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# Bicester Town Local Representatives Group

## Meeting #2

13 July 2022

# 01. Today's agenda

# Today's agenda

**01.**

Today's agenda

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**02.**

Housekeeping

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**03.**

Production of meeting notes

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**04.**

Review of actions from meeting #1, deep dive topics for future meetings

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**05.**

Topic- Bridges & Level Crossings

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**06.**

Deep dive topic – DCO update, next steps and process

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**07.**

Closing remarks

# Housekeeping

## Thank you for joining

This is a virtual meeting.

Please display your full name as when you registered to attend – this can be done through the ‘Participants’ section.

To help everyone feel part of the discussion, please feel free to turn your camera on during the meeting if you can.

Please use the ‘Raise Hand’ function to raise a question during the meeting, found in the bottom ribbon (under the ‘Reactions’ option).

During the break, please do not leave the Zoom meeting as you may not be able to re-join – please turn your camera off instead.



Display your full name in username



Please use the mute function



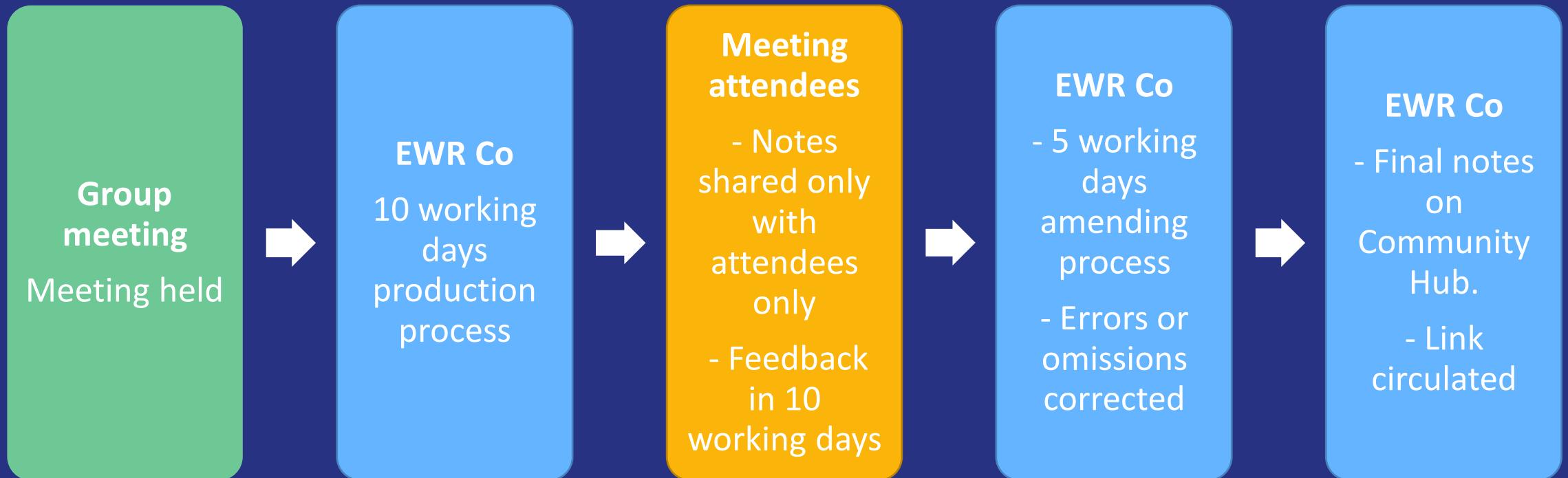
Use the ‘Raise Hand’ function if you want to raise a point during the meeting



Please do put your camera on if possible

## 03. Production of meeting notes

# Creating meeting notes



## 04. **Review of actions from meeting #1, deep dive topics for future meetings**

# Completed actions

No.	Action	Owner	Status
1	Confirm whether the Local Representatives Groups meetings will take place during the pre-election period.	EWR Co	Complete

