

Medworth Energy from Waste Combined Heat and Power Facility

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Environmental Statement Chapter 15: Socio economics Tourism, Recreation and Land Use

Regulation reference: The Infrastructure
Planning (Applications: Prescribed Forms
and Procedure) Regulations 2009
Regulation 5(2)(a)

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15. Socio economics, Tourism and Recreation and Land Use

15.1 Introduction

- 15.1.1 This chapter presents the environmental assessment of the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development with respect to socio economics including tourism, recreation and land use.
- 15.1.2 The chapter should be read in conjunction with the description of the development provided in **Chapter 3 Description of the Proposed Development (Volume 6.2)** and with respect to relevant parts of other chapters including **Chapter 6: Traffic and Transport, Chapter 7: Noise and Vibration, Chapter 8: Air Quality, Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual, Chapter 10: Historic Environment, and Chapter 16: Health (all Volume 6.2)**, where common Receptors have been considered and where there is an overlap or relationship between the assessment of effects.
- 15.1.3 Terms and abbreviations used within this chapter are defined in **Appendix 1F: Terms and Abbreviations (Volume 6.4)**.

15.2 Consultation and Stakeholder engagement

- 15.2.1 The assessment has been informed by consultation responses and ongoing Stakeholder engagement. An overview of the approach to consultation is provided in **Chapter 4: Approach to the EIA (Volume 6.2)**.
- 15.2.2 A summary of the relevant responses received in the EIA Scoping Opinion in relation to this chapter, and confirmation of how these have been considered within the assessment to date, is presented in **Table 15.1 Summary of EIA Scoping Opinion responses for socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use** below. The EIA Scoping Report initially addressed health within the Socio economics, Tourism, Recreation and Land Use chapter. However, in light of comments received from Stakeholders, the assessment of health impacts is now addressed in a standalone chapter, **Chapter 16: Health (Volume 6.4)**. A summary of the EIA Scoping Opinion responses in relation to health is therefore included in that chapter.

Table 15.1 Summary of EIA Scoping Opinion responses for socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use

Consultee	Issue raised	Response
Planning Inspectorate	The Scoping Report concludes that, on the basis of professional judgement, there would be no significant effects beyond 2km from the Grid Connection corridor and CHP Connection route; therefore, the study areas are confined to within 2km of the routes. The Inspectorate is unclear how this relates to the statement in paragraph 14.3.1	The assessment now includes for a single Study Area representing the Local, District and County level. It no longer refers to 2km as a distance beyond which significant effects could not occur. The rationale is provided in



Consultee	Issue raised	Response
	that the study area covers a Local, District and County level. No justification has been provided to support the Developer's statement, and the Inspectorate considers that impacts, particularly those related to employment, should be assessed on a sufficiently wide scale to identify any likely significant effects.	<p>Section 15.4 with Section 15.6 providing details of those effects scoped in and scoped out of further assessment with justification provided.</p> <p>The relevant assessment, which therefore considers effects beyond 2km in relation to employment effects, is set out in Section 15.9.</p>
Planning Inspectorate	<p>(Amenity of local residents and community due to traffic, noise, air quality and visual impact)</p> <p>The Inspectorate agrees that a detailed assessment of these matters can be scoped out of the Socio-economic aspect chapter as they will be addressed within the relevant aspect chapters of the ES. However, the Inspectorate expects that adequate cross-referencing and signposting to these matters will be made within the Socio-economic chapter of the ES, with a clear explanation of the significance of these effects in relation to amenity.</p>	The assessment sections of this chapter cross reference as relevant the findings of the transport, noise, air quality and landscape and visual impact assessments. See Section 15.6 for reference to matters which are scoped out of the assessment.
Planning Inspectorate	The Inspectorate agrees that significant direct effects are unlikely from construction and operation of the EfW CHP Facility as it is located within an industrial estate and no known tourism or recreational facilities are located within or in close proximity to it. The proximity of tourism and recreational facilities to other project elements, including the Grid Connection corridor is unclear and any likely significant direct effects to tourism and recreation should be assessed in the ES. The Inspectorate is however content that given the nature of the Grid Connection once operational, significant effects from the operation of the Grid Connection corridor are unlikely to occur and can be scoped out of the ES.	Consistent with the scoping opinion the direct tourism and recreational effects arising from the construction and operation of the EfW CHP Facility are scoped out of this assessment. The construction effects arising from the Grid Connection are considered in respect of Public Right of Ways (PRoWs) (tourism and recreation). Operational effects arising from the Grid Connection are scoped out of the assessment.
Planning Inspectorate	The ES should identify the location of receptors relative to the Proposed Development, ideally through the provision of figures depicting static receptors.	Locations of relevant, static Receptors are identified on Figure 15.2 Location of static Receptors (Volume 6.3) .
Planning Inspectorate	Whilst paragraph 14.5.1 states that effects from change of land use will be considered, this is not identified as a potential significant effect requiring further assessment in paragraphs 14.5.4-14.5.6. Nevertheless, Tables 14.2 and 14.3 provide definitions for the various levels of sensitivity and magnitude for land use. For the avoidance of doubt, any significant effects to socio-economic receptors from changes in land use should be assessed within the ES.	Effects on land use are considered in this assessment in Section 15.9 with clear justification provided where effects are scoped out from any further assessment.



Consultee	Issue raised	Response
Planning Inspectorate	The ES should include a breakdown of the likely jobs and roles created by the Proposed Development and any mitigation measures such as skills and training programmes that would promote local employment. This should include consideration of the potential to create apprenticeship opportunities during construction and operation.	Section 15.9 provides an overview of MVV's approach to supporting employment and skills opportunities. For the Proposed Development the Applicant has prepared an Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) . This will be secured by a DCO Requirement.
Planning Inspectorate	Whilst the Scoping Report proposes to assess impacts to businesses, it is unclear whether this includes the Belgrave Retail Park. Construction phase effects to these businesses should be assessed, where significant effects are likely to occur.	Consideration is given to effects on Belgrave Retail Park in this socio economic assessment in Section 15.9 . The location of the retail park is shown on Figure 15.2 (Volume 6.3) .
Planning Inspectorate	Some of the definitions provided in Table 14.7 in relation to magnitude of change are ambiguous and lack clear definition e.g., 'a small number' or 'a large number'. Definitions relating to magnitude of change should be quantified where possible. Where this is not considered to be possible and where professional judgement is applied, a clear justification should be provided in the ES for assigning a magnitude of change.	Where professional judgement is applied this is clearly justified in this socio economic assessment. Section 15.8 sets out the assessment methodology and provides more detail on the use of applying professional judgement.
Planning Inspectorate	The Scoping Report states that it has been assumed the CHP elements of the Proposed Development will sustain economic activity in the surrounding area. The Socio-economics assessment should take into account any uncertainty relating to whether the CHP elements of the Proposed Development would be implemented.	The Applicant is confident that a customer(s) will be found for the supply of heat and power based upon the site's location in proximity to users of heat and power and that consent will enable the construction and operation of a CHP Connection. The assessment does not however rely upon the delivery of heat and power when concluding significance or otherwise.
Planning Inspectorate	The Scoping Report notes there would be up to 700 personnel engaged with the construction and up to 350 at any one time. During operation there would be up to 40 full time jobs created. The Inspectorate agrees that the number of operational workers is unlikely to give rise to an increase in population such that there would be a significant increase in demand on housing, local services (such as schools), and community facilities (such as sport and recreation), and that this matter can be scoped out of the ES. However, during construction the numbers will be greater, and the Inspectorate considers that an assessment should be undertaken, where significant effects are likely.	This socio economic assessment considers and assesses any significant effects upon housing and local services from construction workers in Section 15.9 .



Consultee	Issue raised	Response
Planning Inspectorate	The Scoping Report has assumed that construction workers requiring accommodation would be accommodated within the existing visitor/private rented accommodation sector. The ES should assess any likely significant effects to this sector.	This socio economic assessment considers and assesses any significant effects to the visitor/private rented accommodation sector arising from construction in Section 15.9 .
Cambridgeshire County Council	Table 14.1: The broader socio-economic objectives of the adopted Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Core Strategy are addressed in Core Strategy Policy CS2 Strategic Vision and Objectives for Sustainable Waste Management Development, which are not reflected in this Chapter. Similar policies in the emerging Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Mineral and Waste Local Plan (Proposed Submission) include Policy 4: Providing for Waste Management, which is also omitted.	Chapter 5: Legislation and Policy (Volume 6.2) provides details of relevant planning policy. The Core Strategy containing Policy CS2 policies has been replaced by the adopted Minerals and Waste Local Plan. Policies referenced by Cambridgeshire County Council (CCC) as relevant to this socio economic assessment are set out in Section 15.3 . Health information is now presented in Chapter 16: Health (Volume 6.2) .
Cambridgeshire County Council	The Summary of the Data Sources in paragraph 14.3.4 of the scoping report should include reference to local Joint Strategic Needs Assessments (JSNA) in particular the JSNA core data set and the Transport and Health JSNA. The data contained in these JSNA should form part of the baseline evidence base on human health to supplement health data already proposed as part of the EIA/ES.	Health baseline information is now presented in Chapter 16: Health (Volume 6.2) and this baseline information has been refined and updated as needed.
Cambridgeshire County Council	The data used and quoted for the scoping report and hence the EIA/ES needs to be checked for accuracy e.g., the child health data quoted in paragraph 14.4.3 of the scoping report has quoted the wrong year for the data. The data of 20.9% of year 6 pupils in Fenland being obese is the 2018-19 figures not the 2019 figures as quoted.	Health baseline information is now presented in Chapter 16: Health (Volume 6.2) and this baseline information has been refined and updated as needed.
Cambridgeshire County Council	Paragraph 14.5.9 of the scoping report proposes to scope out direct effects on tourism and recreation, although not a formal Right of Way the disused railway line maybe being used by local residents as an amenity, this needs to be ascertained and clarified before it is scoped out of the assessment.	Consideration has been given to effects upon the disused March to Wisbech Railway in Section 15.9 , with clear justification provided where direct effects are scoped out.
Norfolk County Council	It is suggested the population estimate for the King's Lynn Borough is reviewed because this is considered to be too low.	The baseline information presented in Section 15.5 of this assessment has been reviewed and updated where needed.



Consultee	Issue raised	Response
<p>Norfolk County Council</p>	<p>While Norfolk County Council welcomes the employment opportunities the development would have within the local/regional economy both during construction and once operational, it is felt that given the proposal's proximity to Norfolk and the likelihood of additional major construction projects in Norfolk there is a need to consider wider cumulative impacts with other projects and wider impacts with neighbouring authorities.</p> <p>The County Council would therefore suggest that the Developer develops an outline Employment and Skills strategy to accompany any application. This will need to address the above potential cross boundary issues. Such strategies have been taken forward in other NSIPs covering for example the offshore wind energy sector developments.</p>	<p>Section 15.9 provides an overview of the Applicant's approach to Employment and Skills. An Outline Employment and Skills Strategy has been prepared in consultation with Norfolk County Council (NCC) and is included as (Volume 7.8). The other Host Authorities were also invited to contribute to the Strategy. CCC confirmed that it would defer to Fenland District Council (FDC) which latterly confirmed that it did not wish to engage. KLWN did not respond. An assessment of cumulative effects is provided within Chapter 18: Cumulative Effects Assessment (Volume 6.2).</p>
<p>Norfolk County Council</p>	<p>The EIA will need to consider the following issues: a) Whether the existing overhead lines and substation/s are sufficient to be able to cope with the energy proposal; b) Whether there would be a need to upgrade any existing overhead power lines; c) Whether there is a need for a new electricity substation. The EIA should also address the cumulative impact on the Grid Network arising from any existing or proposed energy schemes in the area.</p>	<p>Chapter 3: Description of the Proposed Development (Volume 6.2) provides a description of the works required to the surrounding electricity network. The plan allocations/projects screened into the cumulative impact assessment are defined in Chapter 18: Cumulative Effects Assessment (Volume 6.2) and were provided to NCC for comment. No additional plan allocations or projects were suggested by NCC. The District Network Operator (DNO) has provided the Applicant with a connection offer, it can be assumed that the electricity network has sufficient capacity to accommodate the Proposed Development. Connection offers take into consideration all other commitments made by the DNO at the point the offer is made. The Connection offer requires the Applicant to provide a new substation, the Walsoken Substation which will be located next to the DNOs substation. The Applicant will be responsible for constructing and operating the Grid Connection from the EfW CHP Facility to the Walsoken Substation. There will be no requirement to upgrade the DNOs existing overhead lines.</p>



Consultee	Issue raised	Response
Norfolk County Council	<p>With regards to the new power lines needed (or existing power lines upgraded) or any other infrastructure needs upgrading (e.g., sub-station) there would need to be a description of the route(s) including plans at an appropriate scale. The ES should incorporate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - an assessment of their impact (these elements of the scheme should be included and fully assessed within the scope of the relevant Landscape/Biodiversity/Archaeology/Traffic etc sections of the ES, as set out elsewhere in this letter); - details of temporary construction compounds; and - identification of any sensitive features along route. 	<p>Section 15.9 presents an assessment of the Proposed Development including the Grid Connection in respect of Socio economics, Tourism, Recreation and Land Use aspects. All environmental topic chapters consider the effects of the Grid Connection, these include Chapter 6: Traffic and Transport (Volume 6.2) which presents the traffic assessment, Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual (Volume 6.2) which presents the landscape and visual assessment, and Chapter 10: Historic Environment (Volume 6.2) which presents the historic environment assessment and Chapter 11: Biodiversity (Volume 6.2) which presents the ecological assessment. Details of the single temporary construction compound (TCC) can be found in Chapter 3: Description of the Proposed Development (Volume 6.2). Sensitive Receptors identified along the route can be found within the relevant baseline sections of the chapters referenced above.</p>
Norfolk County Council	<p>The EIA/PEIR should consider the possibility of putting overhead power lines underground in order to minimise their impact.</p>	<p>Chapter 3: Description of the Proposed Development (Volume 6.2) confirms that the Grid Connection will comprise underground cables with no overhead lines. Chapter 2 Alternatives (Volume 6.2) and Appendix 2A (Volume 6.4) set out the alternatives considered and the approach to undergrounding relative to national policy and guidance. The Proposed Development now includes for a completely underground Grid Connection.</p>
Public Health England	<p>Paragraph 14.5.7 identifies the following receptors will be scoped out:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Direct effects on tourism and recreation during construction and operation; • Demand for local services; • Impacts on nearby recreational facilities and businesses; and • In addition, effects on the amenity of local residents and the local community due to traffic (Chapter 5), noise (Chapter 6), air quality (Chapter 	<p>Where effects are scoped out of the assessment clear justification is provided in this assessment in Section 15.9. See Section 15.6 for reference to matters which are scoped out of the assessment.</p>



Consultee	Issue raised	Response
	<p>7), visual impact (Chapter 8), and traffic, are not included in this chapter as these would be considered in the relevant EIA Report chapter as noted.</p> <p>The scoping report identifies that during the construction of the Proposed Development there will be a sizeable influx of construction workers into Wisbech (up to 700 construction personnel are anticipated over the estimated 3-year construction period for the Proposed Development) and that this could put pressure on health services and facilities in the local area. It also states in paragraph 14.6.12 that indirect effects upon tourism and recreation will be scoped in.</p> <p>The report also proposes to scope out any impacts on local housing, but with insufficient justification. The presence of significant numbers of workers could foreseeably have an impact on the local availability of affordable housing, particularly that of short-term tenancies, for certain communities and should be assessed.</p> <p>Recommendation The PEIR should identify the number of non-home based construction workers (both for the plant and connection corridor) and whether these are likely to be from within the existing population or non-home based. Demand for temporary accommodation by the construction work force should be identified and an assessment made regarding the impact on local housing and homelessness.</p>	<p>The effects of the temporary construction workforce are assessed in this chapter in Section 15.9.</p> <p>The effects arising from construction workers upon health services are reported within Chapter 16: Health (Volume 6.2).</p> <p>The direct effects upon tourism and recreation arising from the construction of the Grid Connection have been scoped in, consistent with the scoping opinion provided by the Planning Inspectorate.</p> <p>The effects of the temporary construction workforce on the local housing, including homelessness are assessed in this chapter in Section 15.9.</p> <p>Comments noted. As above – this chapter assesses effects from the temporary construction workforce in Section 15.9.</p>
Public England	<p>Health Cumulative effects</p> <p>The East of England is experiencing a large number of development schemes, with the potential for concurrent increases in non-home based workers seeking housing within the area and an increased presence of HGVs on the highway network. Individual schemes, albeit of limited scale can add to this situation.</p>	<p>The plans/projects screened into the CEA are set out in Chapter: 18 Cumulative Effects Assessment (Volume 6.2). Cumulative socio economic effects are considered in that chapter.</p>
Public England	<p>Health Tourism and Leisure Industries</p> <p>The Developer should assess the impact of the proposed development on retail, leisure, commercial, office, tourism, cultural, community and residential development needed in town centres. In rural locations assessment and evaluation of potential impacts on sustainable rural tourism and leisure developments that benefit businesses in rural areas, communities and visitors should be undertaken.</p>	<p>Section 15.9 presents an assessment of the findings of this assessment, and this includes effects on tourism and recreation. It considers the direct effects arising from the construction of the Grid Connection only. This is consistent with the Planning Inspectorates Scoping Opinion.</p>



15.2.3

A summary of the relevant responses received to the PEIR, together with any subsequent discussions held in relation to socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use and confirmation of how these have been considered within the assessment is presented in **Table 15.2 Summary of PEIR responses for socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use together with any subsequent engagement.**

Table 15.2 Summary of PEIR responses for socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use together with any subsequent engagement

Consultee	Issue raised	Response
Fenland District Council	The proposals do not benefit the local community and a sizeable S.106 contribution could not 'make good' on the permanent and ongoing disadvantages of having this plant located at the proposed location in Wisbech. There will be little positive impact on the local community, it will generate few jobs and give virtually nothing back to the community.	The Proposed Development will create up to 700 construction jobs and 40 permanent jobs and it will support local employment, skills and educational development. The Applicant has prepared an Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) which will be secured via a DCO Requirement. The assessment of socio economic effects is presented in Section 15.9.
Fenland District Council	Wisbech attracts visitors who value its culture, outstanding heritage and the built environment. The proposal detracts from this offer both in terms of its negative visual aspect and perceived risk to health and hence would negatively impact upon the number of visitors.	The effects upon the historic environment are presented in Chapter 10: Historic Environment (Volume 6.2) whilst Health Effects are assessed in Chapter 16: Health (Volume 6.2) . A consideration of the extent to which tourism and recreation might be affected by the Proposed Development is presented in Section 15.9.
Royal Mail	In exercising its statutory duties, Royal Mail vehicles use the A47, the A1101 and all of the adjacent local roads on a daily basis. Any additional congestion on these roads during the construction phase has the potential to significantly disrupt Royal Mail's operations.	Royal Mail's concerns are noted, and Chapter 6: Traffic and Transport (Volume 6.2) provides an assessment of construction and operational impacts.
Royal Mail	Royal Mail has reviewed the PEIR and the draft CEMP and notes that there is no content on advance notification of major road users such as Royal Mail of works, traffic or events that may affect the highways network. Royal Mail welcomes the confirmation that CTMP will be produced in advance of construction and will be agreed with the relevant planning authorities in consultation with the highway authorities. Royal Mail wishes to be added to this advance consultation and asks that specific wording is added to the CTMP in line with the three requests:	The requests from Royal Mail have been considered and the CTMP (Appendix 6A CTMP, Volume 6.4) has been amended to include for the wording requested.



