



Place Directorate
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My Ref: 2021/ENQ/00167
Your Ref:
Date: 23rd April 2021
Enquiries to: Stacey White
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Dear Dale

EIA DEVELOPMENT ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT SCOPING OPINION –
Proposed mixed use development of up to 1760 dwellings and 43 hectares of
Employment Land-Land South of Barugh Green Road, Barnsley (Barnsley West,
Local Plan site allocation MU1). Subject to the Barnsley West (MU1) 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 March 2021 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:

- Landscape and visual effects
- Transport
- Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
- Ground Conditions
- Flood Risk and Drainage
- Air Quality
- Noise

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.

Matters excluded

At paragraph 15.3 of your Scoping Report you state that “for all other environmental
topics listed in Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations, whilst it is acknowledged that
some effects may occur, it is not considered that significant effects would arise.
These include matters relating to human health and climate change”.

You will be aware that the council declared a climate emergency in September
2019 in order to bring the issue of climate change to the forefront of everyone's

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minds. We have also set associated targets to become net zero as a borough by 2045. Whilst the adopted Local Plan and Masterplan Framework for Barnsley West (MU1) will ensure that the development comes forward in a sustainable manner, the Masterplan Framework itself notes the requirement that all developments will need to play their part in the climate response. A development of this scale needs to not only consider the impacts but also demonstrate how it will respond to those impacts. It is the council's view that Climate Change warrants its own chapter and cannot be excluded in this instance.

It is our view that the Environmental Statement should also include a specific health chapter that makes reference to the HIA findings and recommendations and again cannot be excluded. In addition, each chapter (particularly ground condition, flood risk, air quality and noise) should state how human health impacts will be mitigated or improved so that we can see evidence of how health and wellbeing is being considered through the proposal. This is supported in the consultation response from Public Health.

In addition to the above, it is considered appropriate to include a chapter on the Socio – Economic impacts of the development.

Landscape

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/4585/eb86-barnsley-landscape-character-assessment.pdf>

<https://www.barnsley.gov.uk/media/4582/eb87-barnsley-landscape-character-assessment-2016-update.pdf>

BMBC's Design Officer, myself and your representative Kara Heald from Gillespies met to discuss the methodology and visualisations proposed. At this stage, whilst we are broadly ok with the scope and methodology proposed. However we reserve the right to request additional viewpoints as the application progresses.

Please note that the council will engage the assistance of an independent landscape specialist in order to provide a review of the Environment Statement and Planning Applications. This may result in further viewpoints and montages being requested 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.

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 – Chris Shields

Biodiversity Officer – Trevor Mayne

Highways – Jason Thomas
Public Rights of Way – Rik Catling
Conservation Officer – Tony Wiles
Noise Pollution Control Officer – Paul Denton
Drainage – Wayne Atkins
Tree Officer – Ed Jowett
South Yorkshire Mining Advisory Service – Paul James
Energy Team- Claire Miskell, Matthew Fox
Enterprising Barnsley-Paul Johnson
Design-Nik King
Public Health-Julie Tolhurst

External:-

Coal Authority
Highways England
Yorkshire Water
Trans Pennine Trail Office
South Yorkshire Mining Advisory Service

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

Stacey White

For and on behalf of
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