# Outstanding actions

No.	Action	Owner	Status
1	Confirm the approach and aims of traffic modelling being undertaken by EWR Co in a future meeting	EWR Co	Ongoing; to be discussed at meeting #2
2	Confirm whether the bridge being constructed over the Charlbury Lane level crossing will be designed to hold a dual carriage way.	EWR Co	Ongoing
3	Confirm rationale for excluding Islip in the scheme.	EWR Co	Ongoing; to be discussed at meeting #2

# Topics for future discussion

**Meeting #3:** Rolling Stock / Traction Strategy and Active Travel / First Mile Last Mile

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**Meeting #4 - Discussion:** Other topics for future meetings

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**Frequency:** Quarterly meetings

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**Outcomes:**

**Actions:**

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# 05. Topic – Bridges and Level Crossings

# Introduction

- In total, there are 35 level crossings along the EWR route between Oxford & Cambridge.
- These include public highways, private access roads, public footpaths, bridleways and agricultural access routes for farms divided by the railway.
- We fully recognise the importance of maintaining vital connections for people whilst balancing the need to make the railway safe for everyone.



# EWR Services

- Increased frequency and speed of trains result in longer periods of barrier down time at level crossings.
- This has the potential to increase waiting times on the road network and subsequent rates of crossing misuse.
- EWR is working with key stakeholders to find solutions which:
  1. Support railway operations and reliability.
  2. Manage safety.
  3. Minimise disruption & maintain connectivity for communities.



# Intervention

In determining the need for intervention, the following factors are being considered:

- Current level crossing risk profile.
- Change in risk profile resulting from EWR service introduction.
- Whether intervention is required to mitigate risk.



# Option Appraisal

Where intervention is required, options will be generated and subject to application of assessment factors which consider:

- Safety
- Capital and operational cost
- Community severance
- Impact on traffic
- Land & planning – inc. consistency with local plans, impact on homes & land take
- Operational risk
- Environment
- Consultation feedback





# Traffic and Transport

Traffic modelling enables a visualisation of the changes resulting from proposed options and illustrates:

- Current road capacity.
- How the proposed option affects traffic in the immediate vicinity and wider area.
- Where traffic might be displaced to.
- Whether the change causes congestion elsewhere.
- How traffic varies throughout the day.



# Maintaining Connectivity

Options shall be designed to maintain connectivity and we will consider how different groups are affected, including:

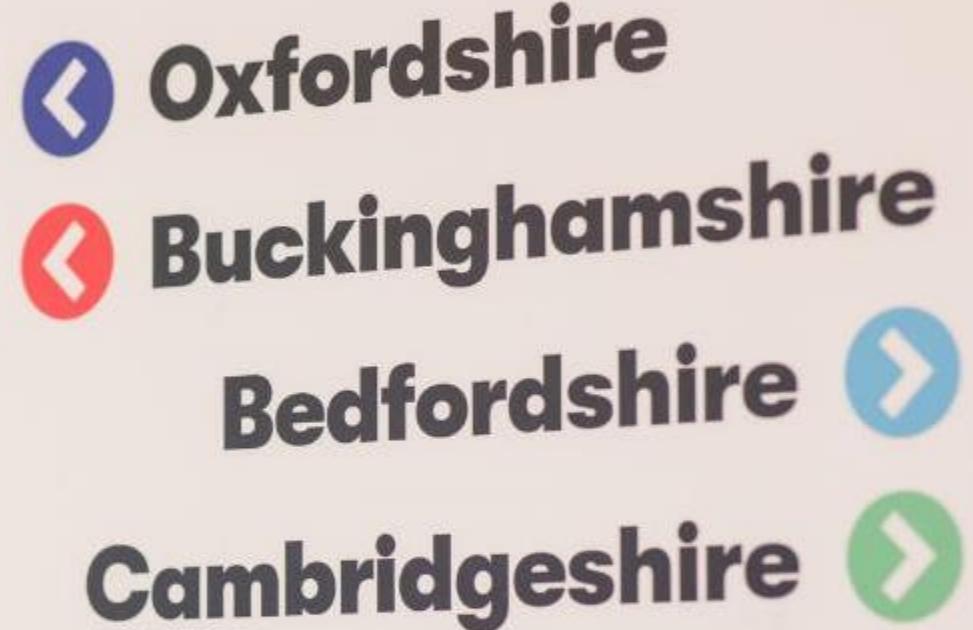
- Pedestrians
- Persons of reduced mobility
- Cyclists & horse riders
- Children & the elderly
- Vehicle & public transport users

