

Yorkshire Water Services Limited

## Bolton upon Dearne Sewage Treatment Works

### Planning, Design & Access Statement

Reference: 286985-19

P0.2 | 09 February 2024



© WSP, 2023

This report takes into account the particular instructions and requirements of our client. It is not intended for and should not be relied upon by any third party and no responsibility is undertaken to any third party.

Job number 286985-19

**Ove Arup & Partners Limited**

Admiral House Rose Wharf

78 East Street

Leeds

LS9 8EE

United Kingdom

[arup.com](http://arup.com)

## Document Verification

**Project title** Bolton upon Dearne Sewage Treatment Works  
**Document title** Planning, Design & Access Statement  
**Job number** 286985-19  
**Document ref** 286985-19  
**File reference** \\global\europa\Leeds\Jobs\280000\286985-00\19 - Bolton upon Dearne

Revision	Date	Filename		
P0.1	30/08/2023	Description	First Draft for Client Review	
			Prepared by	Checked by
		Name	Dana Abara, Ruth Jopling	Hannah Smith
		Signature		
P0.2	19/09/2023	Filename	Final Draft for Client Review	
		Description		
			Prepared by	Checked by
		Name	Dana Abara	Ruth Jopling
		Signature		
		Filename		
		Description		
			Prepared by	Checked by
		Name		Approved by
		Signature		

Issue Document Verification with Document



## Contents

---

1.	Introduction	1
1.1	Purpose of this Statement	1
1.2	Planning Application Supporting Documents	1
2.	Site Background	2
2.1	Site Location	2
2.2	Relevant Planning History	2
3.	Need for the Proposed Development	3
3.1	Phosphorous Removal	3
4.	Proposed Development	4
4.1	Description of Proposed Development	4
4.2	Permitted Development	4
4.3	Summary	4
5.	Planning Policy	6
5.1	National Planning Policy	6
5.2	Local Planning Policy	6
6.	Design & Access Statement	8
6.1	Design	8
6.2	Access	8
7.	Planning Policy Appraisal	10
7.1	Principle of the Proposed Development	10
7.2	Green Belt	10
7.3	Ecology	11
7.4	Flood Risk and Drainage	13
7.5	Trees	13
7.6	Landscape	14
7.7	Residential Amenity	14
8.	Summary and Conclusions	15

## Tables

Table 1: Planning Application Documents & Drawings	1
Table 2: PEA Findings	12

## Figures

Figure 1 Site Location Plan	2
Figure 2: Proposed Ferric Dosing Kiosk	4
Figure 3 Local Plan Policy Map	7

## **Drawings**

No table of figures entries found.

## **Pictures**

No table of figures entries found.

## **Photographs**

No table of figures entries found.

## **Attachments**

No table of figures entries found.

## **Appendices**

**No table of contents entries found.**

# 1. Introduction

Ove Arup & Partners Ltd ('Arup') is submitting a planning application to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council ('Barnsley Council') on behalf of Yorkshire Water Services Limited (Yorkshire Water) for the installation of a Ferric Dosing Kiosk, located within the operational Bolton upon Dearne Sewage Treatment Works (STW) boundary (Ordnance Grid Reference: SE 45886 0217).

**The proposed ferric dosing kiosk is critical infrastructure to improve the water quality in the River Dearne in association with the Environment Agency Water Industry National Environment Programme (WINEP) obligations. Bolton Upon Dearne STW serves 25,000 customers in Rotherham and the proposed works are essential to ensure the continued STW function and water supply and accommodate future growth in the area.**

## 1.1 Purpose of this Statement

The Planning Statement is submitted in support of the planning application and is structured as follows:

- Chapter 2 describes the site background and planning history;
- Chapter 3 outlines the need for the scheme;
- Chapter 4 outlines the proposed development;
- Chapter 5 identifies the relevant national and local planning policy that the proposed development will be appraised against;
- Chapter 6 describes the design of the proposed development and how it will be accessed;
- Chapter 7 appraises the proposed development against relevant planning policy; and
- Chapter 8 concludes the statement.

