

# LAND OFF LOWFIELD ROAD, BOLTON UPON DEARNE: PHASE 3

## **Odour Assessment Review**

Prepared for: Gleeson Developments

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

SLR Consulting Ltd has been commissioned by Gleeson Developments to undertake an Odour Assessment Review to support the planning application for a proposed C3 use-class development on Land off Lowfield Road, Bolton upon Dearne.

### 1.1 Background

The proposed development site is located adjacent (circa 70m to the north-east) of the Bolton upon Dearne wastewater treatment works (WwTW), operated by Yorkshire Water.

A previous Odour Constraints Assessment was submitted in support of a planning application for the proposed development of a 60 unit residential (C3 use-class) development on Land off Lowfield Road, Bolton upon Dearne (Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council (BMBC) application reference: 2011/0963) (SLR report reference: 410.03044.00004, dated September 2012) for 'Phase 2' of Gleeson's Land off Lowfield Road scheme. The development was granted consent on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

This Odour Constraints Assessment was resubmitted to BMBC to support the planning application for 'Phase 3' of Gleeson's Land off Lowfield Road scheme (BMBC application reference: 2015/0725). This application was refused, partly on odour grounds. A later Appeal was dismissed, albeit not on odour grounds.

This Odour Assessment Review provides a summary of previous Odour Constraints Assessment work submitted, potential revisions to the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW in the interim period in terms of variations to odour generation, and implications to future residential development of Phase 3 of Land off Lowfield Road, Bolton upon Dearne.

### 1.2 Project Structure

The remainder of this report is structured as follows:

- section 2 presents an overview of the relevant policy, legislation and guidance;
- section 3 presents a review of the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment undertaken to support an adjacent residential planning application;
- section 4 presents a review of the 2017 Planning Appeal;
- section 5 presents the results of the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW in terms of potential odour generation; and
- section 6 provides discussion and concludes the study.

## 2.0 RELEVANT POLICY, LEGISLATION AND GUIDANCE

### 2.1 Planning Policy

#### 2.1.1 National Policy

The 2019 update to the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) describes the policy context in relation to pollutants including odour:

*“Para 170: Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:*

*e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of [...] air [...] pollution [...]. Development should, wherever possible, help to improve local environmental conditions such as air [...] quality [...].”*

*“Para 180: Planning policies and decisions should also ensure that new development is appropriate for its location taking into account the likely effects (including cumulative effects) of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment, as well as the potential sensitivity of the site or the wider area to impacts that could arise from the development.”*

*“183. The focus of planning policies and decisions should be on whether proposed development is an acceptable use of land, rather than the control of processes or emissions (where these are subject to separate pollution control regimes). Planning decisions should assume that these regimes will operate effectively. Equally, where a planning decision has been made on a particular development, the planning issues should not be revisited through the permitting regimes operated by pollution control authorities.”*

The accompanying National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), provides guiding principles on how planning can take account of the impact of new development on air quality, and includes the following in regard to odour:

*“Odour and dust can also be a planning concern, for example, because of the effect on local amenity.”*

*“When deciding whether air quality is relevant to a planning application, considerations could include whether the development would:*

- *Expose people to existing sources of air pollutants. This could be by building new homes, workplaces or other development in places with poor air quality.”*

*“Assessments should be proportionate to the nature and scale of development proposed and the level of concern about air quality, and because of this are likely to be locationally specific. The scope and content of supporting information is therefore best discussed and agreed between the local planning authority and applicant before it is commissioned.”*

The guidance within the NPPF and NPPG specifically relating to odour has been considered as part of this Odour Assessment.

#### 2.1.2 Local Policy

Barnsley adopted the Local Plan in January 2019, following a period of public consultation and examination by an Independent Planning Inspector. The Local Plan sets out how the Council will manage physical development of the borough on behalf of residents and businesses, by providing local planning policy covering the period up to 2033.

Within the Local Plan, the following policies relate to odour and air pollution:

*“Policy GD1 General Development*

*Proposals for development will be approved if:*

- *There will be no significant adverse effect on the living conditions and residential amenity of existing and future residents;*
- *They are compatible with neighbouring land and will not significantly prejudice the current or future use of the neighbouring land; [...]*

*“Policy Poll1 Pollution Control and Protection*

*Development will be expected to demonstrate that it is not likely to result, directly or indirectly, in an increase in air, surface water and groundwater, noise, smell, dust, vibration, light or other pollution which would unacceptably affect or cause a nuisance to the natural and built environment or to people.*

*We will not allow development of new housing or other environmentally sensitive development where existing air pollution, noise, smell, dust, vibration, light or other pollution levels are unacceptable and there is no reasonable prospect that these can be mitigated against.*

*Developers will be expected to minimise the effects of any possible pollution and provide mitigation measures where appropriate.”*

The relevant policies relating to odour as stated within the Local Plan have been addressed within this Odour Assessment.