We will also consider whether:

- There are other route options.
- The intervention changes safety for these users.
- The intervention can improve access for these user groups compared to the current situation.

# Next steps

- Undertake further technical appraisal work.
- Complete assessment process & determine emerging preferred options.
- Undertake traffic modelling to understand impact of preferred options.
- Further engagement on preferred option at each location.



# 06. Deep dive topic – DCO update, next steps and process

**Simon White**

DCO Project Manager

# DCO Deep- dive: Agenda

**01.**  
Timeline

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**02.**  
Pre-application phase

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**03.**  
Pre-application process and activities

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**04.**  
Consultation, engagement and comms

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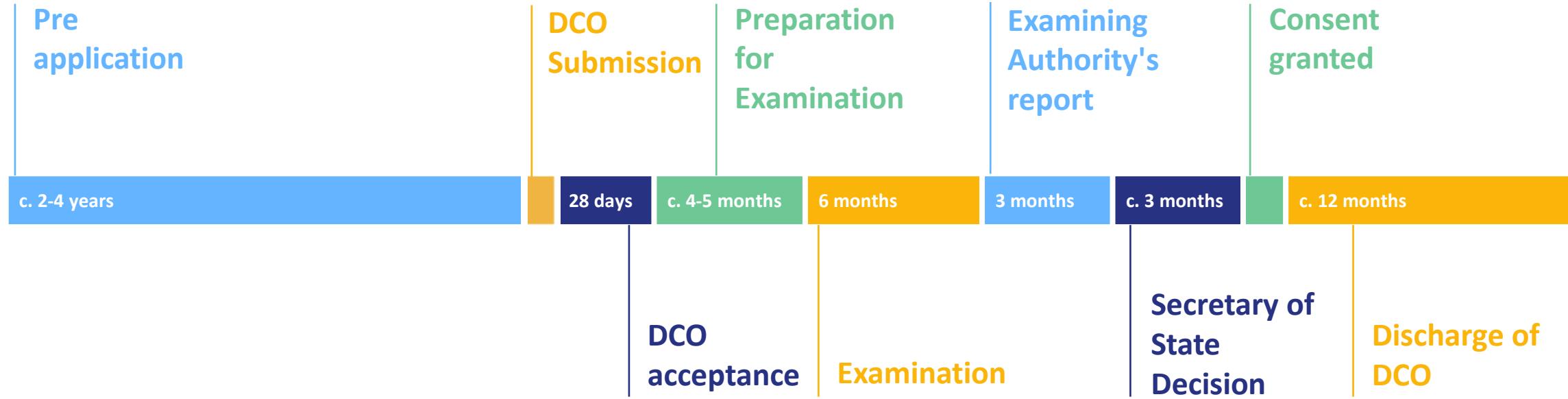
**05.**  
Local authorities' role