## 1.2 Planning Application Supporting Documents

The following documents and drawings are submitted to support this application:

**Table 1: Planning Application Documents & Drawings**

Document / Drawing Title	Document / Drawing Reference
Application Forms and Ownership Certificates	N/A
Covering Letter	N/A
Planning, Design and Access Statement	This document
Flood Risk Assessment	BOL10 TDC WWT WWT RP Z 0741
Preliminary Ecological Appraisal	PC/23002/PEA/1.1
Site Location Plan	BOL10-TDC-WWT-WWT-DR-C-0570
Site Layout Plan	BOL10-TDC-WWT-WWT-DR-C-0571
Ferric Dosing Kiosk Plan and Elevations	BOL10-TDC-WWT-WWT-DR-C-0573
Arboricultural Method Statement	AWA5460AMS
Arboricultural Report and Impact Assessment	AWA5460
Ground Level Bat Scoping Assessment of Trees	PC23002/BSAT/1.1

## 2. Site Background

### 2.1 Site Location

Bolton upon Dearne STW is located to the east of the village of Bolton upon Dearne in South Yorkshire (Ordnance Grid Reference SE 45886 02173). The STW is approximately 6 miles north east from Rotherham via the A633 and is approximately 7 miles east of Barnsley via the B6098 (Mexborough Road). The STW is accessed via an existing access track (from B6098), which runs below a railway bridge.

The proposed ferric dosing kiosk is located within the boundary of the existing STW, as displayed in Figure 1.

Residential development is located beyond the railway line to the west, and agricultural land to the immediate north. Barnburgh Colliery Woodland is to the south east and Lowfield Lakes (a wetland area) to the east of the site. The River Dearne runs along the southern boundary of the STW, where the final treated effluent from the STW is discharged. The wider landscape is dominated by arable farming, nearby settlements and nature reserves along the River Dearne corridor.

The STW consists of treatment facilities and associated infrastructure of a varying age and scale. Historic records indicate that the sewage works date back to 1908 and between 1931 and 1932, additional process units were constructed (i.e. sludge beds and brick filters). In 1976, the works were expanded through the installation of filter beds and a sedimentation pond. A new inlet works was built in the 1990's and the current site layout consists of a mix of these units.

Please refer to the Site Location Plan (drawing reference: BOL10 TDC WWT WWT DR C 0570 S4.P02) which shows the location of the proposed scheme.

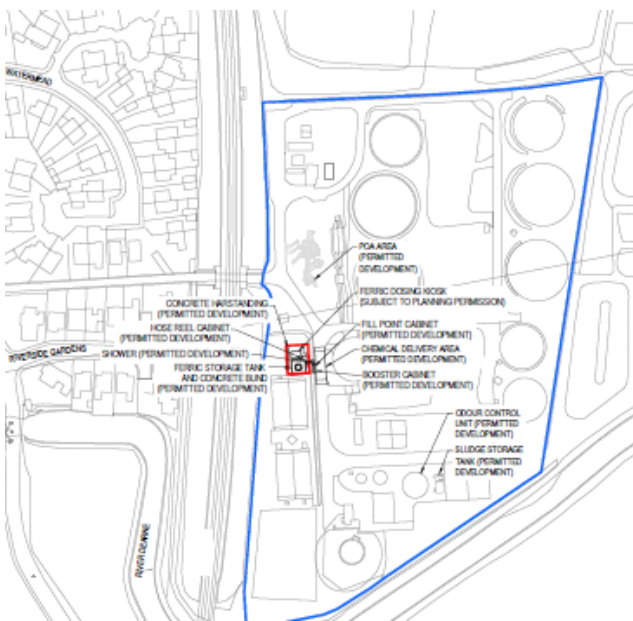


Figure 1 Site Location Plan

### 2.2 Relevant Planning History

A planning history search was undertaken on 09 February to identify relevant planning applications in the last 5 years located within and adjacent to the site, using Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council's online planning application search. There was a planning application (reference 2018/0676) submitted in May 2018 to Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council for the construction of 3 no. kiosk buildings to house control panels and new sub-station as part of upgrading and improving the existing STW. Planning application 2018/0676 was approved with conditions in September 2018. It is considered that the proposed development will not impact upon the identified consented application.