Consultee	Issue raised	Response
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • That it is consulted at least one month in advance of any road closures/diversions/alternative access arrangement, hours of working; • Where closure/diversions are proposed work with Royal mail to make available alternative arrangements, and • Include a mechanism to inform Royal Mail about works affecting the local highway network. 	

15.3 Relevant legislation, planning policy, technical guidance

Legislative context

15.3.1 There is no legislation specific to the socio economic, tourism, recreation and land use assessment.

Planning policy context

15.3.2 There are a number of policies at the national and local level that will be relevant to the Proposed Development. A summary of the key provisions in the overarching NPS, which provides the primary policy basis for the consideration of NSIPs, is set out in **Table 15.3 Planning policy context for Socio economics: National Policy Statements**. There are no specific references to socio economics in NPS EN-3 or NPS EN-5 in the context of waste combustion and electricity networks. This section should be read in conjunction with **Chapter 5: Legislation and policy overview**.

Table 15.3 Planning policy context for Socio economics: National Policy Statements

Policy reference	Implications	Section addressed
Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)¹	Under paragraph 4.1.3, in considering any proposed development the IPC (since, SoS) should take into account potential benefits of development proposals including “ <i>contribution to meeting the need for energy infrastructure, job creation and any long-term or wider benefits</i> ”. In this context, the SoS should take into account environment, social and economic benefits and adverse impacts at national, regional and local levels (paragraph 4.1.4).	Section 15.9 presents an assessment of the findings of this socio economic assessment.

¹ Department for Energy & Climate Change. Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1) (2011).



Policy reference	Implications	Section addressed
	<p>EN-1 states that the assessment should consider all relevant socio-economic impacts, including job creation and training, provision of additional local services, effects on tourism, effects of influx of construction workers and cumulative effects (paragraphs 5.12.1 – 5.12.3).</p> <p>Socio-economic impacts may be linked to other impacts, for example the visual impact of a development is considered but may also have an impact on tourism and local businesses (paragraph 5.12.5).</p> <p>EN-1 notes that an energy infrastructure project will have direct effects on the existing use of the proposed site and may have indirect effects on the use, or planned use, of land in the vicinity for other types of development (paragraph 5.10.1).</p> <p>The ES should identify existing and proposed land uses near the project, any effects of replacing an existing development or use of the site with the proposed project or preventing a development or use on a neighbouring site from continuing. Applicants should also assess any effects of precluding a new development or use proposed in the development plan (paragraph 5.10.5).</p> <p>Paragraph 5.12.9 with regard to mitigation states that consideration should be given as to whether mitigation measures are necessary to mitigate any adverse socio-economic impacts of the development. For example, high quality design can improve the visual and environmental experience for visitors and the local community alike.</p>	<p>Section 15.9 presents an assessment of the findings of this socio economic assessment, which covers potential economic effects, including job creation, effects on tourism and the effects of the temporary construction workforce.</p> <p>Section 15.9 considers the cumulative effects of the Proposed Development. Effects with other projects are considered in Chapter 18: Cumulative Effects Assessment (Volume 6.2).</p> <p>Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual (Volume 6.2) assesses the visual impacts of the Proposed Development, Chapter 6: Traffic and Transport (Volume 6.2), the potential transportation impacts and Chapter 10: Historic Environment (Volume 6.2), the impacts on the historic environment. Relevant conclusions of significance to the scope of this assessment are cross referenced in Section 15.9 which presents an assessment of the findings of this socio economic assessment and this includes consideration of effects on tourism and local businesses.</p> <p>Effects on land use are considered in Section 15.9.</p> <p>Chapter 5: Legislation and Policy (Volume 6.2) provides an overview of relevant national and local planning policy.</p> <p>Mitigation measures proposed by the Applicant include the Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) and an Outline Landscape and Ecology Strategy (Figure 3.14 Volume 6.3) for the EfW CHP Facility which promotes biodiversity.</p>



- 15.3.3 In September 2021, The Department of Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) consulted on a review of Energy NPS with consultation closing on 29 November 2021. The Energy NPS were reviewed to reflect the policies and broader strategic approach set out in the Energy White Paper 2020 and to ensure a planning framework was in place to support the infrastructure requirement for the transition to net zero.
- 15.3.4 **Table 15.4 Planning policy context for Socio economics: Draft National Policy Statements** summarises those Draft energy NPS which are considered to be relevant to the Proposed Development.

Table 15.4 Planning policy context for Socio economics: Draft National Policy Statements

Policy reference	Implications	Section addressed
Draft Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1)²	<p>References at paragraphs 4.1.3 and 4.1.4 remains as those referenced in the adopted NPS EN-1 and summarised in Table 15.3 above.</p> <p>Paragraph 5.13.3 replicates 5.12.1 to 5.12.3 referenced in the adopted NPS EN-1 but in addition includes reference to the sustainability of jobs created including where they will help to develop the skills needed for the UK's transition to Net Zero.</p> <p>Other policy references which differ from the adopted NPS include reference to an encouragement to ensure that local supply chains are considered and that accommodation strategies should be considered including the need to provide temporary accommodation (paragraphs 5.13.5 - 5.13.6).</p> <p>Paragraph 5.13.9 which concerns the SoS decision making states that the SoS may wish to include a requirement that specifies the approval by the local authority of an employment and skills plan detailing arrangements to promote local employment and skills development opportunities, including apprenticeships, education, engagement with local schools and colleges and training programmes to be enacted.</p>	<p>The Proposed Development is classified as renewable energy providing the potential for heat and power to local businesses. The Applicant is committed to improving local skills and has prepared an Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) which includes for apprenticeships and educational engagement. This will be secured via a DCO Requirement.</p> <p>The Outline Employment and Skills Strategy is included as Volume 7.8. It will be secured by a DCO Requirement.</p>

² Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy. Draft Overarching National Policy Statement for Energy (EN-1). (2021).



- 15.3.5 There are no specific references to socio economics in draft NPS EN-3 or NPS EN-5 in the context of waste combustion and electricity networks.
- 15.3.6 Other national and local policies which may provide additional guidance which can be considered material to the consideration of a NSIP are detailed in **Table 15.5 Planning policy context for Socio economics: National and local planning policies** below.

Table 15.5 Planning policy context for Socio economics: National and local planning policies

Policy reference	Summary	Section addressed
National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)³	<p>The NPPF seeks to help build a strong and competitive economy. Planning decisions should help create the conditions in which businesses can invest, expand, and adapt. Significant weight should be placed on the need to support economic growth and productivity, taking into account both local business needs and wider opportunities for development (paragraph 81).</p> <p>In addition, the NPPF also seeks to promote healthy and safe communities. Planning decisions should aim to achieve healthy, inclusive, and safe places. To provide the social, recreational, and cultural facilities and services a community needs, planning decisions should guard against the unnecessary loss of valued facilities and services, particularly where this would reduce the community's ability to meet its day-to-day needs (paragraph 93).</p> <p>It is important that a sufficient choice of school places is available to meet the needs of existing and new communities. Local planning authorities should take a proactive, positive, and collaborative approach to meeting this requirement, and to development that will widen choice in education (paragraph 95).</p>	<p>Section 15.9 assesses the effects of the Proposed Development. This assessment considers the economic effects from the Proposed Development, as well as tourism and recreation (relative to the construction of the Grid Connection) and on the local housing market and education facilities. Effects on Health are assessed in Chapter 16 Health (Volume 6.2).</p> <p>Chapter 5: Legislation and Policy (Volume 6.2) provides an overview of relevant national and local planning policy.</p>
Local Policy		
Cambridge and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan (July 2021)⁴	<p>Policy 3 Waste Management Needs indicates that the waste planning authorities will seek to achieve net self-sufficiency in relation to the management of waste. Policy 4 Providing for Waste Management makes reference to new/extended facilities being located within the settlement boundary of the existing or main urban areas of locations including Wisbech.</p>	<p>Section 15.9 presents an assessment of the findings of this socio economic assessment; no public rights of way would be directly affected to the extent that their use will be prevented. Indirect effects will be visual.</p>

³ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. National Planning Policy Framework (2021).

⁴ Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council. Minerals and Waste Local Plan (2021).



Policy reference	Summary	Section addressed
	<p>Policy 18 Amenity Considerations states that development must not give rise to unacceptable adverse impacts upon the amenity of existing occupiers of land or property amongst other criteria. Policy 23 Traffic Highways and Rights of Way includes for the protection and enhancement of existing rights of way.</p>	<p>Chapter 5: Legislation and Policy (Volume 6.2) provides an overview of relevant national and local planning policy.</p>
Fenland Local Plan (Adopted) (2014)⁵		
<p>Policy LP1 – A Presumption in Favour of Sustainable Development</p>	<p>At the heart of the Strategy for Fenland is a desire to deliver sustainable economic growth; growth that is not for its own sake, but growth that brings benefits for all sectors of the community – for existing residents as much as for new ones.</p> <p>When considering development proposals, FDC will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the NPPF. It will always work with applications jointly to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in Fenland.</p>	<p>Section 15.9 presents the socio economic assessment, and this includes consideration of any socio economic benefits from the Proposed Development.</p> <p>Chapter 5: Legislation and Policy (Volume 6.2) provides an overview of relevant national and local planning policy.</p>
<p>Policy LP2 – Facilitating the Health and Wellbeing of Fenland Residents</p>	<p>Development proposals should contribute to the Council's goal of Fenland's residents achieving the highest attainable standard of health, irrespective of their race, religion, political belief, economic or social condition, sex, or age.</p> <p>Development proposals should contribute to creating a healthy, safe and equitable living environment by (e.g.):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creating an environment (built and social) in which communities can flourish (see all policies in this plan); • Creating opportunities for employment in accessible locations; • Promoting and facilitating healthy lifestyles; and • Avoiding adverse impacts. 	<p>Section 15.9 presents an assessment of the findings of this socio economic assessment and this includes details of any employment opportunities.</p> <p>Health impacts are assessed separately in Chapter 16: Health (Volume 6.2) with relevant findings cross referenced in this assessment.</p>
<p>Policy LP6 – Employment, Tourism,</p>	<p>Opportunities for new job growth in the District will be maximised with the aim of achieving 7,200 net additional jobs over the period 2011-2031.</p>	<p>Section 15.9 presents the socio economic assessment, and this includes potential economic</p>

⁵ Fenland District Council. Fenland Local Plan (2014).



Policy reference	Summary	Section addressed
Community Facilities and Retail	Existing cultural, tourism and visitor facilities will be protected and where possible enhanced.	effects, including job creation, and cross references the Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (included as Volume 7.8.) that has been prepared by the Applicant as part of the DCO application and will be secured via a DCO Requirement.
Policy LP8 - Wisbech	Wisbech, alongside March, is the main focus for housing, employment and retail growth. All development should contribute to the promotion of Wisbech into a strong, safe and community focused market town, preserving and enhancing its unique character and making appropriate use of its heritage assets to benefit its regeneration, tourism potential and sense of place.	Socio economic effects are assessed at a Local, District and County Level. The Local level includes certain wards within and adjoining the town of Wisbech.
Policy LP14 – Responding to Climate Change and Managing the Risk of Flooding	Renewable energy proposals will be supported and considered in the context of sustainable development and climate change. Proposals for renewable energy technology, associated infrastructure, and integration of renewable technology on existing or proposed structures will be assessed both individually and cumulatively on their merits taking account of the following factors: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Surrounding landscape, townscape, and heritage assets; • Residential and visual amenity; • Noise impact; • Specific highway safety; and • High quality agricultural land. 	Chapters 6: Traffic and Transport, Chapter 7: Noise and Vibration, Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual and Chapter 10: Historic Environment (Volume 6.2) assess effects on Landscape, Townscape and heritage, residential and Visual Amenity, noise impacts and highway safety respectively. Relevant findings from these chapters are cross referenced in this chapter in Section 15.9.
Policy LP16 – Delivering and Protecting High Quality Environments across the District	The Local Plan seeks to deliver and protect high quality environments throughout the District. All new developments should: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Make a positive contribution to the local character and distinctiveness of the area; • Not adversely impact on the amenity of neighbouring users such as noise, light pollution, loss of privacy and loss of light; • Provide a safe environment and incorporate security measures to deter crime in accordance with Policy LP17; • Identify, manage, and mitigate against any existing or proposed risks from sources of noise, emissions, pollution, contamination, odour and dust, vibration, landfill gas and protect from water body deterioration; and Not result in any unreasonable constraint(s) or threaten the operation and viability of existing or nearby or adjoining businesses or employment sites. 	Potential effects from the Proposed Development are considered in Section 15.9. Measures already incorporated into the design, which may demonstrate a high quality design, are described in Section 15.7. Chapter 6: Traffic and Transport, Chapter 8: Air Quality, Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual, Chapter 10: Historic Environment (Volume 6.2) present details of the measures already incorporated in the design to help avoid adverse effects. An Outline CEMP (Volume 7.12) has also been prepared which will be secured via a DCO Requirement.



Policy reference	Summary	Section addressed
		The implementation of environmental measures is described in Section 15.11 .
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Development Framework Core Strategy (2011) ⁶	The Core Strategy recognises that tourism plays a significant role in the local economy (see Policy CS10 and paragraph 7.3.7).	Potential effects from the Proposed Development are considered in Section 15.9 including effects on tourism. Chapter 5: Legislation and Policy (Volume 6.2) provides an overview of relevant national and local planning policy.
King's Lynn and West Norfolk Development Framework Site Allocations and development Management Policies (2016) ⁷	Policy DM20 Renewable Energy states that applications will be assessed to determine whether the benefits in terms of energy generated are outweighed by the impacts with reference to e.g., tourism and other economic activity.	Potential effects from the Proposed Development are considered in Section 15.9 including effects on tourism and job creation. An Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) has been prepared by the Applicant and is included with the ES which is submitted as part of the DCO application and secured by a DCO Requirement. Chapter 5: Legislation and Policy (Volume 6.2) provides an overview of relevant national and local planning policy.
Norfolk County Council Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies Development Plan Document 2010-2026 (2011) ⁸	Core Strategy Policy CS14 – Environmental Protection - seeks to protect Norfolk's natural and built environments. In particular, developments must ensure that there are no unacceptable adverse impacts on, and ideally improvements to, residential amenity e.g., noise, vibration, dust, lighting, and visual intrusion. Development Management Policy DM12 seeks to protect local amenity and this is a key consideration for waste management facilities.	Potential effects from the Proposed Development are considered in Section 15.9 this includes cross referencing the findings of other chapters as relevant, including Chapter 7: Noise and Vibration, and Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual (Volume 6.2) . Chapter 5: Legislation and Policy (Volume 6.2) provides an overview of relevant national and local planning policy.

⁶ King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council. Local Development Framework – Core Strategy (2011).

⁷ King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council. Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Plan (2016).

⁸ Norfolk County Council. Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies Development Plan Document 2010-2026. (2011).



Technical guidance

15.3.7 There is limited guidance setting out the preferred method for, or content of, an assessment of potential social and economic effects as part of an EIA. Otherwise, where relevant, the following guidance has been taken into account:

- Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (IEMA 2004)⁹.

15.3.8 The assessment has been carried out following good practice methodology taking account of assessments for comparative schemes.

15.4 Data gathering methodology

15.4.1 Data gathering to inform this socio economic, tourism, recreation and land use assessment has been undertaken through desk-based research, drawing on a range of publicly accessible information.

Study Area

15.4.2 The Study Area for the Proposed Development is described below and is also shown on **Figure 15.1: Socio economic, Tourism, Recreation and Land Use Study Area (Volume 6.3)**.

15.4.3 A single Study Area has been identified for all of the project components which form the Proposed Development. This differs from the approach taken in the PEIR where separate Study Areas were selected for the EfW CHP Facility Site, CHP Connection, TCC, Access Improvements and Water Connections and the Grid Connection. This was because the PEIR included for two Grid Connection options. Option 1 comprised underground and overhead cabling to Walpole, some 10km from the EfW CHP Facility Site and within the Borough of Kings Lynn and West Norfolk and Norfolk County (KLWN). The Proposed Development as described within **Chapter 3: Description of the Proposed Development (Volume 6.2)** now includes for a wholly underground Grid Connection to Walsoken only. Walsoken is located on the eastern side of Wisbech and is approximately 3.8km distant from the EfW CHP Facility Site. Whilst it is within KLWN its proximity to Wisbech and to the EfW CHP Facility Site is such that the Receptors with the potential to be affected will often be the same as those potentially affected by the other project components. The same Study Area can therefore be applied for the Proposed Development as a whole.

