

# The Statement of Community Consultation pursuant to an application for a Development Consent Order (Planning Act 2008)

on behalf of Tritax Symmetry (Hinckley) Ltd

December 2021

## 1. Introduction

- 1.1 Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange (HNRFI) comprises a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP) which is subject to the consent regime under The Planning Act 2008 (the Act). The form of development is more commonly referred to as a 'major infrastructure project'. This means that the project will need to be consented through a Development Consent Order (DCO) by the Secretary of State for Transport, rather than a grant of planning permission from the local planning authority. The construction of a rail freight interchange comprises an NSIP where each of the conditions below is expected to be met by the proposal (Section 26 of the Act):
- (3) The land on which the rail freight interchange is situated must—  
(a) be in England, and  
(b) be at least 60 hectares in area.*
  - (4) The rail freight interchange must be capable of handling—  
(a) consignments of goods from more than one consignor and to more than one consignee, and  
(b) at least 4 goods trains per day.*
  - (5) The rail freight interchange must be part of the railway network in England.*
  - (6) The rail freight interchange must include warehouses to which goods can be delivered from the railway network in England either directly or by means of another form of transport.*
  - (7) The rail freight interchange must not be part of a military establishment.'*
- 1.2 The project is being promoted by Tritax Symmetry (Hinckley) Ltd (TSH) (The Applicant), which has been established by Tritax Symmetry Ltd especially for this development proposal. Tritax Symmetry Ltd was formed following the acquisition of db symmetry by Tritax Big Box REIT plc, a FTSE 250 company, in February 2019. Tritax Symmetry Ltd has a land portfolio comprising some 4150 acres of land that is capable of accommodating 40 million sqft of logistics space.
- 1.3 Through Tritax Symmetry Ltd, TSH has become a Gold Leaf Member of the UK Green Building Council (UKGBC) committing to the low carbon agenda. The buildings will achieve net zero carbon in construction through initiatives such as funding high quality

accredited and verified offset schemes. Any offset scheme selected will be in line with the current principles set out in UKGBC's net zero framework.

- 1.4 Pre-application consultation is a key requirement for applications for a DCO for major infrastructure projects such as HNRFI. Effective pre-application consultation leads to an application which is better developed and better understood by the public, and in which the important issues have been articulated and considered as far as is possible in advance of the submission of the application to the Secretary of State.
- 1.5 Applicants for NSIPs are required (Section 47(1) of the Act) to produce a Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) to describe how they will consult the local communities about the project. Before the SoCC is published, applicants are required to consult all local authorities within whose area the project is located (S47(2)). They are then obliged to carry out consultation in accordance with the SoCC (S47(7)). Guidance published by the Government on the pre-application process can be found at <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/guidance-on-the-pre-application-process-for-major-infrastructure-projects>
- 1.6 HNRFI lies mainly within the administrative area of Blaby District. The 'A47 link' (which forms part of the proposed highway works, as described in the Project Description below) lies mainly within Blaby District and partly within Hinckley and Bosworth Borough. Some effects of the development, for example transportation and landscape and visual effects, are likely to extend over a wider area than the main HNRFI site<sup>1</sup>.
- 1.7 The SoCC is to be made available for inspection by the public in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land where development is proposed, as required by Section 47 of the Act and the Regulations<sup>2</sup>. The Guidance on the Pre-Application<sup>3</sup> process highlights that, whilst there are statutory timescales setting out minimum requirements for consultation with local authorities on the SoCC, applicants may wish to engage with local authorities over a longer period to resolve any differences about the public consultation exercise. Specifically, paragraph 38 of the Guidance provides advice to local authorities on their role when engaging in such discussions and paragraph 39 identifies topics for consideration which might be included in pre-consultation discussions. The SoCC has been prepared in consultation with the Local Authorities (listed at paragraphs 4.1 - 4.2) and TSH have had regard to the responses received.
- 1.8 Informal consultation on the preparation of the SoCC has taken place with Blaby District Council and Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council during May 2018; July 2018; July 2019; December 2020 and July 2021. Statutory consultation took place from 26<sup>th</sup> August 2021 to 24<sup>th</sup> September 2021.

<sup>1</sup> The 'main HNRFI site' refers to all of the land inside the draft DCO Order Limits between the Leicester to Hinckley railway to the north-west and the M69 motorway to the south-east, in which the proposed SRFI would be located.

<sup>2</sup> The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, The Infrastructure Planning (Applications, Prescribed Forms and Procedures) Regulations 2009 and The Infrastructure Planning (Interested Parties and Miscellaneous Prescribed Provisions) Regulations 2015.

<sup>3</sup> DCLG Planning Act 2008: Guidance on the Pre-Application Process March 2015

- 1.9 Consultation is to be appropriate to the scale and nature of the project and be geographically related to the location where the main environmental impacts from the development may be experienced. Consultation should be thorough, effective and proportionate.
- 1.10 The Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 has removed the requirement for applicants to provide hard copies of documents in public places for applications for a Development Consent Order. The documents are to be made available without charge online via a project website for HNRFI. The project website is <https://www.hinckleynrfi.co.uk/>. Notwithstanding this provision, the Authorities at paragraph 4.1 and 4.2, and the libraries referred to at paragraph 5.7 will be invited to make available for inspection a hard or electronic copy of the consultation documents including the SoCC.
- 1.11 The Local Authorities referred to at paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 will be invited to display a link to the PEIR on their individual websites, and will be notified of the publication at least five working days in advance.
- 1.12 The SoCC has been prepared on the basis that 'face-to-face' events will be held, subject to any Government health restrictions to the contrary (Covid 19), together with virtual events including a video engagement platform. Recent experience in the holding of public consultation events via digital means has achieved extensive public participation and engagement.
- 1.13 The arrangements for making documentation available via a website, and the holding of 'face to face' and virtual consultation events are described at Section 7 of this SoCC.
- 1.14 The form of community communication for the statutory consultation on HNRFI will be undertaken by a range of methods identified at Section 7 – including an extensive postal communication to all premises that lie within 3km of the main HNRFI site; the entirety of Barwell Parish, and Narborough Parish. Postal communication will be made to at least all premises located within 100m of off-site highway junctions where works may be proposed. A review of individual off-site highway works will be undertaken to establish whether any further postal communication should be undertaken to premises in a wider area. The wider postal communication with premises that may be affected by the proposed highway works is described at paragraph 7.25 (i) - (iii).