## 3. Need for the Proposed Development

Bolton upon Dearne STW serves approximately 25,000 customers in Rotherham. The installation of the ferric dosing kiosk and associated works within the operational STW will help improve the quality of water that is being released into the adjacent River Dearne. This will bring about significant environmental benefits to the area, including helping fish populations.

### 3.1 Phosphorous Removal

Bolton Upon Dearne STW requires works to meet the WINEP obligations, as set by the Environment Agency, to remove phosphorous in the treated effluent entering the watercourse by 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024.

In order to achieve this, a number of new assets (i.e., new ferric dosing kiosk) are required to be installed within the existing STW operational boundary as part of the upgrade and improvement works. The project will enable Yorkshire Water to improve the performance of the STW and help the business meet its environmental and sustainability objectives.

## 4. Proposed Development

### 4.1 Description of Proposed Development

The proposed development comprises the installation of a new ferric dosing kiosk within the existing Bolton upon Dearne STW boundary.

The kiosk is proposed to measure approximately 5.00m in length x 3.10m in width x 3.25m in height.

Further details of the kiosk are shown on drawing BOL10-TDC-WWT-WWT-DR-C-0573 and in Figure 2 below.

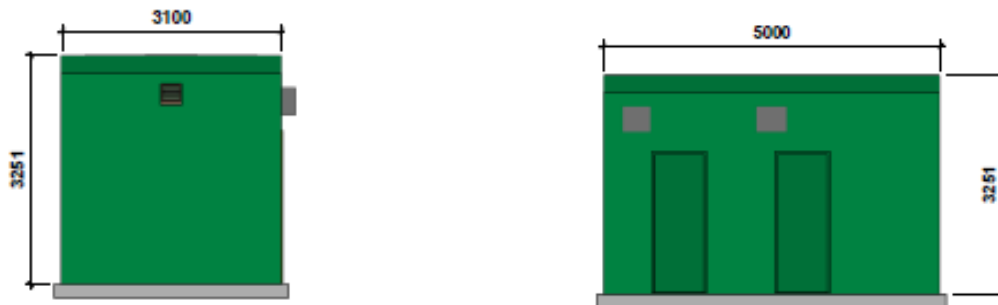


Figure 2: Proposed Ferric Dosing Kiosk

### 4.2 Permitted Development

In addition to the proposed installation of the ferric dosing kiosk, Yorkshire Water is undertaking additional upgrade works at the Bolton upon Dearne STW in order to achieve the WINEP obligations. These comprise the installation of:

- Odour Control System comprising a biotrickling filter (1.55m diameter, 3.4m high) and a carbon filter (0.95m diameter, 1.5m high);
- New Hardstanding Slab 250mm Concrete;
- New Bunded Delivery Road;
- Emergency Shower (4m high); and
- Chemical Storage Tank on Top of Plinth with Concrete Bund.

As a statutory sewerage undertaker, Yorkshire Water benefits from permitted development rights under Schedule 2, Part 13, Class B of the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 (as amended) (*'the GPDO'* hereafter). Class B(f) permits *'any other development in, on, over or under operational land other than the provision of a building but including the extension or alteration of a building'*.

It is considered that the above works are permitted development under Schedule 2, Part 13, Class B(f) as the works fall within the existing Yorkshire Water operational STW site and measure less than 15m in height, therefore complying with the conditions of Class B(f).