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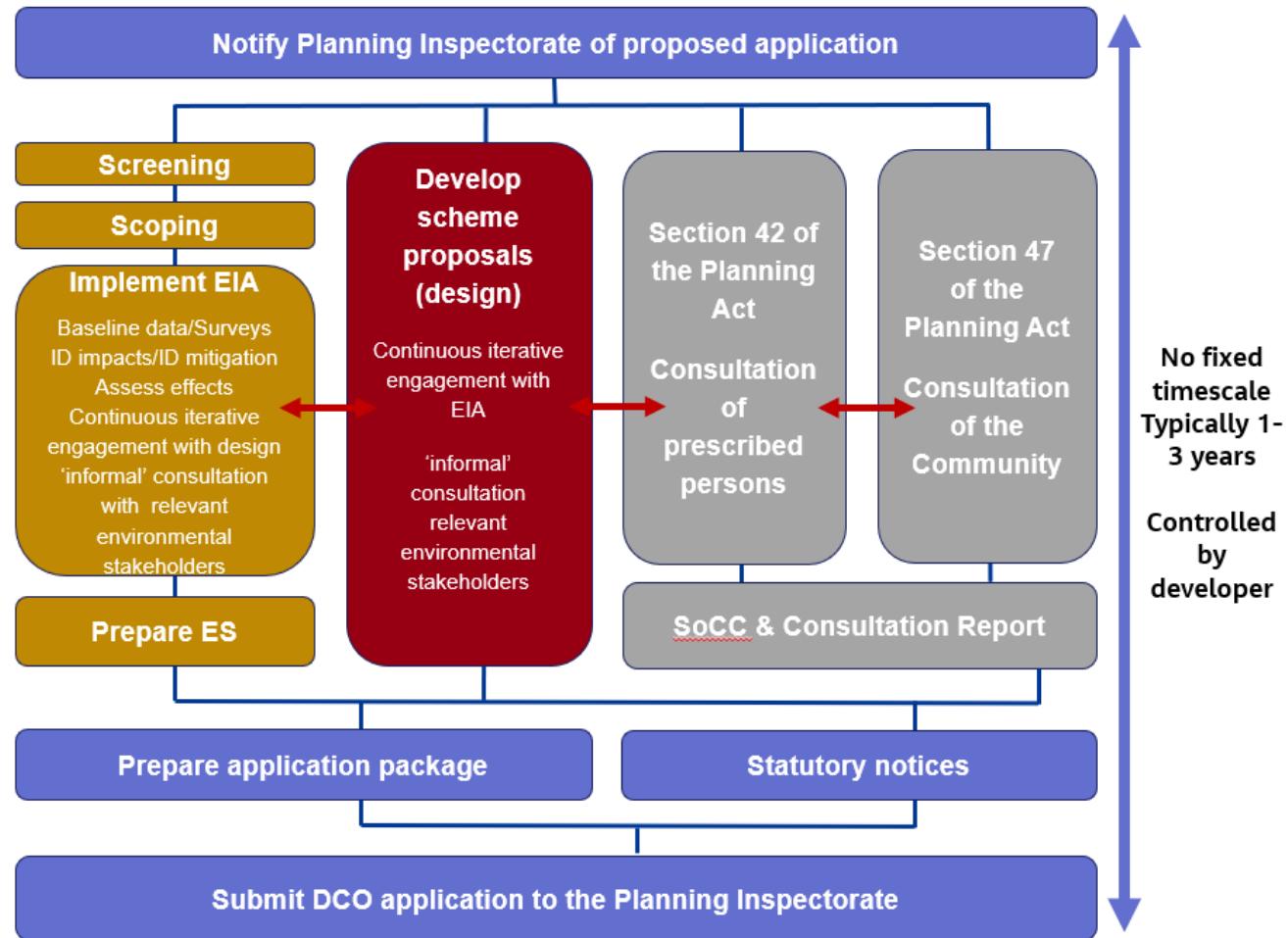
**06.**  
Environmental matters