## Project Description

- 1.15 HNRFI is EIA development<sup>4</sup>. A full description of HNRFI will be provided in Chapter 3 in the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR). The proposed development will comprise the NSIP and associated development.
- 1.16 The project description is set out in the Project Summary attached as **Appendix 1**. The main features of the proposal are:
- New rail infrastructure providing access to a series of parallel sidings
  - Intermodal freight terminal ('railport') capable of accommodating up to 16 trains of up to 775m in length
  - Hard surfaces areas for container storage
  - Up to 850,000m<sup>2</sup> GIA of warehousing and ancillary buildings with a total footprint of 650,000m<sup>2</sup> & up to 200,000m<sup>2</sup> of mezzanine floorspace
  - Lorry park with welfare facilities and fuel filling station
  - Energy centre incorporating an electricity substation connected to the local electricity distribution network and a gas-fired combined heat and power plant with an electrical generation capacity of up to 10 megawatts (MW), supported by 20 MW standby generation capacity and 20MW battery capacity, fed from B8 building roof-mounted photovoltaic arrays with a generation capacity of up to 38 MWp, to provide electrical supply resilience
  - Terrain remodelling, hard and soft landscape works, amenity water features and planting
  - Noise attenuation measures – acoustic barriers up to 6m in height
  - Pedestrian, equestrian and cycle access routes and infrastructure

### M69 upgrade works

- Additional northbound and southbound slip roads
- Reconfiguration of existing roundabout and approach lanes
- New access road connecting to an internal road network serving HNRFI

### Link road from M69 junction 2 to the B4668 / A47 Leicester Road

- New rail bridge
- New junction at B4668 / A47 Leicester Road
- utility compounds, plant and service infrastructure;
- drainage works including groundwater retention ponds, underground attenuation tanks and swales. A swale is a grassed depression in the ground that provides temporary storage for storm water and reduces peak flows;
- habitat creation and enhancement and public access, including the provision of amenity open space at the south-western extremity of the SRFI near Burbage Wood and a new route for pedestrians, cyclists and horseriders from a point south of Elmesthorpe to Burbage Common;
- works affecting existing pedestrian level crossings on the Leicester to Hinckley railway including Barwell and Earl Shilton within the 'Main HNRFI site' Thorneyfields Farm north-west of Sapcote, Elmesthorpe, near Billington Rough

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<sup>4</sup> Meaning that the application for the DCO must be accompanied by an Environmental Impact Assessment.

- to the south of Elmesthorpe and between Burbage and Hinckley;
- security and safety provisions inside the SRFI including fencing and lighting.

1.17 In addition to the provision of the A47 link, traffic modelling undertaken by transportation consultants BWB on behalf of TSH has identified a need for review of capacity at junctions on the local road network and the Strategic Road Network (SRN), in response to the different traffic flow pattern resulting partly from the proposed HNRFI development and principally from the M69 junction 2 upgrade. These junctions and any proposed mitigation works are listed at **Appendix 2** (and shown on the plan attached as **Appendix 3**). The proposed highway works required for each junction are described at Chapter 3 and Chapter 8 of the PEIR. At the date of preparation of the SoCC, the proposed off-site highway mitigation works have not been agreed with LCC Highway Authority (local road network) and National Highways (SRN).

### Preliminary Environmental Information Report

- 1.18 TSH has commissioned the preparation of a PEIR of HNRFI. The purpose of the report is to present environmental information compiled by the Applicant to enable consultees to develop an informed view of the likely significant environmental effects of the proposed development.
- 1.19 This PEIR is structured along the same lines as an Environmental Statement (ES). However, for the avoidance of doubt the information it contains is 'preliminary'. During the consultation period, the Applicant will be actively seeking consultees' comments and there will be the opportunity for amendments to both the design of the proposed development and the ES to take into account comments received through the formal consultation process. A Community Explanation Document for non-technical readers will be published (refer to Section 6).
- 1.20 For those whom it has been established do not have access to the internet, a hard copy may be requested, and will be provided by post free of charge, on the basis of one hard copy per household. If difficulties are experienced with accessing the PEIR via the internet, TSH will provide a USB stick for the PEIR, free of charge.
- 1.21 For members of the community who wish to review more detailed information on HNRFI, the PEIR will be available at 'face to face' exhibitions (if held subject to any limitations on holding 'face to face' events as may be imposed by the Government in response to the Covid 19 health pandemic). The PEIR will also be available online at the specific project website ([www.hinckleynrfi.co.uk](http://www.hinckleynrfi.co.uk)). The PEIR will be available in hard copy on payment of a reasonable charge of £35.00 plus VAT. (The charges for all documents will be set out on the project website.) The website will provide an 'easy link' to the PEIR. The PEIR will be available to download free of charge.
- 1.22 The PEIR will have separate chapter headings covering the following matters:
1. Introduction
  2. Site Description
  3. Scheme Description
  4. Site Selection and Project Evolution

5. Need and Policy
6. Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scope and General Methodology
7. Land use and socio-economic effects
8. Transport and traffic
9. Air quality
10. Noise and vibration
11. Landscape and visual effects
12. Ecology and biodiversity
13. Cultural heritage
14. Surface water and flood risk
15. Hydrogeology
16. Geology, soils and contaminated land
17. Materials and waste
18. Energy and climate change
19. Major Accidents and Disasters
20. Cumulative and transboundary effects
21. Conclusion

1.23 A request has been made by Blaby District Council during informal consultation on the SoCC for specific information to be provided to the local community in the PEIR on:

- Trip generation for road and rail traffic
- The impact of HNRFI upon the barrier ‘down-time’ for the railway crossing at Narborough

1.24 Hinckley and Bosworth Borough has requested that the following transportation matters are addressed in the consultation:

- The impacts on A47 between the A5 and Desford crossroads;
- The impacts on the Hinckley urban area road network with specific mention of the A47 link to Leicester Road;
- The impacts on the Burbage urban area road network;
- The impacts on the Barwell and Earl Shilton local road network;
- The impacts on the A5, particularly between Longshoot to Smokington Hollow;
- How TSH has accounted for the withdrawal of the proposed A5 Longshoot/Dodwells junction improvement scheme originally proposed by National Highways in the traffic modelling;
- Traffic volumes including HGV flows in the rural areas surrounding Hinckley including Higham on the Hill, Stoke Golding and Wykin;
- How TSH has derived an estimate of employees and HGV driver patterns in and out of the development including the air quality and noise impacts;
- How TSH has allowed for the cumulative impacts in their highway modelling of the low bridge strikes on the A5 and their high frequency causing diversion from the trunk road on to local roads;



- How TSH has planned in highway network resilience if any part of the strategic road network is disrupted (e.g., closure of the M6 or M1) and how TSH has assessed how the development will affect such disruptions;
- Clarity on whether the new A47 link road will be open to the public and HGVs creating a through road from the M69;
- Information on changes to existing highway movement patterns as a result of the creation of the southbound slip roads to Junction 2 of the M69, particularly the rerouting of HGV journeys to existing locations within the Borough (i.e., Triumph); and
- Changes of public rights of way within and around the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough.