Schedule 2, Part 13, Class B(d) permits *'the installation in a sewerage system of a pumping station, valve house, control panel house or switch-gear house'*. In the case of a station or house exceeding 29 cubic metres, development is not permitted under Class B(d) if that installation is carried out at or above ground level or under a highway used by vehicular traffic.

### 4.3 Summary

Most of the works proposed at Bolton upon Dearne STW are considered to be permitted development. However, the volume of the proposed ferric dosing kiosk measures approximately 110m<sup>3</sup> and so is not



considered to be permitted under Class B(d). This Planning, Design and Access Statement therefore supports **a full planning application for the proposed ferric dosing kiosk within the operational STW boundary.**

## 5. Planning Policy

This section of the statement summarises the key planning policies relevant to the proposed development.

Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 states that:

*'If regard is to be had to the development plan for the purpose of any determination to be made under the Planning Acts, the determination must be made in accordance with the plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.'*

### 5.1 National Planning Policy

The National Planning Policy Framework (updated in December 2023) sets out the government's planning policies for England and how these are expected to be applied. Below is a list of policies within the NPPF which are considered to be applicable to the proposed development.

- Chapter 2: Achieving Sustainable Development;
- Chapter 12: Achieving Well-Designed and Beautiful Places;
- Chapter 13: Protecting Green Belt Land;
- Chapter 14: Meeting the Challenges of Climate Change, Flooding and Coastal Change; and
- Chapter 15 Conserving and Enhancing the Natural Environment.

The NPPF emphasises that the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. Paragraph 8 of the NPPF highlights that there are three overarching objectives to achieve sustainable development, these are economic, social and environmental.

### 5.2 Local Planning Policy

#### 5.2.1 Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Local Plan

Barnsley Council is the Minerals and Waste Authority covering Bolton upon Dearne. The proposed development will be considered against the saved policies contained in the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Local Plan (adopted March 2012).

#### 5.2.2 Barnsley Metropolitan Borough Council Local Plan

The Barnsley Local Plan 2019 to 2033 was adopted in April 2016 and sets out its vision, objectives and policies to manage the future sustainable growth and development as well as address key planning issues in Barnsley.

Barnsley Council's adopted Local Plan Policy map (extract below (Figure 3)) shows that the site situates on land designated as a Nature Improvement Area (Policy GI1) as part of the Dearne Valley Green Heart (hatched area on plan). The site is also designated as Green Belt (Policy GB1) (green striped area on plan).

The land north east from the STW (orange) is allocated for 86 new homes under Policy HS42.



**Figure 3 Local Plan Policy Map**

## 6. Design & Access Statement

### 6.1 Design

#### 6.1.1 Proposed Kiosk

The proposed ferric dosing kiosk will be painted Holly Green (BS 14 C 39) to minimise visual impact and blend into the semi-rural context of the STW.

The new ferric dosing kiosk will measure 5.00m x 3.10m x 3.25m (h) (please refer to drawing BOL10 TDC WWT WWT DR C 0573 S4.P03 Ferric Dosing Kiosk).

The kiosk is considered to be the appropriate dimensions for operational purposes and does not exceed the heights of other buildings installed within the existing STW.

The kiosk is relatively small scale in relation to larger structures within the STW. The kiosk is sited adjacent to existing structures and would be well screened by trees around the boundary of the STW.

#### 6.1.2 Planning Policy Accordance

Policy D1 of the Barnsley Local Plan focuses on high-quality design and place making, including integrating developments with their surroundings, layout and form.

Paragraph 128 of the NPPF states that the creation of high-quality buildings and places is fundamental to what the planning and development process should achieve. Good design is a key aspect of sustainable development, creates better places in which to live and work and helps make development acceptable to communities.

Paragraph 131 of the NPPF states that good design is a key aspect of sustainable development. Paragraph 135 outlines that decisions should ensure that developments:

- Will function well and add to the overall quality of the area, not just for the short term but for over the lifetime of the development;
- Are visually attractive;
- Are sympathetic to local character and history;
- Establish and maintain a strong sense of place; and
- Create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible which promote health and well-being.