## 2.2 Legislation

### 2.2.1 Odour Nuisance Regulation

The main requirements with respect to odour control from premises that are not permitted under the Environmental Permitting (England and Wales) Regulations (2007), and subsequent amendments, is that provided in Section 79 of Part III of the Environmental Protection Act (1990). The Act defines nuisance as:

*“any dust steam, smell or other effluvia arising on industrial trade or business premises and being prejudicial to health or a nuisance.”*

Enforcement of the Act, in regard to nuisance, is currently under the jurisdiction of the local Environmental Health Department, whose officers are deemed to provide an independent evaluation of nuisance. If the Local Authority (LA) is satisfied that a statutory nuisance exists, or is likely to occur or happen again, it must serve an abatement notice under Part III of the Environmental Protection Act (1990). Enforcement can insist that there be no malodour beyond the boundary of the works. A defence is to show that the process to which the nuisance has been attributed and its operation are being controlled according to Best Practicable Means (BPM).

## 2.3 Guidance

### 2.3.1 Assessment of Predicted Odour Impact

There is neither European nor United Kingdom (UK) specific regulatory standards for the assessment of the impact of odours. However, it may be reasonably argued that complaints are likely to occur when odours become detectable and recognisable. The longer the odour detection persists for an individual, the greater the level of complaints may be expected, particularly if the odours are unpleasant.

The potential for odorous compounds to cause nuisance is dependent upon a wide range of factors, including:

- the rate of emission of the compound(s);
- the duration and frequency of exposure;
- the time of the day that this emission occurs;

- the prevailing meteorology;
- the sensitivity of the 'receptors' to the emission, i.e. whether the odorous compound is more likely to cause nuisance, such as the sick or elderly, who may be more sensitive;
- the odour detection capacity of individuals to the various compound(s); and
- the individual perception of the odour, (i.e. whether the odour is regarded as unpleasant). This is greatly subjective, and may vary significantly from individual to individual. For example, some individuals may consider some odours as pleasant, such as petrol, paint and creosote.

### 2.3.2 Chartered Institute for Water and Environmental Management

The Chartered Institute for Water and Environmental Management (CIWEM) released a Policy Position Statement regarding odour in February 2011. In consideration of an appropriate assessment criterion to determine potential odour impacts, CIWEM stated that:

*“Given the differing odour impact criteria available, the selection of the most appropriate criterion should be determined by the objective of the assessment (whether this be against a standard of avoidance of nuisance or 'significant pollution') and the nature of the odour under assessment.*

*It is, therefore, the view of CIWEM that these and other odour impact criteria should be regarded as indicative guidelines and cannot be applied as over-arching statutory numerical standards. CIWEM considers that the following framework is the most reliable that can be defined on the basis of the limited research undertaken in the UK at the time of writing:*

- $C_{98, 1-hour} > 10 \text{ou}_E/\text{m}^3$  – complaints are highly likely and odour exposure at these levels represents an actionable nuisance;
- $C_{98, 1-hour} > 5 \text{ou}_E/\text{m}^3$ , – complaints may occur and depending on the sensitivity of the locality and nature of the odour this level may constitute a nuisance
- $C_{98, 1-hour} < 3 \text{ou}_E/\text{m}^3$ , – complaints are unlikely to occur and exposure below this level are unlikely to constitute significant pollution or significant detriment to amenity unless the locality is highly sensitive or the odour highly unpleasant in nature.”

### 2.3.3 IAQM Odour Guidance

The Institute of Air Quality Management (IAQM) odour for planning guidance<sup>1</sup> is specifically designed for assessing odour impacts for planning purposes rather than for environmental protection Regulatory purposes (e.g. Environmental Permitting, statutory nuisance investigations, etc.).

The scope of the IAQM guidance specifically addresses:

*“planning application[s] [...] when a sensitive use is being proposed near to an existing odorous process (known as ‘encroachment’). The guidance states ‘best practice is to use a multi-tool approach, where practicable’.*

The IAQM guidance summarises the typical requirements and approaches for undertaking an odour assessment for planning applications to determine the potential amenity impacts using both empirical (observation based) and predictive (modelling) techniques.

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<sup>1</sup> IAQM Guidance on the assessment of odour for planning, v1.2, 2018.

To facilitate the assessment of the significance of predicted odour exposure on amenity, the guidance defines receptor sensitivity and proposes ‘odour effect descriptors’ which combine the relative sensitivity of the receptors, the nature (or offensiveness) of the odour with quantitative predicted odour exposure levels

The IAQM receptor sensitivity types are summarised in Table 2-1.

