

**DPI/Z4718/21/6**

**Stopping Up and Diversion Order – Holmfirth, West Yorkshire, Footpath 60**

## **PRE-INQUIRY NOTE**

1. The Applicant (by letter of 17 August 2021) has questioned whether the proof of evidence submitted on behalf of Kirklees Council extends beyond the authorised brief of the relevant Council committee. However, it is not my role in conducting the Inquiry to investigate or police this particular matter, which would appropriately be one for the relevant Court to determine.
2. Having now reviewed the all the submitted written evidence, I once again wish to strongly emphasise to all those intending to participate in the Inquiry that the evidence I need to hear concerns facts and judgements directly relating to any advantages and disadvantages which would be likely to arise from making the Stopping-Up/Diversion Order (eg the safety, convenience, attractiveness and heritage of the footpath and any benefits which might arise from full implementation of the relevant planning permissions).

The history of what other parties have said and done and speculation about their motives is highly unlikely to be of relevance to my recommendation to the Secretary of State on the Order. I shall have no hesitation in curtailing presentation of any evidence at

the Inquiry which I believe would not be relevant to my recommendation.

*Malcolm Rivett* (INSPECTOR)

18 August 2021