15.4.4 The Study Area is defined as:

- Local level – Medworth Ward and the surrounding wards of Octavia Hill, Wisbech, Elm & Christchurch, Emneth & Outwell, Walsoken, West Walton and Walpole;
- District level – Fenland District and KLWN; and
- County Level – Cambridgeshire and Norfolk.

⁹ Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (IEMA 2004)



Desk study

- 15.4.5 The desk study comprises desk-based research using a variety of publicly available information sources to gather information for the baseline.
- 15.4.6 A summary of the key desktop data used to inform the assessment is provided in **Table 15.6 Desktop data for the socio economic, tourism, recreation and land use assessment** below with other information referenced at the relevant points within the chapter.

Table 15.6 Desktop data for the socio economic, tourism, recreation and land use assessment

Desktop data	Source of desktop data	Details of the information
Demographic Statistics	Office for National Statistics ¹⁰ , Norfolk Insight ¹¹	Population statistics for the baseline information.
Labour Market Statistics	NOMIS ¹²	Labour market statistics for baseline information.
Economic and Employment Statistics	Fenland for Business ¹³ Norfolk County Council ¹⁴ King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council ¹⁵	Economic and employment information for baseline information.
Housing Market Statistics	Fenland District Council King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough Council	Housing market statistics for baseline information.
Tourism Statistics	Visit West Norfolk ¹⁶ Visit Cambridgeshire ¹⁷	Tourism statistics for baseline information.

Survey work

- 15.4.7 The assessment has relied on existing desktop information as confirmed within the EIA Scoping Report. No survey work has been undertaken for this assessment.

¹⁰ Office for National Statistics demographic statistics, Website

¹¹ Norfolk Insight demographic statistics. Norfolk Insight, Norfolk County Council (2020).

¹² Office for National Statistics. Nomis official labour market statistics, Website (2022)

¹³ Fenland District Council, Fenland for Business. Website (2022)

¹⁴ Norfolk County Council, Norfolk Economic Intelligence Report, (June 2021)

¹⁵ Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, Employment Monitoring Report 2017-2018

¹⁶ Borough of King's Lynn and West Norfolk, Visit West Norfolk Tourism Statistics. Website (2019)

¹⁷ Visit Britain/Visit England, Cambridgeshire Tourism Statistics, Website (2022)



15.5 Baseline

Introduction

15.5.1 Socio economic activity does not confine itself to local authority boundaries. The urban area which is recognisable as Wisbech is largely within Fenland District but parts of the built-up area in the south-west and west of the town are in the KLWN. Baseline information on population, economy and employment, housing market, education, tourism and recreation and land use is provided for both local authority areas as well as for the two counties of Cambridgeshire and Norfolk. At the ward level economic data relies heavily upon census data from 2011 and with this in mind, the focus of the baseline in terms of socio economic performance has been at the District level. This is because the census data is out of date recognising that this assessment has been undertaken in advance of the publication of 2021 census data which the ONS aims to begin to publish in May 2022.

Study Area Baseline

Population

15.5.2 Based on ONS data, at the time of the 2011 census, the town of Wisbech had a population of 31,573. The population had risen to 33,933 in 2016. In the 2011 census the population of Fenland was 95,262 and was made up of approximately 51% females and 49% males. In 2018, at the Fenland District level, the population of Fenland was 101,491. 71% of the population of Fenland live within the four market towns, including Wisbech. The population projection for Fenland in 2020 was 102,080, a small increase from 2018. There is an almost equal number of males (49.6% of the population) and females (50.4% of the population).

15.5.3 At the Fenland District level, 96.8% of the population in Fenland are White: British or White: Other (90.4% and 6.4%). ONS mid-year population estimates 2020¹⁸ identify that 58.88% of the population are aged 16-64 compared to the county average of 61.87%.

15.5.4 Population data is provided at the Ward level, post 2011 by the ONS mid-year population estimates. For the wards in the Study Area Medworth had a population of 3,114, Octavia Hill, 6,161, Emneth & Outwell 4,883, Elm & Christchurch 4,931 and Walsoken, West Walton & Walpole 5,762. Medworth ward had the highest percentage of people aged 16-64 (64.96%) and Emneth & Outwell the lowest (55.38%).

15.5.5 In KLWN the population in 2020 was 151,245 with a slightly higher percentage of females to males (51% to 49%). ONS mid-year population estimates 2020 identify that 56.04 of the population are aged 16-64, compared to the county average of 58.47%.

15.5.6 At the Cambridgeshire County level, the population estimate for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough was 859,830 in 2020 and there is also an almost equal number of males and females.

¹⁸ ONS Mid-year population estimates, 2020



15.5.7 At the Norfolk County level, the population estimate for Norfolk was 725,981 in 2020 with an almost equal number of males and females.

Economy and Employment

15.5.8 The economy of Fenland District features a diverse mix of sectors and is made up of 3,405 businesses which combine to produce a GVA of around £2.2bn a year, operating at a productivity level of £69,500¹⁹ per worker. According to 'Fenland for Business', Fenland's economic growth has outstripped other regions of the UK for the last three years. It records that over 70% of businesses that were set up within the last 5 years in Fenland remain actively trading.

15.5.9 During the period October 2020-September 2021 (the most recent figures available) 76% of the population was economically active (lower than the East of England) (80.5%), and the national average (78.5%)). Economic inactivity rates are higher than the equivalents regionally and nationally – 24% for Fenland, 19.5% for the East of England and 21.5% for Great Britain as a whole²⁰.

15.5.10 Males are more economically active compared with regional and national averages, but female rates are considerably lower – 68.6% compared with 76.6% for the East of England and 74.8% for Great Britain.

15.5.11 At the Fenland District level, **Table 15.7 Employee jobs by industry in Fenland 2020** below shows that manufacturing, wholesale, and retail trade are the dominant industries for employment – both employing 6,000 people, closely followed by administrative and support service activities which employs 5,000 people. Education and human health and social work activities are also important local industries for employment.

Table 15.7 Employee jobs by industry in Fenland 2020²¹

Employee Jobs by Industry	Fenland (Employee Jobs)	Fenland (%)	East (%)	Great Britain (%)
B: Mining and quarrying	25	0.1	0.1	0.2
C: Manufacturing	6,000	16.7	7.0	7.9
D: Electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning supply	50	0.1	0.3	0.5
E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	700	1.9	0.9	0.7

¹⁹ Figures from Fenland District Council, Fenland for Business. Website 2022

²⁰ Nomis. Official labour market statistics Labour Market Profile. Source ONS annual population survey. Website accessed February 2022.

²¹ Nomis. Official labour market statistics Labour Market Profile. Source ONS Business register and Employment Survey Website accessed February 2022.



Employee Jobs by Industry	Fenland (Employee Jobs)	Fenland (%)	East (%)	Great Britain (%)
F: Construction	2,000	5.6	6.4	4.8
G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	6,000	16.7	16.1	14.9
H: Transportation and storage	3,500	9.7	5.6	5.1
I: Accommodation and food service activities	1,500	4.2	7.0	7.2
J: Information and communication	500	1.4	3.9	4.5
K: Financial and insurance activities	300	0.8	2.3	3.5
L: Real estate activities	350	1.0	1.4	1.8
M: Professional, scientific, and technical activities	1,500	4.2	9.0	8.7
N: Administrative and support service activities	5,000	13.9	10.8	8.8
O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	1,250	3.5	3.4	4.6
P: Education	3,000	8.3	9.0	9.0
Q: Human health and social work activities	4,000	11.1	12.8	13.6
R: Arts, entertainment, and recreation	400	1.1	2.0	2.2
S: Other service activities	600	1.7	1.9	1.9

15.5.12 In KLWN, 79.5% of the population is economically active (October 2020-September 2021), lower than the East of England (80.5%) but higher than the national level (78.5%)²². Consequently, economic inactivity rates at 20.5% are higher than the East of England and lower than the national rate.

²² Nomis. Official labour market statistics. Labour Market Profile. ONS annual population survey. Website accessed February 2022



15.5.13 Employment sectors are provided in **Table 15.8 Employee jobs by industry in KLWN 2020**. They show that key sectors are Wholesale and Retail (18.5%), Human Health (16.7%) and Social Work and Manufacturing (11.1%).

Table 15.8 Employee jobs by industry in KLWN 2020²³

Employee Jobs by Industry	KLWN (Employee Jobs)	KLWN (%)	East (%)	Great Britain (%)
B: Mining and quarrying	75	0.1	0.1	0.2
C: Manufacturing	6,000	11.1	7.0	7.9
D: Electricity, gas, steam, and air conditioning supply	100	0.2	0.3	0.5
E: Water supply; sewerage, waste management and remediation activities	600	1.1	0.9	0.7
F: Construction	3,500	6.5	6.4	4.8
G: Wholesale and retail trade; repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles	10,000	18.5	16.1	14.9
H: Transportation and storage	2,000	3.7	5.6	5.1
I: Accommodation and food service activities	5,000	9.3	7.0	7.2
J: Information and communication	600	1.1	3.9	4.5
K: Financial and insurance activities	1,500	2.8	2.3	3.5
L: Real estate activities	700	1.3	1.4	1.8
M: Professional, scientific, and technical activities	2,250	4.2	9.0	8.7
N: Administrative and support service activities	4,000	7.4	10.8	8.8
O: Public administration and defence; compulsory social security	1,750	3.2	3.4	4.6

²³ Nomis. Official labour market statistics. Labour Market Profile. Website accessed February 2022.



Employee Jobs by Industry	KLWN (Employee Jobs)	KLWN (%)	East (%)	Great Britain (%)
P: Education	4,500	8.3	9.0	9.0
Q: Human health and social work activities	9,000	16.7	12.8	13.6
R: Arts, entertainment, and recreation	900	1.7	2.0	2.2
S: Other service activities	600	1.1	1.9	1.9

15.5.14 In Cambridgeshire there are 19,000 employed in the construction industry (4.1%) of the workforce, the main employment sectors being Education, 61,000 (13.2%) and Wholesale and Retail Trade 61,000 (13.4%)²⁴.

15.5.15 The same data source records that within the county of Norfolk there is 20,000 (5.6%) of the workforce employed in construction with the largest employment sectors being Wholesale and Retail Trade; Repair of Motor Vehicles and Motorcycles with 62,000 (17.3%) employed and Human Health and Social Work Activities with 58,000 (15.2%).

15.5.16 ONS analysis of employment by occupation presents information in Major Groups. An analysis of the existing occupational profile of the resident workforce (October 2020-September 2021) shows that the main groups in Fenland District for employment by occupation are groups 8-9 (process plant and machine operatives and elementary occupations) at 30.7% compared with regional and national averages which are both 15.0%, followed by groups 4-5 (administrative and secretarial and skilled trade occupations) at 30.5% compared to regional and national averages of 21.6% and 19.1%. Groups 1-3 occupations (managers, directors and senior officials, professional occupations and associate professional and technical) is lower with 27.8% employed in these occupations compared to regional averages of 48% and 49.7% whilst the smallest Major Group is group 6-7 (Caring, Leisure and other Service Occupations and Sales and Customer Occupations) 10.9% compared with 15.4% regionally and 16.2% nationally²⁵.

15.5.17 Gross weekly pay is an indicator of the health of the local economy. In general, higher earnings indicate higher productivity consisting of sectors that pay well, whilst low earnings indicate the opposite. For Fenland, the gross weekly pay (2021) is £546.90, this is lower than the East of England (£628.6 per week) and nationally (£613.10)²⁶.

²⁴ Nomis. Official labour market statistics. Labour Market Profile. Source ONS Business register and Employment Survey. Website accessed March 2022.

²⁵ Nomis. Official labour market statistics. Labour Market Profile. Source ONS annual population survey. Website accessed February 2022

²⁶ Nomis. Official labour market statistics. Labour Market Profile. ONS annual survey of hours and earning – resident analysis. Website accessed February 2022



- 15.5.18 The major employment groups with the highest levels of employment by occupation in KLWN are groups 1-3 (managers, directors and senior officials, professional occupations and associate professional and technical) and 4-5 (administrative and secretarial and skilled trade occupations) each with 21,700.
- 15.5.19 Gross weekly pay in KLWN, in 2021 was £558.60, higher than Fenland but lower than the East of England and national figures.
- 15.5.20 There are a number of businesses in the area surrounding the Proposed Development reflecting its location within an industrial estate and close to retail and commercial uses including the Belgrave Retail Park. The retail park is accessed from Cromwell Road and includes Halfords, Carpetright, Curry's PC World, Dunelm and Pets at Home. On the opposite side of Cromwell Road businesses include Tesco and 'the light Cinema'. Companies located within the industrial estate include a food products supplier, a courier service, and a machine services company. There are also a variety of local services in Wisbech including schools, shops, supermarkets, hotels and bed and breakfast and health facilities (GP surgery and dentist).

Housing Market and Education Facilities

Housing Market

- 15.5.21 The Fenland Local Plan Monitoring Report²⁷ sets the Local Plan requirement for 11,000 new homes in the District between 2011 and 2031 (550 dwellings per annum). The following table identifies the proposed split of these new homes between different areas. This shows that the majority of growth is directed towards the market towns – Wisbech, Chatteris, March and Whittlesey (89%) and 11% of the growth is directed towards the rural areas. For Wisbech provision is made for 3,000 new homes up to 2031 (plus a further 550 on the edge of Wisbech in the KLWN area), which is 27% of the total number of new homes set to be delivered through the Local Plan.

Table 15.9 Split of new homes delivery in Fenland²⁸

	District Total	Wisbech	March	Chatteris	Whittlesey	Other Locations
Total Housing (Numbers)	11,000 (100%)	3,000 (27%)	4,200 (38%)	1,600 (15%)	1,000 (9%)	1,200 (11%)

- 15.5.22 Delivery of housing in Fenland has underperformed against the local plan for housebuilding. Housing monitoring data published in the Fenland Monitoring Report shows that unimplemented permissions provide a sufficient supply of sites to meet the five-year housing land supply requirements.
- 15.5.23 The latest monitoring data reported within the Fenland Monitoring Report shows that 3,906 homes were completed in the plan period 2011 to 2021 with annual completion rates commonly averaging within a range of 488 to 558 during the plan

²⁷ Fenland District Council, Fenland Monitoring Report 2020-2021. (2022).

²⁸ Source: Fenland Local Plan 2014



period. These rates are substantially below the 697 to 722 range experienced in the early to mid-2000s and are below or at the 550 dwelling per annum figure which the Local Plan says should be provided.

15.5.24 FDC notes that there are currently no barriers preventing the delivery of permitted sites. However, it recognises that more work is required with the developers and infrastructure providers to deliver the larger scale strategic sites and Broad Locations of Growth²⁹.

15.5.25 At the time of the 2011 census³⁰, there were 40,620 households in Fenland. The breakdown of these households was:

- Social and affordable rented: 12% of households, or around 5,054, were renting from a housing association;
- Private renters: 16% of households (around 6,341) were renting privately from a landlord or letting agent or were living “rent free”; and
- Homeowners: 70% of households, or around 28,436 owned their home, including those with a mortgage, owned outright, and including 205 households in “shared ownership”.

15.5.26 More recent statistics³¹ for 2021 show that there were 46,270 properties in Fenland, 356 net new dwellings in 2020-2021, and that the median price of property was £203,000.

15.5.27 2011 census information for Fenland shows that the average household size was 2.3, which is slightly lower than for Cambridgeshire and England as a whole which was 2.4.

15.5.28 The number of new households is projected to increase steadily from the 40,620 quoted above to over 53,000 in 2043³². Median house prices in Fenland (Oct 2020 to Sept 2021) of £215,000 are the lowest of all Cambridgeshire districts.

15.5.29 **Table 15.10 Dwelling types in Fenland District** below shows that bungalows accounted for the highest percentage of dwelling type in Fenland, a higher percentage of all dwellings than for Cambridgeshire and England as a whole, closely followed by detached houses and then semi-detached houses.

Table 15.10 Dwelling types in Fenland District³³

	Fenland Count	Fenland %	Cambridgeshire Count %	England Count	England %
Bungalows	11,640	25	38,830 13.0	2,295,390	9
Flats/Maisonettes	4,160	9	43,990 15	5,888,410	24

²⁹ These are broad locations within the District which the Council has identified for growth.

³⁰ 2011 census information.

³¹ Cambridge Insight housing and planning statistics. Cambridgeshire Insight, Cambridgeshire County Council undated. Source ONS

³² Cambridge Insight housing and planning statistics. Cambridgeshire Insight, Cambridgeshire County Council undated. Original source Valuation Office Agency 2020

³³ Cambridge Insight housing and planning statistics. Cambridgeshire Insight, Cambridgeshire County Council undated. Original source Valuation Office Agency 2020



	Fenland Count	Fenland %	Cambridgeshire Count %	England Count	England %	
Terraced Houses	7,660	17	61740	21	6,502,770	26
Semi-detached houses	9,880	21	66,590	23	5,900,720	24
Detached houses	11,570	25	74370	25	3,934,150	16

15.5.30 **Table 15.11 Dwelling vacancy types in Fenland District** below shows that there are 563 long-term vacant dwellings in Fenland, representing 43% of the vacant stock. Few long-term vacant dwellings are in either the public or private rented sector, with both sectors possessing a percentage vacancy rate lower than for Cambridgeshire and England as a whole.

Table 15.11 Dwelling vacancy types in Fenland District³⁴

	Fenland Count	Fenland % of vacant stock	Cambridgeshire Count %	England Count	England %	
Long Term Vacant	563	43.8	2,920	38.4	268,385	40.3
Owned by the local authority	3	0.2	172	2.3	25,262	3.8
Owned by a Private Registered Provider (Housing Association)	30	2.3	198	2.6	30,728	4.6
Long-term vacant and owned by a Private Registered Provider (Housing Association)	28	2.2	124	1.6	13,840	2.1
Owned by other public sector bodies	0	0	0	0	3,421	0.6

15.5.31 The 2016-based household projections indicated that the number of households in King's Lynn & West Norfolk has increased by 2.3% since 2011, reaching 64,355 households in 2016. This compares to the regional average of 4.6% and the national figure of 4.1%³⁵. In King's Lynn West Norfolk, the East of England region and at the national level, the number of households has risen at the same rate as the population in households and the average size of households has remained unchanged.

