

North East Joint Transport Committee

For the attention of Stephen Shuster

Secretary of State for Transport
Department for Transport
Transport Infrastructure Planning Unit
Great Minster House
33 Horseferry Road
London
SW1P 4DR

Gateshead Council
Civic Centre
Regent Street
Gateshead
NE8 1HH

Our ref: NECA/TWAO
Your ref: Mr Stephen Shuster

Contact: Brendan McNeany
0191 433 2610

Date: 17 February 2022

Dear Sir,

TRANSPORT AND WORKS ACT 1992

**The Transport and Works (Applications and Objections Procedure) (England and Wales) Rules 2006
Proposed River Tyne (Tunnels) (Modification) Order 2022**

The Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland Combined Authority (NECA), being the Undertaker in respect of the Tyne Tunnels, hereby makes application for an Order under sections 3 and 5 of the Transport and Works Act 1992 in the terms of the draft Order enclosed with this application. The applicant is a statutory body corporate created by the Durham, Gateshead, Newcastle Upon Tyne, North Tyneside, Northumberland, South Tyneside and Sunderland Combined Authority Order 2014 and the Borough Council of Gateshead is its authorised agent in respect of this application.

The proposed Order makes provision for consequential amendments to The River Tyne (Tunnels) Order 2005 reflecting a change in the handling of toll payments. Payments are no longer accepted at toll barriers (which have been removed) but collected either by way of electronic payment or by cash at a PayPoint retailer. This change in toll collection was introduced by TT2 Ltd, who are responsible for the day-to-day management and operation of the Tyne Tunnels, to allow a free-flow traffic system through the Tyne Tunnels to facilitate reduced journey times through the tunnels, known as the Tyne Pass Scheme. The proposed Order also restructures the scheme for exemption from tolls for disabled persons so as to determine exempt status by reference to a system of registration of vehicles by disabled persons; it also introduces a toll exemption for coastguard vehicles.

The proposed Order does not authorise the carrying out of any works or the acquisition of land (whether compulsorily or by agreement) and accordingly Rule 7 and accordingly Rule 14(4) and (5) of

the Transport and Works (Applications and Objections Procedure) (England and Wales) Rules 2006 (environmental impact assessment) does not apply. For the same reason, the requirements to submit plans pursuant to Rule 10(3)(b)(i) and to submit an estimate of costs pursuant to Rule 10(3)(b)(ii) are not engaged and no plans or estimate will be submitted.

In accordance with Rule 10(2)(f) I confirm that no consents, permissions or licences under other enactments are required for the purposes of the proposed Order.

In accordance with Rule 10 of the Transport and Works (Applications and Objections Procedure) (England and Wales) Rules 2006 and the waiver direction under Rule 18 of those Rules issued on 22 December 2021, the following application documents are sent electronically only:

1. Draft Order (Rule 10(2)(a))
2. Explanatory Memorandum (Rule 10(2)(b))
3. Statement of Aims (Rule 10(2)(c))
4. Consultation Summary (Rule 10(2)(d))
5. Declaration of applicant status (Rule 10(2)(e))
6. Proposals for funding the cost of implementing the proposed Order (Rule 10(3)(a))
7. Waiver direction from The Secretary of State given under Rule 18

Evidence by affidavit pursuant to Rule 10(8) will be submitted as soon as practicable in relation to this application.

The documents referred to above will be viewable online by all interested parties at <https://northeastca.gov.uk/twao-application/>

It is acknowledged, in relation to the Rule 18 Waiver Direction, that the Secretary of State may subsequently require the submission of hard copy documents.

The objection period will expire on 4 April 2022.

In accordance with rule 9(2) I confirm that correspondence should be sent to NECATransport@gateshead.gov.uk or to the address below.

Yours faithfully



Mike Barker
Monitoring Officer (Transport)
North East Combined Authority
c/o Corporate Services & Governance
Gateshead Civic Centre
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