### Background Stages to HNRFI

- 1.25 In April 2018 the Planning Inspectorate issued a Scoping Opinion to identify the scope of the Environmental Assessment (Reference TR50097). Subsequently two extensive public consultation exercises were undertaken on an informal basis between October – December 2018 and July - September 2019. These consultation exercises were undertaken in accordance with the draft SoCC that had been prepared in 2018 and informally discussed with the Local Authorities referred to at para 4.1.
- 1.26 Arising from these informal consultation exercises, TSH has undertaken substantial review of the project, particularly in respect of the transportation impacts – which proved to be the principal concern from the informal consultation responses.
- 1.27 The second informal public consultation exercise identified potential alternative routes for the construction of a new road to the east of M69 – so called ‘Eastern Villages Link’ (EVL) (This potential new highway has also been referred to as the Eastern Villages Bypass (EVB)). The most recent traffic modelling results arising from the Leicestershire County Council transport model shows the redistribution of traffic due to the new south facing slip roads at M69 J2 and the new connection through the site to the B4668 (A47 link), as well as taking into account the forecast changes to the network with committed developments and planned infrastructure changes. The outputs from this modelling shows that there are a number of areas that benefit from the proposed changes to the road network and these include Sharnford, Hinckley, Burbage and Elmesthorpe, with reductions in traffic on the east-west routes crossing the M69 and north-south on the B4114.
- 1.28 The proposed south-facing slip roads at M69 J2 offer direct or more convenient access to the Strategic Road Network for the residents of Sapcote, Stoney Stanton and other villages east of M69 including Huncote and Broughton Astley. Limited vehicle numbers are shown to go through either Stoney Stanton or Sapcote toward Broughton Astley and with the recent changes to speeds on the B4114 a more attractive route north to Huncote and Narborough is via the Huncote Road north of Stoney Stanton.
- 1.29 The position of TSH is now that the EVL /EVB south of Sapcote is not required or justified. Traffic management measures and introduction of the A47 Link Road to rebalance vehicle flows on the surrounding highway network including through the

villages east of the M69 have been identified. These mitigation proposals will be discussed and reviewed by Leicestershire County Council (for the local highway network) and National Highways (for the SRN – Cross in Hand roundabout on the A5).

1.30 The illustrative masterplan and parameters plan have evolved since the informal public consultation stages, principally in:

- i. the location of the railport, and installation of a rail chord (an extended rail line) into the site;
- ii. the inclusion of energy centre;
- iii. lorry park with the potential provision for HGV fuelling;
- iv. the routing of diverted public rights of way;
- v. the proposals for the height of buildings are now to a maximum height of 33m albeit not across the entire main HNRFI site.

1.31 As a consequence of these main changes, and indeed the passage of time since the inception of the project, TSH submitted a request for a new Scoping Opinion from the Planning Inspectorate in November 2020 (the Scoping Report). The Scoping Report and Scoping Opinion (and the earlier version) can be viewed on the HNRFI project website <https://www.hinckleynrfi.co.uk/> and on the Planning Inspectorate's webpage relating to the HNRFI project:

<https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/east-midlands/hinckley-national-rail-freight-interchange/>

1.32 TSH will have regard to all responses to publicity and consultation as required by Section 49 of the Act in response to the statutory consultation. A Consultation Report will be prepared by TSH to set out the response to the representations received in response to the consultation and publicity. These responses may include changes to HNRFI DCO Application on submission to the Planning Inspectorate. Alternatively, TSH may explain the reasoning why no change or amendment to the proposal is deemed appropriate in response to comments made.



## 2.0 The DCO Boundary

- 2.1 The proposed draft DCO Order Limits, are shown on Figure 1.1 attached at **Appendix 3**. The main HNRFI site for the logistics buildings and the railport lies 3km to the north east of Hinckley in Blaby District in Leicestershire. The land to accommodate the south facing slips to M69 Junction 2 lie within the administrative area of Blaby District Council. The proposed link road between M69 J2 and the B4668 (The A47 link) passes through Blaby District and extends approximately 250m into the administrative area of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council. The District Boundaries are shown on the plan attached as **Appendix 4**. The site and surrounding area are described in the PEIR at Chapter 2.
- 2.2 At the stage of the statutory consultation on the SoCC, the potential requirement for off-site highway works had not been finalised. The transportation impacts have been considered on the junctions listed at **Appendix 5** These potential highway works involved land within the administrative areas listed at **Appendix 6**
- 2.3 The analysis of transportation modelling for the impact of HNRFI has now identified that off-site highway works are required to:
- 7 junctions / highways within Blaby District
  - 3 junctions within Hinckley and Bosworth Borough
  - 1 junction within Harborough District / Rugby Borough

The location of the junctions, and the works proposed are described at **Appendix 2**.

- 2.4 The proposed off-site highway works involve works on land within the following Districts:
- Blaby District
  - Hinckley and Bosworth Borough
  - Harborough District
  - Rugby Borough
- 2.5 The Parishes or Wards within these Districts in which the works are located comprise:

### **Blaby District**

Aston Flamville  
Cosby  
Elmesthorpe  
Stoney Stanton  
Sapcote  
Croft

### **Hinckley and Bosworth Borough**

Hinckley De Montfort Ward  
Barwell

### **Harborough District**

Broughton Astley  
Lutterworth

### **Rugby Borough**

Willey

- 2.6 The requirement to consult neighbouring authorities under Section 43(2) includes:  
Contact details and references are attached as **Appendix 7**.

#### **S43(2) “A” Authority**

- Charnwood Borough Council
- Melton Borough Council
- North Warwickshire Borough Council
- North West Leicestershire District Council
- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
- Oadby and Wigston Borough Council
- Stratford-on-Avon District Council
- Warwick District Council

#### **S43(2) “B” Authority**

- Blaby District Council
- Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
- Harborough District Council
- Rugby Borough Council

#### **S43(2A) “C” Authority**

- Leicestershire County Council
- Warwickshire County Council

#### **S43(2A) “D” Authority**

- Birmingham City Council
- Coventry City Council
- Derbyshire County Council
- Gloucestershire County Council
- Leicester City Council
- Lincolnshire County Council
- North Northamptonshire Council
- Nottinghamshire County Council
- Oxfordshire County Council
- Rutland District Council
- Solihull Council
- Staffordshire County Council

- West Midlands Combined Authority
- West Northamptonshire Council
- Worcestershire County Council

2.7 Notification of the consultation will be provided to Tamworth Borough Council, and the Parish Councils within 10km of the main HNRFI site identified at **Appendix 8**.

### 3. National Planning Policy Statement for National Networks

3.1 The Department of Transport has published a National Policy Statement for National Networks (NN-NPS), December 2014. This Policy Statement sets out the need for, and the Government's policies for the delivery and development of nationally significant infrastructure projects on the national road and rail networks in England. The NN-NPS includes reference to the need for the development of Strategic Rail Freight Interchanges.

3.2 The NN-NPS provides planning guidance for promoters of NSIPs on the road and rail networks, and the basis for the examination of the individual schemes by the Examining Authority and the decision-taking by the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State will use the NN-NPS as the primary basis for making decisions on development consent applications for NSIPs.

