redacted signature]

(MT+1)

**Mari Sibley MRICS FAAV FCILEx**

Director of Estates and Legal  
Forestry England

**Authorised signatory for and on behalf of the  
Secretary of State for the Environment, Food and Rural Affairs care of the Forestry  
Commission**



# S135 Crown Consent Letter

Final Audit Report

2021-04-19

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