³⁴ Cambridge Insight housing and planning statistics. Cambridgeshire Insight, Cambridgeshire County Council undated. Original source Valuation Office Agency 2020.

³⁵ All figures from King's Lynn & West Norfolk Housing Needs Assessment (March 2020). HDH Planning and Development on behalf of KLWN.



- 15.5.32 The KLWN Development Plan Review makes provision for at least 550 dwellings to the east of Wisbech town, reflecting that although the town is beyond the Borough's administrative area it does provide services and employment to people living in the Borough.
- 15.5.33 The KLWN Housing Needs Assessment³⁶ notes that entry-level prices in King's Lynn & West Norfolk range from £92,625 for a one bedroom home, up to £273,000 for a four bedroom property.
- 15.5.34 Terraced and semi-detached houses accounted for over 30% each of the dwelling types.
- 15.5.35 At a District level, **Table 15.12 House prices in King's Lynn and West Norfolk** shows that house prices in King's Lynn town are cheaper than for Norfolk and England as a whole. Detached houses are £20,000 cheaper and flats are also considerably cheaper, less than the price for Norfolk as a whole, and nearly 50% cheaper than for England.

Table 15.12 House prices in King's Lynn and West Norfolk³⁷

	North Lynn (King's Lynn and West Norfolk)	Norfolk	England
Detached houses (£)	£300,000	£320,000	£385,000
Semi-detached houses (£)	£203,000	£222,500	£243,500
Terraced Houses (£)	£170,000	£188,000	£215,000
Flats or maisonettes (£)	£125,000	£137,500	£230,000

- 15.5.36 **Table 15.13 Dwelling types in KLWN** shows dwelling types in King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough which has fewer terraced houses than the Norfolk and national average and a greater percentage of bungalows.

Table 15.13 Dwelling types in KLWN³⁸

	KLWN Count	KLWN %	Norfolk Count %	England Count	England %
Bungalows	20,350	27	102,400 24	2,295,390	9
Flats/Maisonettes	6,980	9	56,180 13	5,888,410	24

³⁶ King's Lynn & West Norfolk Housing Needs Assessment (March 2020). HDH Planning and Development on behalf of KLWN.

³⁷ Source: Norfolk Insight housing and planning statistics. Norfolk Insight, Norfolk County Council undated. Website accessed March 2022 and uses ONS median property price data (Apr 2020-Mar 2021).



	KLWN Count	KLWN %	Norfolk Count %		England Count	England %
Terraced Houses	12,460	17	91,120	21	6,502,770	26
Semi-detached houses	16,250	22	80,960	19	5,900,720	24
Detached houses	16,010	22	91,780	21	3,934,150	16

15.5.37 **Table 15.14 Dwelling vacancy types in KLWN** below shows that there are 979 long-term vacant dwellings in Fenland, representing 39% of the vacant stock. There are a slightly greater percentage of long-term vacant dwellings in the public or private rented sector, than there are in Norfolk and nationally as a whole.

Table 15.14 Dwelling vacancy types in KLWN³⁹

	KLWN Count	KLWN % of Vacant Stock	Norfolk Count %		England Count	England %
Long Term Vacant	979	39.2	4,323	38.1	268,385	40.3
Owned by the local authority	12	0.5	170	1.5	25,262	3.8
Owned by a Private Registered Provider (Housing Association)	129	5.2	433	3.8	30,728	4.6
Long-term vacant and owned by a Private Registered Provider (Housing Association)	78	3.1	302	2.7	13,840	2.1
Owned by other public sector bodies	2	0.1	5	0	3,421	0.6

Homelessness

15.5.38 FDC has produced a Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy⁴⁰ to tackle homelessness in the District. This strategy highlights affordability problems, rental costs and high rental demand as issues which contribute to homelessness. FDC received Flexible Housing Support Grant, £125,000 from central Government in 2018/19 along with Homelessness Reduction Act 2017 implementation funding of £61,000. Both funding streams were confirmed as continuing for 2020/21 with an increase to £140,000.

³⁹ Norfolk Insight housing and planning statistics. Norfolk Insight, Norfolk County Council undated. Original source 2020 Valuation Office Agency.

⁴⁰ Fenland District Council. Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2020-2022.



- 15.5.39 The strategy highlights that ‘female lone parents’ are the group that most need help, followed by single people and couples with children who present as homeless (i.e., when prevention or relief is either too late or not applicable e.g., domestic abuse cases).
- 15.5.40 There is a downward trend in homelessness in Fenland District and this is due to the fact that FDC is active in preventing many people from becoming homeless.
- 15.5.41 KLWN launched a Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy⁴¹ in 2020 which led to the award of over £700,000 from the government’s Next Steps Housing Programme to fund projects aimed at increasing the housing stock available to accommodate rough sleepers. Information contained within the strategy shows that from a peak in 2016/17 of 42 the rough sleeper count dropped to 5 in 2018/19. Reasons for homelessness in KLWN are primarily as a result of eviction from private rented property followed by family eviction and then social housing eviction.

Education Facilities

- 15.5.42 There are nine primary schools in Wisbech:
- Peckover Primary School;
 - Elm Road Primary School;
 - West Walton Community Primary School;
 - Leverington Primary Academy;
 - Ramnoth Junior School;
 - Elm CofE Primary School;
 - St Peter’s CofE Aided Junior School;
 - Orchards Church of England Primary School; and
 - Meadowgate Academy.
- 15.5.43 There are three high schools in Wisbech:
- Wisbech Grammar School;
 - Cambian Wisbech School; and
 - Thomas Clarkson Academy.
- 15.5.44 In February 2022 planning permission was granted for a 60 place SEMH social emotional and mental health school for pupils in KS3 and KS4 11 to 16 years. This is to be located to the south-west of Wisbech, on the opposite side of the River Nene to the Proposed Development.
- 15.5.45 The Department for Education recommendation is that schools should plan for a surplus of a minimum of 2% (National Audit Office and Department for Education, 2017) to avoid the risk of having insufficient capacity as a result of unexpected

⁴¹ KLWN, Homelessness and Rough Sleeping Strategy 2019-2024. (Undated).



fluctuations in pupil numbers and to allow for flexibility and reasonable parent choice.

- 15.5.46 At a County level, Cambridgeshire had, in the 2018-19⁴² period, 11,133 unfilled secondary school places, which equates to 18.1% of the capacity of secondary schools which shows that there is capacity for secondary school places in Cambridgeshire.
- 15.5.47 However, there is pressure on school places in Wisbech. Fenland District Council's Infrastructure Delivery Plan⁴³ highlighted that pupil forecasts demonstrate that there was no existing spare capacity in Wisbech and March for Primary Schools at the time it was prepared (2013).
- 15.5.48 The Delivery Plan also highlighted that new secondary school provision should be made in Wisbech to ensure that CCC can meet the overall demand for secondary school places.
- 15.5.49 At the District level, the future demand for additional places is greatest within Wisbech. By 2024 it is forecast that an additional 210 Year 7 places (7 forms of entry FE) will be required for children transferring from primary to secondary school. This is based on school's census and birth data⁴⁴.
- 15.5.50 If all of the housing allocated in the Fenland Local Plan comes forward in the period to 2031, an additional 15 forms of entry (FE)⁴⁵ or 2250 places for 11-15 year olds would be required across the District as a whole. However, not all this housing will be built at once and the growth in pupil numbers of secondary school age often takes some time to appear as new housing tends to be occupied by younger families.
- 15.5.51 Fenland District Council, in anticipation of the need to provide additional secondary school capacity in the District, undertook, during 2015, extensive site search work in both Wisbech and March to identify potentially suitable sites for a secondary school. This work identified the former College of West Anglia (CWA) horticultural and equine facility adjacent to Meadowgate School as having the most potential for the development of a secondary school and was identified as an available site⁴⁶.
- 15.5.52 Currently proposals focus upon a new 4FE secondary school to serve the west of Wisbech with an application by the Brooke Weston Trust approved by DfE and granted permission to move to pre-opening stage in 2021⁴⁷. The original project which included for a new SEMH school (social, emotional and mental health) has been taken forward separate with planning permission granted in February 2022.
- 15.5.53 There are also a number of schools in KLWN (both primary and secondary schools). NCC's School Growth and Investment Plan⁴⁸ notes that there are opportunities for expansion of existing primary school provision. The KLWN Local Plan Review Pre-

⁴² Department for Education school capacity statistics. Last updated May 2020

⁴³ Fenland District Council, Infrastructure Delivery Plan (2013)

⁴⁴ CCC. Review of Secondary School Provision in the fenland District, Background Consultation Document. Undated assumed as 2016. Website, accessed March 2022.

⁴⁵ A form of entry (FE) = 30 children e.g., secondary school described as 5FE has capacity to provide for 150 children in each of the 5 year groups, 750 in total (30x5x5).

⁴⁶ CCC. Review of Secondary School Provision in the fenland District, Background Consultation Document. Undated assumed as 2016. Website, accessed March 2022.

⁴⁷ CCC. Cambridgeshire Infrastructure Update Nov-Dec 2021. Website accessed 31 March 2022.

⁴⁸ Norfolk County Council's School Growth and Investment Plan.



Submission Stage 2021 at Policy F3.1 Wisbech Fringe – Land east of Wisbech allocates land for 550 dwellings with a requirement to provide additional primary and secondary school places, to include a new primary school.

15.5.54 At the County level, Norfolk had, in the 2018-19⁴⁹ period, 9,147 unfilled secondary school places, which equates to 12.5% of the capacity of secondary schools, which shows that there is capacity for secondary school places.

Tourism and Recreation

15.5.55 There are a range of tourism and recreation facilities and attractions in the District of Fenland and, more widely in Cambridgeshire, including accommodation, food and drink, heritage and other attractions and outdoor pursuits.

15.5.56 In the centre of Wisbech, the conservation area on the Nene (North Brink) includes most of the buildings that constitute the town's tourist attractions including the Elgood Brewery and Peckover House and Garden, (which is owned by the National Trust) both of which are located to the north and east of the Proposed Development.

15.5.57 The Nene Way is a waymarked long-distance footpath in England running through the English counties of Northamptonshire, Cambridgeshire, and Lincolnshire. It generally follows the course of the River Nene and passes within 1km of the Proposed Development to the south. National Cycle Network Route 63 (or NCR 63) is a route of the National Cycle Network, running from Burton on Trent to Wisbech. This route passes within 1km of the EfW CHP Facility Site. The local public footpath network has been affected by the construction of the A47 such that Halfpenny Lane is split by the highway.

15.5.58 There are other more general recreational facilities in Wisbech, including gyms and outdoor sports and leisure facilities including 'the light' Cinema, Fenland Gym, Lakers Gym, Hudson Leisure Centre, Wisbech Park, and Wisbech Town Cricket and Hockey Club.

15.5.59 At the regional level for the East of England, analysis from Visit England⁵⁰ shows that, in July 2021, there was 73% room occupancy and a 77% occupancy in August. There was also a 71% room occupancy rate in November 2021 and 60% in December 2021. Highest bedspace occupancy figures in 2021 were recorded in August at 57%. Figures for 2021 reflect the position in 2019, with 2020 being affected by COVID-19 pandemic. Figures are not provided for Fenland.

15.5.60 Norfolk has a range of tourist attractions and recreational pursuits on offer. Popular attractions located some distance from Wisbech include the Norfolk Broads, Norwich's ancient market and castle, Oxburgh Hall, Blickling Hall, the North Norfolk Railway, Blakeney point and Thetford Forest. Recreational pursuits available include walking, cycling, running, boating, sailing, and golf.

15.5.61 Tourism is the largest sector industry in the County, supporting 67,188 jobs (18.7% of all employment) and contributing £3.337 billion to the local economy. Tourism is estimated to support nearly 12,000 indirect jobs in Norfolk.

⁴⁹ Department for Education school capacity. Website accessed March 2022. Note that the 2019-2020 survey was cancelled due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

⁵⁰ Visit England. England Occupancy Survey July 2021 Results. Online, accessed March 2022.



- 15.5.62 Destination Research records that Norfolk's tourism trade generated 21,750,000 day trips in 2020 down from 48,835,000 in 2019 and this was as a result of COVID-19 pandemic. When combined with a similar reduction in staying trips this resulted in a reduction in total value from £3.423m in 2019 to £1.520m in 2020 and a decline in jobs from 69,266 to 43,414⁵¹.
- 15.5.63 Oxburgh Hall near Downham Market is a National Trust property some 28km from the Proposed Development. It differs from Oxburgh Hall which also a listed building and is located close to the Grid Connection, (approximately 280m to the northwest). It is a private property and it is this latter building which is included within the historic environment assessment reported within **Chapter 10: Historic Environment (Volume 6.2)**.
- 15.5.64 Within KLWN there are also a number of recreational pursuits available including birdwatching, fishing, cycling, golf, and horse-riding⁵².
- 15.5.65 The Landscape and Visual assessment (**Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual**) and the Historic Environment assessment (**Chapter 10: Historic Environment**) (both **Volume 6.2**) have considered tourism and recreation and heritage Receptors including PRowS.

Land use

- 15.5.66 Land uses within Study Area include the industrial and commercial land uses of the Algores Way Industrial Estate together with the disused March to Wisbech Railway, vacant land forming the site of the TCC and the commercial, industrial, and residential properties along New Bridge Lane and Cromwell Road with to the south and east areas of agricultural land, dispersed, predominantly residential settlements and areas of industry and retail in Kings Lynn and the higher order settlements of Peterborough and Cambridge and Norfolk.
- 15.5.67 Land used by the Grid Connection component of the Proposed Development comprises highway land. There are two farm accesses across the verge of the A47 between New Bridge Lane and the junction of the A47/Elm High Road. There is an access across the verge of the A47 to a car wash immediately to the east of Meadowgate Lane and there are two accesses to a commercial fruit farm over the A47 verge between Meadowgate Lane and Broadend Road. Access can also be obtained from Meadowgate Lane and Green Lane.
- 15.5.68 The potable Water Connection includes for an HDD option. This would require land north of New Bridge Lane and west of the A47 currently forming part of a larger commercial orchard.

Future baseline

- 15.5.69 From the information acquired for this assessment, there is no indication that the baseline is in the process of any significant transitions, other than that future development will be guided by the emerging Fenland Local Plan and King's Lynn and West Norfolk Development Plan Review and that the population of Wisbech is expected to increase. The Fenland Local Plan Issues and Options document was

⁵¹Destination Research, Economic Impact of Tourism Norfolk (2020).

⁵² Tourism information from Visit West Norfolk. Website.



issued for consultation in October 2019 and suggests that a potential new housing figure of 11,550 dwellings will be required in the district by 2040. The Local Development Scheme⁵³ published in 2022 indicates that a second round of consultation on the emerging Local Plan will be undertaken in June and July 2022 and that adoption will not take place until 2024. Consideration of the future baseline in the context of the current, undeveloped site allocations within the Adopted Fenland Local Plan, (and which also includes proposals for the reopening of the disused March to Wisbech Railway) is given within **Chapter 18: Cumulative Effects Assessment (Volume 6.2)**.

15.5.70 The population of Fenland is predicted to grow to 115,144 by 2036, an increase of 13,653 people (13.5%⁵⁴). The population of King's Lynn and West Norfolk is predicted to grow to 160,186 people between 2018 and 2043 (5.5%). This compares to an overall growth rate of 13% in the County. The profile of the population across the Study Area is forecast to see significant increases in those aged over 60 and reductions in the population in most other groups below that.

15.6 Scope of the assessment

Spatial scope

15.6.1 The spatial scope of the assessment covers the Study Area as set out in **Section 15.4** above.

Temporal scope

15.6.2 The temporal scope of the assessment is consistent with the period over which the Proposed Development would be carried out and therefore covers the construction and operational periods.

15.6.3 Construction is scheduled to commence in 2023 and would last for approximately 3 years, and the Proposed Development would operate from 2026 – 2066. Decommissioning would then take place after 2066.

Receptors scoped into the assessment

15.6.4 Receptors that could be subject to significant effects due to the construction and operation of the Proposed Development have been identified based on a consideration of baseline conditions, policy, response to scoping and the scale and magnitude of the development as proposed.

15.6.5 The following Receptor groups are considered:

Construction

- Economic, including direct and indirect employment, local supply chain;
- People seeking education and skills, including apprenticeships;

⁵³ Fenland District Council. Fenland Local Development Scheme 2019-2024. (February 2022).

⁵⁴ Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Joint Strategic Needs Assessment Core Dataset, (2020)



- Providers and occupiers/users of housing and local facilities;
- Tourists and those partaking in recreation (Grid Connection only); and
- Owners and users of land uses, including the Belgrave Retail Park.

Operation

- Economic, including direct and indirect employment, local supply chain;
- People seeking education and skills, including apprenticeships;
- Tourists and those partaking in recreation (indirect only); and
- Owners and users of nearby land uses, including the Belgrave Retail Park.

Receptors scoped out of the assessment

15.6.6 The following Receptors have been scoped out from further assessment because the potential for effects upon them in relation to the Proposed Development are not considered likely to be significant. This was agreed with PINS as per the EIA Scoping Opinion:

- Direct effects on tourism and recreation during construction and operation of the EfW CHP Facility, (whilst not explicitly referred to and therefore agreed by PINS, to also include the TCC, Access Improvements and Water Connections which are essential to the construction and/or operation of the EfW CHP Facility whilst the CHP Connection would not affect tourism or recreation Receptors directly given an absence of such Receptors within the CHP Connection Corridor) and operation of the Grid Connection;
- Demand for housing, local services (such as schools), and community facilities (such as sport and recreation) during operation;
- Effects on tourism and recreation from operation of the Grid Connection; and
- Effects on the amenity of local residents and the local community due to Traffic (**Chapter 6: Traffic and Transport**), Noise (**Chapter 7: Noise and Vibration**), Air Quality (**Chapter 8: Air Quality**), Visual Impacts (**Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual**) and Health (**Chapter 16: Health**) (all **Volume 6.2**) are not included in this chapter as they are assessed in these chapters respectively, with findings cross referenced as relevant. Intra-project effects are considered in the Cumulative Effects Assessment of the ES (**Chapter 18: Cumulative Effects Assessment (Volume 6.2)**).