**Table 2-1**  
**IAQM Receptor Sensitivity**

Receptor Sensitivity	Example Land-uses
High sensitivity receptors	Surrounding land where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• users can reasonably expect enjoyment of a high level of amenity; and</li> <li>• people would reasonably be expected to be present here continuously, or at least regularly for extended periods, as part of the normal pattern of use of the land.</li> </ul> Examples may include residential dwellings, hospitals, schools/education and tourist/cultural
Medium sensitivity receptors	Surrounding land where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• users would expect to enjoy a reasonable level of amenity, but wouldn’t reasonably expect to enjoy the same level of amenity as in their home; or</li> <li>• people wouldn’t reasonably be expected to be present here continuously or regularly for extended periods as part of the normal pattern of use of the land.</li> </ul> Examples may include places of work, commercial/retail premises and playing/recreation fields.
Low sensitivity receptors	Surrounding land where: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the enjoyment of amenity would not reasonably be expected; or</li> <li>• there is transient exposure, where the people would reasonably be expected to be present only for limited periods of time as part of the normal pattern of use of the land.</li> </ul> Examples may include industrial use, farms, footpaths and roads

The IAQM then presents a matrix for ‘most offensive’ and ‘moderately offensive’ odour types. In IAQM guidance states the following in regard to the offensiveness potential of odours and specifically those relating to WWTW:

“For odours that are less unpleasant, the level of odour exposure required to elicit the same effect may be somewhat higher, requiring professional judgement to be applied. For example, odours from sewage treatment works plant operating normally, i.e. non-septic conditions, would not be expected to be at the ‘most offensive’ end of the spectrum [...] and can be considered on par with ‘moderately offensive’ odours [...]”

Table 3 2 presents the applied Odour Effect Descriptors, as referenced within the stated IAQM guidance. It is noted that impacts descriptors apply equally to cases where there are increases and decreases in odour exposure as a result of a development. Therefore, the terms ‘adverse’ and ‘beneficial’ should be applied to the descriptors as appropriate.

**Table 2-2**  
**Odour Effect Descriptors (Based on IAQM Approach)**

Predicted Odour Exposure $C_{98, 1\text{-hour}} \text{ ou}_E/\text{m}^3$	Receptor Sensitivity		
	Low	Medium	High
Moderately offensive			
≥10	Moderate	Substantial	Substantial
5-<10	Slight	Moderate	Moderate
3-<5	Negligible	Slight	Moderate
1.5-<3	Negligible	Negligible	Slight
0.5-<1.5	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible
<0.5	Negligible	Negligible	Negligible

## 3.0 REVIEW OF 2012 ODOUR CONSTRAINTS ASSESSMENT

### 3.1 Background

A previous Odour Constraints Assessment was submitted in support of a planning application for the proposed development of a 60-unit residential (C3 use-class) development on Land off Lowfield Road, Bolton upon Dearne (BMBC application reference: 2011/0963) (SLR report reference: 410.03044.00004, dated September 2012) for 'Phase 2' of Gleeson's Land off Lowfield Road scheme. The development was granted consent on 8<sup>th</sup> December 2012.

The 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment considered potential odour arising from the operation of the adjacent Bolton upon Dearne WWTW. Potential odour impacts were quantified following a period of site-specific odour monitoring and dispersion modelling to quantify required stand-offs for the protection of residential amenity.

### 3.2 Basis for Odour Quantification

The assessment of an odour impact may be undertaken with two differing approaches, by the use of indicator determinands, or total odour.

The more appropriate approach in the case of complex gas mixture (or a site with multiple sources of differing nature) is that of total odour. Total odour is measured using the concept of the European Odour Unit ( $ou_E$ ), as defined in British Standard EN 13725(2003). This approach allows impact assessment of any odorous gas as it is independent of chemical constituents and centres instead on human response or detection threshold of the gas in question.

As the odour unit is a Standard Unit in the same way as gram or milligram, the notation used in odour assessment will follow the conventions of any mass emission unit as follows:

- concentration:  $ou_E/m^3$ ;
- emission:  $ou_E/s$ ; and
- specific emission (emission per unit area):  $ou_E/m^2/s$ .

Like air quality standards for individual pollutants, exposure to odour is given in terms of a percentile of averages over the course of a year. The exposure criteria accepted in the UK at present is given in terms of (concentration) European Odour Units as a 98<sup>th</sup> percentile ( $C_{98}$ ) of hourly averages. This allows 2% of the year when the impact may be above the limit criterion (175 hours). The notation for impact is therefore:

$$C_{98, 1-hour} \times ou_E/m^3$$

For the purposes of the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment, the approach using European Odour Units was adopted as the most appropriate method.

