



Stewart Jones
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A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project
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Dear colleague,

A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project – legal challenge to the Secretary of State’s Development Consent Order decision

As you will be aware, on 7 March 2024, the Secretary of State approved the Development Consent Order (DCO) for the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project.

Following the decision, there was a legal challenge period which concluded on 18 April 2024. This period allowed for any challenges to be made by interested parties to the Secretary of State’s decision.

I am writing to inform you there has been a legal challenge against the Secretary of State’s decision to grant a DCO for the project.

At this stage it is too early to say how much of an impact the legal challenge will have on our programme and start of works. However, we have been designing and developing the A66 Northern Trans-Pennine project, and, following the DCO announcement in March 2024, we plan to continue with archaeological investigations and preparatory works including utilities diversions during 2024.

We are disappointed about the legal challenge as we believe our proposals will provide much needed improved safety and reliability for drivers and businesses that use this vitally important route every day, while also delivering a boost to the regional economy.

Once we are in a position to do so, we will provide you a further update.

Yours sincerely,

S.D. [Signature]

Stewart Jones
Project Director
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