3.3 Where a National Policy Statement has effect, under S104 of the Act, the Secretary of State must decide an application for a NSIP in accordance with that NPS unless satisfied that to do so would:

- lead to the UK being in breach of its international obligations
- be unlawful
- lead to the Secretary of State being in breach of any duty imposed by or under any legislation
- result in adverse impacts of the development outweighing its benefits
- be contrary to legislation about how the decisions are to be taken.

3.4 Extracts from the NN-NPS on the need for the development of SRFIs (Section 2) and the Assessment Principles (Section 4) are attached to this document as **Appendix 9**. The full document can be found online at: <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-policy-statement-for-national-networks>.

3.5 The application for a Development Consent Order for HNRFI may comprise more than one Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project: a development within the meaning of 'Rail Freight Interchanges', as defined in the Act (Section 26); and a development within the meaning of 'Highways' (Section 22) in respect of the alterations to the M69 J2 to create an all-ways grade separated motorway junction.

3.6 The principal consideration as to whether the proposed highway works to M69 J2 and improvements to M69, J3/ M1, J21 comprise a NSIP as '*highway related development*'

is the area of development. The Act provides a threshold of 15 hectares. Presently the area of land calculated for these highway works is less than the statutory threshold. The DCO would then be submitted on the basis these works comprise Associated Development pursuant to S115(2) of the Act. If upon final remeasurement, the areas of land involved extend beyond 15 hectares, then the DCO would comprise more than one NSIP.

#### **4 Relevant Local Authorities**

4.1 The SoCC and the earlier versions for informal consultation have been prepared in consultation with Blaby District Council, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council, and Leicestershire County Council – the host authorities for the main HNRFI site. The principal contacts in the host authorities for consultation on the SoCC and more generally the progress of the project have included:

##### **i) Contacts at Blaby District Council are:**

- John Richardson, Strategic Director
- Cat Hartley, Group Manager – Planning and Strategic Growth
- Louise Hryniw, Strategic Growth Manager
- Edward Stacey, Senior Planning Officer / Major Schemes Officer

##### **ii) Contacts at Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council are:**

- Matthew Bowers, Director (Environment and Planning)
- Stephen Meynell, Planning Manager (Major Projects)
- Helen Nightingale, Principal Planning Officer (Major Projects)
- Kirstie Rea, Planning Manager (Policy)

##### **iii) Contacts at Leicestershire County Council are:**

- Luke Raddon Jackson, Growth Manager
- Nic Thomas, Head of Planning, Historic & Natural Environment
- Oliver Meek, Team Manager Planning, Planning Historic and Natural Environment
- Ann Carruthers, Director of Environment and Transport

- Jacqui Green, Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Service

4.2 As explained at paragraph 2.3, the review of the transportation impacts on off-site highway junctions includes consideration of works within other administrative areas. Contact has been made in the consultation of the draft SoCC in December 2020 with the following authorities:

- i. **Harborough District**  
David Atkinson, Chief Officer, Planning and Regeneration, Harborough District Council
- iii. **Rugby Borough**  
Mannie Ketley - Executive Director and Head of Paid Service, Rugby Borough Council
- iv. **Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough**  
Ashley Baldwin, Head of Planning and Building Control, Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
- v. **North Warwickshire Borough**  
Steven Maxey, Chief Executive, North Warwickshire Borough Council
- vi. **Warwickshire County Council**  
Monica Fogarty, Chief Executive, Warwickshire County Council
- vii. **Coventry City Council**  
Colin Knight, Director of Transportation & Highways

4.3 The following authorities provided a written response to the statutory consultation on the SoCC:

- Leicestershire County Council
- Blaby District Council
- Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council
- Harborough District Council
- Staffordshire County Council

## **5. Publication of the SoCC**

5.1 TSH is required pursuant to S47(6) of the Act to publish the SoCC. The SoCC must be available for inspection by the public in a way that is reasonably convenient for people living in the vicinity of the land. Notice must be published in a local newspaper circulating in the vicinity of the land.

5.2 The Infrastructure Planning (Publication and Notification of Applications etc) (Amendment) Regulations 2020 has established that the requirement to make

inspection of the SoCC reasonably convenient can be met by making documents available online. This SoCC has therefore been prepared in accordance with these Regulations, with additional arrangements for inspection and comment on documents as set out below.

5.3 TSH will place a notice for the publication of the SoCC in the following newspapers stating where and when the SoCC can be inspected:

- Hinckley Times
- Leicester Mercury

5.4 The SoCC will be made available for viewing on the following websites.

- The HNRFI project website at <https://www.hinckleynrfi.co.uk/>

A link to the SoCC will be provided to the following authorities prior to publication to enable the documentation to be uploaded.

- The Planning and Building webpage on the Blaby District Council website under 'Major Developments at: <https://www.blaby.gov.uk/planning-and-building/major-developments/hinckley-rail-freight-interchange/>
- The webpage on the Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council website at: [https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/info/200249/view\\_planning\\_applications\\_and\\_decisions/1543/hinckley\\_national\\_rail\\_freight\\_interchange](https://www.hinckley-bosworth.gov.uk/info/200249/view_planning_applications_and_decisions/1543/hinckley_national_rail_freight_interchange)
- The website of Harborough District Council (as requested) at <https://www.harborough.gov.uk/>
- The website of North Warwickshire Borough Council (as requested) at <https://www.northwarks.gov.uk/site/>

5.5 The SoCC is being provided to the following local authorities, prior to its publication, with a request that the SoCC is also displayed on their websites:

- Nuneaton and Bedworth Borough Council
- Rugby Borough Council
- Coventry City Council
- Tamworth Borough Council
- Leicester City Council
- Leicestershire County Council
- Warwickshire County Council
- Staffordshire County Council

5.6 The SoCC will be provided to the Chairs of Parish Councils within Blaby District (**Appendix 10**); Hinckley and Bosworth Borough (**Appendix 11**) and the Parish



Councils identified at **Appendix 8** with an invitation that the SoCC is displayed on the individual Council's website.

- 5.7 The SoCC will be provided to the libraries listed at **Appendix 12** with a request to make available to visiting members of the public.

## 6. 'Community Explanation' Document

- 6.1 TSH will prepare a short document for HNRFI specifically written for local communities in a clear, accessible and non-technical language. This document will signpost readers as to where they can find more information on the proposals and will be accompanied by some mapping. All the local authorities listed at 4.1 and 4.2 will be invited to review the content of this document 3 weeks prior to its release. This Community Explanation Document will be available at the commencement of the Statutory Consultation. This document will provide a description of HNRFI; the relevant national and local planning policy background to HNRFI and will describe the main environmental effects of the development. The document will explain how local communities may respond to the proposal, and the planning process beyond the consultation.
- 6.2 This document will be displayed on the project website and available in hard copy format upon request at a reasonable charge of £5.00 plus VAT. For those whom it has been established do not have access to the internet, a hard copy may be requested, and will be provided by post free of charge, on the basis of one hard copy per household.
- 6.3 The Councils identified at paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 will be invited to display the Community Explanation Document on their websites and be requested to make available a hard copy of the document to visiting members of the public. The libraries listed at **Appendix 12** will be similarly invited to make available a hard copy of the Community Explanation Document to members of the visiting public.
- 6.4 The 'Community Explanation Document' will also be published via Facebook - 'Hinckley National Rail Freight Interchange – HNRFI'; Twitter @HinckleyRail and Instagram - 'hinckleynationalrailfreight'.