### 3.3 Applied Criterion

The 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment applied the following impact criterion for the assessment of potential Bolton-on-Dearne WWTW odour impacts on Land off Lowfield Road, Bolton upon Dearne residential development:

- $C_{98, 1-hour} 3.0ou_E/m^3$  – based upon the recommendations of the CIWEM; and

- $C_{98, 1\text{-hour}} 5.0\text{ou}_E/\text{m}^3$  – based upon a planning Inspector’s decision on a Public Inquiry in 1993 for an application for a residential development adjacent to a Northumbrian Water Ltd operated WwTW sited at Newbiggin-by-the-Sea, Northumberland<sup>2</sup>, and the assessment criteria applied by UU during asset management at the time of assessment.

### 3.4 Conclusions from 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment

Reference should be made to Appendix 02 for a copy of the modelled odour isopleth contour plots presented as part of the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment, which illustrate the extent of modelled odour from the standard operation of the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW. These odour isopleth contour plots illustrate:

- Drawing AQ1-1 Average Modelled Odour Impact of the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW, 2007-2011 Meteorology, Geomean Odour Emission Rate; and
- Drawing AQ1-2 Maximum Modelled Odour Impact of the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW, 2007 Meteorology, Geomean Odour Emission Rate.

The 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment concluded sufficient dispersion would occur to ensure that the resultant odour exposure levels at the Bolton upon Dearne Phase 3 Application Site would be below  $C_{98, 1\text{-hour}} 5.0\text{ou}_E/\text{m}^3$ . Reference should be made to Appendix 01 for a presentation of Drawing AQ1-1 and AQ1-2 originally presented as part of the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment.

The 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment pre-dates the IAQM *‘guidance on the assessment of odour for planning’* document. However, it is noted that the assessment was undertaken under the broad principles of this guidance. Furthermore, in support of the 2017 Appeal, the Appeal Statement presented corresponding impact descriptors which concluded that the predicted effect is ‘not significant’ at all considered receptors, in accordance with the IAQM guidance. The results of the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment were accepted by Yorkshire Water.

It is noted that the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment considered relevant local planning policy as presented within the Barnsley Unitary Development Plan (UDP), specifically policy CSP40 Pollution Control and Protection. In the interim period since the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment, BC has adopted a new Local Plan containing the relevant policy presented within Section 2.1.2. It is noted that these updates to Local Planning Policy do **not** change the conclusions to the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment.

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<sup>2</sup> Department of the Environment (15th July 1993) Appeal by Northumbrian Water Ltd: Land Adjacent to Spital Burn, Newbiggin-by-the-sea, Northumberland. Case ref: APP/F2930/A/92 206240.

## 4.0 REVIEW OF 2017 PLANNING APPEAL

A previous planning application for a proposed residential development on Land off Lowfield Road, Bolton upon Dearne was refused by BMBC on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2016 (BMBC application reference: 2015/0725). Odour was listed as the 4<sup>th</sup> reason for refusal, as follows:

*“The development would be in conflict with policy CSP40 ‘Pollution Control and Protection, paragraph 109 of the NPPF and draft allocation policy H3 of the Publication Version of the Local Plan, site AC26, in that plots 202 to 208 would be very close or within the current “odour stand-off” and would be within 50m of a combined sewer outfall and the Bolton-upon-Dearne Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) boundary. Insufficient up to date evidence has been provided that these properties would not be detrimentally affected by odour. The proposal fails to make provision for a suitable landscaping buffer between the houses and the WWTW contrary to CSP40 and CSP29.”*

An Appeal was later dismissed by the Planning Inspectorate (PINs) on 23<sup>rd</sup> October 2017 (Appeal reference: APP/R4408/W/17/3170851). However, as part of the concluding remarks contained within the Appeal Decision, the Inspector stated the following regarding odour:

*“At the hearing, I heard that there had been no material changes to the type, management and treatment of waste water at the WWTW. As there are no details or indeed guaranteed plans in place relating to possible improvement works at the WWTW, I cannot see how the appellant can reasonably undertake an updated or altered odour assessment. On the basis of existing environmental conditions, I have not been provided with any reasonable explanation as to why the conclusion reached in the appellant’s odour assessment should be disregarded. Such an assessment concludes that the “amenity of residents of the Gleeson development would not be witness to any significant detrimental impact”.*

[...]

*“I conclude that the proposal would be acceptable in terms of (i) the position and orientation of the proposed dwellings to the WWTW (including dwelling Nos 203-208) and (ii) that actual and perceived levels of odour, subject to further tree planting to be secured planning condition, would be acceptable for the occupiers of the proposed dwellings. On this basis, the proposal would suitably accord with the amenity and odour aims of Policy CSP 29 and CSP 40 of the CS; paragraph 120 of the Framework and the Institute of Air Quality Management - Guidance on the Assessment of Odour for Planning 2014.”*

In summary of the above, whilst the Appeal was dismissed, the Inspector concluded that odour was not a constraint and the proposals did accord to the relevant BMBC planning policy and National guidance.