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# Timeline



# Pre-application phase

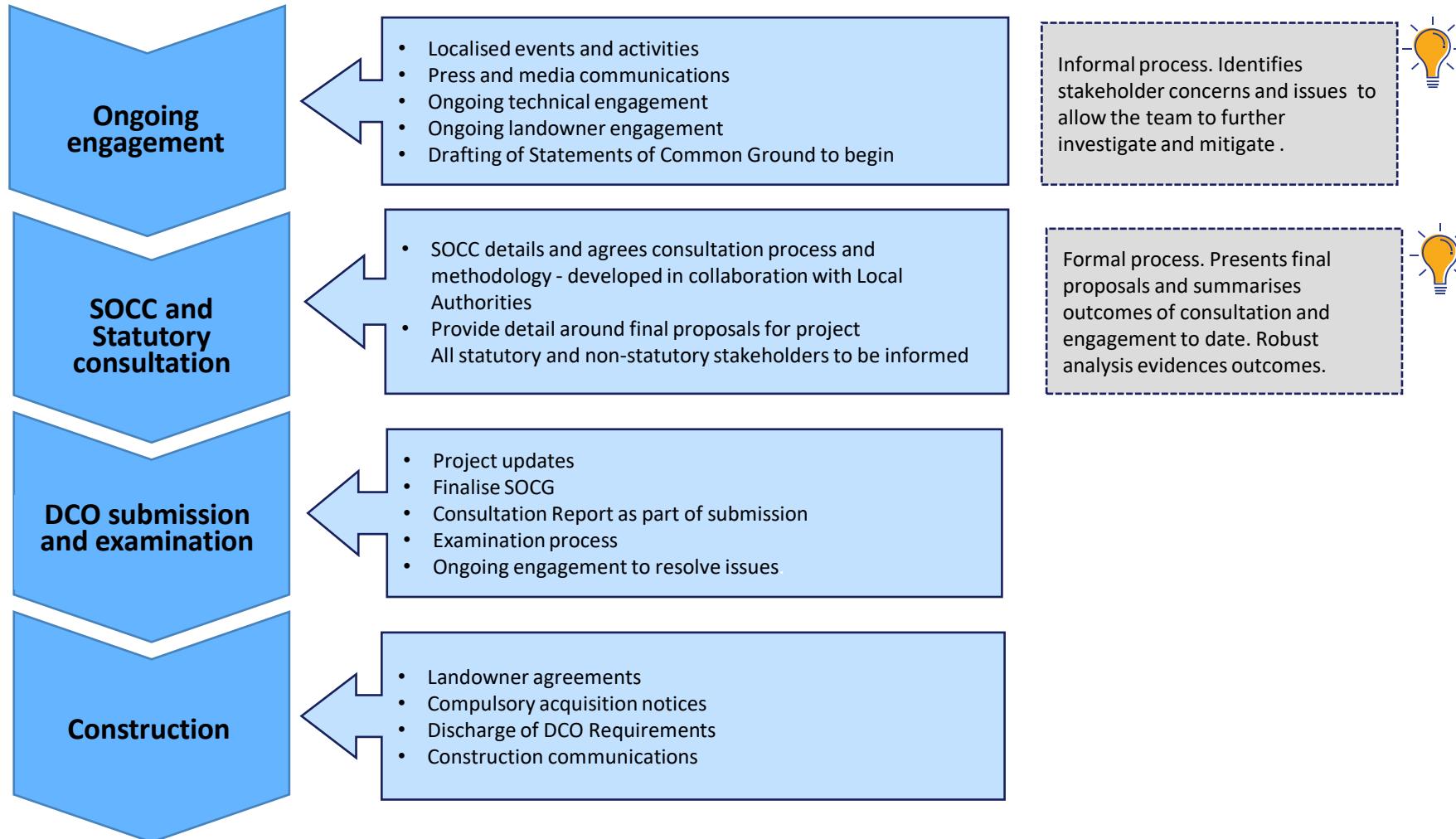


# Pre-application process and activities

	Feed back on Non Statutory Consultation
	Preferred Route Alignment and Route Wide Announcement
	Develop design for Statutory Consultation
	Prepare Preliminary Environmental Information Report
	Develop Statement of Community Consultation
	Hold Statutory Consultation
	Analyse stakeholder feedback
	Develop design for DCO application
	Prepare Environmental Statement
	Prepare Application Documents
	Submit Application