## 7. Form of Consultation

7.1 As explained in further detail below, community consultation on HNRFI will rely upon a range of methods for communication during an 8-week period of consultation, comprising:

### 1) Project website

The establishment of the project website <https://www.hinckleynrfi.co.uk/>

### 2) Community Information Line

The establishment of a project telephone enquiry line (Community Information Line) 0844 556 3002 – as referred to at paragraph 7.9

The project website and Community Information Line will be displayed on all notices and written communications with the local community.

### 3) Public exhibitions and webinars

The holding of public events as referred to at paragraphs 7.11 – 7.23.

### 4) Social Media

The establishment of social media platforms on Facebook, Twitter and Instagram. Updates relating to the consultation will be provided (paragraph 7.24).

### 5) Printed Press and Press websites

Public notices will be placed with the printed press and press websites as listed at **Appendix 13**.

### 6) Libraries

A request to be made to all public libraries listed at **Appendix 12** to make available for inspection the consultation documents via a hard copy, USB stick or CD where agreed to.

### 7) Site Notices

The display of site notices as listed at **Appendix 14**, including display on at least one parish noticeboard where available and permissible for parishes wholly or partly within 10km from the main HNRFI site. Site notices will be displayed at the locations generally described at paragraph 7.30. The list is not intended to prescriptively identify the precise position of site notices.

### 8) Core Consultation Zone

Postal communication to individual premises as described at paragraph 7.25 (i – iii inclusive). This correspondence will be accompanied by a brief Community Newsletter containing a brief description of the development; the project website; community information telephone line and details of the exhibitions and virtual events and a plan identifying the DCO boundary.

The hand delivered notices will invite consultation via a questionnaire which can be completed online. The notices will explain that a paper copy of the questionnaire can be obtained for those without internet access, without charge, by telephoning the Community Information Line 0844 556 3002.

**9) Outer Consultation Zone**

Postal communication, including the Community Newsletter, to each Parish Council identified at Appendix 8 where the parishes lie beyond 3km of the main HNRFI site and within 10km of the main HNRFI site. A request will also be made to invite the display of consultation material on the Council's website, or a link to the project website.

**10) Other postal communications**

Postal communication including the Community Newsletter to the persons, groups listed at paragraph 7.25 (iv – x inclusive)

**11) Notification to Local Authorities**

To make a request to all Councils listed at paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 to use the Council's own digital channels to promote the consultation. The Councils will be invited to display consultation material on their websites; or provide a link to the project website.

To make a request to each local authority listed at paragraphs 4.1 and 4.2 to make available the consultation material for viewing by visiting members of the public as a hard copy (to be provided by TSH), and electronically at a computer terminal.

**12) Hard to Reach Groups**

- i. To provide a postal communication to each organisation / group identified by Blaby District Council (listed at Appendix 15). Where a correspondence address cannot be identified, TSH will seek to engage with these groups via social media.
- ii. To invite HBBC to publish details on its voluntary community sector newsletter with a link to the project website and the Community Information Line.
- iii. To invite an on-site presentation to the Gypsy and Traveller communities listed at paragraph 7.25 (iii).
- iv. To invite the holding of an on-site presentation at the Castle Fields Mobile Home Park.

**The establishment of the project website**

7.2 A HNRFI website (<http://www.hinckleynrfi.co.uk/>) is being hosted by Lexington Communications. The website will provide:

- i) A short summary as to the progress of the application for HNRFI.
- ii) An index to the documents available online under distinct headings including the SoCC and the Community Explanation Document.
- iii) A short media presentation of the proposals.
- iv) A link to the dedicated consultation platform which will be established for the purposes of the formal consultation.
- v) A dedicated link to the virtual consultation events that are being hosted by TSH.
- vi) The details of public face to face events (subject to any Government restrictions).

- vii) The ability to provide comments to a questionnaire which may be downloaded and returned by post, or be completed online. A hard copy of the response form will be provided free of charge if requested via the Community Information Line, if a respondent does not have access to the internet.
- viii) Links to documents prepared by the consultant team on behalf of TSH for HNRFI – an ‘e-Library’. The website will explain how documents may be obtained from the website, and that the documents are available to download free of charge. Documents will be readily accessible to an enquirer, being clearly named and logically structured.
- ix) An index to assist in the identification of information within the Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR).
- x) An archive section of documents and plans prepared for the informal stages of consultation on HNRFI.
- xi) A facility for the provision of a response by TSH to Frequently Asked Questions.

- 7.3 The project website [www.hinckleynrfi.co.uk](http://www.hinckleynrfi.co.uk) will be well signposted in notices of the statutory consultation that will be displayed on and around the site (as identified at **Appendix 14**) and published within local newspapers.
- 7.4 During the period of the statutory consultation the FAQs and the response from TSH will be reviewed and updated as necessary following the completion of the statutory consultation until submission of the DCO application.
- 7.5 TSH will arrange receipt of updates via email to all those who have previously contacted the project team and took part in the first two rounds of consultation, and provided their email address, and those who register online with the Project website, or via the Community Information Line for updates on HNRFI. The website and the feedback form will include an option for requesting updates. These updates will be issued by email. The updates will be issued to the relevant authorities, and the Parish Councils listed at Appendices 8, 10 and 11 with a request that the updates are made available on the individual Council websites, and / or published in Council newsletters.
- 7.6 TSH will respond reasonably to requests for updates by postal communications where a member of the local community has explained that communication by email or via the internet is not available
- 7.7 The updates will be sent to the libraries listed at Appendix 12 with a request that the updates are made available with the documents for public inspection.
- 7.8 TSH intend to display interactive plans of the project which will be available to view on the project website at the formal stage of consultation.

### i. The publication of a project telephone enquiry line

- 7.9 The Community Information Line is operated by Lexington Communications on behalf of TSH, the Applicant. The line is staffed Monday to Friday 0900 – 1730, excluding Bank Holidays. Outside these times, a voicemail facility will be available. Members of the public can also email [hinckleynrfi@lexcomm.co.uk](mailto:hinckleynrfi@lexcomm.co.uk). The Community Information Line will be available throughout the pre-application and submission stages of the project. The number is available for residents to ask questions, submit feedback and request hard copies of documents.
- 7.10 The HNRFI website will also display the Community Information Line (0844 556 3002).