## 5.0 REVIEW OF BOLTON UPON DEARNE WWTW

### 5.1 Bolton upon Dearne WwTW – Review of Changes Since the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment

On 24<sup>th</sup> May 2018, Yorkshire Water submitted a planning application to BMBC for the proposed upgrading and improvement works to the existing Bolton upon Dearne WwTW (BMBC application reference: 2018/0676). The application was granted consent on 6<sup>th</sup> September 2018.

The application proposed:

*“Construction of 3 no. kiosk buildings to house control panels and new sub-station as part of upgrading and improvement works to existing waste water treatment works.”*

Within the Planning Statement submitted in support of the application, the following requirement for the development is stated:

*“The proposed work involves construction of a new inlet works and new treatment process installation to improve the quality of water being released back into the adjacent River Dearne, which in turn will bring about significant environmental benefits to the area and assist the fish population. [...]*

*The client, Yorkshire Water Services Ltd (YWSL) proposes to undertake construction works at the WwTW to improve the treatment process. The proposals for development lie wholly within the existing WwTW boundary and generally include for the following:-*

- *The replacement of the Inlet and storm pumps with a new low level intermediate pumping station; Construction of a new inlet works including fine screens, grit removal and storm separation;*
- *Construction of new Moving Bed Biofilm Reactor structure;*
- *Improvement of sludge thickening and sludge treatment facilities;*
- *Provision of new Pumping Station below ground level;*
- *Demolition of some redundant treatment process structures.”*

No Odour Assessment / statement was submitted in support of the proposed Bolton upon Dearne WwTW upgrades and improvements.

A review of the ‘Planning Pre-App Proposed Site Plan’ drawing submitted in support of the planning application (drawing reference: N6022\_GHD\_5002\_DW) indicates that there are no new sources of potential odour which would be built in closer proximity to the Application Site in comparison to those existing treatment sources. The new inlet works is located to the south-west of the existing inlet works (i.e. at a greater stand-off buffer to the Application Site).

From discussion with Yorkshire Water<sup>3</sup>, it is understood that the proposed upgrades to the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW have now been constructed and at the time of writing were going through a period of commissioning. It is understood that the proposed layout (drawing reference: N6022\_GHD\_5002\_DW) reflects the as-built works. Furthermore, at the time of writing, it is understood that there are no Regulatory requirements for Asset

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<sup>3</sup> E-mail correspondence between Stephanie Walden, Land Use Planning Manager within Yorkshire Water, and SLR Consulting Ltd, dated 16<sup>th</sup> September 2019.

Management Programme (AMP) Period 7 (AMP7) that would require Yorkshire Water to complete further improvement works to the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW.

On this basis, it is considered that the magnitude of potential odour generation from the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW has not significantly changed or increased since that assessed as part of the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment.

## 5.2 Existing Complaints – Established Baseline

A Freedom of Information (FoI) request was made to BMBC to determine the location of any existing complaints regarding odour attributed to the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW.

The FoI response states<sup>4</sup>:

*“No complaints were received between June 2015 and May 2018, details of complaints received since May 2018 are as follows:*

- May 2018 – complaint about sewage odour, from North, but unable to witness or substantiate it was from the WwTW. No further action possible*
- November 2018 – complaint about sewage odour, from North-West, but unable to witness or substantiate it was from the WwTW. No further action possible.*
- July 2019 – complaint about sewage odour, from West, but unable to witness or substantiate it was from the WwTW. No further action possible.*

*We have never had any long term odour problems from the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW in the time period requested. Most complaints in the area have been sporadic and we have not been able to witness them or identify the potential source.”*

Reference should be made to Appendix 02 for a copy of the FoI response.

It is noted that the FoI response summarised above confirms that no substantiated odour complaints have been received from existing receptors within Bolton upon Dearne including those comprising Gleeson’s Phase 2 of the Land off Lowfield Road site which are located in closer proximity to that of the WwTW than the Phase 3 Application Site. This established baseline indicates that the level of odour generation from the site has remained relatively consistent, given that no increase in odour complaints has been documented. The results of the Odour Constraints Assessment mirror the results of the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment and indicate that complaints would not occur, based upon the agreed odour criterion.

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<sup>4</sup> BMBC Freedom of Information request, reference: EIR4195, dated 16<sup>th</sup> August 2019.

