

**Campbell, Jacqui**

---

32

**From:** Roads Eastern Srit  
**Sent:** 10 March 2015 14:42  
**To:** McAuley, Barry  
**Subject:** York Street Interchange Formal Consultation

Barry

Thank you for your response to the consultation on the proposals for the York Street Interchange. Your views have been recorded as part of this process and will contribute to the decision on whether The Department should hold a Public Inquiry into the scheme.

Regards

*Colin Pentland*

Strategic Road Improvements

DRD - Eastern Division, Hydebank, 4 Hospital Road, Belfast BT8 8JL.



The Divisional Manager  
Transport NI – Eastern Division HQ  
Hydebank  
4 Hospital Road  
Belfast  
BT8 8JL

[roads.sriteastern@drdni.gov.uk](mailto:roads.sriteastern@drdni.gov.uk)

Air and Environmental Quality Unit  
Regulatory & Natural Resources Policy Division  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Goodwood House  
44-58 May St  
Town Parks  
Belfast  
BT1 4NN

Telephone: 028 9025 4730

Email: [barry.mcauley@doeni.gov.uk](mailto:barry.mcauley@doeni.gov.uk)

Your reference: HYDE/ROADS/SRIT/G/15/RG133,  
CP  
Our reference: TP/017/4

09 March 2015

Dear Sir or Madam

## **YORK STREET INTERCHANGE – DRAFT ORDERS AND ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT**

I am writing in response to the letter of 27 January 2015 from Roads Service Eastern Division, regarding the Environmental Statement (ES) which has been prepared for the proposed York Street Interchange.

I am happy to see that the consultants who have prepared the ES have engaged with Belfast City Council, and taken account of the Council's Reviews and Assessments of Air Quality.

I note that it is predicted that levels of air pollutants (PM<sub>10</sub> and NO<sub>2</sub>) at sensitive receptors are predicted to be below national air quality standards in Opening Year (2021) and Design Year (2035) scenarios, and that changes in concentrations of pollutants are expected to be in general negligible, and where changes are significant, that levels would nevertheless be below national air quality standards (p158-159).

However, as I set out in my advice of 24<sup>th</sup> March 2014, levels of NO<sub>2</sub> along the Westlink are currently in breach of requirements set out in Directive 2008/50/EC. I would encourage the consultants who have prepared the ES to give some indication of the predicted effects on concentrations of NO<sub>2</sub> along the A12, and other neighbouring roads, not necessarily just where there is relevant exposure in the vicinity of the interchange (an indicative assessment may suffice). For example, the AQMA in Figure 8.1 extends beyond the general vicinity of the area of mapped receptors. Again, Belfast City Council may be able to advise in this regard.

With regard to noise, I would advise that any relevant Noise Action Plans (prepared in fulfilment of requirements of the Environmental Noise Directive – 2002/49/EC)

which have been prepared (or will be prepared) will have to take account of the proposed interchange, as necessary.

For information, all historic air quality data collected on the Northern Ireland network can be found at the Department's website: [www.airqualityni.co.uk](http://www.airqualityni.co.uk)  
Noise maps are available from the Department's website at: [www.noiseni.co.uk](http://www.noiseni.co.uk)

If I can be of any further assistance, do not hesitate to contact me.

Yours sincerely

**DR BARRY MCAULEY**

Air and Environmental Quality