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Proposed Workshop at Soar & Sons, Tank Row, Stairfoot: Justification for position of Workshop

Soar & Sons have been on the site since 1956, starting with a one acre site and over the past 60 years they have expanded and developed the site into how it is today.

Soar & Sons are only one of four specialist heavy electrical recyclers in the country. They have numerous vehicles and trailers, coming in and out and parked up on a daily basis.

The area on the top site is clear to allow heavy goods vehicles and plant to manoeuvre around the site. The HGVs are in excess of 90ft long and up to 150t GVW. These types of vehicles require a large turning circle and manoeuvring area. When all the plant and equipment arrives back in the yard manoeuvring space is at a premium.

At present they have 15 trailers and 6 HGV units, with between 3 and 4 on hire. They currently use one of their subcontractor's warehouse for storage which is not ideal but they have no more capacity within their site. Hence the need for the workshop.

They currently employ 50 full-time staff and the use of the proposed workshop will create employment within Barnsley Borough. If the proposal is refused, they have an alternative site in Rotherham, but this would mean employing people from the local area and reducing their existing staff, which they would be reluctant to do.

As stated at our recent site meeting, they would be more than willing to provide an extensive planting scheme between the road and workshop to compensate for the loss of existing trees and vegetation.