



The Planning Inspectorate  
Yr Arolygiaeth Gynllunio

# Section 55

## Acceptance of Applications Checklist

**Appendix 3** of Advice Note Six: Preparation and submission of application documents

Version: ~~XXX~~

## Section 55 Acceptance of Applications Checklist

Section 55 of the Planning Act 2008 can be viewed at [legislation.gov.uk](http://www.legislation.gov.uk), here:

<http://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2008/29/section/55>

**DISCLAIMER:** This Checklist is for information only and is not a formal application document. It 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 Housing, Communities and Local Government.**

Section 55(2) Acceptance of Applications				
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
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	Is the development a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project <sup>1</sup> (NSIP) (or does it form part of an NSIP); and does the application state on the face of it that it is an application for a Development Consent Order <sup>2</sup> (DCO) under the Planning Act 2008 (the PA2008), or equivalent words? Does the application specify the development to which it relates (i.e. which category or categories in ss14 to 30 does the Proposed Development fall)?	<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>The Proposed Development set out in <b>Schedule 1</b> of the <b>Draft DCO (Document Reference 3.1)</b> includes development falling within the categories in section 14 of the PA2008. The Proposed Development is classified as a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) pursuant to sub-sections 14(1)(a) and 15(1) and (2) of the Act, as an onshore generating station in England with a capacity exceeding 50 megawatts (MW).</p>		

<sup>1</sup> NSIP is defined generally in s14 with the detailed thresholds for each of the specified categories being set out in ss15 to 30

<sup>2</sup> Development consent is required for development to the extent that the development is or forms part of an NSIP (s31 of the PA2008)

	If the development does not fall within the categories in ss14 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?	This is consistent with the summary provided in <b>section 4</b> of the <b>Application Form (Document Reference 1.3)</b> , which states that the application is for an NSIP.
3	<b>Summary: Section 55(3)(a) and s55(3)(c)</b>	
<b>Section 55(3)(e): The Applicant in relation to the application made has complied with Chapter 2 of Part 5 (pre-application procedure)</b>		
4	In accordance with the EIA Regulations <sup>3</sup> , 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?	<b>Yes.</b> The Applicant notified the Planning Inspectorate in accordance with Regulation 8(1)(b) of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 on 27 October 2022 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 5 May 2023.  That notification was provided within the EIA Scoping Report provided at <b>ES Appendix 4.1 EIA Scoping Report (Document Reference 6.4.4.1)</b> .
5	Have any Adequacy of Consultation Representations <sup>4</sup> been received from 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D' local authorities; and if so, do they confirm that the Applicant has complied with the duties under s42, s47 and s48?	No such representations have been received by the Applicant prior to the submission of the DCO Application. As noted in the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b> , the SoCC was made available to view on the project website, from 9 May 2023. Noting that this is after the launch of the statutory consultation period, the Applicant wrote to the local authorities to seek agreement that if the SoCC remained in the deposit location and online until the 27 June 2023 to accommodate for this delay, that that would be acceptable. The local authorities subsequently agreed, and the SoCC remained available in the deposit location and the project website until 27 June 2023.

<sup>3</sup> Regulation 8 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (2017 EIA Regulations), or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 6 of The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2009 (2009 EIA Regulations)

<sup>4</sup> 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

		It is envisaged that the Planning Inspectorate will request upon submission of the Application that relevant local authorities provide an adequacy of consultation statement, as set out in the Planning Inspectorate's Advice Note 14.
<b>Section 42: Duty to consult</b>		
Did the Applicant consult the applicable persons set out in s42 of the PA2008 about the proposed application?		
6	Section 42(1)(a) persons prescribed <sup>5</sup> ?	<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p><b>The Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.2)</b> confirms that the Applicant carried out statutory consultation between 5 May and 16 June 2023.</p> <p>The Applicant has provided a list of persons consulted under s42(1)(a) on 5 May 2023 at Appendix 5.1 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b>. A sample of the letter sent to those consultees is also provided at Appendix 5.4 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b>.</p>
7	Section 42(1)(aa) the Marine Management Organisation <sup>6</sup> ?	<b>Not applicable.</b>
8	Section 42(1)(b) each local authority within s43 <sup>7</sup> ?	<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>Paragraphs 5.4.7. – 5.4.12 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b> list the relevant local authorities which were identified under s43 and consulted, on 5 May 2023, in accordance with s42(1)(b) of the PA2008.</p> <p>The host 'B' authorities consulted were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Darlington Borough Council;</li> <li>• Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council; and</li> </ul>

