Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant Relocation Project
Anglian Water Services Limited

Environmental Statement Chapter 1: Introduction

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1 Introduction

1.1 Background

1.1.1 Anglian Water Services Limited (hereafter referred to as 'the Applicant') has commissioned this Environmental Statement (ES) for the Cambridge Waste Water Treatment Plant Relocation Project (CWWTPRP) (hereafter referred to as the 'Proposed Development').

1.1.2 South Cambridgeshire District Council and Cambridge City Council recently consulted on a draft Area Action Plan (AAP) for a new low carbon city district in North East Cambridge, which could create 8,350 homes and 15,000 jobs over the next 20 years. Achieving the regeneration of the area relies on the relocation of the existing Cambridge WWTP. Anglian Water is working in partnership with the councils who have a long-standing ambition to unlock the development potential of the area, which has great walking, cycling and public transport links, including the Cambridge North Station, making it a highly sustainable location for new homes.

1.1.3 The Proposed Development involves construction of a new integrated waste water treatment plant (WWTP) (hereafter referred to as the proposed WWTP) together with the associated waste water transfer infrastructure, comprising waste water transfer tunnel, sewer rising main diversions and final effluent and storm pipeline with an outfall to the River Cam. The Proposed Development also includes two new pipelines (rising mains) from Waterbeach Water Recycling Centre (WRC).

1.1.4 The proposed WWTP incorporates an integrated sludge treatment centre (STC) which will treat the sludge derived from the waste water from the Cambridge catchment, both from the existing Cambridge WWTP and also the "wet sludge" produced by other satellite WWTPs in the region which do not have an integrated STC.

1.1.5 The Proposed Development will be the first waste water project to seek a Development Consent Order that is not specifically named in the National Policy Statement (NPS). 'The Applicant' sought and obtained a direction from the Secretary of State under section 35 of the Planning Act 2008 ("the 2008 Act") that the project is to be treated as development of national significance.

1.1.6 The relevant National Policy Statement (NPS) is the National Policy Statement for Waste Water (Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, 2012). NPSs comprise the government's objectives for the development of nationally significant infrastructure in particular sectors including circumstances where it would be particularly important to address the adverse impacts of development. The assessment of effects and mitigation for each environmental aspect takes account of the requirements of the NPS. Where relevant, the provisions of the NPS are cited within each environmental topic.

1.1.7 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, 2021) alongside other relevant national and local planning

policies have also been considered where these could influence the sensitivity of receptors (and therefore the significance of effects) and any requirements for mitigation or influence on the methodology of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). For example, a planning policy may require the assessment of a particular impact or the use of a particular methodology. A summary of national and local planning policy relevant to each technical assessment is provided for each environmental topic (Chapters 6 to 20).

1.1.8 The local planning policy documents relevant to the Proposed Development consist of the following:

- South Cambridgeshire Local Plan 2018;
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2021;
- Cambridge City Local Plan 2018; and
- Waterbeach Neighbourhood Plan.

1.1.9 The following documents comprise emerging local planning policy:

- Greater Cambridge Local Plan; and
- North East Cambridge Area Action Plan.

1.2 Requirement for Environmental Impact Assessment

1.2.1 The Proposed Development is subject to mandatory EIA as it is listed in paragraph 13 of Schedule 1 of the Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended) (hereafter 'the EIA Regulations'), in the category of waste water treatment plants with a capacity exceeding 150,000 population equivalent as defined in Article 2(6) of Council Directive 91/271/EEC concerning urban waste-water treatment.

1.3 Purpose of this Environmental Statement

1.3.1 The purpose of this Environmental Statement (ES) is to provide the environmental information that has been gathered and to describe the likely significant environmental effects of the relocation of the existing Cambridge WWTP.

1.3.2 The ES specifically:

- provides statutory and non-statutory consultees with technical information to enable an understanding of the Proposed Development;
- provides an outline of the main project alternatives considered for the Proposed Development and indications of the reasons for the development selection made by the Applicant;
- describes the methodology used in the EIA process;

- presents the existing environmental baseline information, established from desktop studies, field surveys and consultation;
- indicates any difficulties encountered during the compilation of the environmental information, including the acknowledgement of any data gaps or deficiencies and confidence in the information gathered;
- presents the potential environmental effects arising from the Proposed Development, based upon the baseline information and data gathered and the assessment of impacts; and
- puts forward potential mitigation measures that could prevent, minimise, reduce or offset potential negative environmental effects identified.

1.4 Statutory and Non-statutory Consultation

1.4.1 Under the Planning Act 2008, as amended, the Applicant has a duty to consult and publicise the Proposed Development. Consultation has been undertaken in 2020 (Phase One Consultation), 2021 (Phase Two Consultation) and 2022 (Phase Three Consultation).

1.4.2 As part of Phase Three Consultation in 2022, a Preliminary Environmental Information Report (PEIR) was published to inform local community and statutory consultation as required by section 42 consultation with statutory consultees and local community consultation under section 47 under the Planning Act 2008, as amended.

