Submission ID: S821D0A01

Thank you for bringing this to our attention.
Having reviewed the Examining Authority's Written Question Q1.17.17 concerning HGV routeing strategy and enforcement, Transport Policy does not consider it necessary for West Berkshire Council to become actively involved in the examination or submit a formal representation on the application overall.
However, should Cherwell District Council and Oxfordshire County Council respond to Q1.17.17, we would support robust routeing arrangements that ensure freight traffic associated with the Oxfordshire Strategic Rail Freight Interchange uses the strategic road network wherever practicable and does not migrate onto unsuitable local roads.
In particular, the examination question appropriately seeks clarification of:

- how any HGV routeing strategy will be monitored;
- whether Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) technology will be used;
- what contractual obligations will be placed on operators and occupiers;
- and what sanctions or enforcement mechanisms would apply where routeing requirements are not followed.

Given the strategic nature of the development and its likely attraction of freight traffic from a wide regional catchment, it is important that any approved routeing strategy is capable of effective monitoring and enforcement throughout the operational life of the development. Reliance solely on voluntary compliance would be unlikely to provide sufficient assurance that HGV movements remain on the intended strategic network.
Accordingly, West Berkshire Council would support planning obligations and site management arrangements that:

- require use of specified strategic routes;
- provide ongoing monitoring of HGV movements;
- utilise ANPR or equivalent technology where appropriate;
- require occupiers and freight operators to participate in route compliance measures; and
- include clear mechanisms for investigating and addressing repeated non-compliance.

Other than this general observation, West Berkshire Council has no specific comments on the application.