<sup>5</sup> Statutory consultees set out in Schedule 1 of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009 (APFP Regulations)

<sup>6</sup> 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

<sup>7</sup> Definition of 'local authority' in s43(3) of the PA2008: The 'B' authority where the application 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

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Durham County Council</li> </ul> <p>The boundary 'A' authorities consulted were:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Cumbria County Council;</li> <li>• Cumberland Council;</li> <li>• Gateshead Council;</li> <li>• Hartlepool Borough Council;</li> <li>• Middlesborough Council;</li> <li>• North Yorkshire Council;</li> <li>• Northumberland County Council;</li> <li>• Redcar and Cleveland Borough Council;</li> <li>• Sunderland City Council;</li> <li>• Westmoreland and Furness Council; and</li> <li>• Yorkshire Dales National Park Authority.</li> </ul> <p>Please note that on 1 April 2023, a local government reorganisation took place in North Yorkshire and Cumbria. In North Yorkshire, the North Yorkshire County Council and seven district councils were combined into a unitary authority of North Yorkshire Council. As the statutory consultation launched after 1 April 2023, North Yorkshire Council was the relevant statutory consultee and was notified as an 'A' local authority, as listed above. In Cumbria, three lower tier councils and Cumbria County Council were merged to become Cumberland Council, a unitary authority. Additionally, three lower-tier councils and Cumbria County Council were merged to become Westmoreland and Furness Council, a unitary authority. The two new unitary authorities were notified as 'A' local authorities, as listed above. In error, Cumbria County Council was also notified, however it had by the time of the launch of statutory consultation, ceased to operate. For the avoidance of doubt, the relevant local authorities for North Yorkshire and Cumberland were notified in accordance with the Act.</p> <p>There are no relevant 'C' or 'D' category neighbouring authorities because all of the host local authorities are unitary.</p>
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		A sample of the letter sent to the s42(1)(b) relevant authorities on 5 May 2023 is provided at Appendix 5.4 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b> .
9	Section 42(1)(c) the Greater London Authority (if in Greater London area)?	<b>Not applicable.</b>
10	Section 42(1)(d) each person in one or more of s44 categories <sup>8</sup> ?	<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>Paragraph 5.4.21 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b> states that all persons identified under s42(1)(d) of the statutory consultation were consulted on 5 May 2023.</p> <p>Paragraphs 5.4.16 – 5.4.20 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b> outlines the methods by which the Applicant made diligent inquiry to identify and consult persons with an interest in lands affected by the <b>Draft DCO (Document Reference 3.1)</b> for the purposes of the statutory consultation. The full methodology is provided in Section 3 of the <b>Statement of Reasons (Document Reference 4.1)</b>.</p> <p>A list of those persons consulted under s42(1)(d) is provided in Appendix 5.1 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b> and a sample of the letter sent can be found in Appendix 5.4 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b>. Two persons and a utility company received their s42 notification letter six days late, on 11 May 2023. As a result, they were sent a second letter to confirm an extension of time to submit their response to the consultation, to 23 June 2023. This was to ensure that they were provided with the same six-week period as all other consultees. This approach was carried out in agreement with the LPAs.</p> <p>As detailed in section 9 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b>, further targeted consultation was carried out between 10 November 2023 and 11 December 2023, including with:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• persons with an interest in land affected by design changes (including those newly affected by minor changes to the redline boundary);</li> </ul>

<sup>8</sup> 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. There is no requirement on the Planning Inspectorate to check the accuracy of the list(s) provided or whether the Applicant has made diligent inquiry

