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Head of Service: Joe Jenkinson

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Joanna Meakin  
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My Ref: 2022/ENQ/00439  
  
Date: 25/11/2022  
Enquiries to: Leah Wright  
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E-Mail: leahwright@barnsley.gov.uk

Dear Joanna,

EIA DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT SCOPING OPINION –  
Proposed employment development on Land South of Dearne Valley Parkway, South  
Yorkshire (subject to the Goldthorpe Masterplan Framework).

I refer to the scoping report received in connection with the above proposed  
development and your request for a “scoping opinion” for an Environmental  
Statement which is scheduled to accompany the application.

The scoping report dated October 2022 states that the Environmental Statement  
which is scheduled to accompany the planning application will include the following  
topic based chapters in accordance with Schedule 4 of the Environmental  
Regulations:

- Socio-economics
- Cultural Heritage
- Landscape Character and Visual Amenity
- Biodiversity
- Water Resources and Flood Risk
- Soils and Agricultural Land
- Noise and Vibration
- Transport and Access

The council agrees that these chapters should be included in the Environmental  
Statement and that consultee feedback on the approach and detail offered  
should be taken into account.

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CUSTOMER  
SERVICE  
EXCELLENCE



## Matters scoped out

Paragraph 3.2 of your Scoping Report details the environmental disciplines to be scoped out. These include:

- Air Quality
- Land Contamination
- Wind Microclimate
- Daylight, Sunlight and Overshadowing
- Lighting
- Waste
- Major Accidents and Disasters
- Climate Change

The Council agrees that land contamination, wind microclimate, daylight, sunlight and overshadowing, lighting, waste and major accidents and disasters can be scoped out the ES.

### Air Quality

The scoping report refers to the fact that the site is not within an AQMA or in close proximity to an AQMA, however the LPA is of the opinion that it does need to be scoped into the ES as the development will likely generate a significant quantum of additional journeys through Hickleton en route to the A1M. Hickleton is within a designated AQMA where previous survey data has shown concentrations of nitrogen dioxide (NO<sub>2</sub>) significantly above the NO<sub>2</sub> standard. Further, Hickleton lies within Doncaster MBC boundary and therefore this constitutes cross boundary effects.

### Climate Change

The Council declared a climate emergency in September 2019 in order to bring the issue of climate change to the forefront of everyone's minds. We have also set associated targets to become net zero as a borough by 2045. A development of this scale needs to not only consider the impacts but also demonstrate how it will respond to those impacts. The site is a substantial green field allocation and it is considered that, without mitigation, there will be a significant impact on climate change when having regard to both operational and whole life carbon dioxide emissions. As such, it is the council's view that Climate Change warrants its own chapter accompanied by a Whole Life Carbon Assessment as per our emerging Sustainable Construction & Climate Change Adaptation Supplementary Planning Document. Accordingly, it cannot be scoped out in this instance.

### Lighting

Whilst lighting is scoped out of the ES, it is important that the application does include lighting proposals and that any proposals for temporary lighting for construction or security lighting for operational activities, is designed to minimise impacts on wildlife and habitats, particularly since there is a SSSI only 100m away. It is also important to ensure that the lighting does not adversely affect residential amenity and that it is considered when assessing Landscape and Visual Impact.

### Landscape & Visual Impact

Due to the topography and scale of the site, it is imperative that the Landscape Chapter provides an appropriate assessment of landscape and visual impact. This

should reference Barnsley's Landscape Character Assessment 2002 and its review in 2016 which was undertaken in preparation for the Local Plan. I attach links below.

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/21307/barnsley-borough-landscape-character-assessment.pdf>

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/20599/eb87-barnsley-landscape-character-assessment-2016-update.pdf>

Viewpoints should be agreed with the council prior to the preparation of the LVIA and montages are usually shown as existing, as proposed and after 15 years. The council has engaged the assistance of an independent landscape specialist to assist with scoping and they will also review the Environment Statement and Planning Applications and reserve the right to request further viewpoints and montages as part of that process.

It is important to note that any visualisations/montages should incorporate the design parameters set out within the Masterplan Framework in order that they are a true representation of what is likely to be delivered in reality both in terms of colour palette and scale.

### Other Matters

Table 12.1 refers to cumulative schemes however some recent approvals and existing applications in the area have been missed and as such would need to be included in the ES. It is also noted that the scoping report refers to a 2km search area; it is considered that an arbitrary distance is not appropriate and as such, a comprehensive search of existing applications/approvals and allocations which may cause a cumulative impact but which also lie out of the 2km area is more appropriate.

### CONSULTATIONS

The following internal and external consultees were contacted in order to seek their views on the scope of the ES:-

#### Internal:-

Air Quality Pollution Control Officer – John Scott  
Biodiversity Officer – Claire Wilson  
Highways – Wayne Lake  
Public Rights of Way – Rik Catling  
Conservation Officer – Tony Wiles  
Contaminated Land Officer- John Scott  
Pollution Control Officer- Adam Cattell  
Drainage – Ian Wilson  
South Yorkshire Mining Advisory Service – Paul James  
Public Health-Julie Tolhurst

#### External:-

Coal Authority  
Doncaster MBC  
Environment Agency  
Rotherham MBC  
Wakefield MDC

The consultation responses received have been forwarded to you separately and should help inform the preparation of your Environmental Statement. I would remind you that it is a statutory requirement to prepare a non-technical summary to sit alongside the ES to enable non-experts to understand its findings

## RECOMMENDATION

This letter represents the Council's "scoping opinion". The contents of this letter, including the comments from consultees, should be taken into account when preparing the version of the Environmental Statement to accompany the planning application.

Any additional comments from consultees subsequently received will be forwarded on to you and should be taken into account when preparing the planning application and Environmental Statement.

I trust this information will be of assistance to you.

Yours faithfully

Leah Wright

For and on behalf of  
Development Management  
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Head of Planning and Building Control  
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