



Northamptonshire County Council

Mr A Shepherd
ShepherdAn@pbworld.com

Please ask for: Claire Spokes
Tel: 01604 366119
Our ref: 14/00004/SCO
Your ref:
Date: 26 November 2014

Dear Andrew,

TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING (ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT) (ENGLAND AND WALES) REGULATIONS 1999: REGULATION 10 SCOPING OPINION FOR PROPOSED A43 MOULTON BYPASS

I refer to your letter received on 4 September 2014 and the accompanying scoping report. The scoping report has been the subject of consultation in accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations and copies of the responses received are attached for your information.

In accordance with the Town & Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2011, the Environmental Statement means a statement:

- a) that includes such of the information referred to in Part 1 of Schedule 4 as is reasonably required to assess the environmental effects of the development and which the applicant can, having regard in particular to current knowledge and methods of assessment, reasonably be required to compile, but
- b) that includes at least the information referred to in Part 2 of Schedule 4;

The submitted environmental statement is therefore required to be in accordance with these Regulations.

Topics proposed to be scoped into Environmental Statement

- Air Quality
- Cultural Heritage
- Ecology
- Landscape and Visual Impacts
- Noise and Vibration

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Northamptonshire
County Council

- Water and Drainage
- Geology and Soils
- Cumulative Impacts

Overall I can confirm that the approach that you are advocating in the scoping report is considered to be generally acceptable and appropriate and this is reflected in the nature of the consultation responses. I have, however, received comments and further advice from the consultation bodies. These specific points are set out in this Scoping Opinion and you are required to have regard to them. In particular I would draw your attention to the following:

Flood Risk and Water Management

I refer you to the attached response received from the Environment Agency and in particular the detailed comments and advice related to Flood Risk and surface water management including the requirement for a Flood Risk Assessment (FRA).

Ground Water and Contaminated Land

I refer you to the attached response received from the Environment Agency which agrees with the approach outlined in Section 13 of the submitted Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report but has requested that the Ground Conditions Desk Study should be submitted in support of any future planning application. Additional comments have also been provided relating to permitting and other regulations.

Cultural Heritage

The County Archaeology Advisor (CAA) considers that the Cultural Heritage section of the submitted Environmental Impact Assessment Scoping Report accurately reflects the current situation with regard to the investigations undertaken and the areas in which further archaeological survey will be required. Please refer to the attached comments from the CAA which set out the more detailed requirements in respect of further archaeological investigation, phasing and mitigation.

Landscape and Visual Impact

Please refer to the attached comments from the Council's Senior Environmental Planner, Natural England and Daventry District Council on this matter. In particular I note that the assessment should be undertaken using the most up-to-date published guidelines available and the District Council have highlighted that there needs to be explicit recognition of the protected status of a significant number of trees on Overstone Lane/The Avenue, in terms of both the baseline information and the assessment of impact.

Amenity Impacts

Please refer to the attached comments made by Northampton Borough Council's Environmental Health Officer and Daventry District Council in particular air quality and noise.

Soils and Agriculture

I refer you to the attached comments made by Natural England and Daventry District Council.

Ecology

Detailed comments regarding ecological surveys and information have been provided by Natural England and the Senior Environmental Planner at Northamptonshire County Council. In particular I note that the assessment should be undertaken using the most up-to-date published guidelines available. Please refer to these responses directly for further guidance.

Cumulative Impacts

In assessing the likely effects of the development in respect of the various topics which are scoped in for Environmental Assessment consideration should be given to any cumulative impacts. In particular there are other permitted developments nearby which if developed could give rise to significant environmental and amenity impacts. The Environmental Statement should address this possibility and the associated potential impacts.

Alternatives

An outline of the main alternatives considered should be addressed in accordance with the requirements of Schedule 4 (Part 2) of the EIA Regulations 2011.

Other Matters

I would draw your attention to the views expressed by Daventry District Council regarding early engagement with the local community and parish councils. The County Council has an adopted Statement of Community Involvement and as part of this community engagement at an early stage and before a planning application is submitted is required. I would therefore encourage this to take place at an early stage before the final scheme is prepared for submission.

There were a number of consultees who did not respond, in particular the Highway Authority, English Heritage and the local parish councils.

Should you wish to seek further clarification and assistance on the contents of this opinion please let me know.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'C. Spokes', written over a light grey rectangular background.

Claire Spokes
Development Control Officer

Enc.

Environment Agency
Daventry District Council
Northampton Borough Council (Planning)
Northampton Borough Council (Environmental Health)
Wellingborough Borough Council (Planning)
Wellingborough Borough Council (Environmental Health)
NCC Senior Environmental Planner
Natural England
NCC County Archaeological Advisor