

SCHEME FOR THE FORMAL ESTABLISHMENT OF THE HARP RIBBLE VALLEY

LOCAL AUTHORITY PARTNERSHIP FORUM

Introduction

The Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme (HARP) is a programme of works to replace six existing underground tunnel sections of the 110km Haweswater Aqueduct. The aqueduct takes raw water from the Haweswater Reservoir along a 16km section to a water treatment works (WTW) near Kendal for treatment. From this WTW the aqueduct conveys treated water southward to a WTW in the borough of Bury. Along its length there are a number of water mains that branch off the aqueduct supplying treated water to customers in Cumbria, Lancashire and Greater Manchester.

The programme of works is essential to protect future water quality and provide a more resilient supply of clean drinking water. The works will comprise of five new tunnel sections (two replacement tunnel sections combined in the Proposed Haslingden and Walmersley Section) totalling a length of approximately 53km, across seven local planning authorities (LPAs).

This document relates to two of those tunnel sections, the Proposed Bowland Section and the Proposed Marl Hill Section within the Ribble Valley Borough Council area.

Planning permission was granted by Ribble Valley Borough Council on the 19th January 2024 for the proposed developments, reference number 3/2021/0660 (Proposed Bowland Section) and 3/2021/0661 (Proposed Marl Hill Section). Planning permission was granted subject to the obligations outlined within two associated Section 106 agreements. Schedule 2 of the Section 106 agreements requires the establishment of a Local Authority Partnership Forum.

The Local Authority Partnership Forum has been defined in the Section 106 agreements as a forum to oversee the delivery of the Development in accordance with approved plans, associated planning conditions and the Section 106 Agreement. This document outlines a scheme for the formal establishment of the HARP Ribble Valley Local Authority Partnership Forum (HARP RV LAPF).

Terms of Reference

The aim of the HARP RV LAPF is to ensure compliance with the submitted planning documentation, conditions and obligations by monitoring progress during the delivery of the Development and resolving any issues that occur to negate the need for district planning enforcement and ensuring that local communities are fully engaged throughout the process.

The purpose of the HARP RV LAPF is to ensure:

- compliance with and discharge of planning conditions attached to the HARP planning permissions 3/2021/0660 and 3/2021/0661;
- compliance with Section 106 and Highways Agreement(s);
- all other post consent approvals are secured and complied with;
- effective engagement with local communities;
- any required amendments that may reasonably be required to any document can be agreed;
- any disputes are resolved; and
- effective reinstatement is carried out.

The terms of reference can be amended or added to as required by the HARP RV LAMP during the course of the works to best reflect the circumstances and to focus upon the consideration and discussion of all matters relating to and arising out of the Development.

Membership of the HARP RV LAMP

Prior to United Utilities appointing the HARP Competitively Appointed Provider (CAP) i.e. Contractor, to design, build and fund the HARP programme of works and maintain it for a period of 25 years, the HARP RV LAMP representatives will be as follows:-

- United Utilities
- Ribble Valley Borough Council
- Lancashire County Council
- Any other person, group or organisation which, when considering this document, the Council and United Utilities (acting reasonably) agree should attend meetings of the HARP RV LAMP (should they accept an invitation to join the HARP RV LAMP).

Once the CAP has been appointed the HARP RV LAMP representatives will be as follows:-

- United Utilities
- CAP i.e. Contractor carrying out the HARP works (which must include the site manager(s) for the development once appointed)
- Community Liaison Officer (CLO)
- Ribble Valley Borough Council
- Lancashire County Council
- Any other person, group or organisation which, when considering this document, the Council and United Utilities (acting reasonably) agree should attend meetings of the HARP RV LAMP (should they accept an invitation to join the HARP RV LAMP).

Timing of HARP RV LAMP meetings

United Utilities will set up the first HARP RV LAMP meeting within 3 months of acceptance of this document by Ribble Valley Borough Council. The HARP RV LAMP will then meet at least every two months following that first meeting, until such time as the members of the HARP RV LAMP determine that it is no longer necessary. The HARP RV LAMP shall always have the discretion to resolve to meet more or less frequently at any time, dependant on requirements.

Venue for meetings of the HARP RV LAMP

Prior to compound set up HARP RV LAMP meetings will initially be held at Ribble Valley Borough Council, Council offices, Church Walk, Clitheroe, BB7 2RA. If this location is not available, other United Utilities offices could be utilised or an alternative location to be agreed with the HARP RV LAMP representatives.

Once the compounds have been established, the group will look to hold the HARP RV LAMP meeting on site at either the Newton-in-Bowland, Braddup or Bonstone Compounds depending upon the size of facilities available. If this is not possible, the above facilities prior to compound set up will continue to be utilised.

Administrative requirements

United Utilities or the Contractor will furnish the HARP RV LAPF with relevant information in relation to the Development as the HARP RV LAPF reasonably requests.

United Utilities or the Contractor will prepare agendas prior to the meetings and record and distribute notes or minutes of every meeting to all the HARP RV LAPF representatives.

RIBBLE VALLEY BOROUGH COUNCIL

please ask for: Nicola Hopkins
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my ref:
your ref:
date: 24th June 2024

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Dear [REDACTED]

Application Numbers: 3/2021/0660 and 3/2021/0661
Proposal: New sections of Haweswater Aqueduct
Location: Bowland and Marl Hill sections

Thank you for your e-mail of 21st May regarding Schedule 2 of the Section 106 Agreements associated with the above planning approvals.

Schedule 2 includes the requirement to form a Local Authority Partnership Forum (LAPF) in respect of the Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience developments within the Ribble Valley. Within 6 months of the grant of Planning Permission (19th January 2024) a scheme for the formal establishment of a LAPF shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority, in accordance with the S106 Agreements.

The submitted scheme shall detail:

- the membership requirements, as specified within the S106 Agreement.
- A commitment to meet at least every 2 months
- The proposed terms of reference

I can confirm that the proposed scheme, attached to your e-mail of the 21st May 2024, is acceptable in respect of the requirements of both Section 106 Agreements.

In accordance with the S106 Agreements following this written approval of the scheme United Utilities shall now establish the LAPF in accordance with the approved scheme. I note that the first HARP RV LAPF meeting shall be arranged within 3 months of the date of this approval.

I trust this is sufficient and I look forward to hearing from you in respect of the first meeting of the LAPF.

Yours sincerely,

Nicola Hopkins
DIRECTOR OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND PLANNING

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