

## STATEMENT OF AIMS

**TRANSPORT AND WORKS ACT 1992**

**THE TRANSPORT AND WORKS (APPLICATIONS AND OBJECTIONS PROCEDURE) (ENGLAND AND WALES) RULES 2006**

**RULE 10(2)(c)**

**THE RIVER TYNE (TUNNELS) ORDER 2005**

**DRAFT RIVER TYNE (TUNNELS) (MODIFICATION) ORDER 2022**

**CONCISE STATEMENT OF AIMS**

### **1. Introduction**

- 1.1. The Durham, Gateshead, South Tyneside and Sunderland Combined Authority (**NECA**) c/o Civic Centre, Regent Street, Gateshead, Tyne and Wear, NE8 1HH is applying to the Secretary of State for Transport under section 6 of the Transport and Works Act 1992 (the **1992 Act**) for an Order under 3 and 5 of the 1992 Act (the **proposed Order**) to modify the River Tyne (Tunnels) Order 2005 (the **2005 Order**)
- 1.2. This document is a concise statement of the aims of the proposals to which the application relates and has been produced as one of the documents required to be submitted with the application under rule 10(2)(c) of the Transport and Works (Applications and Objections Procedure) (England and Wales) Rules 2006.
- 1.3. The proposed Order makes provision for consequential amendments to The River Tyne (Tunnels) Order 2005 reflecting a change in the handling of toll payments. Payments are no longer accepted at toll barriers (which have been removed) but collected either by way of electronic payment or by cash at a PayPoint retailer. This change in toll collection was introduced by TT2 Ltd, who are responsible for the day to day management and operation of the Tyne Tunnels, to allow a free-flow traffic system through the Tyne Tunnels to facilitate reduced journey times through the tunnels, known as the Tyne Pass Scheme. The proposed Order also restructures the scheme for exemption from tolls for disabled persons so as to determine exempt status by reference to a system of registration of vehicles by disabled persons; it also introduces a toll exemption for coastguard vehicles.

### **2. Aims**

- 2.1. The change in toll collection is being effected through changes to the byelaws made under the 2005 Order. There are a number of references in the 2005 Order that reflect the

original expectation that tolls would be collected at booths, and the aim of the proposed Order is to harmonise the language of the 2005 Order with the byelaw changes, and to make some minor amendments to the 2005 Order as follows:

- 2.1.1. Replacing the provision of the 2005 Order which deals with the power of byelaws to make provision about the designation of places for toll payment and related matters. To reflect the new free-flow traffic which involves the absence of toll-booths, the replacement provision omits references to toll-booths and replaces them with more flexible references to byelaws dealing with methods and timing of payment of tolls (including an express reference to the possibility of pre-payment at discounted rates);
- 2.1.2. Restructuring the scheme for exemption from tolls for disabled persons so as to determine exempt status by reference to a system of registration of vehicles by disabled persons;
- 2.1.3. Introducing a toll exemption for coastguard vehicles;
- 2.1.4. Providing for a toll discount on pre-payment;
- 2.1.5. Consolidating references to persons carrying out functions in respect of the Tunnels so as to refer simply to "tunnel staff", and clarifying that byelaws can confer functions on the undertaker and its officials by reference to "tunnel staff".

Signed:



On behalf of NECA (on behalf of the North East Joint Transport Committee)

Date: 17 February 2022

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