### ii. The holding of virtual events and ‘face to face’ events

- 7.11 TSH propose to hold ‘face to face’ events at suitable and available locations within or close to 3km of the main HNRFI site – subject to their being no Government restrictions on the holding of such events as a consequence of the prevailing Covid 19 health situation. Attached as **Appendix 16** is a plan identifying four geographical areas within the locality of HNRFI. At least one exhibition will be held in each area. TSH will ensure that exhibitions provide a ‘mix’ of events between mornings and afternoons / evenings.
- 7.12 In addition, it is proposed that an exhibition is held on a Saturday morning in Elmesthorpe village, and at a suitable location within Hinckley. A face to face event will be held in Narborough in view of the public concern regarding the ‘barrier down-time’ on the railway level crossing.
- 7.13 Notification of the ‘face to face’ events will be provided:
- i. On the HNRFI project website;
  - ii. On Facebook, Twitter and Instagram
  - iii. Press Notices
  - iv. Site Notices
  - v. In the postal communication issued to all premises within 3km of the main HNRFI site, Barwell and Narborough Parish; and to at least all properties within 100m of the locations identified for potential off-site highway works; IDI Gazeley and all occupiers of Magna Park which will include the Community Information Leaflet.
  - vi. To the authorities listed at paragraphs 4.1, 4.2, and those at Appendix 8.
- 7.14 Attendance within any internal space for a ‘face to face’ event will be managed in the interests of seeking to maintain a safe environment for attendees and personnel representing TSH. Those attending may be requested to wait outside an event until sufficient space is available for additional visitors to attend.
- 7.15 In addition to the holding of the ‘face to face’ events (subject to Government restrictions), TSH will host virtual events for the presentation of the consultation. Registration for virtual events will be sought from respondents in order to practically

manage attendance. TSH will host at least two virtual events held within the consultation period.

- 7.16 Those wishing to participate will be invited in response to information provided on the project website; notices in the local newspapers including online notifications, and site notices to telephone the Community Information Line, or register online on the HNRFI website, to request an attendance at a virtual exhibition event. Attendees will be invited to share their name and postcode but the provision of this information will not be a conditional requirement for attendance.
- 7.17 These interactive virtual consultation events which will enable members of the local community to participate in an effective consultation exercise. A specialist consultancy will host a digital consultation tool with an internet domain that has a link from the HNRFI website. The events will be attended by TSH and members of the project team in order to answer questions from members of the public.
- 7.18 It is proposed that each virtual event lasts for up to 2 hours. At the start of each event the display boards which will have been used for local exhibitions will be shared on all screens. These consultation boards will be available to view on the website after the event.
- 7.19 If it is evident that the level of interest in the virtual events exceeds the capacity that can be effectively managed for consultation, then additional virtual events may be held by TSH within the 8-week consultation period. The number of consultation events, whether held 'face to face' or virtually, will be at least eleven.
- 7.20 TSH will display on the project website a pre-recorded presentation so as to enable members of the public to view the presentation at their convenience. The pre-recording will explain how members of the public may make representations on the project.

### iii. Display material at exhibitions / virtual presentations

- 7.21 Consultation material at the exhibitions / virtual presentations will comprise plans and explanatory text of HNRFI that address the anticipated key issues, namely:
- matters relating to transportation impacts, including the use of existing Public Rights of Way (PROWs); trip generation for road and rail traffic; the impact of HNRFI on the 'barrier down-time' of the Narborough rail crossing. Other transport related issues have been identified at paragraph 1.26 – 1.29;
  - the consequence for the movement of traffic upon the re-formatting of M69 J2 into an 'all-ways' movement junction (M69 J2);
  - the need for the development;
  - the HNRFI process for identifying the site undertaken by TSH;
  - the opportunities HNRFI may provide for place making;
  - matters relating to noise, air quality, drainage, flood risk, heritage, climate change, energy and waste;



- the landscape and visual impact of the development, including the impacts at night (lighting);
- the ecological impacts of urban development of this scale both on-site and off site (Burbage Common);
- the potential for disturbance to existing communities during construction and operation of HNRFI, including from noise, lighting, vehicular movement, impacts on air quality;
- the socio-economic effects of the development;
- the information available at the exhibitions will explain the changes in the scheme since the earlier non-statutory public consultation events. The exhibition will explain what matters are settled in the proposals for HNRFI, and what matters remain to be settled.

7.22 The list above is not intended to be exhaustive, or to place the issues in any form of priority. Rather, the list identifies those impacts which have been most identified through the informal consultation exercise and the environmental impact process.

7.23 The statutory consultation material; the Community Explanation Document referred to in Section 6; the PEIR and a pre-recorded presentation of the project (refer to paragraph 7.20) will be made available on the HNRFI website.

#### iv. Social media advertising

7.24 The social media platform will allow members of the community and interest groups to follow the progress of the project and will provide details on how to submit feedback. Social media will include Facebook, Twitter and Instagram advertisements, which will be promoted and act as a window to the consultation website. A range of social media advertisements will be run throughout the consultation period. The advertisements will be universal in their appeal, not targeted to specific groups.

#### v. Postal Communications

7.25 An invitation will be made to the exhibitions and for participation in virtual events by hand delivery of notices to:

- A core consultation zone including all properties (schools will be included) within 3km from the main HNRFI site as the area in which the main impacts of the development may be focussed. This postal communication will include all properties, by reference to the full postcode unit (as LE + 2 digits + number and 2 letters which are allocated to streets and to sides of the street). Where the 3km boundary cuts through a postcode unit (the full postcode) the postal communication will be extended to include all addresses within the postcode sector and where part of the postcode boundary lies on the east side of the M69. The consultation area is shown on the plan attached as **Appendix 17**. In response to a request from Hinckley and Bosworth Council and Blaby District Council, this area has been extended to include the parish of Barwell and the areas of Narborough and Littlethorpe;

- ii. A consultation zone for all properties at least within 100m of the locations identified for potential off-site highway works (as shown on the plans attached at **Appendix 17**). The off-site junctions include Cross in Hand roundabout on the A5 close to Magna Park. A postal communication will be sent to IDI Gazeley Ltd and all premises at Magna Park;
- iii. All households at Aston Firs and at the adjoining mobile home sites, and gypsy and traveller sites off Smithy Lane, Sapcote. All households at the Leicester Road, Hinckley gypsy and traveller site. All households at the Lychgate Lane, Aston Flamville site and Lychgate Lane site in Hinckley and Bosworth Borough. The liaison with these households will be undertaken with the assistance of Jacqui Green, Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer at Leicestershire County Council;
- iv. All respondents to the informal stages of consultation undertaken by TSH who provided either email or postal addresses
- v. All landowners and tenants of land within the area of the main HNRFI site;
- vi. All Section 43 authorities referred to at paragraph 2.4 and listed at **Appendix 7**;
- vii. The Parish Councils and Parish Meetings within Blaby District as listed at **Appendix 10**;
- viii. The Parish Councils within Hinckley and Bosworth Borough as listed at **Appendix 11**;
- ix. Tamworth Borough Council, and the Parish Councils within 10km of the main HNRFI site as listed at Appendix 8;
- x. Interested groups as identified in consultation with Blaby District, as identified at **Appendix 15** including Sharnford Traffic Action Group and resident associations for the mobile homes sites;
- xi. Interested groups as identified in consultation with Hinckley and Bosworth Borough as listed at **Appendix 18**;
- xii. Interested groups as identified in consultation with the Borough and District Authorities, as identified at **Appendix 19**;
- xiii. All District Councillors within Blaby District;
- xiv. All District Councillors within Hinckley and Bosworth Borough;
- xv. Leicestershire County Councillors, as listed at **Appendix 20**;
- xvi. Alberto Costa MP for South Leicestershire;
- xvii. Dr Luke Evans MP for Bosworth;
- xviii. Marcus Jones MP for Nuneaton;
- xix. Mark Pawsey MP for Rugby;
- xx. Craig Tracey MP for North Warwickshire;
- xxi. Neil O'Brien MP for Harborough, Oadby and Wigston
- xxii. All District Councillors in wards where the off-site highway works are located as listed at **Appendix 21**.

