

## **STAFFORD BOROUGH LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**

### **MEETING BETWEEN FULCRUM CONNECTIONS & STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**DATE OF MEETING – 17 JULY 2008**

#### **Officers in Attendance**

Jackie Warner	-	Fulcrum Connections
Robert Palin	-	Fulcrum Connections
Alex Yendole	-	Stafford Borough Council, Principal Planning Officer

#### **Details**

- JW provided a brief introduction in terms of Fulcrum Connections services including the company's role as a gas utilities infrastructure provider working through Transco. The gas distribution network covers the whole of the United Kingdom. Gas infrastructure links have been established and can provide services to individual development sites including electricity, gas and water. However beyond the individual development sites Fulcrum Connections only have jurisdiction over the gas distribution network. There are separate utility connections with associated infrastructure for gas.
- New gas mains and connections to new estates can be provided, but liaison with other networks such as Severn Trent Water and Central Networks is required to link to associated distribution networks. On average the provision of new gas connections is approximately £600 per house.
- It is important to have gas mains as close to new developments as possible to reduce costs of linking to the distribution network. Therefore network analysis is required to determine new infrastructure requirements and the costs for each location. Andy Charlesworth is the key contact within Fulcrum Connections for this type of network analysis, based at the Rotherham office.
- Contact details can be provided for the electricity network providers, i.e. Central Network staff. Separate infrastructure and network analysis will be required for the electricity network through Central Networks especially for areas north of Stafford. Service level agreements are usually overseen by Ofgem to ensure delivery of work and customers are replied to within 20 days.

## **MEETING BETWEEN FULCRUM CONNECTIONS & STAFFORD BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**DATE OF MEETING – 5 AUGUST 2008**

### **Officers in Attendance**

Andy Charlesworth - Fulcrum Connections  
Alex Yendole - Stafford Borough Council, Principal Planning Officer

### **Details**

- The Fulcrum Connections Group handles gas through the National Grid and has two main roles; as gas transporter within the gas distribution network and providing infrastructure services in terms of building the networks. The Fulcrum Group works with other network owners and National Grid to deliver a range of utility services including gas.
- National Grid owns the network and Fulcrum Connections co-ordinate gas movements and quantities. National Grid will provide gas network information for Stafford town. There will be no cost to Stafford Borough Council. Initial discussions can also take place with the electricity industry in order to establish the network strategy and its capacity for new development.
- Gas is transported along high pressure mains at 100 - 250 bars, with off take stations linking through to local transporter systems and subsequently through to individual sites. Off take stations as well as ring mains make up the network to provide the lowest level capacity for individual developments and associated infrastructure. Network infrastructure data can be provided through GIS maps with new locations identified and phasing included to show bulk supply requirements and if reinforcements are necessary. High pressure mains can cost approximately £1½ million and can take two years to install. However this can be required for reinforcement works. £100 per metre for medium to low pressure mains but £500 per metre for high pressure main.
- National Grid can provide information within a week in terms of where new networks will be required. Initial feedback for a settlement such as Stafford would be 4-6 weeks based on a 20 year time horizon. Three phases of new development are proposed around Stafford to 2016, to 2021 and to 2026. This information is private and confidential at this stage.
- AC to provide a contact at Central Networks.
- Date of Next Meeting - Friday 3 October 2008

Note prepared by Alex Yendole  
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Forward Planning Section, Stafford Borough Council