The design and materials chosen for the proposed ferric dosing kiosk are considered to be sympathetic to the surrounding area and reflect that the site is an established STW.

### 6.2 Access

#### 6.2.1 Construction Access

Current access to Bolton upon Dearne STW is off the B6098 (Mexborough Road), via an existing access track which runs below a railway bridge with a width of 2.95m and a bridge arch height of approximately 3.85m. Access under the bridge is adequate to allow access for construction vehicles for the installation of the STW.

#### 6.2.2 Operational Access

Operational access to Bolton upon Dearne STW will be via the existing access; a single lane from the B6098 to the west of the site. This existing access is adequate for vehicles serving the STW.

### 6.2.3 Planning Policy Accordance

Paragraph 114 of the NPPF states that in assessing applications for development, it should be ensured that safe and suitable access to the site can be achieved by all users. The existing access road will ensure that the STW is served by a safe access during both construction and operation.

## 7. Planning Policy Appraisal

This section of the statement assesses the proposed development against national and local planning policy. The analysis appraises the scheme against the principle of development and Green Belt policy as well as environmental policies including ecology, trees and flood risk.

### 7.1 Principle of the Proposed Development

Chapter 2 of the NPPF, achieving sustainable development, emphasises that proposed developments should aim to meet the three overarching economic, social, and environmental objectives. Paragraph 180 of the NPPF particularly emphasises the importance of development contributing to the enhancement of local environmental conditions, including water quality. The proposed development aligns with this objective by significantly improving the quality of water discharged from the site.

Policy WCS1 of the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Plan focuses on the attainment of sustainable waste management through maintaining, improving and expanding the network of waste management facilities throughout Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham. Policy WCS1 sets out for all development proposals to promote high quality design and layouts that minimise waste and reduce resources.

Policy SD1 of the Barnsley Local Plan states that when considering development proposals, Barnsley Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the NPPF, to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area.

The proposed development is required to meet the WINEP obligations, as set by the Environment Agency, to remove phosphorous from the treated effluent entering the watercourse by 22<sup>nd</sup> December 2024. In order to achieve this, the proposed ferric dosing kiosk is required to be installed and contained within the STW operational boundary.

The Bolton upon Dearne STW is required to serve existing communities as well as supporting future housing and economic growth. The provision of facilities in this location provides an efficient use of the site and ensures the existing site remains fit for purpose. The primary requirement for the scheme is to meet environmental WINEP obligations, however, if not undertaken this may also lead to longer term implications for the STW operations at this site to meet future demand.

### 7.2 Green Belt

The proposed development is situated on land designated as Green Belt. Aim G of the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Plan states that waste management facilities should safeguard and, where possible, enhance the amenity, health and safety of local communities and the wider built and natural environment, primarily in sensitive areas such as the Green Belt.

The proposed new ferric dosing kiosk within the existing STW is considered essential development required to maintain and improve the existing STW facility. The new kiosk is contained within the STW and so it is not considered that this would impact on the openness of the Green Belt.

Policy GB1 of the adopted Barnsley Local Plan 2014 to 2033 states that the Green Belt will be protected from inappropriate development in accordance with national planning policy.

The NPPF advises that inappropriate development is by definition harmful to the Green Belt and should not be approved except in very special circumstances.

Paragraph 153 states that:

*‘When considering any planning application, local planning authorities should ensure that substantial weight is given to any harm to the Green Belt. ‘Very special circumstances’ will not exist unless the potential harm to the Green Belt by reason of inappropriateness, and any other harm resulting from the proposal, is clearly outweighed by other considerations’*

The application relates to a building, and Paragraph 154 of the NPPF states that ‘*A local planning authority should regard the construction of new buildings as inappropriate in the Green Belt.*’ However, exceptions to this includes:

‘...’

