

73525

Land bounded by Simister Lane, Boardman Lane & Baguley Crescent, Simister & Bowlee

National Highways Response

Good afternoon,

I am writing regard to the EIA scoping application mentioned above, Thank you for consulting National Highways on the EIA Scoping Opinion Request for application reference 73525 relating to JPA1.2 Simister and Bowlee (Northern Gateway), comprising up to 1,550 dwellings, a new school, community facilities, transport links and associated infrastructure.

National Highways has reviewed the submitted EIA Scoping information. From our initial review, the scope of the submission appears to be broadly in line with relevant EIA requirements. Notwithstanding this, we note that the Environmental Statement will be supported by a Transport Assessment (TA), which will be a key document in understanding the impacts of the development on the highway network, including the Strategic Road Network (SRN), particularly M60 Junction 19 and, where relevant, other nearby SRN junctions such as M60 Junction 18.

We note that a Transport Assessment Scoping Note (TASN) is intended to be prepared and agreed with key stakeholders. National Highways considers this to be an important document as it will establish the scope and methodology of the transport assessment and we would welcome engagement on this as it progresses.

In reviewing the EIA Scoping Report, National Highways also notes the following points:

- Paragraph 10.63 appears to reference Policy JPA34. Given the location of the site, clarification should be provided within future submissions to ensure the correct policy reference is cited.
- Paragraph 10.64 refers to a number of ongoing transport studies, including the A576 Corridor Study and Active Travel Strategy. It is not currently clear whether these studies will inform the transport assessment and this should be confirmed through the TASN process.
- Paragraph 10.66 would benefit from clarification to ensure the intended scope and approach are clearly understood.

Given the scale of the proposed development and its proximity to M60 Junction 19, National Highways recommends that pre-application engagement continues at an early stage to help agree the scope of the transport assessment and any required mitigation.

We trust these comments are helpful and look forward to continued engagement as the proposal progresses.

Many thanks,

Shivam Sagwal, Assistant Spatial Planner

Spatial Planning Team, North West Operations