#### vi. Public Notices in Newspapers

7.26 Public notices of the statutory consultation will be placed within the following publications on two successive weeks. A press release will be issued to the Editor of these publications:

- Hinckley Times
- Leicester Mercury

Press releases will be issued to the following online publications:

- Leicestershire Live
- Rugby Advertiser
- Rugby Observer
- The Coventry Telegraph
- Coventry Live
- Nuneaton News

7.27 The table shown at **Appendix 13** identifies the catchment areas which are referred by individual publishers.

7.28 Public notices of the statutory consultation will be placed in a national newspaper and once in the London Gazette.

7.29 The matters which the notices will include are:

- a) the name and address of the applicant;
- b) a statement that the applicant intends to make an application for development consent to the Planning Inspectorate;
- c) a statement as to whether the application is EIA development;
- d) a summary of the main proposals, specifying the location or route of the proposed development;
- 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 at the places (including at least one address in the vicinity of the proposed development) and times set out in the notice;
- f) the latest date on which those documents, plans and maps will be available for inspection (being a date not earlier than the deadline in sub-paragraph (i));
- g) whether a charge will be made for copies of any of the documents, plans or maps and the amount of any charge;
- h) details of how to respond to the publicity; and
- i) a deadline for receipt of those responses by the applicant.

## vii. Site Notices

7.30 Site Notices will be placed at the positions marked on the plan attached as **Appendix 14** including:

1. Burbage Common Road South of Elmesthorpe
2. Burbage Common Road at Railway Bridge
3. Road Junction leading from M69 J2 (Private Road)
4. Along the Public Right of Way at the point of entry / exit
5. B4669 before J2 of the M69, close to Aston Firs
6. Station Road at Junction with Burbage Common Road
7. Car Park Entrance and Visitor Centre at Burbage Common
8. B4668, Outside Leicester Road Football Club – on telegraph pole

9. Leicester Road towards Hinckley at the commencement of frontage of housing – on lighting column/telegraph pole/similar
10. Smithy Lane Car Park, Hinckley
11. End of Ambion Way
12. Sapcote Road – on lighting column / telegraph pole / similar
13. Junction of Lychgate Lane/Hinckley Road/Sharnford Road, Aston Flamville – on telegraph pole
14. Junction of B4114/Sharnford Road – on telegraph pole
15. Junction of Hinckley Road/Park Road
16. Junction of Hinckley Road/Church Street/Stanton Road
17. Junction of Leicester Road/Grace Road
18. Junction of Hinckley Road/New Road
19. Stanton Road Near The White House
20. Burbage Common Road
21. Station Road, over railway line

And at these off-site junctions / highways shown at **Appendix 14** including:

No.	Location
	<b>Blaby District Council</b>
B1	Junction of B581 Station Road / New Road and Hinckley Road, Stoney Stanton
B2	Junction of B4669 Hinckley Road and Stanton Lane, west of Sapcote
B3	Stanton Lane / Hinckley Road, south-west of Stoney Stanton
B4	B4669 Hinckley Road/ Leicester Road, Sapcote
B5	Junction of B4114 Coventry Road and B581 Broughton Road at Soar Mill, south-east of Stoney Stanton
B6	Junction of B4114 Coventry Road and Croft Road, south-west of Narborough
	M69 Junction 2 (Access Infrastructure)
	New A47 Link Road (Access Infrastructure)
	<b>Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council</b>
HB1	Junction of A47 Normandy Way and A447 Ashby Road, Hinckley
HB2	Junction of A47 Normandy Way / Leicester Road, the B4668 Leicester Road and The Common, south-east of Barwell
	Junction of B4668 and New A47 Link Road, north east of the site access (Access Infrastructure)

No.	Location
	<b>Harborough District Council / Rugby Borough Council</b>
H1	Cross in Hand roundabout at the junction of the A5 Watling Street, A4303 Coventry Road, B4428 Lutterworth Road and Coal Pit Lane, west of Lutterworth

7.31 A copy of the Site Notice will be issued for information to Blaby District Council and Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council prior to the commencement of the statutory consultation. The Site Notices will be displayed at least two weeks prior to the commencement of the statutory consultation. Such notices will at least provide:

- 1) the Project Title – HNRFI
- 2) a brief description of the development;
- 3) a plan identifying the DCO boundary;
- 4) the formal status of the consultation.
- 5) the date, times and location of public exhibitions and the arrangements for virtual consultation events and the means of access to such events.
- 6) the HNRFI website address as a source of further information.
- 7) the telephone number of the Community Information Line
- 8) details of charges for hard copies of the SoCC, PEIR and the Community Explanation Document.

**viii. Requesting copies of documents**

7.32 TSH will provide, free of charge, copies of documents on a USB stick where parties have access to a computer, and it has been established that the property is located with limited or no internet access. Blaby District Council, Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council and Leicestershire County Council will be requested to make available a computer terminal for the public to inspect the project website during normal office hours throughout the 8-week consultation period.

7.33 The following charges are to be made for requesting hard copies of documents, namely:

- PEIR £35.00 plus VAT
- SoCC £20.00 plus VAT
- Community Explanation Document £5.00 plus VAT
- Full set of all consultation material comprising all documents being made available for public consultation including appendices and plan £125.00 + VAT

These costs reflect the costs of the production and circulation of these documents via the postal system. Hard copies of the Community Newsletter will be made available without charge.

- 7.34 A limited number of copies of the Community Explanation Document will be available at each face to face event held. Copies will be similarly available at presentations made to Gypsy and Traveller communities and at mobile home sites.
- 7.35 Requests for the receipt of hard copies should be made via the Community Information Line. Payment in advance will be required prior to the issuing of hard copies by the postal service.