1.4.3 Responses received have been taken into account in preparing the design of the Proposed Development and in carrying out the EIA. Further detail on the pre-application consultation undertaken is included in Chapter 4: Consultation and in the Consultation Report (Application Document Reference 6.1).

1.4.4 In addition, Anglian Water established Technical Working Group (TWG's) as part of the pre-application consultation process with key stakeholders. Overarchingly, the TWG's provide a forum for technical stakeholders to develop an understanding of the CWWTPRP plans, proposals and timescales, develop trust and ensure a compliant consultation programme. Additionally, stakeholders which make up the TWG's have informed the EIA process by providing technical feedback and input to the identification of potential impacts, constraints and design changes.

1.5 Structure of the Environmental Statement

1.5.1 This ES sets out the assessment of environmental aspects in separate chapters supported by technical appendices which contain supporting information such as baseline survey results. Within Volume 5 if the DCO Application, the ES is published in four sub-volumes, as follows:

- Volume 5.1 – non-technical summary;

- Volume 5.2 – introductory chapters (description of the project and alternatives, consultation and EIA methodology) and technical assessment chapters;
- Volume 5.3 – figures; and
- Volume 5.4 – appendices.

1.5.2 Table 1-1 details the structure of this ES.

Table 1-1: Structure of the ES

Reference	Title
Volume 5.1: Environmental Statement - Non-Technical Summary	
5.1	Environmental Statement - Non-Technical Summary
Volume 5.2: Environmental Statement - Technical Chapters	
5.2.1	Chapter 1: Introduction
5.2.2	Chapter 2: Project Description
5.2.3	Chapter 3: Alternatives
5.2.4	Chapter 4: Consultation
5.2.5	Chapter 5: EIA Methodology
5.2.6	Chapter 6: Agricultural Land and Soils
5.2.7	Chapter 7: Air Quality
5.2.8	Chapter 8: Biodiversity
5.2.9	Chapter 9: Climate Resilience
5.2.10	Chapter 10: Carbon
5.2.11	Chapter 11: Community
5.2.12	Chapter 12: Health
5.2.13	Chapter 13: Historic Environment
5.2.14	Chapter 14: Land Quality
5.2.15	Chapter 15: Landscape and Visual Amenity
5.2.16	Chapter 16: Material Resources Waste
5.2.17	Chapter 17: Noise and Vibration
5.2.18	Chapter 18: Odour
5.2.19	Chapter 19: Traffic and Transport
5.2.20	Chapter 20: Water Resources
5.2.21	Chapter 21: Major Accidents and Disasters
5.2.22	Chapter 22: Cumulative Effects
Volume 5.3: Environmental Statement - Figures	
5.3	Technical Chapter Figures
Volume 5.4: Environmental Statement - Appendices	
Appendices – Environmental Statement Wide	
5.4.2.1	Code of Construction Practice Part A
5.4.2.2	Code of Construction Practice Part B
5.4.2.3	Outline Decommissioning Plan
5.4.2.4	Outline Commissioning Plan
5.4.2.5	Lighting Design Strategy
5.4.2.6	Mitigation Tracker

Reference	Title
Appendices – Chapter 3: Site Selection and Alternatives	
5.4.3.1	Initial Options Appraisal
5.4.3.2	Stage 1 Site Selection Report – Initial Site Selection
5.4.3.3	Stage 2 Site Selection Report – Coarse Screening
5.4.3.4	Stage 3 Site Selection Report – Fine Screening
5.4.3.5	Stage 4 Site Selection Report – Final Site Selection
Appendices – Chapter 4: Consultation	
5.4.4.1	Scoping Opinion
5.4.4.2	Scoping Report
Appendices – Chapter 6: Agricultural Land and Soils	
5.4.6.1	Baseline Agricultural land classification
5.4.6.2	Agricultural Impact Assessment (AIA)
5.4.6.3	Outline Soil Management Plan
Appendices – Chapter 7: Air Quality	
5.4.7.1	Air Quality Assessment Methods
5.4.7.2	Dispersion Model Results
Appendices – Chapter 8: Biodiversity	
5.4.8.1	Baseline Aquatics
5.4.8.2	Hedgerows
5.4.8.3	Water Vole
5.4.8.4	Ornithology
5.4.8.5	Reptiles
5.4.8.6	Terrestrial Invertebrates
5.4.8.7	Bats
5.4.8.8	Badgers (confidential)
5.4.8.9	Otter
5.4.8.10	National Vegetation Classification (NVC)
5.4.8.11	Great Crested Newts
5.4.8.12	Baseline Survey Tech Note
5.4.8.13	Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) Report
5.4.8.14	Landscape, Ecological and Recreational Management Plan (LERMP)
5.4.8.15	Habitats Regulations Assessment Screening Report
5.4.8.16	Habitats Regulations Assessment Report
5.4.8.17	Proposed WWTP Arboricultural Impact Assessment
5.4.8.18	Wildlife Hazard Management Plan
5.4.8.19	Waterbeach Pipeline Arboricultural Impact Assessment
5.4.8.20	Natural England Ghost Licence Method Statement – Bats
5.4.8.21	Natural England Ghost Licence Method Statement – Badgers (Confidential)
5.4.8.22	Natural England Ghost Licence Method Statement – Water vole
Appendices – Chapter 9: Climate Resilience	
5.4.9.1	Asset Management Plan
Appendices – Chapter 10: Carbon	
5.4.10.1	GHG Calculations
Appendices – Chapter 11: Community	

