

Rudi Simpson

From: James Corbett [REDACTED]
Sent: 14 September 2023 11:47
To: Georgina Doyle
Cc: James Parker; James Bradshaw; Paul Campbell; Anabel Christmas; Briony Stenhouse; Richard Lomas; Andrew Gore; Alasdair Thorne
Subject: Land North of Normandy Way (A47), Hinckley
Attachments: RE: Land East of Stoke Road, Hinckley; Land East of Stoke Road, Hinckley; FW: Land off Stoke Road; T19595.013.pdf

Hi Georgina,

We have reviewed the latest holding response received from National Highways (NH) dated 12th September 2023.

We are very disappointed to see that NH have not commented on the additional assessment work that was presented in the updated TA (ref - T19595 Transport Assessment Rev A dated 27/06/2023) issued to support the re-submitted application (23/00432/OUT).

We have carried out extensive consultation with NH throughout the process in order to provide a robust assessment at the Dodwells/Longshoot junctions in line with their requirements, yet despite the additional information being provided, NH have failed to acknowledge this in their response despite having ample time to consider it. I've provided some background below which sets out the consultation and assessments carried out to date.

On the 18th April 2023 we held a meeting with NH, Leicestershire County Council (LCC) and Warwickshire County Council (WCC) to specifically discuss the modelling protocol for the Dodwells/Longshoot roundabout. It was agreed by all parties that the modelling should utilise the NH approved VISSIM model and be informed by traffic flow forecasts extracted from LCC's Pan Regional Transport Model. It was also agreed that it would be appropriate to use flows extracted from the recently approved Padge Hall Farm application (which utilises the PRTM) as a future year base to provide consistency between the applications and allow the Padge Hall Farm development to be treated as committed so that cumulative impacts could be taken into account.

Following the meeting a technical note was submitted to NH, LCC and WCC setting out the methodology agreed. This was submitted on the 5th May 2023 (see attached) and also formed Appendix M of the revised TA report.

Vectos (now SLR), who are an approved consultant of NH, carried out the Dodwells/Longshoot VISSIM assessment in line with the modelling protocol. The results indicated that the development would not result in significant increases in delay at this location, nevertheless a mitigation scheme was proposed as set out in drawing T19595.013. The proposed improvements scheme was also assessed through the approved VISSIM model and indicated that it would off-set the impact of the proposed development and result in a nil-detriment.

The VISSIM assessment was summarised as part of the revised TA report which was issued directly to NH on the 3rd July 2023 (see attached). It is understood this was uploaded to the planning portal on the 7th July 2023.

Furthermore, at the request of AECOM, who are acting as NH consultants, the VISSIM model files were provided to NH for review on the 2nd August 2023. In our view, it is clear that NH have been provided with sufficient information to provide a formal recommendation. However, the latest holding response appears to disregard the fact that such assessments were provided, or provide constructive critique of the assessments if for some reason they do not meet NH requirements.

Finally, the NH response also states '*The developer has expressed a view that it may be beneficial to undertake the modelling for this proposal in parallel with the modelling required for the application 23/00573/FUL. National Highways would be supportive of the modelling for the two individual sites to be undertaken in parallel as this may help to promote consistency in the evaluation of the sites*'.

To be clear, the applicant does not support this view and has never expressed this view during consultation with NH. The uncertainty log which relates to the committed developments to be included in the PRTM assessment was agreed between parties early in the process. This includes the 'Land West of Hinckley' site allocation which is currently being built out and has permission for 850 dwellings. Whilst the land for the above application (23/00573/FUL) forms part of the original 'Land West of Hinckley' allocation, it exceeds the original proposal of 850 dwellings. It is understood that this parcel is being promoted through the emerging local plan, however as this has not been adopted yet, nor does it have planning permission, in our view this should not be treated as truly committed and therefore it would not be appropriate to undertake the modelling in parallel as suggested by NH.

I trust this is of use, but please let me know if you have any queries.

Kind regards

James Corbett
Associate Director



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