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• persons with an affected interest in land which was not captured by the initial consultation, and which were identified through further diligent inquiry;</li> <li>• persons with a subsoil interest in highway parcels (comprising the on-road cable route) which were not included in the initial consultation</li> </ul> <p>As stated in paragraph 9.1.4 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b>, interested parties were notified and given 30 days to respond from the date after they received the letter, which is over the 28 day statutory minimum. A copy of the letters sent to persons with an interest in the land is provided in Appendices 9.1 to 9.3 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b>.</p>
<b>Section 45: Timetable for s42 consultation</b>		
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><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>Samples of the letter sent to s42 consultees as part of the statutory consultation are provided at Appendix 5.4 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b>, which confirmed that the statutory consultation started on 5 May 2023 and closed on 16 June 2023, therefore providing more than the required minimum time for receipt of responses.</p> <p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>As detailed in section 9 of the Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1), further targeted consultation was carried out between 10 November 2023 and 11 December 2023. As stated in paragraph 9.1.4 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b>, interested parties were notified by letter and given 30 days to respond from the date after they received the letter, which is over the 28 day statutory minimum.</p>
<b>Section 46: Duty to notify the Planning Inspectorate of proposed application</b>		
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><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>The Applicant gave notice under s46 on 4 May 2023, which was before the beginning of the statutory consultation which launched on 5 May 2023. A copy of the s46 notification letter, dated 4 May 2023, is provided in Appendix 5.5 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b>, and a copy of the acknowledgement of receipt</p>

		from the Planning Inspectorate is provided at Appendix 5.6 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b> .
<b>Section 47: Duty to consult local community</b>		
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?	<b>Yes.</b> The Applicant prepared a SoCC for the statutory consultation, a copy of the final SoCC is provided at Appendix 4.4 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b> .
14	Were 'B' and (where relevant) 'C' authorities consulted about the content of the SoCC; and if 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?	<b>Yes.</b> The Applicant sent the draft SoCC to Darlington Borough Council, Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council and Durham County Council on 27 February 2023, setting a deadline of 27 March 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?	<b>Yes.</b> Table 4-1 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b> provides a summary of the consultation responses from Darlington Borough Council and Durham County Council in respect of the draft SoCC, and demonstrates how the Applicant had regard to their content. It is worthwhile noting that Stockton-on-Tees Borough Council did not provide a response to the SoCC consultation.
16	Has the SoCC been made available for inspection in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land; and has a notice been published in a newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land which states where and when the SoCC can be inspected?	<b>Yes.</b> The final SoCC was made available to view at Norton Library, 87 High Street, Stockton-On-Tees TS20 1AE, which, due to closer suitable locations being under construction for the period of the consultation, was considered the closest and most reasonably convenient location for local communities. A notice stating when and where the final SoCC could be inspected was published in: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The Northern Echo on 5 May 2023;</li> <li>• The Teesside Gazette on 5 May 2023; and</li> <li>• The Darlington and Stockton Times on 10 May 2023.</li> </ul>



		Clippings of the published notices are provided at Appendix 4.5 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b> .
17	Does the SoCC set out whether the development is EIA development <sup>9</sup> ; and does it set out how the Applicant intends to publicise and consult on the Preliminary Environmental Information?	<b>Yes.</b> Section 4.2 of the final SoCC, available to view at Appendix 4.4 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b> , sets out that the development is EIA development, and confirms that the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) would be published as part of the consultation material. Section 5.5 sets out how the Applicant intended to consult on the consultation material, and section 6 sets out how those with an interest in the proposals could respond to the consultation. Section 5.6 sets out how the Applicant intended to publicise the consultation.
18	Has the Applicant carried out the consultation in accordance with the SoCC?	<b>Yes.</b> Chapter 5 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b> set out how the statutory consultation was carried out in line with the published SoCC. Additionally, Appendix 4.7 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b> sets out how the Applicant has complied with the commitments set out in the published SoCC.
<b>Section 48: Duty to publicise the proposed application</b>		
19	Did the Applicant publicise the proposed application in the prescribed manner set out in Regulation 4(2) of the APFP Regulations?	<b>Yes.</b> Paragraphs 5.4.90 – 5.4.99 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b> provides information on how the Applicant has demonstrated compliance in this regard. Additionally, table 5-5 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b> details the newspapers and dates of the s48 publicity in relation to the statutory consultation.  The Section 48 notices were first published in two local newspapers on 5 May, and a third local newspaper on 10 May. Unfortunately, publication in the national newspaper was delayed to 12 May, and the London Gazette to 15 May. Due to its weekly notice publication date falling on a Wednesday, the second publication in the final local newspaper (the Darlington and Stockton Times) took place on 17 May. The statutory requirement is that not less than 28 days should be allowed following the following the date when the notice is last published. From the last publication of the Section 48