*(g) limited infilling or the partial or complete redevelopment of previously developed land, whether redundant or in continuing use (excluding temporary buildings), which would:*

*– not have a greater impact on the openness of the Green Belt than the existing development;*

...’

Paragraph 001 of the Green Belt National Planning Practice Guidance states that the following points should be considered when assessing the impact of a proposal on the openness of the Green Belt:

- *‘openness is capable of having both spatial and visual aspects – in other words, the visual impact of the proposal may be relevant, as could its volume;*
- *the duration of the development, and its remediability – the duration of the development, and its remediability – taking into account any provisions to return land to its original state or to an equivalent (or improved) state of openness; and*
- *the degree of activity likely to be generated, such as traffic generation’.*

The proposed ferric dosing kiosk constitutes limited infilling which provides small scale facilities for the improvement of an existing waste management facility. The kiosk would be contained within the existing STW operational boundary and would preserve the openness of the Green Belt.

The development is also essential to enable Yorkshire Water to meet obligations under the WINEP and remove phosphorous from the treated effluent entering the watercourse. The proposed kiosk has been designed to blend into the surroundings and visually integrate into the existing STW, with the kiosk being small scale compared to existing buildings within the site. The kiosk is sited adjacent to existing settlement tanks and storm tanks.

In summary, it is considered that the proposed kiosk forms ‘limited infilling’ which is considered not to be inappropriate in the Green Belt as the works preserve openness, in accordance with Paragraph 149 of the NPPF. In any event, there are very special circumstances which would exist, in terms of enabling compliance with the WINEP obligations, which clearly outweigh any harm to the Green Belt.

### **7.3 Ecology**

Policy WCS1 of the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Plan states that waste proposals will be permitted if they do not undermine the integrity of nature conservation sites. Policy WCS1 further explains that waste facilities should avoid locations that are within close proximity to sensitive receptors.

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal (PEA) has been submitted to support this planning application (PC23002/PEA/1.1). The PEA found one statutory site within 2km of the STW site; Dearne Valley Wetlands Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) is located approximately 0.4km east of the site. The PEA concludes that the proposed works are not likely to adversely impact on this designated site due to the distance from site and scale of the development. Therefore, it is considered that the scheme is in compliance with Policy WCS1 of the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Plan.

Table 2 below summaries the findings of the PEA in terms of the protected species identified within the STW site.

**Table 2: PEA Findings**

Species	PEA Findings
Birds	There is high potential impact of the proposed development due to suitable nesting bird habitat present on site. Several species of birds were observed and heard singing on site, including robin, long tailed tit, moorhen and magpie.
Bats	Multiple bat records were identified within 2km of the site. Transient bats are likely to forage and pass over site. However, the site has negligible potential for roosting bat species.
Mammals	Otter and Water Vole have been recorded 0.6km of the site along the River Dearne but are unlikely to be present on the site. Common mammal species, such as rabbit, are confirmed to be present on the site. Badger setts may be present in dense area of scrub in the south of the site.
Amphibians and Reptiles	Great Crested Newt (GCN) and grass snake have been recorded within 2 km of the site. Habitats on site have negligible potential for grass snake and the site is within a Green Risk Zone for GCN. The site may provide terrestrial habitat for GCN, there are suitable breeding ponds for GCN immediately east of the site.
Invasive Non-native Floral Species (INNS)	INNS has been recorded within 2km of the site, including Japanese knotweed, Himalayan Balsam, giant hogweed, and New Zealand pigmyweed. However, there was no evidence of INNS found on site.
Modified grassland, other neutral grassland, arrhenatherum grassland, bramble scrub, and mixed scrub.	Some areas of these habitats will be lost due to the development with no current plans to replace them within the development.

The ferric dosing kiosk is proposed on land identified as modified grassland.