Multi Disciplinary  
Engineering  
Communications  
Environment

# Consultation, engagement and comms



# Local authorities' role

## Before DCO submission

- Engagement framework – Planning Performance Agreement
- Ongoing engagement through development of design
- Regular review of issues raised – through draft SoCG
- Review of the SOCC for Statutory Consultation
- Respond formally to our proposal at Statutory Consultation
- Continued Engagement post Statutory Consultation

## After DCO submission

- Provide an Adequacy of Consultation Response (AoC)
- Provide a Local Impact Report (LIR)
- Provide a Relevant Representation
- Provide a Written Representation
- Attend public hearings
- Respond to Examining Authority's questions
- Participate in discharge of DCO Requirements

Note See PINS Guidance Notes 1&2

# Development of the SoCG

Statements of Common Ground are a written record used during the Development Consent Order (DCO) process to identify the most current position of the parties; what is agreed, what is not agreed and any outstanding matters.

SoCG are useful in focussing the minds of the Examining Authority on the issues which separate EWR Co and the stakeholder.

SoCGs benefit both parties:

- They provide a clear record of the positions of the parties
- They set out the evidence which supports each party's position
- They evidence the engagement that has taken place
- They provide a framework in which negotiation and discussions can progress positively

# Development of the SOCC

- We will work with each Local Authority to tailor the SOCC for its area – it will set out; an overview of the scheme and the proposed DCO application, how we will consult, the events that will be held, where people can see more information and how to get in touch.
- We will ensure that we meet or exceed the tests for adequacy in the Planning Act 2008 and that our approach is equitable for all our stakeholder groups.
- The draft SOCC will be provided to local authorities for informal comment at least two months ahead of the Statutory Consultation.
- It is likely to be amended as a result of feedback provided.
- Formal comment will be sought by us from Local Authorities at the appropriate time, with a response required within a prescribed 28-day period.

## How and when we will engage with Local Authorities

- In an open, honest and timely manner - aiming to avoid surprises.
- We will schedule communication and engagement activities to align with the programme which will be sensitive to stakeholder constraints.
- We will work with Local Authorities to agree the best format for engagement and consultation with its community (reflected in the Statement of Community Consultation (SOCC)).
- The aim is to gain consensus where possible and record areas of agreement and disagreement in a Statement of Common Ground, which will go to the Examining Authority.