15.6.7 The potential for effects upon the disused March to Wisbech Railway running alongside the site was raised in the Scoping Opinion as a potential recreational Receptor by CCC (see **Table 15.1 Summary of EIA Scoping Opinion responses for socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use**). However, this is wholly in the ownership of Network Rail and is not publicly accessible or in use as a recreational route with any legal or formal status. There are also no known formal plans to designate or develop this line as a recreational asset in the future and there are instead plans to reopen the railway. There would therefore be no recreational effects on this route from the construction or operation of the Proposed Development and this railway line is therefore not assessed any further.



Likely significant effects

- 15.6.8 The Proposed Development has the potential to generate significant effects upon the Receptor groups referenced above, some of which will be temporary, whilst others may be permanent and may be significant.
- 15.6.9 In the Scoping Opinion PINS requested that an assessment of the impacts of construction workers on housing, local services and community facilities is undertaken (**Table 15.2 Summary of EIA Scoping Opinion responses for socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use**). This assessment has therefore been undertaken with findings presented in **Section 15.9**.
- 15.6.10 CCC requested that a health impact assessment is undertaken. Health effects on local people have been considered separately in **Chapter 16: Health (Volume 6.2)**, therefore this topic is not assessed within this assessment.

15.7 Embedded environmental measures

- 15.7.1 Environmental measures have been embedded into the Proposed Development and **Table 15.15 Summary of the embedded environmental measures relevant to socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use** below outlines those relevant to this assessment.

Table 15.15 Summary of the embedded environmental measures relevant to socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use

Receptor	Potential changes and effects	Embedded measures
Providers and occupiers/users of housing and local facilities.	An influx of temporary construction workers could put pressure on the local housing market and education facilities to the detriment of local communities.	An Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) : The Applicant has prepared an Outline Employment and Skills Strategy . This strategy sets out how the Applicant will maximise the use of, and upskill, the local workforce such that it maximises the use of local labour during construction. This will be secured through a DCO Requirement.
Owners and users of land use, including the Belgrave Retail Park; Tourists and those partaking in recreation	Construction and operation of the Proposed Development could have a range of direct and indirect adverse effects on local businesses and recreation facilities and more widely on tourism and recreation facilities. Examples of direct effects would be the potential for construction activities relating to the grid connection to require the temporary closure of a footpath preventing its use whilst indirect effects could arise from the Proposed Development compromising the attractiveness	Outline CTMP (Appendix 6A, Volume 6.4) : Construction of the Proposed Development would be subject to a CTMP which would specify the routes to be taken by construction vehicles to minimise disruption to existing business and facilities. The Outline CTMP (Volume 6.4) will be secured via a DCO Requirement. Outline CEMP (Volume 7.12) : An Outline CEMP has been prepared in support of the Proposed Development. It provides an outline of the measures which would be employed during construction to control the environmental effects of the Proposed Development. The Outline CEMP (Volume 7.12) will be secured through a DCO



Receptor	Potential changes and effects	Embedded measures
	of a visitor venue in the Study Area.	Requirement. The DCO Requirement would require the Applicant to prepare a detailed CEMP, consistent with the Outline CEMP for agreement with the relevant local authority ahead of the commencement of construction. The detailed CEMP would be issued to the Contractor who would be required to follow its provisions to ensure that adverse environmental effects from construction are mitigated.

15.8 Assessment methodology

15.8.1 The generic project-wide approach to the assessment methodology is set out in **Chapter 4: Approach to the EIA (Volume 6.4)**, and specifically in **Sections 4.5 to 4.7**. However, whilst this has informed the approach that has been used in this assessment, it is necessary to set out how this methodology has been applied, and adapted as appropriate, to address the specific needs of this assessment.

General approach

15.8.2 The assessment will focus on the effects of construction and operation upon the Receptors identified in **Section 15.6**. For some Receptors, the assessment of effects is informed through reference to the effects reported in other chapters, for example **Chapter 9 landscape and Visual (Volume 6.2)**. This is undertaken when the effects upon a Receptor contain a subset related to those which are considered within another assessment. For example, the reason for people to attend a visitor attraction may be in part because of the views that they experience from it.

Determination of significance

15.8.3 The EIA Regulations recognise that developments will affect different environmental elements to differing degrees, and that not all of these are of sufficient concern to warrant detailed assessment through the EIA process. This reflects the requirement of the EIA Regulations for the ES to only discuss in depth those effects that are likely to be significant.

15.8.4 The EIA Regulations do not define significance and it is necessary to state how this will be defined for the EIA. The significance of an effect resulting from a development during construction or operation is most commonly assessed by reference to the sensitivity (or value) of a Receptor and the magnitude of the effect. This approach provides a mechanism for identifying areas where mitigation measures may be required and the most appropriate measures to alleviate the risk presented by the development.

15.8.5 As there is no prescribed methodology for undertaking socio economic assessments, tourism, recreation and land use professional judgement is used to determine effects, taking account of the sensitivity and magnitude of change criteria set out below.



15.8.6 The approach for determining the sensitivity and magnitude of change on the Receptor groups identified in **Section 15.6** is set out below.

Economic, employment and land use effects

15.8.7 For employment effects, the availability of labour and skills is critical in accommodating the demands, needs and requirements of the Proposed Development. Adequate labour and skills capacity results in a low sensitivity, while limited labour and skills capacity results in a high sensitivity. Sensitivity criteria in terms of employment are shown in **Table 15.16 Employment, economy, and land use sensitivity** below. Professional judgement is used to determine sensitivity.

Table 15.16 Employment, economy, and land use sensitivity

Sensitivity	Definition
Very High	<p>Employment – Where there is the requirement for very technical specialist input, which is difficult to source, at a national level and/or there is very low labour or skills availability at a local level.</p> <p>Economy – Where the economy is very sensitive to change.</p> <p>Land Use – Where there are many (more than 10) different land use types (e.g., agriculture, fishing, recreation, residential, employment) potentially subject to change.</p>
High	<p>Employment – Where there is some requirement for technical specialist input, which is difficult to source at a national level and/or where there is limited labour or skills available at the local level.</p> <p>Economy – Where the economy is sensitive to change.</p> <p>Land Use – Where there are multiple (7-10) different land use types potentially subject to change.</p>
Medium	<p>Employment – Where there is limited requirement for very technical specialist input, which is difficult to source at a national level, and/or where there are some constraints to the availability of labour or skills at the local level.</p> <p>Economy – Where the economy is resilient to change.</p> <p>Land Use – Where the Order limits has several (5-7) different land use types potentially subject to change.</p>
Low	<p>Employment – Where there is no requirement for technical specialist input, and/or where there is a readily available labour force and skills.</p> <p>Economy – Where the economy is very resilient to change.</p> <p>Land Use – Where there are few (3- 5) different land uses potentially subject to change.</p>
Very Low	<p>Employment – Where there is no requirement for technical specialist input, and/or where there is a surplus labour force and skills are widely available.</p> <p>Economy – Where the economy is robust.</p> <p>Land Use – Where there are few (0-3) different land uses potentially subject to change.</p>

15.8.8 The magnitude of potential changes on employment and the economy would be assessed as defined in **Table 15.17 Employment, economy, and land use magnitude of change** below. This would be based on participants within the labour



force and the level of occupational skills available in the Study Area as set out in **Table 15.16 Employment, economy, and land use sensitivity** above. As there is no prescribed methodology for undertaking socio economic assessments, professional judgement is used to determine the magnitude of change.

Table 15.17 Employment, economy, and land use magnitude of change

Magnitude of Change	Definition
Very High	Changes as a result of the Proposed Development are of national scale.
High	Changes as a result of the Proposed Development that are of greater than local scale.
Medium	Noticeable changes as a result of the Proposed Development.
Low	Slight changes as a result of the Proposed Development that may not be perceptible or are within the normal seasonal/annual variation range.
Very Low	Negligible changes as a result of the Proposed Development.

Education, skills, including apprenticeships

15.8.9 The construction of the Proposed Development has the potential to provide opportunities for people resident in the Study Area to learn new skills, develop their education and access apprenticeships, (the potential for effects upon education facilities is covered below). There will be similar opportunities during the operational phase. The assessment of effects upon education, skills and apprenticeships uses the significance evaluation matrix in **Table 15.18 Education and skills, including apprenticeships**.

Table 15.18 Education, skills, including apprenticeships magnitude of change

Magnitude of Change	Definition
Very High	Where the level of provision is extensive in terms of the number of people educated across the whole of the Study Area.
High	Where the extent of provisions is large in terms of the number of people educated and would extend across the District/County level of the Study Area.
Medium	Where the level of provision is moderate in terms of the number of people educated; alternatively, where the number is small in scale but focused at the local level of the Study Area.



Magnitude of Change	Definition
Very High	Where the level of provision is extensive in terms of the number of people educated across the whole of the Study Area.
Low	Where the level of provision is small in scale in terms of the numbers of people educated and would only affect a small number of people or activities; or a larger total number but spread across the whole of the Study Area.
Very Low	Where the extent of provision is very small in scale in terms of the numbers of people educated and would only be at the local level within the Study Area.

15.8.10 Sensitivity is such that the Ward level (Medworth Ward and the surrounding wards of Octavia Hill, Wisbech, Elm & Christchurch, Emneth & Outwell, Walsoken, West Walton and Walpole) is considered to be of high sensitivity to change, the District level (Fenland District and KLWN) is considered to be of medium sensitivity to change and the County level (Cambridgeshire and Norfolk) is considered to be of low sensitivity to change.

Local housing market and local facilities

15.8.11 During the construction of the Proposed Development there will be around 700 construction personnel over the estimated 3 year construction period, though only around 500 workers would be on site at any one time. This could potentially put pressure on the local housing market and local facilities, including education.

15.8.12 The assessment of effects on the local housing market uses the significance evaluation matrix in **Table 15.20 Tourism and recreational magnitude of change** below, where the Ward level (Medworth Ward and the surrounding wards of Octavia Hill, Wisbech, Elm & Christchurch, Emneth & Outwell, Walsoken, West Walton and Walpole) is considered to be of high sensitivity to any changes, the District level (Fenland) is considered to be of medium sensitivity to change and the County level (Cambridgeshire) is considered to be of low sensitivity to change.

Tourism and recreation

15.8.13 The main factors considered relevant when defining the sensitivity of Receptors relating to recreation and tourism are outlined in **Table 15.19 Sensitivity of tourism and recreational Receptors**. Again, as there is no prescribed methodology for undertaking tourism and recreational assessments, professional judgement has been used in defining the sensitivity of recreational and tourism Receptors, and magnitude of change, taking account of previous socio economic assessments. The importance of the recreational or tourism Receptor and its proximity to the Proposed Development is also a key consideration.



Table 15.19 Sensitivity of tourism and recreational Receptors

Sensitivity	Definitions
Very High	Where the Receptor or resource is defined as being of national status or has high visitor numbers (in excess of 50,000 visitors per annum).
High	Where the Receptor or resource is defined as being of national status or has high visitor numbers (in excess of 25,000 visitors per annum).
Medium	Where the Receptor or resource is defined as being of regional status or has medium visitor numbers (10,000-24,999 visitors per annum).
Low	Where the Receptor or resource is defined as being of local status or has low visitor numbers (less than 10,000 visitors per annum).
Very Low	Where the Receptor or resource is defined as being of very local or neighbourhood status or has low visitor numbers (less than 5,000 visitors per annum).

Table 15.20 Tourism and recreational magnitude of change

Magnitude of Change	Definition
Very High	Where the extent of changes on Receptors (activities, resources, or businesses) is very large scale and a very large number of people or activities would be affected.
High	Where the extent of changes on Receptors (activities, resources, or businesses) is large scale and a large number of people or activities would be affected; or where other technical chapters conclude that there may be significant effects that this assessment considers may affect visitors to the recreation/tourist Receptor.
Medium	Where the extent of changes on Receptors is small in scale, but a large number of people or activities would be affected; alternatively, where the extent of changes on activities, resources and/or businesses is large in scale but only a small number of people or activities would be affected.
Low	Where the extent of changes on Receptors is small in scale and would only affect a small number of people or activities; or would be at a considerable distance from Receptors.
Very Low	Where the extent of changes on Receptors is very small in scale and would only affect a very small number of people or activities; or would be at a considerable distance from Receptors and potentially un-noticeable.

15.8.14

In line with standard EIA practice, and taking into account professional judgement, the sensitivity of Receptors will be considered against the magnitude of change to determine the significance of resultant effects, for example, the assessment of significance for effects upon local employment is effectively based on the sensitivity



of the employment sector within the Study Area and the magnitude of change in the Proposed Development’s requirement for jobs, with a high magnitude of change (for example a requirement for a large number of jobs at a Ward level) being considered to result in a significant effect.

15.8.15 Based on the approach summarised in **Table 15.21 Significance evaluation matrix**, effects that will result in a change identified as major or moderate are considered to be significant or probably significant in terms of this assessment, taking account of the significance evaluation matrix below and using professional judgement. Where probable is identified a conclusion as to whether it would be significant is made.

Table 15.21 Significance evaluation matrix

		Magnitude of change				
		Very high	High	Medium	Low	Very low
Sensitivity/importance/value	Very high	Major (Significant)	Major (Significant)	Major (Significant)	Major (Significant)	Moderate (Probably significant)
	High	Major (Significant)	Major (Significant)	Major (Significant)	Moderate (Probably significant)	Minor (Not significant)
	Medium	Major (Significant)	Major (Significant)	Moderate (Probably significant)	Minor (Not significant)	Negligible (Not significant)
	Low	Major (Significant)	Moderate (Probably significant)	Minor (Not significant)	Negligible (Not significant)	Negligible (Not significant)
	Very Low	Moderate (Probably significant)	Minor (Not significant)	Negligible (Not significant)	Negligible (Not significant)	Negligible (Not significant)

15.8.16 With regards to sensitivity and taking account of the tables above, the Ward level is considered to be of high sensitivity to change – the local wards cover a small geographical area and therefore changes could be more noticeable and could be likely to have a greater effect. The District level is considered to be of medium sensitivity to change – Fenland District and the Borough of King’s Lynn and West Norfolk cover a larger geographical area than a Ward, so any changes could be less noticeable and therefore it is considered to be of lower sensitivity to change than the Ward level. At the County level, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk are considered to be of Low sensitivity to change - they cover a larger geographical area, and any changes could be less noticeable, and they are therefore considered to be of lower sensitivity to change than the local wards, Fenland District and KLWN.

15.8.17 Each geographical area i.e., local (Ward) level, District level and County level is considered for each of the Receptors taken forward for assessment in **Section 15.9** below.



15.9 Assessment of socio economic, tourism and recreation and land use effects

- 15.9.1 The predicted construction and operational effects of the Proposed Development on the Receptors identified in this assessment are considered in further detail in the sections below.
- 15.9.2 The following paragraphs provide an assessment of the construction and operational phases of the Proposed Development.

Construction

Economy and employment

Economy

- 15.9.3 There would be considerable spend by the Applicant arising from the capital cost of the construction of the Proposed Development. Whilst the exact amount of money which would be spent on the Proposed Development can only be fully determined in due course, a spend of £450m is anticipated during construction though it should be noted that not all of this money may be spent in the UK (for example some process parts or equipment may need to be sourced from abroad) and that it would be temporary, i.e., spent during the course of construction. Spend in the local area will be prioritised as set out in the **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)**.
- 15.9.4 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are of High sensitivity to change. Given the uncertainty about how much of the capital investment by the Applicant would be spent within the local wards, the assessment takes a reasonable worse-case approach that there would be a Very Low magnitude of change. Minor beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction which is a **Not Significant** economic effect although the Applicant is committed to maximising local investment and would aim to become a significant presence in the economy of the local wards.
- 15.9.5 At the District level, Fenland and KLWN is considered to be of medium sensitivity to change. The **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)** includes for measures which include the holding of a 'Meet the Buyer' day for local suppliers and a commitment to providing advice to smaller, local suppliers on how to successfully form local consortia to bid for work. A reasonable approach assumes that there would be a Low magnitude of change. Minor beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction which is a **Not Significant** economic effect.
- 15.9.6 At the County level, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk are of Low sensitivity to change. Given the Applicant's commitment in supporting local businesses and suppliers to take advantage of the opportunities presented by the letting of contracts for construction in the **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)** it is considered that across this wider geographical area there is a greater potential for economic investment than perhaps at the District level. However, the assessment



concludes that against the wider economic context at County level there would be a low magnitude of change from the capital investment by the Applicant given the size of the combined economy of the two counties. Negligible beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction which is a **Not Significant** economic effect.

Direct employment

- 15.9.7 The construction phase offers the opportunity to create a large number of roles. These roles cover a wide range of employment opportunities from labouring, ground works, scaffolding and civil engineering, to office-based roles such as project management, document control and administration; the latter which could be available for the length of the construction process. The jobs will be temporary in that they will be generated during the construction phase only.
- 15.9.8 The Proposed Development is expected to support around 700 direct construction jobs with up to a maximum of 500 workers on site at any one time. In total, construction will run for an estimated build period of 36 months. Levels of construction employment will ebb and flow over time to reflect the differing skill requirements of the various stages of the build programme so the proportion of staff employed across the whole construction lifecycle is likely to be small.
- 15.9.9 Effects from any direct employment are assessed below, taking account of the information presented within the **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)**.
- 15.9.10 At the Devonport EfW CHP Facility, MVV operated a Local Employment Scheme during the construction phase, the aim of which was to ensure that at least 70% of the workforce employed on the construction site was drawn from the local area. A rate of 71% was achieved over the whole of the construction period. At the Baldovie EfW CHP Facility MVV's obligation was delivered through the Community Benefits Plan for the construction phase. If proportion of the 700 construction jobs was sourced locally from the 5500 jobs in the local construction sector (see **Table 15.7 Employee jobs by industry in Fenland 2020, Table 15.8 Employee jobs by industry in KLWN 2020**), this would bring beneficial economic effects for the local area (the local wards and Fenland District, KLWN). The Applicant has prepared the **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)** in consultation with NCC and consistent with The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Skills Strategy⁵⁵ and The New Anglia Sector Skills Plan (Construction)⁵⁶ which identify the construction sector as a skills priority area. The Strategy includes a commitment to maximise the use of the available local workforce and to work with the relevant local bodies to achieve this.
- 15.9.11 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are of High sensitivity to change. It is difficult to estimate precisely how many construction jobs would be sourced until the nature of the construction contracts is finalised and the contractor and its sub contractors are appointed. Therefore, a reasonable worst-case assessment relies upon a magnitude of effect that is below

⁵⁵ Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority. The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Skills Strategy. (2019).