Paragraph 186 of the NPPF seeks to avoid significant harm to biodiversity including the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats. Policy BIO1 of the Barnsley Local Plan also states that development will be expected to conserve and enhance the biodiversity and geological features of the borough. This encompasses conserving and enhancing natural assets, such as the river corridor of the Dearne.

In order to mitigate the potential for adverse impacts on species and habitats, the following mitigation measures will be incorporated into the scheme:

- Any vegetation clearance works will be timed to avoid the nesting bird season (August-March inclusive).
- Further protected species surveys will be carried out if vegetation requires removal.
- Strict biosecurity measures will be adhered to including the washing of all equipment on arrival to and removal from, site.
- Any excavations created during development will be left covered overnight or fitted with a ramp to allow any entrapped animals to escape.

In summary, it is not considered that the proposed scheme will cause significant harm on ecological features. Where the potential for impacts has been identified in the PEA, a number of mitigation measures have been recommended and will be incorporated into the scheme. It is therefore considered that the scheme is in compliance with Policy WCS1 of the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Plan and Paragraph 186 of the NPPF.



## 7.4 Flood Risk and Drainage

Policy CC3 of the Barnsley Local Plan states that all development proposals will be required to consider the effect of the proposed development on flood risk, both on-site and off-site, commensurate with the scale and impact of the development. This should be demonstrated through a Flood Risk Assessment, where appropriate.

Policy WCS6 of the Barnsley, Doncaster and Rotherham Joint Waste Plan states that waste developments should not have an adverse impact upon the quality of ground and surface water or drainage, especially ground water aquifers and flood risk areas. Policy WCS6 further explains that waste developments should not increase the risk of flooding elsewhere in the catchment area and should, where possible, improve the existing flood risk situation.

Paragraph 173 of the NPPF states that when determining any planning applications, local planning authorities should ensure that flood risk is not increased elsewhere.

A Flood Risk Assessment (FRA) (document reference BOL10 TDC WWT WWT RP Z 0741) has been prepared to address the potential flood risks associated with the proposed development. The FRA findings indicate that the proposed development is in areas subject to a high/ medium fluvial flooding risk, medium risk from surface water and groundwater flooding and low risk from reservoirs and sewers flooding.

The existing STW is bordered by the River Dearne along the southern boundary, which falls within the Environment Agency's Flood Zone 3 designation (1 in 100 annual probability of flooding). The site is situated within Flood Zone 2 (between a 1 in 100 to a 1 in 1000 annual probability of flooding). There are also water storage areas located towards the western boundary of the site boundary.

The ferric dosing kiosk will be located on a reinforced concrete slab, the ground level in this area is ~600 above the adjacent site access road, which at 17.3mAOD is in line with the stage of a 0.5% AEP plus climate change flood event. Based on the available data and existing and proposed ground levels, no flood risk is considered at the ferric dosing kiosk location.

In accordance with Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) best practice, any new impermeable surfaces (e.g. kiosk) should preferably drain to the ground or collected by the onsite drainage network. Given the relatively small area of new proposed development, and its location, this should be achievable.

In summary, it is considered that the proposed development is in compliance with national and local planning policies. The proposed ferric dosing kiosk will be raised to ensure flood risk is minimised. It is not considered that the proposed development would increase flood risk elsewhere in accordance with Paragraph 167 of the NPPF.

## 7.5 Trees

Paragraph 131 of the NPPF states that trees make an important contribution to the character and quality of urban environments and can help mitigate and adapt to climate change. The NPPF further states that existing trees should be retained where possible.

Paragraph 180, Part c of the NPPF states that development resulting in the loss or deterioration of irreplaceable habitats (such as ancient woodland and ancient or veteran trees) should be refused, unless there are wholly exceptional reasons, and a suitable compensation strategy exists.

Policy BIO1 of the Barnsley Local Plan aims for development to preserve and enhance the borough's biodiversity and geological features, encouraging the provision of biodiversity enhancements.