<sup>9</sup> Regulation 12 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 10 of the 2009 EIA Regulations

		<p>notices, a 28 day period was still allowed for in the consultation period running to 16 June, as stated in the SoCC. The consultation period was brought to the local community's attention through the placing of notices in three local newspapers, together with the local mail exercise, despite the late publication of the section 48 notice in the national newspapers. This matter was reported to the LPAs and it was agreed that the objective of effective consultation under the SoCC continues to have been met, despite that late publication. A letter confirming agreement was received from Darlington Borough Council and is provided as Appendix 4.6 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b>.</p> <p>A copy of each of the respective published notices can be found in Appendix 5.8 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b>.</p>																																
<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;"></th> <th style="width: 40%;">Newspaper(s)</th> <th style="width: 55%;">Date</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td rowspan="3" style="vertical-align: top;">a)</td> <td rowspan="3">for at least two successive weeks in one or more local newspapers circulating in the vicinity in which the Proposed Development would be situated;</td> <td>Darlington and Stockton Times</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3" style="vertical-align: top;">b)</td> <td rowspan="3">once in a national newspaper;</td> <td>Northern Echo</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3" style="vertical-align: top;">c)</td> <td rowspan="3">once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and</td> <td>Teesside Gazette</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td rowspan="3" style="vertical-align: top;">d)</td> <td rowspan="3">where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal?</td> <td>The Guardian</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td>London Gazette</td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><b>Not applicable.</b></td> </tr> <tr> <td></td> <td></td> <td><b>Not applicable.</b></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				Newspaper(s)	Date	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;	Darlington and Stockton Times			b)	once in a national newspaper;	Northern Echo			c)	once in the London Gazette and, if land in Scotland is affected, the Edinburgh Gazette; and	Teesside Gazette			d)	where the proposed application relates to offshore development – (i) once in Lloyds List; and (ii) once in an appropriate fishing trade journal?	The Guardian					London Gazette			<b>Not applicable.</b>			<b>Not applicable.</b>
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20	Did the s48 notice include the required information set out in Regulation 4(3) of APFP Regulations?	<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>The s48 notice published in respect of the statutory consultation, a copy of which can be found in Appendix 5.22 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b>, contain the required information as set out in the following sections below.</p>			
Information		Paragraph	Information		Paragraph
a)	the name and address of the Applicant.	1	b)	a statement that the Applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Secretary of State	1
c)	a statement as to whether the application is EIA development	4	d)	a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the Proposed Development	1 and 2
e)	a statement that the documents, plans and maps showing the nature and location of the Proposed Development are available for inspection free of charge on a website maintained by or on behalf of the Applicant, including the address of the website; the place on the website where the documents, plans and maps may be inspected; and a telephone number which can be used to contact the Applicant for enquiries in relation to the documents, plans and maps	6	f)	the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection on the website	5
g)	whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge	6	h)	details of how to respond to the publicity	6
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	5, 7 and 9			