## 6.0 DISCUSSION AND CONCLUSION

SLR has undertaken an Odour Assessment Review to support a planning application for a proposed C3 use class residential development on Land off Lowfield Road, Bolton on Dearne. The site is known as 'Phase 3' of Gleeson's Land off Lowfield Road, Bolton upon Dearne scheme. The Odour Assessment Review was undertaken to consider potential odour from the standard operation of the adjacent Bolton upon Dearne WwTW operated by Yorkshire Water.

A review of the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment, prepared to support a planning application for residential development for Phase 2 of Gleeson's Land off Lowfield Road, Bolton upon Dearne scheme indicates that the proposed Phase 3 Application Site is outside of the modelled  $5.0\text{ou}_E/\text{m}^3$  as a 98<sup>th</sup> percentile of 1-hour mean concentrations odour impact contour. The effect at the Phase 3 Application Site is considered to be 'not significant'. The conclusions of this were accepted at a Planning Appeal.

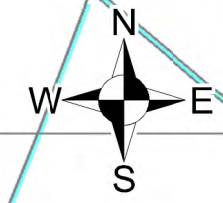
A review of changes to the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW in the interim period since the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment indicate that there has been no significant change to potential odour generation from the WwTW. Furthermore, discussion with Yorkshire Water indicates that there are currently no proposed Regulatory requirements which would require Yorkshire Water to complete further improvement works to the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW. On this basis, it is considered that the magnitude of potential odour generation from the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW has not significantly changed or increased since that assessed as part of the 2012 Odour Constraints Assessment.

The modelled predicted odour impacts mirror the 'informed baseline' obtained from a FOI request which indicates that no substantiated odour complaints have been received from the local community surrounding the WwTW over the last 4-year period.

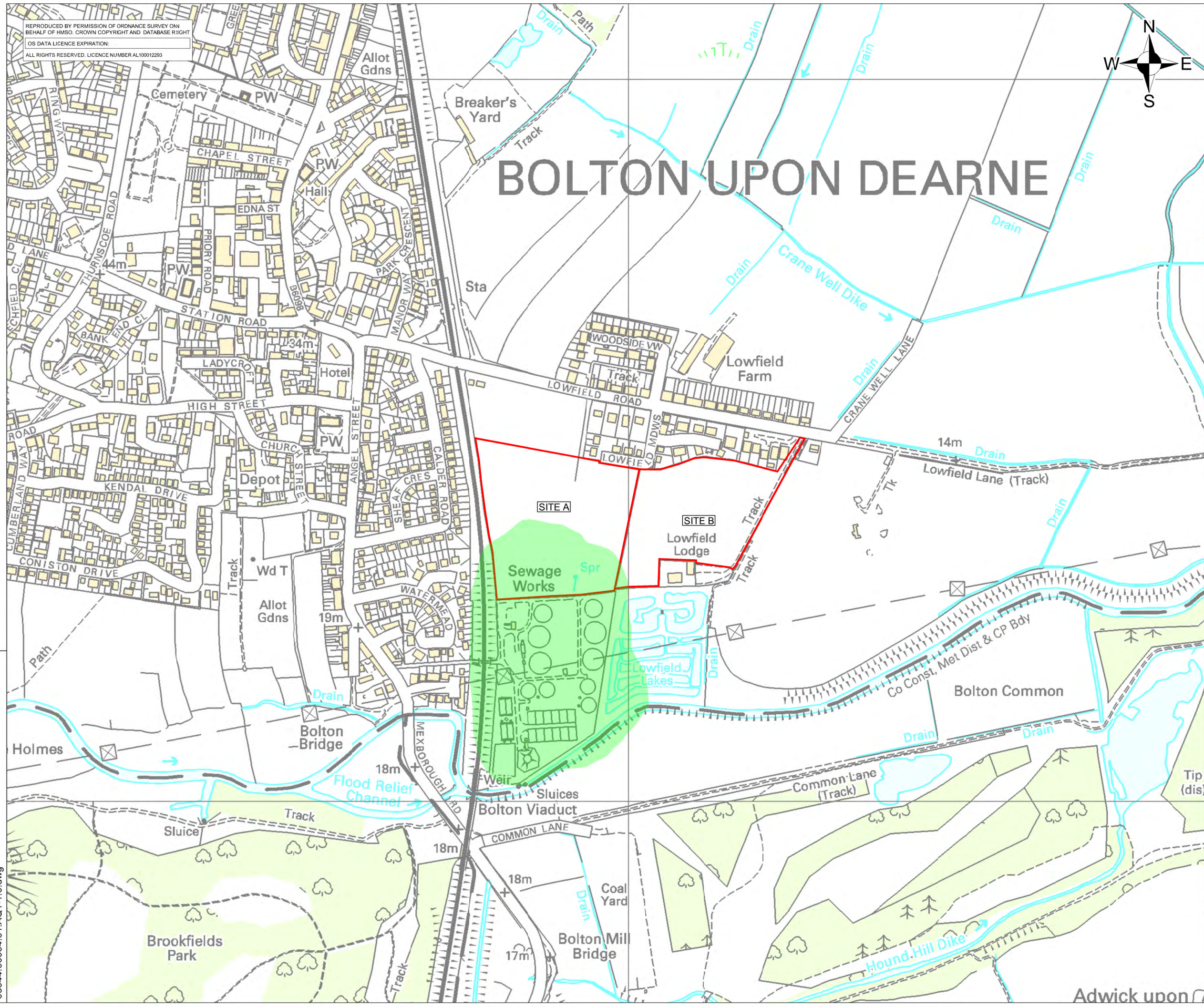
As such, it is not considered that odour represents a material constraint to the development proposals, which conform to the principles of National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Practice Guidance, and the Barnsley Local Plan.