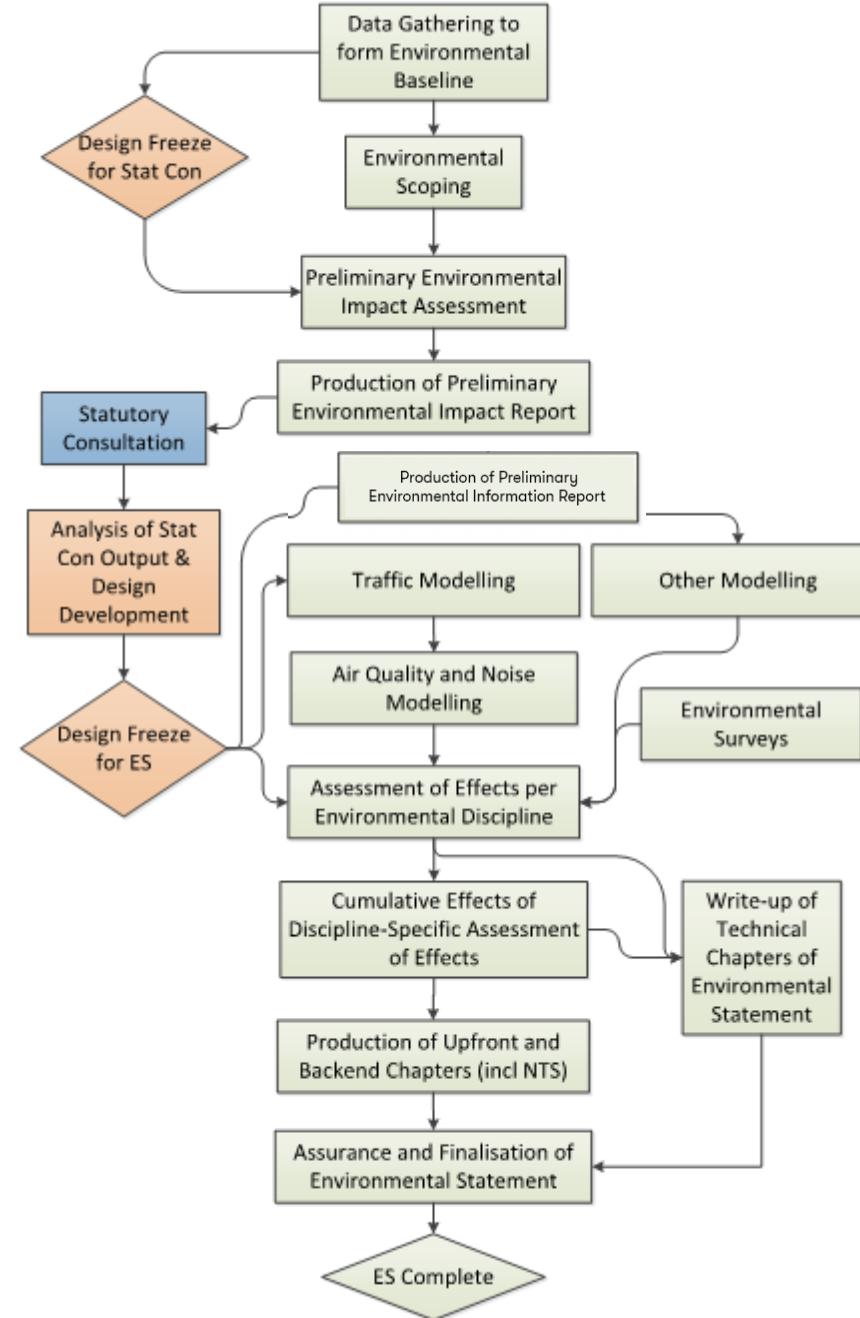
# Planning Performance Agreements

EWR Co is seeking to establish Planning Performance Agreements with prescribed stakeholders to enable them to provide the discretionary engagement, input and feedback which are fundamental to the process covering these stages:

- Pre-application
- Pre-examination
- Examination
- If relevant, after grant of DCO