21	Are there any observations in respect of the s48 notice provided above?	
	No.	
22	Has a copy of the s48 notice been sent to the EIA consultation bodies and to any person notified to the Applicant in accordance with the EIA Regulations <sup>10</sup> ?	<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>A copy of the s48 notice was sent to the EIA consultation bodies as part of the statutory consultation, as confirmed in paragraph 5.4.99 of the <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b>. Samples of the s42 consultation letters issued as part of the statutory consultation are provided in Appendix 5.4 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b>, which confirm that a copy of the s48 notice was enclosed.</p>
<b>s49: Duty to take account of responses to consultation and publicity</b>		
23	Has the Applicant had regard to any relevant responses to the s42, s47 and s48 consultation?	<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>Appendices 6.1 – 6.3 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b> set out how the Applicant had regard to the consultation responses received as part of the statutory consultation, including where a response has led to a change in the Proposed Development.</p> <p><b>Yes</b></p> <p>Section 9.6 of the Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1) and appendices 9.4 and 9.5 of the <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b> set out how the Applicant had regard to the consultation responses received as part of further targeted consultation.</p>
<b>Guidance about pre-application procedure</b>		
24	To what extent has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process' <sup>11</sup> ?	As stated in the <b>Application Cover Letter (Document Reference 1.1)</b> , the Applicant has had regard to the 'Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the pre-application process' in preparing this application.

<sup>10</sup> Regulation 13 of the 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, Regulation 11 of the 2009 EIA Regulations

<sup>11</sup> The Planning Inspectorate must have regard to the extent to which the Applicant has had regard to guidance issued under s50

25	<b>Summary: Section 55(3)(e)</b>				
<b>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)</b>					
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"> <li>a brief statement which explains why it falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate; and</li> <li>a brief statement that clearly identifies the location of the application site, or the route if it is a linear scheme?</li> </ul>	<b>Yes.</b> Section 4 of the <b>Application Form (Document Reference 1.3)</b> explains why the Proposed Development falls within the remit of the Planning Inspectorate. Section 5 of the <b>Application Form (Document Reference 1.3)</b> provides a brief, non-technical description of the application site, and section 6 describes the location of the Proposed Development. A <b>Location Plan (Document Reference 2.1)</b> has been submitted as part of the application.			
27	Is it accompanied by a Consultation Report?	<b>Yes.</b> The application is accompanied by a <b>Consultation Report (Document Reference 5.1)</b> and <b>Consultation Report Appendices (Document Reference 5.2)</b> .			
28	Where a plan comprises three or more separate sheets, has a key plan been provided showing the relationship between the different sheets? <sup>12</sup>	<b>Yes.</b>			
29	Is it accompanied by the documents and information set out in APFP Regulation 5(2)?	<b>Yes.</b> The documents and information required by APFP Regulation 5(2) are set out in the documents and locations within the application as listed below:			
	<b>Information</b>	<b>Document</b>	<b>Information</b>	<b>Document</b>	
a)	Where applicable, the Environmental Statement	Non-Technical Summary (Document Reference 6.1.1)	b)	The draft Development Consent Order (DCO)	Draft Development Consent Order (Document Reference 3.1)

<sup>12</sup> Regulation 5(4) of The Infrastructure Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms and Procedure) Regulations 2009

	required under the EIA Regulations <sup>13</sup> and any scoping or screening opinions or directions	Environmental Statement (Document Reference 6.2 – 6.4) Environmental Statement Figures (Document Reference 6.3.1.1 – 6.3.13.2) Environmental Statement Appendices (Document Reference 6.4.1.1 – 6.4.13.3) EIA Scoping Opinion (Document Reference 6.4.4.2) EIA Scoping Report (Document Reference 6.4.4.1)		
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Is this of a satisfactory standard? Yes
c)	An Explanatory Memorandum explaining the purpose and effect of provisions in the draft DCO	Explanatory Memorandum (Document Reference 3.2)	d)	Where applicable, a Book of Reference (where the application involves any Compulsory Acquisition) Book of Reference (Document Reference 4.2)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Is this of a satisfactory standard? Yes
e)	A copy of any Flood Risk Assessment	ES Appendix 10.1 Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy (Document Reference 6.4.10.1)	f)	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 Statement of Statutory Nuisance (Document Reference 7.4)

