C24, Cross Keys

It is noted from Core Document NR5, Statement of Consultation, that Natural England were consulted at GRIP Stage 1 and it is possible there was further consultation at GRIP Stages 2 and/or 3. This appears to have related particularly to matters required as set out under Schedule 5 to the 2006 Rules. Has any consultation or advice been sought or given specifically in relation to Environmental Stewardship?

Network Rail's consultants have confirmed that no advice was sought from or offered by Natural England relating to Environmental Stewardship during Grip Stages 1-3. Counsel will deal with this topic in closing. Please let me know if the Inspector requires any further information.

Route alignments

In relation to a number of affected highways Cambridgeshire County Council, as the highway authority, has raised concerns that the alignments shown on the Order as drafted are incorrect. Are these matters proposed to be addressed by the filled Order? If they are not addressed then what are the potential implications in relation to implementation of the Order?

This issue relates to a lines on some of the application draft plans that indicate the location of existing PRoW. Those lines ought to show the position of the PRoW concerned line as per the Council's definitive map. In some instances there were minor differences which Network Rail's consultants have attributed to the updating of the Council's definitive map in 2016.

Network Rail has taken the following approach. Where the relevant line comprised part of a proposed diversionary route, the relevant sheet has been amended. Where it is a line that is outside the scope of the Order proposals, being both irrelevant to the content and implementation of the Order, it was not considered necessary to amend the Order plan and not a good use of public money to do so.

Where these changes, or other minor amendments that have arisen from continuing dialogue with the Council, have affected points on the plans, both the shoulder notes on the plans and the relevant Order schedules in the Filled Order are amended accordingly. There are no potential implications for the implementation of the Order. Network Rail has sought to accommodate all the points referred to it by the Council, whilst taking a consistent approach.