⁵⁶ New Anglia LEP. New Anglia Sector Skills Plan Construction. (2016).



that achieved at MVV's other sites and that the numbers of people directly employed from the local wards would be of a Low magnitude. Moderate beneficial economic effects would be associated with construction, which are considered to be a probably significant beneficial economic effect. Given the range of construction jobs available from manual to highly skilled and the Applicant's commitment to improving skills in the local area this is **Significant**.

15.9.12 At the District level, Fenland and KLWN are considered to be of medium sensitivity to change. Whilst it is similarly difficult to predict how many construction jobs would be sourced from the District/Borough it is reasonable to consider that the number of local jobs quoted above when supported by the **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)** could lead to a relatively large number of employment opportunities at this level. The assessment concludes that there would be a medium magnitude of change from any construction jobs at the District level (including KLWN). Moderate beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction, which is considered to be a probably significant economic effect. Given the range of construction jobs available from manual to highly skilled and the Applicant's commitment to encouraging the take up of local jobs in the local area this is considered to be **Significant**.

15.9.13 At the County level, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk are of Low sensitivity to change. It is potentially more likely that a significant percentage of construction jobs would be sourced from the 35,000 strong construction workforce active within these two counties and the potential for a larger proportion of around 700 construction jobs (500 on site at peak) quoted above to be employed across both counties is considered reasonable to assume. Representing less than 1.5% of current construction jobs across both counties it suggests however that there would be a Very Low magnitude of change from any construction. Negligible beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction, which is a **Not Significant** economic effect.

Indirect employment

15.9.14 Construction typically involves purchases from a range of suppliers, who in turn purchase from their own suppliers further down the supply chain. The relationship between the initial direct and total economic effects is referred to as the 'multiplier effect'. It demonstrates that an initial investment can have much greater 'spin-off' effects as it works through the economy. The construction sector is recognised as being a part of the UK economy where there is a particularly large domestic effect in the supply chain.

15.9.15 In this context, it is anticipated that businesses in the local and wider Study Area would benefit from supply chain linkages and trade connections established during the construction phase. This would create additional indirect jobs in suppliers of construction materials and equipment etc. The jobs will be temporary in that they will be generated during the construction phase only.

15.9.16 In addition, local businesses would be expected to benefit from a temporary increase in demand as a result of expenditure by direct and indirect workers during construction. This could be expected to include wage spending of workers in shops, bars, restaurants and other services and facilities in the local area around the Proposed Development, which would help to create additional induced jobs.



- 15.9.17 There is also the potential for manufacturing parts for the plant/supply of mobile plant equipment and the possibility of working with local aggregate and concrete supply companies, all of which would also provide employment benefits in the local area.
- 15.9.18 Research⁵⁷ published in 2021 indicates that the construction industry has an indirect multiplier of 2.11. That for every 1 direct job there is an additional 1.11 indirect jobs created. Applying this to around 700 construction workers to be employed during the construction phase indicates that the Proposed Development, could be expected to create 1,477 construction jobs (direct and indirect).
- 15.9.19 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are of High sensitivity to change. It is difficult to predict accurately how many of the 777 indirect and induced construction related jobs would be sourced from the local wards but working with key Stakeholders and through the implementation of the **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)** it is anticipated that indirect employment would be created during construction although at the Ward level this would probably be Low given the number and type of jobs in the local area and the size and type of services and suppliers, e.g., within the local wards there are a significant proportion of employers in the retail and food industry. With a Low magnitude of change arising from any indirect jobs a Moderate (probably significant) beneficial economic effect would be experienced. Given the number of indirect and induced jobs that will be created overall, the proximity of potential suppliers and the length of time that construction will be underway (3 years) this is **Significant**.
- 15.9.20 At the District level, Fenland and KLWN are considered to be of considered to be of Medium sensitivity to change. A greater proportion of the 777 indirect construction related jobs would be sourced from Fenland and KLWN. The assessment concludes that there would be a Medium magnitude of change from any indirect jobs sourced at the District level. Moderate beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction, which is a probably significant beneficial economic effect which will be **Significant**.
- 15.9.21 At the County level, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk are considered to be of Low sensitivity to change. It concluded that many of the 777 indirect construction related jobs would be sourced from Cambridgeshire and Norfolk. With a Very Low magnitude of change from any indirect jobs given the number relative to the total employment numbers at the County level Negligible beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction, which is a **Not Significant** beneficial economic effect.

Use of local suppliers

- 15.9.22 Prior to the commencement of construction and during the construction period for the Devonport EfW CHP Facility, MVV worked with the local Council's Economic Development Team, the Career Transition Partnership, and other local organisations, to identify ways to support local suppliers, including supporting skills development. A 'Meet the Buyer' event was also held, and local companies were encouraged to attend and meet MVV and its sub-contractors; this helped to identify opportunities for supplying goods and services during the construction and

⁵⁷ ONS. FTE multipliers and effects, reference year 2017. (2021).



operational phases of the project. Tenders were also advertised locally with a link to MVV's website.

- 15.9.23 The Applicant has been in discussion with NCC to identify a range of measures which could be put in place consistent with its approach at Devonport. The other Host Authorities were also approached with CCC deferring to FDC (who did not wish to engage) and KLWN not replying. The **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)** includes at least one 'Meet the Buyer' event where industry and suppliers would be invited to meet the Applicant to identify those goods or services which they may be able to provide. For smaller potential suppliers, the Applicant will provide support and advice on forming consortia with other local businesses to enable them to take advantages of opportunities to bid for work. The local (Ward level) is of High sensitivity, the District of Medium sensitivity and County of Low sensitivity. It is difficult to accurately predict the exact number of local businesses which may provide services during construction as this is dependent upon the services sought by the contractor (e.g., catering, security, electrical) and the extent to which the workforce would be local to the Study Area. Taking account of this uncertainty the assessment concludes that the use of local suppliers would represent a Low magnitude of change for the local wards, a Medium magnitude of change at the District level and a Very Low magnitude of change at the County level. Beneficial economic effects are therefore considered to be probably significant (and **Significant**) at the local ward and District level and **Not Significant** at the County level.

Education and skills including apprenticeships

- 15.9.24 A number of new apprenticeships were created during the construction period for the Devonport EfW CHP Facility, either by MVV directly or through its sub-contractors. MVV's apprenticeships were specifically targeted at local young people and small local businesses. The civils sub-contractor provided 14 workplace training apprenticeships for locally based young people. Many of the apprentices remained with that contractor, and went on to well paid, full time employment with them. In addition, a number of work experience placements were provided for local secondary school students during the construction period.
- 15.9.25 Prior to, and during, the construction of the Devonport EfW CHP Facility, MVV worked with local educational establishments, such as Plymouth City College to identify how they could support training programmes to enable local people to benefit from the roles available during the construction and operational phases of the project. MVV also supported a weekly work club, providing laptops and advice to help local people find employment. The Applicant intends to adopt a similar approach for the construction of the Proposed Development to help provide opportunities for local people to benefit. Such education and training may be considered permanent, given that for example a full apprenticeship could last the duration of the construction phase (depending on the level sought).
- 15.9.26 The **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)** recognises the existing apprenticeship, internship, and work experience programmes which MVV has in place across its UK sites. These existing programmes would extend to include the Medworth EfW CHP Facility. The Strategy commits the Applicant to work with key Stakeholders to support the delivery of the New Anglian Sector Skills Plan and



the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Combined Authority Skills Strategy in providing training opportunities during construction as well committing those contractors employed to undertake the construction, to consider apprenticeship and additional training opportunities. The total number of training placements, apprenticeships or internships is not yet confirmed but will be confirmed in further discussion with both NCC and other Host Authorities.

- 15.9.27 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are of High sensitivity to change. The number of apprenticeships, experience, and skills development offered by contractors during construction is unknown at present and it has therefore been concluded that a reasonable worse-case assessment should be made. With a Very Low magnitude of change arising from any indirect jobs a Minor (**Not Significant**) beneficial economic effect would be experienced at the local level.
- 15.9.28 At the District level, the assessment concludes that there would be a Very Low magnitude of change from skills delivery during the construction phase. With a Medium sensitivity, beneficial economic effects would be **Not Significant**.
- 15.9.29 At the County level, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk are of Low sensitivity to change. With a Very Low magnitude of change from skills delivery given the size of the sector, whilst recognising the Applicant's commitment to supporting the county skills strategies at the County level a Negligible beneficial economic effect would result, which is a **Not Significant** beneficial economic effect.

Housing market and local facilities

- 15.9.30 With around 700 temporary construction workers required for construction, and a maximum of around 500 workers on site at any one time, there could be temporary pressures on the local housing market during the construction phase.
- 15.9.31 The Applicant proposes to encourage the use of a local construction workforce through the implementation of an **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)**, and this would indirectly reduce demand for accommodation in the local area. It is also acknowledged that some construction workers may commute from elsewhere to access the construction jobs. The Applicant also intends to engage with the local Tourist Board and Chamber of Commerce to raise awareness of opportunities associated with the need for temporary accommodation for construction workers. The Applicant would prepare documentation which would include contacts for local accommodation and details of accommodation would be advertised on site.
- 15.9.32 MVV has confirmed to the Applicant that, based on past experience from the construction of their other EfW CHP facilities, the temporary construction workers brought in from elsewhere would be likely to source their own accommodation e.g., from bed and breakfast and hotels in an area which would extend across the District/Borough.
- 15.9.33 As set out in the baseline in **Section 15.5**, there are 3,000 new homes planned for Wisbech through the Fenland Local Plan (and over the plan period) and there are sites for significant residential allocations in many parts of Wisbech with the number of dwellings completed at or slightly below the local plan targets of both authorities.



563 of existing vacant dwellings are classed as long term vacant in Fenland and 979 in KLWN. There is also significant capacity in tourism accommodation at the wider regional level as demonstrated by the Visit England figures referred to in **Section 15.5** although this has ebbed and flowed either side of, and throughout, the COVID-19 pandemic. Homelessness within both Fenland District and KLWN has also been decreasing. In view of the above there is considered to be capacity in the housing and tourism accommodation market to absorb temporary construction workers associated with the construction of the Proposed Development.

- 15.9.34 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are considered to be of High sensitivity to change; there would be a Very Low magnitude of change from the predicted low demand from temporary construction workers for homes. Minor effects on the housing market would therefore be associated with temporary construction workers, which is considered to be a **Not Significant** effect.
- 15.9.35 The District level is considered to be of Medium sensitivity to change; there would be a very low magnitude of change arising from the Very Low demand for homes from construction workers. Negligible effects on the housing market would therefore be associated with temporary construction workers, which is considered to be a **Not Significant** effect.
- 15.9.36 At the County level, there is a Low sensitivity to change; there would be a Very Low magnitude of change from the predicted low level of interest from construction workers. Negligible effects on the housing market would therefore be associated with temporary construction workers, which is considered to be a **Not Significant** effect.
- 15.9.37 Opportunities arising from the need for temporary accommodation for construction workers would result in beneficial effects for the providers of this accommodation through increased bookings. Whilst the exact number of bookings is unknown at this stage, this is considered to be a beneficial effect from construction, and over the 3 year construction period would be likely to (taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above) have a beneficial effect. The magnitude of change would be likely to be Very Low from any such bookings and therefore a **Not Significant** effect at the local (Wards) level and at the District and County levels.

Education facilities

- 15.9.38 Construction could, by attracting construction workers and their families to move into the local area, create additional demand for education with a requirement for school places. The baseline information set out in **Section 15.5** refers back to 2013 and it is assumed 2016 and comments that there was at that time little capacity at primary school level and that there is pressure on secondary school places in Wisbech, although there is overall capacity in Fenland with respect to school places to accommodate additional demand. There is also capacity at the wider County level for Norfolk and Cambridgeshire.
- 15.9.39 The Applicant has confirmed that it would seek to maximise the use of a local construction workforce through the implementation of an **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)**, which could reduce demand for schools in the local area. Furthermore, the Applicant has confirmed that based on similar previous



projects constructed elsewhere there will be very few, if any, construction workers that would potentially bring families to the local area for the 3 year construction phase with their families and children remaining in the original locations. This is because apart from management, who would be on the project throughout its life cycle, the construction workforce would vary and rotate, not being on the project for the full 3 years of construction works. This would therefore be likely to result in very low demand for any additional school places. Although there is little capacity within existing primary and secondary schools in Wisbech, CCC has proposed the construction of a new secondary school, and planning permission has also recently been granted for a SEMH school to the south-west (although given the specialist nature of this school and that it is yet to be built, it has not been relied upon in this assessment). The implementation of the significant site allocations within the Adopted Fenland and Kings Lynn West Norfolk Local Plans also indicates that new schools will be required to support these developments. The additional of potentially small number of children associated with the proposed development is considered to be within the normal ebb and flow seen in admission rates.

- 15.9.40 The potential for effects arising from the increased demand for health facilities is considered in **Chapter 16: Health (Volume 6.2)**.
- 15.9.41 Effects on nearby education and community facilities during construction could also occur as a result of traffic, noise and vibration, air, transport, or health. The assessments presented in **Chapter 6: Traffic and Transport, Chapter 7: Noise and Vibration; Chapter 8: Air Quality** and **Chapter 16: Health** assessments (all **Volume 6.2**) conclude **No Significant** effects during construction.
- 15.9.42 Taking the above into account, and the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** which is High at the local level, Medium at the District/Borough and Low at the County level, the effects during the construction phase on education and community facilities are considered to be Minor and **Not Significant** at the Local level, Negligible, and **Not Significant** at the District and County levels.

Land uses including local businesses

- 15.9.43 The construction works have the potential to have an adverse, temporary, direct effect on local businesses in the surrounding area for example through disruption from construction activities and therefore a potential loss of income. However, local businesses could also benefit from spending by the construction workforce on food and leisure activities and this aspect is covered in the consideration of local supply chain above. There are a number of businesses in the area surrounding the Proposed Development, such the Belgrave Retail Park and on the industrial estate. These are all located within the local wards and this assessment therefore focuses upon the Local (Ward) level.
- 15.9.44 The assessment presented within **Chapter 7: Noise and Vibration (Volume 6.2)** does identify some potential for effects from noise from the construction of the Proposed Development but not to the extent that these would be significant to businesses when additional mitigation is taken into consideration. The assessments presented within **Chapter 8: Air Quality** and **Chapter 16: Health** (both **Volume 6.2**) conclude that with the implementation of appropriate mitigation measures there would be no significant adverse effects on air quality and health arising from construction activities on local businesses.



- 15.9.45 An **Outline CEMP (Volume 7.12)** has been prepared in support of the Proposed Development which provides an overview of measures to control the environmental effects of the construction. Subject to approval of the Proposed Development, a fully detailed CEMP would be submitted prior to construction with details of site-specific mitigation to ensure that any potentially adverse environmental effects from construction are mitigated. Furthermore, the **Outline CEMP (Volume 7.12)** includes for a Code of Construction Practice⁵⁸ which would require the contractor to follow certain standards and procedures. These measures would help to mitigate any adverse effects (for example from traffic, dust, or noise) on local businesses from the construction of the Proposed Development.
- 15.9.46 There is a potential for construction traffic to affect the day to day operations of local businesses and the Applicant received a comment to this effect from Royal Mail during Statutory Consultation. The Applicant has prepared a **CTMP (Appendix 6A Volume 6.4)** for submission with the application which sets out the measures to mitigate the effects arising from construction traffic.
- 15.9.47 Land alongside the Grid Connection is predominantly agricultural. Construction of the Grid Connection would require excavation across accesses into agricultural land from the A47 and would also affect access into a commercial car wash. **Chapter 3: Description of the Proposed Development (Volume 6.2)** explains the methodology for the construction of the Grid Connection, which will be undertaken at night, in short sections with access reinstated by day. As such it is unlikely that short-term closure overnight would affect the land use relying upon that access. In the case of the car wash prior warning of works would be provided to the occupier and measures could be put in place to ensure that temporary evening access, potentially using a banksperson was provided. The agricultural uses benefit from alternative access from New Drove, Halfpenny Lane, Meadowgate Lane and Green Lane.
- 15.9.48 Land within a commercial orchard would be required should the HDD option for the potable Water Connection be selected. This will lead to the temporary loss of a commercial crop. The **Outline CEMP (Volume 7.12)** commits the Applicant to careful removal and storage of the trees prior to their reinstatement. The land would be required for a total period of approximately 3 weeks (to include mobilisation and reinstatement) and access to the remainder and substantial part of the orchard would be maintained either directly from the A47 or via the corner of New Bridge Lane and New Drove.
- 15.9.49 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are considered to be of High sensitivity to change. With the implementation of mitigation measures such as the **Outline CEMP (Volume 7.12)** and **Outline CTMP (Appendix 6A, Volume 6.4)**, there would be a Very Low magnitude of change on local businesses during construction. Minor effects would therefore be generated considered to be a **Not Significant** effect on local businesses.

⁵⁸ A considerate constructor's scheme.