<sup>13</sup> The 2017 EIA Regulations, or where Regulation 37 of the 2017 EIA Regulations applies, the 2009 EIA Regulations

			the Applicant proposes to mitigate or limit them	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes	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 (Document Reference 4.1) Funding Statement (Document Reference 4.3)	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 Acquisition or any rights to use land; (iii) any land in relation to which it is proposed to extinguish easements, servitudes and other private rights; and (iv) any special category land and replacement land	Land Plans (Document Reference 2.4) Street Works, Rights of Way and Access Plans (Document Reference 2.3)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
j)	A Works Plan showing, in relation to existing features:-	Works Plans (Document Reference 2.2)	k) Where applicable, a plan identifying any new or altered means of access, stopping up of streets or	Street Works, Rights of Way and Access Plans (Document Reference 2.3)

	(i) the proposed location or (for a linear scheme) the proposed route and alignment of the development and works; and  (ii) the limits within which the development and works may be carried out and any limits of deviation provided for in the draft DCO		roads or any diversions, extinguishments or creation of rights of way or public rights of navigation	
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
l)	Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying:-  (i) any statutory/ non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation eg sites of geological/ landscape importance;  (ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and  (iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan,  together with an assessment of any effects	The DCO Application includes plans showing statutory and non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation, important habitats, protected species and water bodies in a river basin management plan. These comprise:  (i) <i>any statutory/ non-statutory sites or features of nature conservation eg sites of geological/ landscape importance</i>  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ES Figure 2.19 Environmental Constraints Plan (Document Reference 6.3.2.19)</li> <li>• ES Figure 7.1 Landscape Context (Document Reference 6.3.7.1)</li> </ul>	m)	Where applicable, a plan with accompanying information identifying any statutory/ non-statutory sites or features of the historic environment, (eg scheduled monuments, World Heritage sites, listed buildings, archaeological sites and registered battlefields). These comprise:  <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ES Figure 2.19 Environmental Constraints Plan (Document Reference 6.3.2.19)</li> <li>• ES Figure 8.1 Order Limits, location and non-designated heritage assets (Document Reference 6.3.8.1)</li> <li>• ES Figure 8.2 - Site Area and Assets Scoped in for Detailed Assessment (Document Reference 6.3.8.2)</li> </ul>



<p>on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the Proposed Development</p>	<p><i>(ii) habitats of protected species, important habitats or other diversity features; and</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ES Figure 6.1 Designated Sites (Document Reference 6.3.6.1)</li> <li>• ES Figure 6.2 UK Habitats Survey (Document Reference 6.3.6.2)</li> <li>• ES Appendix 6.1 Preliminary Ecological Appraisal Report Confidential Appendix E – Badgers (Document Reference 6.4.6.1)</li> </ul> <p><i>(iii) water bodies in a river basin management plan,</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ES Figure 10.1 - Hydrological Features (Document Reference 6.3.10.1)</li> <li>• ES Figure 10.5 - WFD Waterbodies and Catchments (Document Reference 6.3.10.5)</li> </ul> <p>An assessment of any effects on such sites, features, habitats or bodies likely to be caused by the Proposed Development is provided in the following documents and associated appendices:</p>		<p>An assessment of any effects on such sites, features or structures likely to be caused by the Proposed Development is provided in the following documents and associated appendices:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ES Chapter 8 Cultural Heritage and Archaeology (Document Reference 6.2.8)</li> <li>• ES Appendix 8.1 Archaeological Desk Based Assessment (Document Reference 6.4.8.1)</li> <li>• ES Appendix 8.2 Historic Environment Settings Assessment (Document Reference 6.4.8.2)</li> <li>• ES Appendix 8.3 Detailed Gradiometer Survey Report (Document Reference 6.4.8.3)</li> <li>• ES Appendix 8.4 Phase 1 Evaluation Trenching Report (Document Reference 6.4.8.4)</li> </ul>
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		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ES Chapter 6 Biodiversity (Document Reference 6.2.6)</li> <li>• ES Appendix 6.7 HRA No Significant Effects Report (Document Reference 6.4.6.7)</li> <li>• ES Chapter 7 Landscape and Visual (Document Reference 6.2.7)</li> <li>• ES Chapter 10 Hydrology and Flood Risk (Document Reference 6.2.10)</li> <li>• ES Appendix 10.1 - Flood Risk Assessment and Drainage Strategy (Document Reference 6.4.10.1)</li> <li>• ES Appendix 10.2 - Water Framework Directive Assessment (Document Reference 6.4.10.2)</li> </ul>			
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Is this of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
n)	Where applicable, a plan with any accompanying information identifying any Crown land	Not applicable	o)	Any other plans, drawings and sections necessary to describe the development consent proposal showing details of design, external appearance, and the preferred layout of buildings/ structures, drainage, surface water	Street Works, Rights of Way and Access Plans (Document Reference 2.3) ES Appendix 7.7 Arboricultural Impact Assessment (Document Reference 6.4.7.7) Environmental Masterplan (Document Reference 2.5)