Reference	Title
5.4.11.1	Community Questionnaire
Appendices – Chapter 12: Health	
5.4.12.1	Health Screening
5.4.12.2	Health Evidence Review
5.4.12.3	Mental Wellbeing Impact Assessment (MWIA)
Appendices – Chapter 13: Historic Environment	
5.4.13.1	Historic Environment Baseline Report
5.4.13.2	Gazetteer of Assets - Historic Environment
5.4.13.3	Historic Landscape Characterisation
5.4.13.4	Historic Environment Impact Assessment Tables
5.4.13.5	Geophysical and trial trenching surveys
5.4.13.6	Gazetteer of Events
5.4.13.7	Gazetteer of Find Spots
Appendices – Chapter 14: Land Quality	
5.4.14.1	Preliminary Risk Assessment Report
5.4.14.2	Contaminated Land Risk Assessments
5.4.14.3	Geoenvironmental results – proposed WWTP
5.4.14.4	Geoenvironmental results – Waterbeach
5.4.14.5	Mineral Safeguarding Area Calculation
Appendices – Chapter 15: Landscape and Visual Amenity	
5.4.15.1	Photomontages
5.4.15.2	Summer & Winter Views
5.4.15.3	Lighting Assessment Report
5.4.15.4	Glint & Glare assessment
5.4.15.5	LVIA Methodology
Appendices – Chapter 16: Material Resources and Waste	
5.4.16.1	Waste and Material Estimates
Appendices – Chapter 17: Noise and Vibration	
5.4.17.1	Noise Guidance and Policy
5.4.17.2	Noise Baseline Noise Report
5.4.17.3	Construction Noise Assessment
5.4.17.4	Operational Noise Sources
Appendices – Chapter 18: Odour	
5.4.18.1	Odour Assessment Method & Effect Summary
5.4.18.2	Odour Impact Assessment
5.4.18.3	Sniff test survey report
5.4.18.4	Preliminary Odour Management Plan
Appendices – Chapter 19: Traffic and Transport	
5.4.19.1	Baseline – Traffic Surveys
5.4.19.2	Re-survey – May 2022 Traffic Surveys
5.4.19.3	Transport Assessment
5.4.19.4	Pedestrian Counts
5.4.19.5	Traffic Flow Diagrams
5.4.19.6	Junction Capacity Reports

Reference	Title
5.4.19.7	Construction Traffic Management Plan
5.4.19.8	Operational Workers Travel Plan
5.4.19.9	Construction Workers Travel Plan
Appendices – Chapter 20: Water Resources	
5.4.20.1	Flood Risk Assessment
5.4.20.2	Water Walkover
5.4.20.3	WFD Assessment Report
5.4.20.4	Dewatering / Pump Test Technical Note
5.4.20.5	Fluvial Model Report
5.4.20.6	3D Velocity/Mixing Model
5.4.20.7	Outfall CFD Report
5.4.20.8	Contaminant Transport Note
5.4.20.9	HIA (Site Selection Stage)
5.4.20.10	Storm Model Report
5.4.20.11	Permit Application HRA Report (Water Quality)
5.4.20.12	Drainage Strategy

1.6 Use of Competent Experts

1.6.1 In accordance with The Infrastructure Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017, as amended, paragraph (14), a Statement of Competence will be included within the ES, outlining the relevant expertise or qualifications of the experts who prepared the ES.

1.6.2 The introductory and summary chapters of this ES (Chapters 1 to 5 and 22) have been prepared by Savills on behalf of the Applicant in their role as consultant member of the integrated project team, drawing on material provided by engineers, designers and external consultants. The design parameters and details contained in this document have been approved by the Applicant.

1.6.3 The aspect-specific chapters of this ES (Chapters 6 to 21 and their corresponding appendices) have been prepared by Mott MacDonald on behalf of the Applicant. Mott MacDonald is a multidisciplinary consultancy with over 20 years' experience of undertaking complex and challenging environmental impact assessments and of writing environmental impact assessment reports for a wide range of projects. These include some of the world's largest infrastructure, engineering, and development projects.

1.6.4 Mott MacDonald is a corporate member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) and hold its EIA Quality Mark. The Quality Mark allows organisations that lead the co-ordination of statutory EIAs in the UK to make a commitment to excellence in their EIA activities and have this commitment independently reviewed.

References

Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs. (2012, March). *National Policy Statement.* Retrieved from HM Government: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/69505/pb13709-waste-water-nps.pdf

Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government. (2021, July 20). *National Planning Policy Framework.* Retrieved from HM Government: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf

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You can view all our DCO application documents and updates on the application on The Planning Inspectorate website:

https://infrastructure.planninginspectorate.gov.uk/projects/eastern/cambridge-waste-water-treatment-plant-relocation/