# **APPENDIX 01 – 2012 ODOUR CONSTRAINTS ASSESSMENT, MODELLED ODOUR ISOPLETH CONTOUR PLOTS**

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# BOLTON UPON DEARNE



NOTES

- LEGEND
- SITE BOUNDARY
  - $5_{0u}/m^3$  AS A 98<sup>th</sup> PERCENTILE OF 1-HOUR AVERAGE CONCENTRATIONS

**SLR**

TREENWOOD HOUSE  
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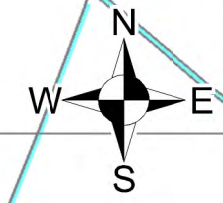
**BOLTON ON DEARNE WwTW**  
**ODOUR CONSTRAINTS ASSESSMENT**  
 AVERAGE MODELLED ODOUR IMPACT OF THE  
 BOLTON ON DEARNE WwTW, AVERAGE OF 2007  
 - 2011 METEOROLOGY, GEOMEAN ODOUR  
 CONCENTRATIONS

**AQ1-1**

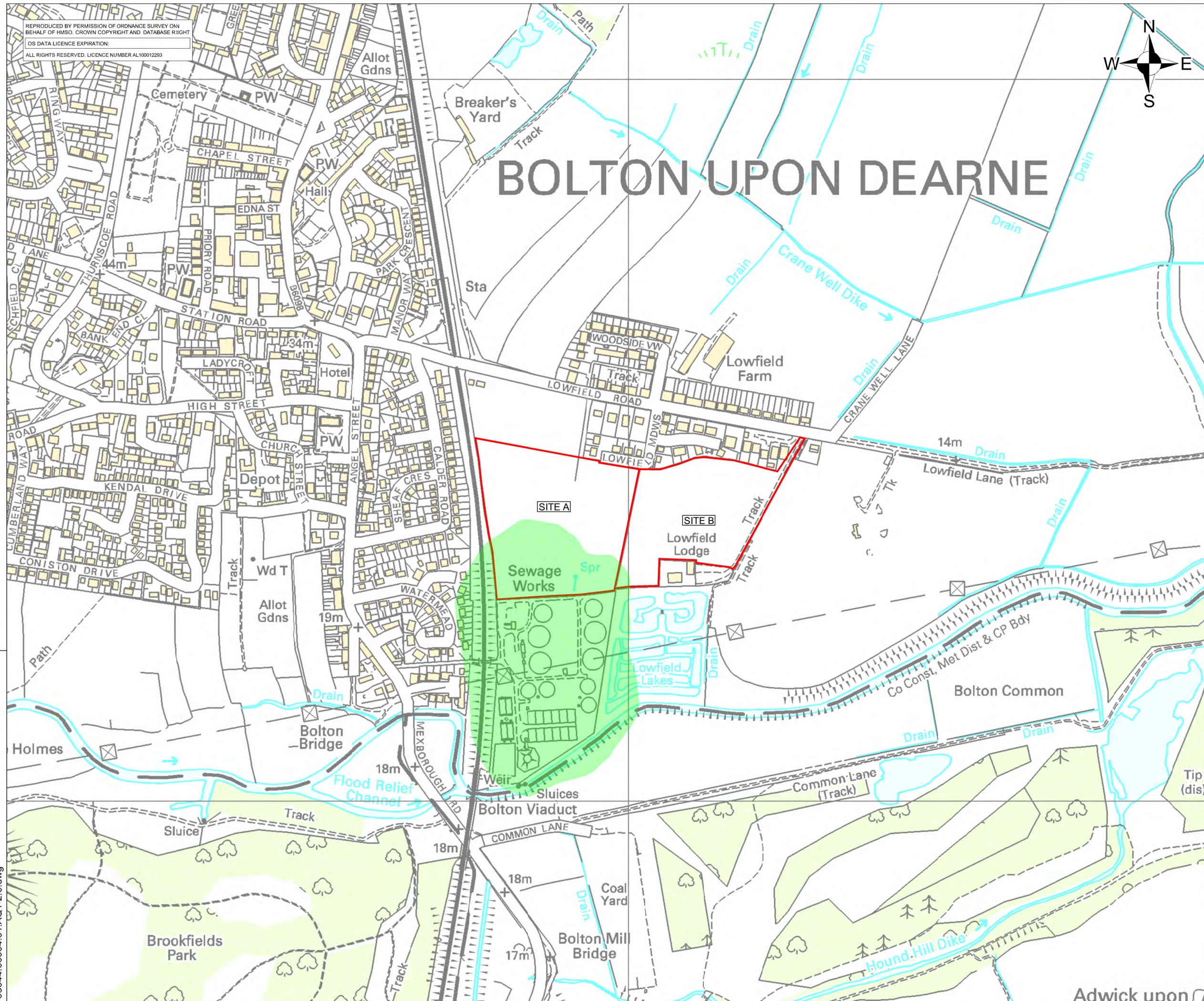
Scale: 1:5000 @ A3      Date: AUGUST 2012