			management, means of vehicular and pedestrian access, any car parking and landscaping	ES Figure 2.20 Landscape Concept Masterplan (Document Reference 6.3.2.20)
	Is this of a satisfactory standard?	N/A	Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
p)	Any of the documents prescribed by Regulation 6 of the APFP Regulations:	Grid Connection Statement (Document Reference 7.5)	q)	Any other documents considered necessary to support the application
				Application Covering Letter (Document Reference 1.1) Introduction to the Application (Document Reference 1.2) Application Form (Document Reference 1.3) Section 55 Checklist (this document) (Document Reference 1.4) Application Document Tracker (Document Reference 1.5) Planning Statement (Document Reference 7.1) Policy Compliance Document (Appendix A, Document Reference 7.1.1) Design Approach Document (Document Reference 7.2) Potential Main Issues for Examination (PMIE) (Document Reference 7.6) Statutory Undertakers Position Statement (Document Reference 7.7) Mitigation Route Map (Document Reference 7.8).

	Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes		Are they of a satisfactory standard?	Yes
30	Are there any observations in respect of the documents provided at Box 29 (a) to (q) above?				
	The DCO application includes documents produced as part of the Applicant's participation in the Early Adopters' Programme, such as the Policy Compliance Document (Document Reference 7.1.1), Design Approach Document (Document Reference 7.2) and the PMIE (Document Reference 7.6). The Applicant is grateful for the opportunity to participate in the programme and for the guidance provided by PINS in producing these components of the programme.				
31	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)? <sup>14</sup>		<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>The application is accompanied by a <b>Habitats Regulations Assessment: No Significant Effects Report (Document Reference 6.4.6.7).</b></p>		
32	If requested by the Planning Inspectorate, two paper copies of the application form and other supporting documents and plans <sup>15</sup>		The Planning Inspectorate has confirmed to the Applicant that two paper copies of the application form or other application documents and plans would not be necessary.		
33	Has the Applicant had regard to statutory guidance 'Planning Act 2008: Application form guidance', and has this regard led to the application being prepared to a standard that the Planning Inspectorate considers satisfactory?		<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>The Application Cover Letter (Document Reference 1.1) confirms that the Applicant has had regard to the statutory guidance on the preparation of the application.</p>		
34	<b>Summary - s55(3)(f) and s55(5A)</b>				

### The Infrastructure Planning (Fees) Regulations 2010 (as amended)

<sup>14</sup> Regulation 5(2)(g) of the APFP Regulations

<sup>15</sup> Regulation 5(2)(r) of the APFP Regulations

Fees to accompany an application		
35	Was the fee paid at the same time that the application was made <sup>16</sup> ?	<p><b>Yes.</b></p> <p>The fee was paid via BACS transfer on 7 February 2024.</p>

Role	Electronic signature	Date
Case Manager		
Acceptance Inspector		

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<sup>16</sup> 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