Tourism and recreation including PRowWs

Tourism and Recreation

- 15.9.50 Construction has the potential to indirectly affect tourism and recreational activities through construction activities, and also generate landscape and visual effects at tourism destinations which may dissuade visitors. Areas or routes where recreational pursuits are undertaken such as parks, footpaths and cycleways, also have the potential to be affected. Effects are likely to be temporary (existing during construction) and adverse.
- 15.9.51 Wisbech Park is a key local recreational site and is located to the north-east of the town centre and approximately 2km from the EfW CHP Facility Site. Due to the distance away from this important local amenity and the intervening screening by buildings and from the trees which surround the park there would be no clear pathway for any of the construction works to have potentially significant visual effects upon this park and it is considered that user enjoyment would not be compromised.
- 15.9.52 The landscape and visual assessment concludes that recreational visual Receptors visiting tourism locations would not experience significant visual effects. Further detail is set out in the Visual Assessment (**Appendix 9J, Volume 6.4**), in which there are several subsections for tourist attractions and which includes for recreational visual Receptors such as National Cycle Routes, the Nene Way and Public Rights of Way (PRowWs).
- 15.9.53 The assessment of effects on the historic environment (**Chapter 10: Historic Environment (Volume 6.2)**) has considered construction effects on a number of heritage assets. Only those assets which are accessible to members of the public are included in this assessment of effects on tourism and recreation. Those heritage assets which have a tourism or recreational role considered further are:
- Elgoods Brewery;
 - Wisbech Conservation Area; and
 - Peckover House Grade II Registered Park and Garden.
- 15.9.54 Elgood's Brewery is a Grade II listed building and an operational brewery. It does operate brewery tours for visitors. The historic environment assessment of construction effects on the brewery conclude that the heritage significance of this asset would not be affected significantly.
- 15.9.55 Wisbech Conservation Area forms part of the town centre and contributes to the overall character and offer of the town, including for tourism purposes. The historic environment assessment of construction effects on the Wisbech Conservation Area is that the heritage significance of this asset would not be affected.
- 15.9.56 The historic environment assessment of construction effects on Peckover House Grade II Registered Park and Garden is that the historic setting of this asset would not be affected significantly given there would be almost no visibility from the park or the approach along North Brink.



- 15.9.57 The attraction of the tourism facilities considered above is varied with Elgoods attracting people to see an operational brewery, Peckover House a two-acre Victorian garden and the Wisbech Conservation Area, a historic Georgian townscape. Visitors to the attractions would have limited visibility of the Proposed Development during construction and the purposes and rationale of those visiting would not be affected significantly during its construction.
- 15.9.58 It is concluded that there would not be any significant tourism or recreation effects on the relevant Receptors.
- 15.9.59 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are considered to be of High sensitivity to change; there would be a Very Low level of tourism and recreation change and therefore a Minor and **Not Significant** effect.
- 15.9.60 At the District/Borough level, Fenland and KLWN are considered to be of Medium sensitivity to change, there would be a very low level of tourism and recreation change and therefore a Negligible and **Not Significant** effect.
- 15.9.61 At the County level, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk are considered to be of Low sensitivity to change, there would be a very low level of tourism and recreation change and therefore a Negligible and **Not Significant** effect.

National Cycleway and PRowS

- 15.9.62 The Grid Connection component of the Proposed Development would cross one route on the National Cycle Route (NCR63) at the point at which it crosses the A47 following the alignment of the Elm Low Road. At this point the cycle route would require riders to dismount to cross the trunk road. Whilst it would require a temporary closure, excavation would take place overnight such that users of the route would be unlikely to be affected. The Landscape and Visual assessment (**Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual (Volume 6.2)**) has concluded that recreational visual Receptors using the NCR63 will sustain significant visual effects arising from the construction of the Proposed Development. However, the route at this point is dominated by the sound, smell and appearance of vehicles using the A47 such that construction works are unlikely to affect the enjoyment of the route particularly when views to the Proposed Development would be generally in one direction and the attention of cyclists is influenced by approaching and crossing the A47.
- 15.9.63 As a national cycle route, the route is of High sensitivity. The effects upon users are considered to be of a Very Low magnitude and as such would be Minor and **Not Significant**.
- 15.9.64 Construction of the Grid Connection component of the Proposed Development will affect one PRow (Halfpenny Lane) directly but at the point at which the footpath crosses the A47. However, this footpath is not designated as a formal PRow on the verge of the A47 and it is effectively severed already by the A47 which is a very busy highway. Works to construct the Grid Connection will be undertaken at night, at a time when it is unlikely that the footpath will be in use. The highway verge over which the footpath crosses will be reinstated for access following the temporary night time closure.



- 15.9.65 The Landscape and Visual assessment (**Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual (Volume 6.2)**) has also considered visual effects on PRoWs. This assessment concludes that users of PRoWs and footpaths Halfpenny Lane, the Nene Way, PRoWs west of Begdale would sustain potentially significant visual effects when looking towards the Proposed Development and hence the town of Wisbech. It is considered indirect effects resulting from views of construction would be unlikely to dissuade users of the footpath networks. Views will generally be in one direction only and the PRoWs do not pass in close proximity to the main areas of construction activity which will be the EfW CHP Facility Site and its immediate surroundings.
- 15.9.66 Overall recreational effects on the PRoWs are considered to be Negligible and **Not Significant**. This is because direct and indirect effects would be upon Low sensitivity local recreational routes which would not prohibit use for recreational purposes in the case of Halfpenny Lane, nor should they dissuade users from walking the routes given the separation distance between them and the Proposed Development. The magnitude is therefore Low, a magnitude higher than that applied for cyclists along the national cycle route as it is considered that their main focus is the activity of cycling.

Operation

- 15.9.67 The following paragraphs present an assessment of the operational effects of the Proposed Development.
- 15.9.68 The following Receptor groups are assessed for their potential to sustain significant socio economic, tourism, recreation, or land use effects.

Economy and employment

Direct employment

- 15.9.69 40 FTE jobs would be created as a result of the Proposed Development. These jobs would be permanent and would include direct employment opportunities for the operation of the EfW CHP Facility in a mixture of skilled and unskilled roles. Direct employment opportunities include a shift team of approximately 18 skilled operators, working in shifts of three at a time, to cover 24-hour operation of the facility. These teams will be overseen by an Operations Manager, who reports directly to the Facility Manager. Also reporting to the Facility Manager will be a QHSE Manager, Maintenance Manager, Electrical Engineer and two Mechanical Engineers.
- 15.9.70 When waste is delivered to the EfW CHP Facility it goes through a process of acceptance which requires the delivery vehicle to first record the weight of waste carried using the weighbridge. The vehicle then enters the tipping hall where it completes the process of acceptance. There will be six Waste Acceptance Operatives and a Waste Acceptance Supervisor, reporting to the Waste/Contract Manager. In terms of business support, it is expected the Proposed Development will require an Administration Manager, Finance Assistant, Account Manager, Community Liaison Manager, IT Support Technician and a Commercial Support Manager.



- 15.9.71 The Applicant intends that the majority of these jobs would be filled locally subject to any skills and training requirements and has prepared an **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)** to support this aspiration. Whilst the proportion of employees recruited from local wards, Fenland District and/or KLWN or further afield is difficult to predict with any certainty but it is assumed that they will be from within the Study Area.
- 15.9.72 Taking account of the uncertainty noted above, the assessment concludes that the provision of up to 40 FTE jobs for operation would represent a Very Low magnitude of change for the Local (locals wards which have High sensitivity), District (Fenland and King's Lynn and West Norfolk which have a Medium sensitivity) and County (Cambridgeshire and Norfolk which have a Low sensitivity) levels and thus a **Not Significant** employment effect.

Indirect employment

- 15.9.73 In addition to the direct jobs considered above, some indirect employment would also be created by the additional spending on goods and services by the Applicant and its employees. Contracts will be placed (as a minimum) for cleaning and catering services, pest control, landscaping services, electrical engineering services, mechanical engineering services and other maintenance-related roles such as scaffolding and rescue teams. The wage expenditure of workers employed directly at the Proposed Development, as well as those employed in local businesses in the supply chain, would also support induced employment in shops, services, and other businesses in the local economy. The resulting effects would be permanent.
- 15.9.74 Widely used reference data from Scottish Government with a sectoral focus relevant to the Proposed Development⁵⁹ estimates that Waste, Remediation and Management generates an employment multiplier of 1.6 at the local level, rising to 1.8 at the regional level (the multiplier for electricity which is a function of the Proposed Development at the regional level is 2.5). On this basis, it is estimated that 40 additional FTE jobs could support the creation of a further 24 indirect jobs at the local (Fenland and King's Lynn and West Norfolk) level, and 32 when expanded across the region/county (Cambridgeshire and Norfolk) level.
- 15.9.75 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are considered to be of High sensitivity to change; there would be a Very Low magnitude of change from operational indirect employment of 24 FTE local jobs particularly as this includes for the District as well as Local level. Minor beneficial employment effects would therefore be associated with indirect employment during the operational phase, which is considered to be a **Not Significant** employment effect.
- 15.9.76 At the District level, Fenland and King's Lynn and West Norfolk are considered to be of Medium sensitivity to change; there would be a Low magnitude of change from operational indirect employment of 24 FTE. Minor beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with direct and indirect employment during the operational phase, which is considered to be a **Not Significant** employment effect.

⁵⁹ Scottish Government. Supply, Use and Input-Output Tables: 1998-2018. (2021).



15.9.77 At the County level, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk are considered to be of Low sensitivity to change; there would be a Low magnitude of change from direct and indirect employment of 32 FTE. Negligible beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with direct and indirect employment during the operational phase, which is considered to be a **Not Significant** employment effect.

Use of local suppliers

15.9.78 The local supply chain will remain important in the provision of services and materials during the operational phase. The contracts referred to above whilst potentially generating additional indirect jobs will also support the businesses themselves. The Applicant will source from the local supply chain where possible in line with the **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)**.

15.9.79 Whilst the use of local suppliers will have a beneficial effect the assessment concludes a Very Low magnitude of change for the Local (local wards with as High sensitivity), District (Fenland and King's Lynn and West Norfolk with a medium sensitivity) and County (Cambridgeshire and Norfolk with a Low sensitivity) levels and thus a **Not Significant** beneficial effect.

Education and skills including apprenticeships

15.9.80 The **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)** would be permanent, remaining in place for the operational phase, with the intention that the majority of the operational workforce would be recruited from the local wards and District (Fenland and King's Lynn and West Norfolk) area subject to any skills and training requirements. The Strategy commits the Applicant to engage at the earliest opportunity with local educational establishments, job centres and community organisations to discuss how the Applicant might support local people to apply for, and secure, positions at the Proposed Development once operational.

15.9.81 The **Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8)** commits the Applicant to offer apprenticeships and support young people on existing apprenticeships, provide bespoke support to higher and further education providers, support skills development and provide internships, work placements and experience consistent with the approach taken by MVV at its Devonport and Baldovie sites. The Applicant has committed to employ a full time Community Liaison Manager and to include a community area within the Administrative Building. The community area would be used to accommodate visiting education and community groups.

15.9.82 Whilst the education and skills support offered will have a beneficial effect, given the number of apprentices, internships, work experience and skills development likely to be available the assessment concludes a Very Low magnitude of change for the Local (local wards with a High sensitivity), District (Fenland and King's Lynn and West Norfolk with a Medium sensitivity) and County (Cambridgeshire and Norfolk with a Low sensitivity) levels and thus a **Not Significant** beneficial effect.

Land use including local businesses

15.9.83 When in operation the Proposed Development has the potential to have an adverse, permanent effect upon land uses including local businesses in the surrounding area. There are a number of businesses in the area surrounding the Proposed



Development, including the Belgrave Retail Park and on the industrial estate within which the Proposed Development is located. These are all located within the local wards and this assessment therefore focuses on the local (Ward) level.

- 15.9.84 High levels of traffic could have an adverse effect upon local land uses including businesses in that it may restrict their ability to operate if access to them is congested for example, or it may dissuade customers from visiting their premises. The transport assessment reported in **Chapter 6: Traffic and Transport (Volume 6.2)** identifies two highway Receptors, New Bridge Lane and Cromwell Road which trigger the threshold for detailed environmental assessment. It concludes however that the overall magnitude of change would be low and not significant in terms of driver delay and not significant for pedestrian amenity, accidents, and severance other than in the case of the junction of New Bridge Lane and Cromwell Road. Additional mitigation in the form of a pedestrian crossing would therefore be provided. The Applicant has also prepared an **Outline Travel Plan (Appendix 6C, Volume 6.4)** which sets out measures to ensure that HGVs are properly routed to the site and that encouragement is given to employees to consider sustainable modes of transport to work.
- 15.9.85 Land uses and business could also be affected by high levels of noise, by vibration affecting the working environment, dust and odour which may also dissuade customers from visiting. **Chapter 7 Noise and Vibration and Chapter 8 Air Quality (both Volume 6.2)** conclude with regard to local businesses that there would be no potentially significant effects.
- 15.9.86 The Proposed Development includes for an operational CHP Connection along the disused March to Wisbech railway and a second private wire electrical cable along New Bridge Lane. Both networks would be able to supply heat and power to local businesses providing an alternative source of energy which would allow the business to select the cheapest. This could have beneficial economic effects. However, at the time of submission, no local businesses have signed agreements to take the heat and/or power. This effect has not therefore been included when arriving at a conclusion of significance.
- 15.9.87 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are considered to be of High sensitivity to change. With the implementation of mitigation measures such as the **Outline Travel Plan (Appendix 6C, Volume 6.4)** and an **Operational Noise Management Plan (Appendix 7D, Volume 6.4)**, there would be a Very Low magnitude of change on local businesses during operation. Minor effects would therefore be generated considered to be a **Not Significant** effect on local businesses.

Tourism and recreation, including PRow

- 15.9.88 Indirect effects from the operation of the Proposed Development could result if they dissuaded people from visiting tourist and recreational facilities or considered that the Proposed Development affected their enjoyment and therefore use of PRow. These would be adverse and permanent effects.
- 15.9.89 The tourist and recreational Receptors considered are the same as those assessed for construction with Wisbech Park being scoped from the assessment due to negligible visibility from the arboretum and no views from other parts of the Park as



demonstrated **Figure 9.27a & b: Viewpoint 11: Wisbech Park (Volume 6.3)**. The Receptors scoped at operation are therefore:

- Elgoods Brewery;
- Wisbech Conservation Area; and
- Peckover House Grade II Registered Park and Garden.

15.9.90 **Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual (Volume 6.2)** has concluded that the tourism and recreational Receptors will not sustain significant visual effects during the operational phase.

15.9.91 **Chapter 10: Historic Environment (Volume 6.2)** has considered operational effects on a number of heritage assets including the three Receptors listed above. For each of the three Receptors it has concluded a not significant effect upon their setting.

15.9.92 Visitors to the tourism Receptors will not experience significant views of the Proposed Development whilst their settings will not be compromised. Each tourism Receptor has a particular offer which it trades upon, a brewery, a Victorian garden or historic Georgian town. Visitors are attracted by these features and are consequently unlikely to be dissuaded from visiting by the Proposed Development based upon the findings of the assessments summarised above.

15.9.93 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are considered to be of High sensitivity to change; there would be a Very Low level of tourism and recreation change and therefore a Minor and **Not Significant** effect.

15.9.94 At the District/Borough level, Fenland and KLWN are considered to be of Medium sensitivity to change, there would be a Very Low level of tourism and recreation change and therefore a Negligible and **Not Significant** effect.

15.9.95 At the County level, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk are considered to be of Low sensitivity to change, there would be a Very Low level of tourism and recreation change and therefore a Negligible and **Not Significant** effect.

National Cycleway and PRowS

15.9.96 **Chapter 9: Landscape and Visual (Volume 6.2)** has concluded that some recreational visual Receptors will sustain significant visual effects during the operational phase. This is set out in further detail in the Visual Assessment (**Appendix 9J, Volume 6.4**). The recreational Receptors predicted to sustain significant visual effects are users of the Nene Way, south of Wisbech (at the closest part of the route to the EfW CHP Facility), cyclists on the NCR63 which would sustain a moderate (significant) effect for a short length of this national route, users of the Halfpenny Lane PRow, PRowS west of Begdale and users along a section of the Still PRow south of Leverington all of whom would see the upper parts of the EfW CHP Facility but not the ground level activities.

15.9.97 The Proposed Development would be seen in the context of surrounding industrial development, most notably the cold store and views would potentially affect only a small proportion of these wider PRow networks. There would be (taking account of



the findings from the landscape and visual and historic environment assessments) a low level of tourism and recreation change within the local wards within which most of the significant visual effects are located.

- 15.9.98 Taking account of the sensitivity criteria described in **Section 15.8** above, the local wards are considered to be of High sensitivity to change and therefore a Medium and a probably significant effect upon users of the PRowWs.
- 15.9.99 At the District level, Fenland and King's Lynn and West Norfolk are considered to be of Medium sensitivity to change; there would be a very low level of change and therefore a Negligible and a **Not Significant** effect.
- 15.9.100 At the County level, Cambridgeshire and Norfolk are considered to be of Low sensitivity to change; there would be a very low level of change and therefore a Negligible and a **Not Significant** effect.

Decommissioning

- 15.9.101 The socio economic effects associated with the decommissioning phase are expected to be of a similar level to those reported for the construction phase works, albeit with a lesser duration of one year. The likely significance of effects relating to the construction phase assessment reported in this chapter are therefore applicable to the decommissioning phase.

Cumulative Assessment

- 15.9.102 The cumulative socio economic, tourism, recreation and land use effects arising from the Proposed Development with other developments is provided within **Chapter 18: Cumulative Effects Assessment** this also includes for a consideration of inter-related effects.

Summary of significance

- 15.9.103 A summary of the results of the assessment of the socio economic effects is provided in **Table 15.22 Summary of assessment of significance** below.



