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15 May 2009

Dear Sirs

Thames Tunnel Consultation
Site Selection Methodology Paper: Revised Consultation Draft
Stakeholder and Community Engagement Strategy: Revised Consultation Draft

I refer to your letter dated 7 April 2009 requesting comments on the consultation process for the above Scheme. I also refer to my telephone conversation with Sheena McCallum in which she agreed for this authority's response to be permitted up to 15 May which is after your 5 May deadline.

Your revised drafts have been reviewed by officers and reported to the administration for comment and observation.

They noted that amendments to the Site Selection Methodology and the Stakeholder and Community Engagement Strategy papers had heeded the authority's wish for the list of sites to remain confidential until the Preferred Listing Stage.

Whilst the council supports the concept of making the river Thames a cleaner environment they oppose this particular scheme as it is prohibitively expensive and will continue to permit raw sewage to discharge into the Thames. As such it does not represent value for money for water charge payers. The Council also object to the scheme on the basis that it will generate considerable disruption during the construction period and they will oppose any proposal that will use a riverside park or open space for construction purposes.

Finally if the scheme does go ahead the Council urge Thames Water to consider the design option for driving the final section of the tunnel in a westerly direction leaving the boring machine in situ omitting any final access shaft in the Hammersmith vicinity in order to avoid disruptive riverside construction sites in this area.

Yours faithfully

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gordon Prangnell', written over a light blue horizontal line.

Gordon Prangnell
Head of Highways and Construction

