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**Nationally Significant Infrastructure Projects
Centre of Excellence
8 May 2024**

A bit about me and Infrastructure Matters

- Decade at The Planning Inspectorate as Lead Examiner
- View from other side of the fence
- Consents and advocacy advice for complex projects



Learn to love the DCO process!



- Grapple with and understand the detail early on and become **influential and great custodians of the future**
- **Discharge requirements** effectively and efficiently

What if you're too busy for DCOs?



Lack of involvement will cost more in time, money and poorer outcomes

Without focus you will be less effective in doing the best for your locality

Resource priorities



- **Applicants'** motivation is often not the same as yours
- **Local authority** priorities vary hugely. What are yours?
- **Is it simply**, us and them or are there compromises to be found?

Creating the best for our location



- **Future** of a place is shaped by what we do
- **Stakeholders** integral as we travel along the DCO consenting process
- **Spotlights fade**, what have we agreed to do if the Order is made?

Roundtable Discussion

**The good and the bad of
getting involved early**

**Who has DCO experience on
your table?**

What was their experience?

**Discuss, question and learn
from each others
perspectives.**

Consider

People

Finances

Tools and Digital
Information
Systems

Stakeholders

Political priorities

Wildcard ideas

And finally ...



- **Understand** policy imperative
- **Dig deeper** into the pros and cons
- **Influence** DCO contents and your role in the requirements
- **Shape** the future



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