

## Planning Act 2008

### PORTISHEAD BRANCH LINE (METROWEST PHASE 1) ORDER NOTICE PUBLICISING A PROPOSED APPLICATION FOR A DEVELOPMENT CONSENT ORDER

Notice is hereby given that North Somerset District Council (**the Applicant**), of Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Road, Weston-super-Mare, North Somerset, BS23 1UJ, proposes to apply to the Secretary of State under section 37 of the Planning Act 2008 for the above-mentioned Development Consent Order (**the Application**).

The Application relates to the re-opening for passenger services of the railway branch line between Portishead and Pill, North Somerset, and to works to improve the existing railway line between Pill and Ashton Junction, Bristol (**the Project**). The Project is part of the MetroWest Phase 1 programme to enhance the West of England's local rail network. The Applicant is the promoter of the Project on behalf of itself and Bristol City Council, Bath & North East Somerset Council and South Gloucestershire Council.

The proposed Development Consent Order will, amongst other things, authorise:

1. Construction of a 5.4km railway line from Portishead to Pill;
2. A new railway station at Portishead, including a car park, pedestrian and cycle access, and associated highways works;
3. A pedestrian bridge over the Portishead branch line near Trinity Anglican Methodist Primary School, Portishead;
4. A permanent compound and rail access point at Sheepway, on the northern side of the Portishead branch line and western side of Sheepway;
5. A temporary compound and haul road south of the Portishead branch line and north of the Portbury Hundred highway;
6. Works to the existing bridleway forming part of National Cycle Network Route 26 between Portishead and Pill;
7. Temporary compounds and haul roads north of the Portishead branch line on the north side of and beneath the M5 Motorway;
8. A temporary compound and haul road between the Portishead branch line and Lodway Close, Pill;
9. Re-opening the railway station at Pill, including a car park, pedestrian and cycle access, and associated highways works;
10. Works to the existing Portbury Freight Line between Royal Portbury Dock and Ashton Junction, Bristol, including repairs and/or modifications to bridges, tunnels, culverts and retaining walls, as well as replacement of track, sleepers and ballast;
11. A permanent compound at Chapel Pill Lane, Ham Green, Pill;
12. A new compound and permanent railway access at Clanage Road, Bower Ashton;
13. A new pedestrian ramp next to the existing railway in the vicinity of the existing Ashton Vale Road level crossing;
14. Closure of the footpath crossing over the existing railway at Barons Close in Bristol;
15. The permanent and/or temporary compulsory acquisition of land and/or rights for the Project;
16. Powers for temporary and permanent traffic regulation orders on highways and streets;
17. Overriding of easements and other rights over or affecting land for the Project;
18. Extinguishment of accommodation crossings;
19. The application and/or disapplication of legislation relevant to the Project including legislation relating to compulsory purchase;

20. Such ancillary, incidental and consequential provisions, permits or consents as are necessary and/or convenient.

The Project is an Environmental Impact Assessment (**EIA**) development, and an Environmental Statement will be submitted as part of the Application.

The Applicant is consulting on its proposals for the Project. The consultation will take place from 30 August 2019 to 1 October 2019. The following consultation documents will be available for inspection free of charge from 30 August 2019 to 1 October 2019 on weekdays only (excluding Bank Holidays) at Womble Bond Dickinson LLP, 3 Temple Quay, Temple Back East, Bristol, BS1 6DZ, between the hours of 0930 and 1700:

1. **MetroWest Consultation Leaflet** outlining the proposals for the re-opening of the Portishead branch line as part of MetroWest Phase 1.
2. **Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR)**, including a Non-Technical Summary of PEIR's assessment of MetroWest Phase 1's potential environmental impacts.
3. **Land Plan** showing the land required for the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
4. **Works Plan** illustrating the proposed works for the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
5. **Permanent Traffic Regulation Orders (TROs) Plan** showing the permanent TROs proposed as part of the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
6. **Public Rights of Way (PROWs) Diversions Plan** showing the PROWs to be diverted or stopped-up as part of the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals.
7. **Visualisations** illustrating what the MetroWest Phase 1 DCO proposals will look like at Portishead Station, Pill Station and Ashton Vale once the Portishead branch line has been re-opened.
8. **A Non-Technical Summary of the draft Development Consent Order** for the re-opening of the Portishead branch line as part of MetroWest Phase 1.
9. A plan showing the extent of works to the Pill Memorial Club car park is also available online at [www.travelwest.info/metrowest](http://www.travelwest.info/metrowest).

The consultation documents listed above are available online at [www.travelwest.info/metrowest](http://www.travelwest.info/metrowest). Paper copies of the consultation documents can be obtained by contacting the Applicant by email at [metrowest@westofengland.org](mailto:metrowest@westofengland.org), by telephone on 0117 428 6210, or by writing to James Willcock, Project Manager MetroWest Phase 1, North Somerset Council, Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1UJ. A reasonable copying charge may apply, up to a maximum of £500 for the full suite of documents and £5 for an electronic copy on USB flash drive.

If you have any responses to this consultation, or any other representations you would like make or discuss in respect of the Project, you can submit your views as follows:

- by email to [metrowest@westofengland.org](mailto:metrowest@westofengland.org);
- by post addressed to James Willcock, Project Manager MetroWest Phase 1, North Somerset Council, Town Hall, Walliscote Grove Road, Weston-super-Mare, BS23 1UJ.

Any responses to or other representations in respect of the Project MUST (i) be received by the Applicant **on or before 1 October 2019** (ii) be made in writing; (iii) state the grounds of the response or representation; (iv) indicate who is making the response or representation; and (v) give an address to which correspondence relating to the response or representation may be sent.

Responses and other representations will be made public; comments will not be attributed to individuals and no personal details will be made public.

**James Willcock**

**MetroWest Phase 1 Project Manager**

**29 August 2019.**