Table 15.22 Summary of assessment of significance

Receptor summary effects	Group of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion	
Construction						
Economic Investment	Effects	– High at Ward Level	Very low	Minor and Significant	Not	It is anticipated that a capital investment of circa £450 million would be made by the Applicant. However, it is uncertain how much of this investment would be spent locally (for example some equipment may need to be sourced from abroad).
		Medium at District Level	Low	Minor and Significant	Not	Given the difficulties present in confirming where investment would be spent ahead of the letting of contracts, this level of investment is considered to represent a very low magnitude of economic change on a high sensitivity Receptor (Ward) and thus a Minor and Not Significant beneficial effect.
		Low at County Level	Low	Not Significant		The Applicant has committed to engaging with local suppliers and to support them in co-ordinating responses to tenders. There are a greater number of potential suppliers at the district level (Fenland and KLWN) and therefore it is considered reasonable to assume that capital expenditure by the Applicant will be greater at this spatial level than at the local level. Given that there remain uncertainties over how much and where this investment would be spent, this level of investment is considered to represent a low magnitude of economic change on a medium sensitivity Receptor (District) and thus a Minor and Not Significant beneficial effect.
					As an even wider geographic area containing a greater number of businesses supplying a wider scope of services there is the greatest potential for	



Receptor summary effects	Group of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion
					economic investment at this level by the Applicant. Given that there remain uncertainties over how much and where this investment would be spent, this, this level of investment is considered to represent a low magnitude of economic change on a low sensitivity Receptor (County) and thus a Minor and Not Significant effect.
Employment Effects – Direct Employment		High at Ward Level	Low	Moderate and Probably significant (Significant)	Approximately 700 temporary construction workers would be required for the construction of the EfW CHP Facility. The Applicant aims to maximise the local workforce and deliver local employment, committing via the Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) to measures to encourage the take up of construction by local workers. The range of jobs available will be varied and range from manual to highly skilled therefore there should be opportunities for the local workforce. The exact number of construction workers sourced directly from the local area would be determined in due course.
		Medium at District Level	Medium	Moderate and Probably significant (Significant)	
		Low at County Level	Very Low	Negligible and Not Significant	The Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) would be in place to encourage training and the take up of employment opportunities locally. The Strategy would be consistent with Cambridgeshire and Peterborough and with Norfolk skills strategies. A reasonable approach is to anticipate that there will be a degree of local take up in job opportunities given the total number of positions created. At the Ward level there would be a low magnitude of change medium beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction, which is considered to be probably significant and Significant , beneficial economic effect



Receptor summary effects	Group of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion
Employment Effects Indirect Employment	–	High at Ward Level	Low	Moderate and Probably Significant (Significant)	<p>At a District level a reasonable approach is that there would be a low magnitude of employment change on a medium sensitivity Receptor (District) and thus a probably significant and Significant beneficial effect.</p> <p>Taking account of the uncertainty over how many local construction jobs there would be, the preliminary assessment takes a conservative approach that there would be a low magnitude of employment change on a low sensitivity Receptor (Cambridgeshire and Norfolk Counties) and thus a Negligible and Not Significant effect.</p>
		Medium at District Level	Medium	Moderate and Probably Significant (Significant)	The construction industry has an indirect multiplier of 2.11 for jobs. Applying this to the approximately 700 construction workers to be employed during the construction phase indicates that the EfW CHP Facility, could be expected to create 1,477 jobs, of which 777 would be indirect. It is uncertain how many of these additional indirect jobs would be sourced locally as some would be from the supply chain which may be located across the Study Area and further afield.
		Low at County Level	Very Low	Negligible and Not Significant	The spatial distribution of these jobs is harder to quantify although the Applicant has committed to encouraging interest from the local jobs market by committing to an Outline Employment and Skills Strategy . A reasonable assessment concludes that there would be a low magnitude of change from any indirect jobs sourced from the Wards. Moderate beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction, and thus a probably significant and Significant beneficial economic effect.



Receptor summary effects	Group and predicted of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion
Local Suppliers	High at Ward Level, Medium at District Low at County Level	Low at Ward, Medium at District Very Low at County	Moderate and Probably Significant (Significant) Moderate and Probably Significant (Significant) Not Significant	<p>Taking account of the numbers of indirect local jobs which might be generated and the number of construction sector workers at the District level there would be medium magnitude of change from any indirect jobs sourced from the Fenland District. Moderate beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction, and thus a probably significant and Significant beneficial economic effect.</p> <p>Given the number of jobs created indirectly and the size of the County workforce negligible beneficial economic effects would therefore be associated with construction, and thus a Not Significant beneficial economic effect.</p> <p>The Applicant has prepared an Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) which outlines measures to encourage the local supply chain to bid for construction work. There will also be indirect investment with local suppliers in the Study Area. A reasonable assumption ahead of the letting of contracts is that the industrial and commercial businesses in and around Wisbech, included those within the adjoining industrial estate will have an opportunity to support the construction phase. Taking account of the numbers of potential suppliers in the local area and within the wider District a Low and Moderate magnitude of change creates a probably significant and Significant beneficial effect.</p> <p>Given the size of the County supply chain there would be a Not Significant beneficial economic effect.</p>	



Receptor summary effects	Group of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion
Apprenticeships, Experience and Development	Work Skills	High at Ward Level, Medium at District Level and Low at County Level.	Very Low	Minor, Negligible and Not Significant	<p>The Applicant intends to provide apprenticeships via its contractors and work with key Stakeholders to support construction skills training consistent with existing strategies during the construction of the Proposed Development to help provide opportunities for local people to benefit. The number of apprenticeships, experience, and skills development offered by contractors during construction is unknown at present and it has therefore been concluded that a reasonable worse-case assessment should be made.</p> <p>Taking account of the uncertainty noted above very low magnitude of change from any apprenticeships, work experience at the Local, District and County levels is generated and thus a Not Significant beneficial employment effect.</p>
Housing Market		High at Ward Level	Very Low	Minor and Not Significant	<p>Around 700 temporary construction workers will be required for the construction of the EfW CHP Facility. The Applicant is aiming to maximise the use of the local workforce but there is uncertainty over exactly how many workers would be sourced within the Study Area and in particular the Local and District levels. There is also a predicted low level of demand for housing from any construction workers sourced from elsewhere as the number on site at any one time will peak at 500 and for the majority of the workforce, they will not be on site for significant parts of the construction process, only working during particular phases of construction.</p> <p>Baseline information suggests that there remains capacity in the tourism accommodation sector in peak</p>
		Medium at District Level	Very Low	Negligible and Not Significant	
		Low at County Level	Very Low	Negligible and Not Significant	



Receptor summary effects	Group of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion
Local facilities		High at Ward Level, Medium at District Level and Low at County Level.	Very Low	Minor, Negligible and Not Significant	<p>(summer) months, that homelessness is decreasing that there are significant sites identified for new housing.</p> <p>Taking account of the predicted low level of demand for housing from construction workers, the preliminary assessment is that there would be a very low magnitude of housing change on a high sensitivity Receptor (Local Wards) and thus a Minor and Not Significant effect.</p> <p>Taking account of the predicted low level of demand for housing, the preliminary assessment is that there would be a very low magnitude of housing change on a medium sensitivity Receptor (Fenland District and King's Lynn and West Norfolk Borough) and thus a Minor and Not Significant.</p> <p>Taking account of the predicted low level of demand for housing, the preliminary assessment is that there would be a very low magnitude of housing change on a low sensitivity Receptor (Cambridgeshire and Norfolk Counties) and thus a Negligible and Not Significant effect.</p> <p>Whilst there are understood to be pressures on local schools, capacity data is old, there are recent plans for a new 4FE school. The majority of workers will not be at the site over the whole of the construction programme therefore the desire to relocate families is likely to be low. The Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) will also seek to encourage a local workforce. Across the three spatial areas a Not Significant effect is predicted.</p>



Receptor summary effects	Group of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion
Land use and Businesses	Local	High at Ward Level	Very Low	Minor and Significant	<p>Local businesses could be potentially affected by the number of construction vehicles. Royal Mail commented at Statutory Consultation that it was also concerned about its operations. The Traffic and Transport assessment identifies New Bridge Lane, as experiencing increased levels of traffic but these will not be significant and in any event will not create driver delay. The Applicant has prepared an Outline CTMP (Appendix 7A Volume 6.4) to manage construction traffic.</p> <p>The assessment of noise and vibration and effects arising from air quality (and health) have been reported in the relevant technical chapters and conclude that with embedded mitigation, including the implementation of the Outline CEMP (Volume 7.12) effects upon local businesses should not be significant.</p> <p>The methodology for the construction of the Grid Connection component of the Proposed Development minimises effects upon local land uses whilst the potable water Connection option to HDD would take place over a short period of time with the commercial crop carefully removed, stored and reinstated.</p> <p>Informed by other assessments it is considered unlikely that direct effects arising from construction on local businesses and land uses would significantly impair their operations. The assessment concludes that effects will be Not Significant at the Local (Ward) level.</p>



Receptor summary effects	Group of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion
Tourism and Recreation facilities		High at Ward Level, Medium at District Level and Low at County Level	Very Low	Minor, Negligible and Not Significant	The Landscape and Visual and Historic Environment assessments conclude that there would be no significant effect upon tourist and recreation facilities or areas arising from the visual or setting effects created during construction such that they would affect the reasons for visiting the facilities. Each of the individual Receptors identified has a particular tourism or recreational offer which is not likely to be affected by the construction effects arising from the Proposed Development. The assessment concludes that the effects would be minor at the Local level and negligible at the District and County level and Not Significant .
National PRoWs	Cycleway and	National cycle route High PRoWs Low	Very Low Low	Minor and Not Significant Negligible and Not Significant	<p>Direct effects would be direct upon the national cycle route network will take place at night when it is unlikely to be used. Furthermore, the construction works will be along the A47 verge at a point where cyclist would need to dismount and would be primarily focused upon the immediate context of the A47.</p> <p>The Landscape and Visual Assessment has concluded that user of the route would experience a significant visual effect during construction but this would clearly be in one direction and set against the background of a cyclist crossing the A47 and entering into the town of Wisbech are considered unlikely to detract from its use. The conclusion of this assessment is that the effects upon PRoWs will be Not Significant.</p> <p>There would be a direct effect upon Halfpenny Lane although only at the point at which it also interacts with the A47 (and is not at that specific location a PRoW). The potential for visual effects upon the user is considered within the Landscape and Visual</p>



Receptor summary effects	Group of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion
					Assessment to be significant although the wider conclusion is that this would not dissuade its use given the short stretch of PRow affected, the wider context of industry and interaction i.e., the crossing of the A47.
<u>Operation</u>					
Economic Effects – Direct Employment		High at Ward Level	Very Low	Not Significant	There will be up to 40 FTE jobs during the operational phase. This would represent a Very Low magnitude of economic change on a high sensitivity Receptor (Ward) and thus a Minor and Not Significant beneficial effect.
		Medium at District Level	Very Low	Not Significant	A Very Low magnitude of economic change resulting from the direct employment of up to 40 FTE jobs on a medium sensitivity Receptor (Fenland District and King’s Lynn and West Norfolk Borough) and a Low sensitivity Receptor (County) represents a Minor a Negligible and Not Significant beneficial effect.
		Low at County Level	Very Low	Not Significant	
Employment Effects – Indirect Employment		High at Ward Level	Very low	Minor and Significant	Additional full time equivalent and indirect (FTE) jobs would be created as a result of the Proposed Development. It is uncertain exactly how many of these would be in the local Wards and Fenland District and King’s Lynn and West Norfolk Borough subject to skills and training opportunities for the local workforce which would be supported by the Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) . Widely used reference data suggests multipliers of 1.6 FTE at a local level rising to 1.8 at the regional. 40FTE could therefore generate an additional 24 jobs most likely at the District level and 32 when expanded to the County level (accepting that the multiplier works at the regional level).
		Medium at District Level	Low	Minor and Significant	
		Low at County Level	Low	Negligible and Significant	



Receptor summary effects	Group of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion
					<p>The total additional numbers would represent a very low magnitude of employment change on a high sensitivity Receptor (Ward) and thus a Minor and Not Significant beneficial effect.</p> <p>The level of effect at the District and County level would also be Not Significant given the additional number of indirect employees which could be generated by the Proposed Development when in operation.</p>
Local Suppliers		High at Ward Level, Medium at District Level and Low at County Level	Very Low	Not Significant	<p>The Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) maintains a commitment to encourage local suppliers to support the operation of the Proposed Development. It lists out the type of services which could be provided on a regular and on a more infrequent basis.</p> <p>The assessment concludes that that there would be a very low magnitude of change arising from the Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) at the Local, District and County levels and thus a Not Significant beneficial employment effect.</p>
Apprenticeships, Experience and Development	Work Skills	High at Ward Level Medium at District Level Low at County Level	Very Low	Minor and Not Significant Negligible and Not Significant Negligible and Not Significant	<p>The Applicant intends to provide apprenticeships, work experience and skills development as part of the operation of the Proposed Development to help provide opportunities for local people to benefit. An Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) has been prepared which includes a commitment to provide a Community Liaison Manager and a community area within the administration building, which would be used for visiting education groups.</p>



Receptor summary effects	Group of predicted	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion	
					Given the total number of apprentices, internships and work experience individuals likely to be supported as a proportion of the total number of individuals seeking training a very low magnitude of change from any apprenticeships, work experience at the Local, District and County levels and thus a Not Significant beneficial employment effect is concluded.	
Land Use including Local Businesses		High at Ward Level only	Very Low	Minor and Significant	Not	Local businesses along New Bridge Lane and Cromwell Road have the potential to be affected by operational vehicle traffic. The Traffic and Transport Assessment concludes that the residual significance is not significant. The Applicant has prepared and will operate an Operational Travel Plan (Appendix 6C Volume 6.4) . Effects upon local businesses as a result of noise and vibration, air and health are not considered significant. The operation of local businesses whilst the Proposed Development is operation should not be unduly affected and the resulting effect would be Not Significant .
Tourism and Recreation		High at Ward Level Medium at District Level Low at County Level	Very Low	Minor and Significant Negligible and Significant Negligible and Significant	Not Not Not	ES Chapter 9 Landscape and Visual concludes that there would be significant visual effects in short sections of the Nene Way, NCR63, Halfpenny Lane, and other PRoWs. Users would see upper sections of the EfW CHP Facility. There would be no significant visual effects or effects upon the setting of historic areas which are accessible to visitors. The operation of the Proposed Development would not affect the use of any PRoW or cycleway as the Grid Connection would be underground. It is considered unlikely that users of the local PRoW network, and local sections of the relevant regional or



Receptor summary effects	Group and predicted of	Sensitivity/importance/value of Receptor ¹	Magnitude of change ²	Significance ³	Rationale for the assessment conclusion
					national networks would be dissuaded from their use and a Very Low level of effects arising from users of the PRowS to a High sensitivity Receptor (at Ward level) results in Not Significant effect being established. At the District and County level effects would also be Not Significant .

1. The sensitivity/importance/value of a Receptor is defined using the criteria set out in **Section 15.8** above and is defined as very low, medium, high, and very high.
2. The magnitude of change on a Receptor resulting from activities relating to the development is defined using the criteria set out in **Section 15.8** above and is defined as low, medium, high, and very high.
3. The significance of the environmental effects is based on the combination of the sensitivity/importance/value of a Receptor and the magnitude of change and is expressed as major (significant), moderate (probably significant) or minor/Negligible (not significant), subject to the evaluation methodology outlined in **Section 15.8**.



15.10 Consideration of optional additional mitigation or compensation

- 15.10.1 No additional mitigation measures are proposed. With all relevant and implementable measures embedded into the development proposals beneficial significant effects are identified. These measures are considered likely to be effective and deliverable.

15.11 Implementation of environmental measures

- 15.11.1 The measures that have been incorporated into the Proposed Development to date to avoid or reduce potential adverse effects on socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use and to deliver socio economic enhancements, are listed in **Table 15.23 Summary of environmental measures to be implemented – relating to socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use** below and the proposed means by which they will be implemented, i.e., they will have been secured through a Requirements in the DCO.

Table 15.23 Summary of environmental measures to be implemented – relating to socio economics, tourism, recreation and land use

Environmental measure	Responsibility for implementation	Proposed Compliance mechanism	section reference
Outline Employment and Skills Strategy (Volume 7.8) An Outline employment and Skills Strategy has been included with the application and the Applicant will maximise use of local workforce and provide skills and training opportunities where this is possible.	Applicant	DCO Requirement	15.9
Outline Construction Environmental Management Plan (Volume 7.12) An Outline CEMP has been prepared in support of the Proposed Development. A DCO requirement will require the preparation, submission and approval of a detailed CEMP consistent with the Outline. This will need to be approved by the relevant local authority prior to construction commencing to ensure that adverse effects from the construction works are mitigated.	Applicant	DCO Requirement - Construction Environmental Management Plan.	15.9



Environmental measure	Responsibility for implementation	Proposed Compliance mechanism	section reference
<p>Standard Best Practice for Construction Development would be subject to standard construction best practice mitigation measures to avoid and minimise potential effects on local businesses and recreational facilities and the general amenity of the local area.</p>	Applicant	DCO Requirement – CEMP which contains a commitment to the registering the Proposed Development with the Considerate Contractors Scheme	15.9
<p>Outline Travel Plan (Volume 6.4) An Outline Travel Plan has been prepared to encourage the use of sustainable transport by the operational workforce. This will be secured by a DCO Requirement which will require the preparation, submission and approval of a final Travel Plan consistent with the Outline. This will need to be approved by the relevant local authority.</p>	Applicant	DCO Requirement – Travel Plan	15.9

Community Benefits Strategy

- 15.11.2 In addition to the mitigation measures identified above, the Applicant proposes to provide a Community Benefits Strategy containing measures to support local community activities and initiatives and which could have beneficial social and economic effects consistent with the **Outline Community Benefits Strategy (Volume 7.14)**. The type and scale of such benefits will be similar to that offered MVA's Devonport facility. The package will be offered irrespective of any measures required for mitigation and in this respect, any benefits occurring would be over and above those considered in this assessment.
- 15.11.3 The scope of the package will evolve through discussions with key Stakeholders post consent. The Community Benefits Strategy is a commitment from the Applicant which is not tied to any requirement to mitigate likely significant effects.

15.12 Conclusion

- 15.12.1 The assessment of socio economic, tourism, recreation and land use effects arising from the construction, operation and decommissioning of the Proposed Development has identified the potential for some beneficial significant effects when consideration is given within the assessment to the measures which the Applicant



has embedded into the Proposed Development. These measures will be secured primarily through the use of DCO Requirements.

