



Planning Services
Northamptonshire County Council
One Angel Square
Angel Street
Northampton
NN1 1ED

14 December 2017

Dear Sir/Madam,

North West Relief Road - Screening Opinion

WSP are appointed by Northamptonshire Highways to progress the design and delivery of the Northampton Northwest Relief Road including the preparation of the planning application.

We are writing to request a Screening Opinion under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 ('the EIA Regs'), in respect to the proposed development of the North West Relief Road between Dallington Grange Kings Heath development and Sandy Lane.

Description of the Project

The Northampton North West Relief Road between the A428 Harlestone Road and the A5199 Welford Road is necessary to enable and unlock further development of 6,600 houses and 3,393 jobs in Northampton and relieve pressure that already exists on the local highway network in northern Northampton and nearby villages that suffers high volumes of traffic and associated disturbance. The road will therefore improve the quality of life for existing residents and commuters and enhance the character of existing nearby villages by redirecting traffic and reducing local congestion.

The full route is approximately 2¼ miles in length with junctions at the A428, A5199 and intervening locations to access the Dallington Grange development (see Figure 1). The part of the road subject to the application will run through flood plain near the River Nene tributary crossing the Northampton Loop railway line, a length of approximately 1 mile. The rest of the road is to be delivered by the developer of the Dallington Grange housing development site to the southwest. The project forms part of wider strategy to complete the ring road around the northern sector of Northampton that will ultimately connect the A4500 Weedon Road and M1 Junction 16 in the west with the A43 Kettering Road and Kettering in the north.

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EIA Regulations

WSP has considered the Scheme under the EIA Regs and has concluded that it does not constitute an Annex I or Annex II development. The Scheme does not exceed any of the thresholds set by the EIA Regs, and is not located in a sensitive area as defined by the EIA Regs.

Consultation

Consultation is planned with following statutory consultees during the environmental assessment process:

The Forum
Barnfield Road
Exeter, Devon
EX1 1QR
Tel: +44 1392 229 700
Tel: +44 1392 229 701
wsp.com



- Northamptonshire County Council internal Officers;
- Natural England;
- English Heritage;
- Environment Agency; and
- Anglian Water.

A public consultation event was undertaken in July and August 2017 and further public engagement events will be undertaken ahead of the planning submission date.

Environmental Baseline and Type and Characteristics of Potential Impacts

The following characteristics will be assessed within the Environmental Scoping report as part of the NWRR proposed scheme;

- Air Quality;
- Noise & Vibration;
- Ecology;
- Arboriculture;
- Landscape and Visual;
- Cultural Heritage;
- Geology and Soils;
- Road Drainage and the Water Environment;
- Materials and Waste; and
- People and Communities.

Conclusion

In light of the information provided above, I should be grateful if NCC would provide a Screening Opinion within three weeks of receipt of this letter, to confirm whether an EIA is required.

Should you require further information or have any other queries regarding this Scheme, please do not hesitate to contact either: Luke.Jiggins@wsp.com or Andrew.G.Shepherd@wsp.com

Yours Faithfully

Luke Jiggins

MSc/BA (Hons)