An Arboricultural Report and Arboricultural Method Statement has been undertaken for the scheme and is provided to support this application. This assessment was informed by a site visit conducted in June 2023. The existing STW does not have any trees that are protected by a Tree Preservation Order or situated within a Conservation Area.

The kiosk is proposed to be located in part of the site where there are no trees. As such, the proposed development would not result in the loss or pruning of any trees.

The closest tree to the proposed ferric dosing kiosk is a mature ash tree (T14) located within the boundary fence line of the STW (category C tree – low or average quality and value). Tree protection measures in the form of fencing will be put in place during the installation of the kiosk to ensure there are no impacts on tree T14.

Best practice mitigation measures will be incorporated during the construction phase of the wider STW upgrade works.

In summary, tree removal and pruning are not required to facilitate the construction of the scheme. Best practice tree protection measures and the installation of tree protection fencing will ensure there are no impacts upon existing trees. Therefore, the proposed development is in compliance with national and local planning policies.

## **7.6 Landscape**

The proposed development is crucial to improve the quality of discharged water and the efficient operation of the STW, which is an established use. The proposed kiosks are confined within the operational STW and have been designed to occupy the smallest possible footprint to minimise impacts on the surrounding landscape. To minimise visual impact and blend harmoniously with the surrounding landscape, the ferric dosing kiosk will be painted Holly Green. Additionally, the dimensions of the kiosk have been appropriately determined for operational purposes, ensuring that its height does not exceed that of other structures within the existing STW. The materials have all been chosen to balance maximise design life, minimising visual intrusion and to ensure site safety and security.

The site forms part of the Dearne Valley Green Heart corridor within Barnsley's Green Infrastructure Network under Policy GI1. The proposed development is contained to the existing Yorkshire Water operational site which is well screened from public viewpoints and will not have a material impact on Green Infrastructure.

## **7.7 Residential Amenity**

Policy GD1 of the Local Plan sets out that proposals will be approved if there will be no significant adverse effect on the living conditions and residential amenity of existing and future residents, and proposals are compatible with neighbouring land and will not significantly prejudice the current or future use of the neighbouring land.

The new kiosk is proposed adjacent to existing structures within the existing operational STW site. The site is approximately 55m from the nearest sensitive receptors and separated from residential properties by the railway embankment to the west of the site. In accordance with Policy GD1, there would be no impact on the amenity of residents as a result of the proposed development.

## 8. Summary and Conclusions

This Planning, Design and Access Statement is submitted on behalf of Yorkshire Water in support of a full planning application for the development of a proposed ferric dosing kiosk.

Bolton upon Dearne STW requires upgrade works to meet the WINEP obligations to remove phosphorous from the treated effluent entering the watercourse. To achieve this, a new kiosk is required to be installed within the STW operational boundary. The proposed ferric dosing kiosk is critical infrastructure to improve the water quality in the River Dearne in association with the WINEP obligations. Bolton upon Dearne STW serves 25,000 customers in Rotherham and the proposed works are essential to ensure the continued STW function and water supply and accommodate future growth in the area.

It is considered that the proposed kiosk is not inappropriate development in the Green Belt, on the basis that it comprises limited infilling on a brownfield site. The development is considered to have no adverse impact on openness. The development is small in scale compared to existing development on the site and is proposed to be located adjacent to existing settlement tanks and storm tanks.

Should the proposed development be deemed to be inappropriate in the Green Belt, the need for the development to ensure compliance with the WINEP obligations would clearly outweigh any minimal impact on the Green Belt as a result of the development.

This Planning, Design and Access Statement and supporting documentation demonstrate that there would be no material impact on the environment in terms of Green Belt, landscape, ecology, trees, flood risk and amenity. Where impacts are likely, appropriate mitigation will be implemented into the scheme.

For the reasons set out in this Statement and the supporting application drawings and documentation, the Council is requested to grant planning permission for the proposed development.