1. THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT

1.1. Background

The application site is located on station road industrial estate Wombwell, shown on location plan GA1, The boundary of the application site is shown on Drawing GA2.

The premises is already in use as a scrap metal recycling centre. The arrangement of the existing operations are shown on Drawing GA3.

The building has permission for industrial use, Adjoining it is a storage building, marked B, which is vacant the building marked C is the company's offices from which all of the existing business interests, including the scrap metal interests are managed. The yard marked D, is in use by the company for storage of skips parking of vehicles.

This application seeks a change of use of the site to a materials transfer and recycling centre, to handle a wider range of waste than is currently handled at the site. In the event that permission is granted, the activities will be carried out in the building marked A

1.2. The Development

No new buildings are required, nor is there a need for any changes to the buildings and yard at this stage. It is possible in the future that changes will be needed; in this event further planning applications will be made for permission to make the changes. The process of sorting the waste will have no need for any machinery at this time, all the materials will be sorted by hand and put into different material skips to be sent for recycling and reuse.

The applicant seeks normal waste industry operating hours for the operation as follows;
Monday – Friday 08:00 - 4:30
Saturdays 08:00 - 12:00
Sundays Nil
Bank Holidays Nil

1.3 Planning history

The site has the benefit of the following waste planning permissions:
Scrap metal and Sorting Facility

Site location

The site is located on station Road Industrial estate . Site Location Plan GA1 shows the site in its setting.

Access and highway network

The site has access on to the A635.

Land use

The site currently contains a Scrap Metal Transfer and Recycling Centre, industrial units, offices and a yard.

Surface and groundwater

The site does not lie within a floodplain as defined by the Environment Agency, and is not affected by a Groundwater Protection Zone. The whole site is surfaced with concrete. There are no known elements of cultural or geological heritage of import on the application site or in its environs.

2.0 Development of Local Waste Facilities

The site is both an existing scrap metal waste management facility and an industrial site

2.1 Design criteria compliance

High quality design:

This issue is not relevant to an application for a change of use.

Holistic design:

This issue is not relevant to an application for a change of use.

Local distinctiveness:

The site is already established and does not require any operational development for the change of use.

Sustainable development:

The proposal is to carry out a range of waste management and treatment activities, which are likely to include recycling of waste, facilitating diversion of material from landfill.

The site is well located to handle waste from Barnsley and the surrounding areas, which will minimise the distance that material has to travel.

Strategic site layout:

The site layout is not being changed and the existing buildings have the potential to accommodate any intrusive activities thus confining noise, no waste will be processed outside.

Lighting:

There will be no requirement for overnight lighting, though the yard and accesses are lit with spotlights mounted on poles, to facilitate safe access and working in the dark months up to the time of closing.

Site access:

No changes to the existing access will be made under these proposals,

Sustainable transport:

The nature of the waste inputs is such that there is no opportunity to use transport other than lorries, though by locating the site in this position, it will minimise the distance waste has to travel from the various surrounding sources to reach the site

Integrated development:

The proposal is to change the use of the buildings and yard alongside the scrap metal recycling facility, thus encouraging the integration of various waste handling

Public safety:

No public access will be provided, other than to the offices.

3. ASSESSMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS BY TOPIC

Landscape and visual impacts.

The site is not directly overlooked by any of the neighbouring buildings or land, being surrounded on all sides by industrial yards and units.

Air emissions

The proposed facility will be managed in a manner calculated to reduce the possibility of dust emissions to a minimum. The reception and treatment of waste will be conducted inside the buildings, which will minimise the risks of any emissions to air.

Noise

The development proposed is unlikely to create additional noise beyond that associated with the existing scrap metal sorting and recycling activities. Materials will be brought onto the site and will be emptied directly into the buildings. All processing will be carried out in the buildings, which will minimise the escape of noise from the site.

Ecology

The site is already developed and in use, therefore it supports no ecological interest.

Archaeology

This site is already developed, therefore this issue is not relevant.

Surface and groundwater

The site is not located on a Groundwater Protection Zone. No materials will be stored outside, other than so there will be no opportunity for contamination of runoff.

Flood Risk Assessment

A change of use application does not require the preparation of a formal Flood Risk Assessment.

Highway and traffic impacts

Vehicles leaving the site will not have mud on their wheels, as all movements will take place on concreted or tarmac surfaces, which can be easily cleaned.

We are expecting no more than 10 vehicles a day into the site, this includes our own vehicles. The capacity of the site will be limited by the size of the buildings and the yard area.

Lighting

There will be no requirement for overnight lighting, though the yard is lit with spotlights mounted on poles to facilitate working in the dark months up to the time of closing.

4 CONCLUSIONS

The site proposed for an expansion of the Waste Transfer and Materials Recycling Facility is ideally situated to serve the needs of the operator to recycle materials from Barnsley, and its surroundings. The facility will support the Council's stated need to increase the rate of recycling in the County, and divert quantities of waste away from landfill.