03044.00004.01.AQ1-1.0.dwg

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# BOLTON UPON DEARNE



NOTES

- LEGEND
- SITE BOUNDARY
  - $5_{0u}/m^3$  AS A 98<sup>th</sup> PERCENTILE OF 1-HOUR AVERAGE CONCENTRATIONS

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**BOLTON ON DEARNE WwTW**  
**ODOUR CONSTRAINTS ASSESSMENT**  
 MAXIMUM MODELLED ODOUR IMPACT OF THE  
 BOLTON ON DEARNE WwTW, 2007  
 METEOROLOGY, GEOMEAN ODOUR  
 CONCENTRATIONS

**AQ1-2**

Scale 1:5000 @ A3 Date AUGUST 2012

03044.00004.01.AQ1-2.0.dwg

## APPENDIX 02 – FREEDOM OF INFORMATION RESPONSE



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**Public Health**  
Julia Burrows, Director of Public Health

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Graeme Blacklock  
By email to:  
[gblacklock@slrconsulting.com](mailto:gblacklock@slrconsulting.com)

My Ref: EIR/4195  
Your Ref:  
Date: 16 August 2019  
Enquiries to: Tom Grierson  
Direct Dial: 01226 775759  
E-Mail: [informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk)

Dear Graeme,

**Re: Request for Information – Environmental Information Regulations 2004**

I wish to confirm that Public Health & Regulation has now completed its search for the information which you requested by e-mail on 30 July 2019.

The information requested and my findings are as follows:-

- 1. Any odour complaints which have been received from the local community surrounding the wastewater treatment works (WwTW) at Bolton upon Dearne, operated by Yorkshire Water. The WwTW is accessed from the B6098 Mexborough Road.**

**I am specifically looking for any odour complaints which have been received in the last 4 years which have been attributed to the operation of the WwTW and have subsequently been substantiated by Barnsley Environmental Health Team. If any odour complaints have been received, can you please detail the location and nature of these complaints and include any details of enforcement action upon Yorkshire Water.**

No complaints were received between June 2015 and May 2018, details of complaints received since May 2018 are as follows:

- May 2018 – complaint about sewage odour, from North, but unable to witness or substantiate it was from the WwTW. No further action possible
- November 2018 – complaint about sewage odour, from North-West, but unable to witness or substantiate it was from the WwTW. No further action possible.
- July 2019 – complaint about sewage odour, from West, but unable to witness or substantiate it was from the WwTW. No further action possible.

We have never had any long term odour problems from the Bolton upon Dearne WwTW in the time period requested. Most complaints in the area have been sporadic and we have not been able to witness them or identify the potential source.

If you have any queries about this letter, please contact Tom Grierson on (01226) 775759. Please remember to quote the reference number above in any future communications.

If you are unhappy with the way the Directorate has handled your request, you may ask for an internal review. Please clearly mark your correspondence 'Complaint' and address it to:

Barnsley MBC  
Customer Feedback and Improvement Team  
PO Box 634  
Barnsley  
S70 9GG  
[email:informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk](mailto:informationrequests@barnsley.gov.uk)

If you are not content with the outcome of the internal review, you have the right to apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:-

Customer Services Team  
Information Commissioner's Office  
Wycliffe House  
Water Lane  
Wilmslow  
Cheshire  
SK9 5AF  
website address: [www.ico.org.uk](http://www.ico.org.uk)

Yours sincerely



Carrie Abbott  
Service Director, Public Health & Regulation

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