# Environmental Matters

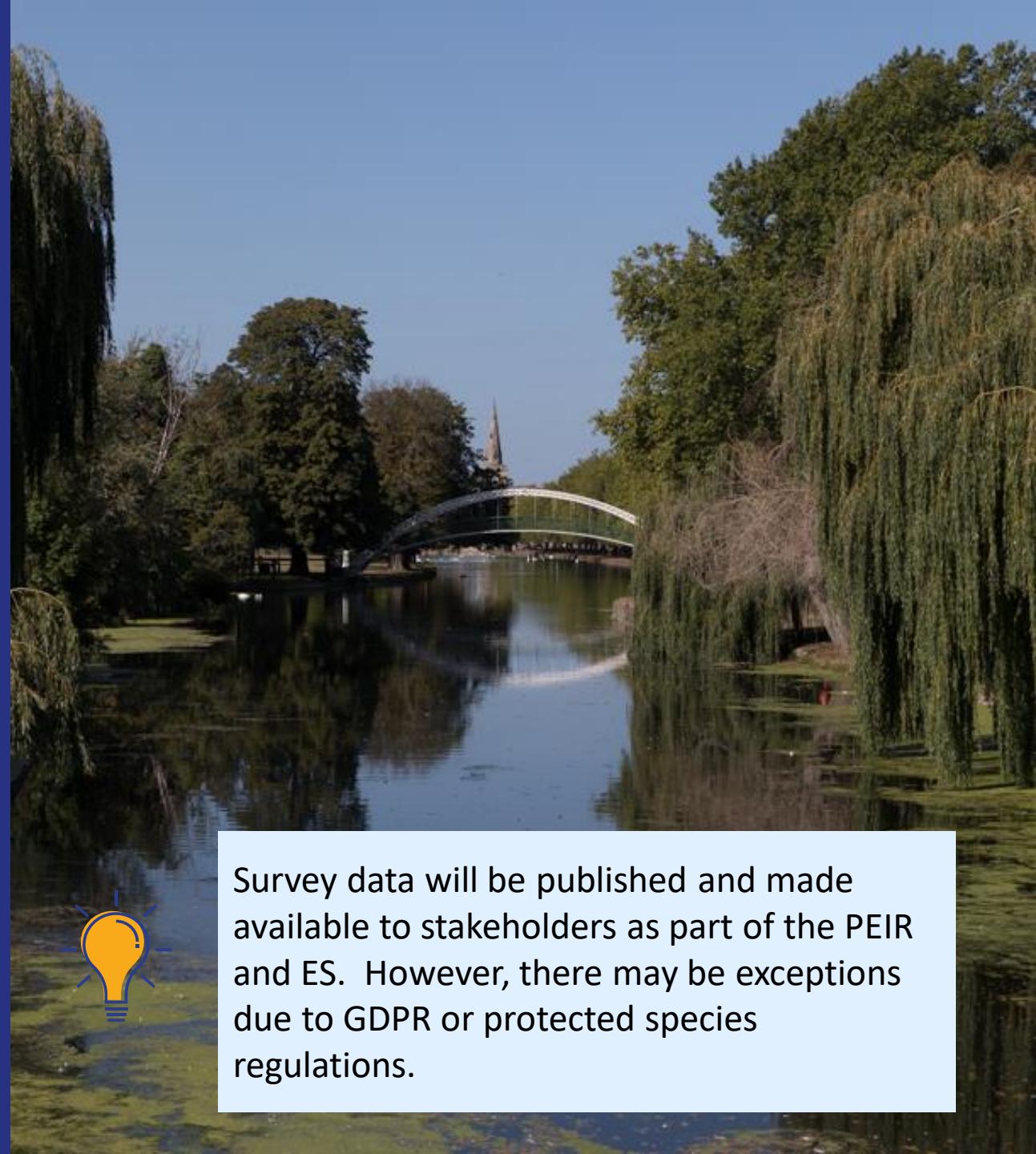
## EIA and production of the Environmental Statement



# Survey data

## Types of Survey Data include

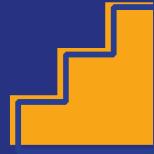
- Arboriculture
- Terrestrial Ecology
- Freshwater Ecology
- Topography
- Geotechnical information
- Hydrogeological Information
- Demand survey information
- Traffic Survey information
- Asset surveys
- Heritage



Survey data will be published and made available to stakeholders as part of the PEIR and ES. However, there may be exceptions due to GDPR or protected species regulations.

# 07. Closing remarks

# Next steps



**Summary note to be circulated to attendees for comment within ten working days before being uploaded to Community Hub**

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**Slides to be uploaded to Community Hub within ten working days**

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**Action tracker to be updated**

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**Meeting #3 and #4 - date vote (Autumn and Winter)**

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## We're always here

All the Group's relevant documents will be available on its **Community Hub** site.

We will notify you when available.



## Got a question?

If you have any questions about the Group, please email:

**[localrepresentativesgroups@eastwestrail.co.uk](mailto:localrepresentativesgroups@eastwestrail.co.uk)**

If you have any questions about the project, please email:

**[contact@eastwestrail.co.uk](mailto:contact@eastwestrail.co.uk)**

Or you can also call us on **0330 134 0067**

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