#### **ix. Informal engagement with local authorities**

- 7.36 TSH will, if requested to do so by Blaby District Council, attend special Parish Council liaison events on HNRFI in person or virtual events hosted by Blaby District Council which may be convened during the pre-application process. These events will provide an opportunity to update the Parish Councils on the pre-application process and to respond to matters of concern.
- 7.37 TSH will - if requested by the contacts (listed at paragraph 4.1) of Blaby District Council - attend similar events with District Councillors at Blaby District Council.
- 7.38 TSH will attend a similar format of events with Councillors of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council; and Parish Councillors of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough – if so, requested by the contacts (listed at paragraph 4.1) of Hinckley and Bosworth Borough Council or the Clerks of the Parish Councils.
- 7.39 TSH is willing to make similar presentations to County Councillors at Leicestershire County Council – if so, requested by the contacts (listed at paragraph 4.1) of Leicestershire County Council.
- 7.40 TSH will, if requested by any of the following Councils, attend special parish liaison events within the administrative areas on HNRFI in person (if permissible) or at a virtual event hosted by the Councils.
- Harborough District
  - Rugby Borough

#### **x. Hard to Reach Groups**

- 7.41 The consultation programme has considered whether there may be sections of the community who may be more difficult to engage with, such as: older people; younger people; people with disabilities; travelling communities; economically inactive people; ethnic minorities; religious groups; time poor / busy working people; and socially deprived communities. It is concluded that individual arrangements should be made to engage with local gypsy and traveller communities resident to the south of HNRFI.
- 7.42 Contact has been made with Jacqui Green, Gypsy and Traveller Liaison Officer at Leicestershire County Council who manages the Aston Firs Gypsy and Traveller Site, as to how to best engage the residents of Aston Firs, and adjoining resident communities, within the statutory consultation exercise. It is clearly evident that the COVID-19 health pandemic is a particular concern to the residents. Furthermore, it is



understood that the use of ‘virtual’ engagement techniques may have limited effectiveness for reasons relating to:

- The poor quality of internet access that is presently available in this location
- The availability of electronic devices to enable access to the internet for virtual presentations
- A general ‘discomfort’ for residents to participate in this form of public engagement.

7.43 Jacqui Green has recommended that for the statutory consultation exercise a copy of the presentation (referred to at paragraph 7.20) is prepared so that it can be displayed in the administrative office at Aston Firs. Jacqui Green will invite residents to view the presentation. TSH will provide Jacqui Green with the short Community Explanation Document referred to in Section 6. Copies of the questionnaire will be made available for residents to complete.

7.44 Details of face-to-face events referred to at paragraph 7.11 will be provided to Jacqui Green if such events can be safely managed.

7.45 Jacqui Green has provided information regarding the nature of adjoining residential developments where engagement with residents may be difficult to establish. These comprise:

- Woodfield Stables – a privately managed Gypsy and Traveller site
- Castle Fields Mobile Home Park
- Acorn Cottage which is a small privately managed Gypsy and Traveller site
- Rosevale which is a privately managed mobile home site managed by Kernon Wright
- White Gates Stables which is a small privately managed Gypsy and Traveller site.

TSH is making contact with the proprietors of these sites.

7.46 TSH will seek to engage with the Gypsy and Traveller community residing on sites in Lychgate Lane in Aston Flamville, and on Leicester Road, Hinckley through contact being made with Jacqui Green.

## 8. HNRFI Programme

8.1 TSH propose that the statutory consultation will take place at the commencement of Q1 2022, with the intention of submitting the DCO for examination at the end of Q2 or early Q3 2022.

8.2 The currently intended programme for the HNRFI is set out below:

**Table 1.1: HNRFI Programme**

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Date</b>
Formal S42 Statutory Consultation Formal S47 Public Consultation	Q. 1 2022
Review of consultation feedback; design refinement and mitigation	Q.1 – Q.2 2022
Preparation of DCO application documents including the ES, an ES non-technical summary and the Consultation Report Submit draft DCO and other application documents to PINS for comment	Q.2 2022
Submission of the DCO application	At the end of Q.2 2022 or early Q.3 2022

8.3 Contact from members of the public regarding the programme should be made to the **Community Information Line on 0844 556 3002.**

## **9. Conclusions – Taking into account the responses received from the statutory consultation**

9.1 The scheme for HNRFI has already evolved from its inception in response to a wide range of views received during informal consultation; through engagement with organisations and groups; statutory consultees and in response to potential occupier requirements, and the requirements of the intended railport operator.

9.2 TSH has a duty to take into account all responses to the statutory consultation at the pre-application stage of a proposal for a Development Consent Order. TSH will summarise all responses in a Consultation Report which must be submitted with the application for a DCO Consent. The Consultation Report must explain how TSH has had regard to the consultation responses. The Consultation Report must show that TSH has complied with the statutory pre-application consultation requirement and TSH has had regard to the responses received. The Consultation Report is part of the application and will be published on the relevant project page on the National Infrastructure Planning website posted by the Planning Inspectorate soon after an application is received.

9.3 The Community Explanation Document and all notices and postal communication will set out how notification of the progress of the application can be sourced from the Project Website or via the Community Information Line.

## 10. List of appendices

<b>Appendix 1</b>	Project Summary
<b>Appendix 2</b>	List of junctions which require highway works
<b>Appendix 3</b>	Figure 1.1 draft DCO Order Limit boundaries plan
<b>Appendix 4</b>	District Boundaries Plan
<b>Appendix 5</b>	All junctions where transportation impacts have been considered
<b>Appendix 6</b>	List of the administrative areas which involved potential highway works
<b>Appendix 7</b>	Contact details for Section 43 Authorities
<b>Appendix 8</b>	Other offices of the Parish Councils including all within 10km of the main HNRFI site
<b>Appendix 9</b>	Extracts from the NPS on the need for the development of SRFIs (Section 2) and the Assessment Principles (Section 4)
<b>Appendix 10</b>	Offices of the Parish Councils within Blaby District
<b>Appendix 11</b>	Offices of the Parish Councils within Hinckley and Bosworth Borough
<b>Appendix 12</b>	List of libraries within 10km of the main HNRFI site and a plan showing the locations of the libraries
<b>Appendix 13</b>	Catchment areas of local publications
<b>Appendix 14</b>	Site notices plan and key as to location of display
<b>Appendix 15</b>	Interested groups as identified in consultation with Blaby District
<b>Appendix 16</b>	Plan identifying areas where the holding of a face-to-face event will take place
<b>Appendix 17</b>	Plans showing 'core' consultation zone from the main HNRFI site and the entirety of Barwell Parish and Narborough Parish, and the consultation zones for all properties within 100m of the locations identified for potential off-site highway improvements
<b>Appendix 18</b>	Interested groups as identified in consultation with Hinckley and Bosworth Borough
<b>Appendix 19</b>	Other interested groups as identified in consultation with the Borough and District Authorities
<b>Appendix 20</b>	Leicestershire County Councillors
<b>Appendix 21</b>	All District Councillors in wards and districts where the off-site highway works are located