

Denis Canney
Gloucestershire County Council
Strategic Infrastructure
Shire Hall
Gloucester
GL1 2TH



By email only to: planningdc@gloucestershire.gov.uk;

15 June 2023

Dear Denis,

APPLICATION NOS: 21/0085/CWS73M (application a) and 22/0006/CWMAJW (application b)

DESCRIPTION: a) Variation of conditions 2(Duration), 3(Scope of Permission) and 9(Access, Traffic and Highway Protection) relating to planning consent 19/0009/CWMAJM dated 19/03/2020 and b) Importation of up to 50,000 tonnes per annum of inert material to facilitate an aggregate recycling facility

LOCATION: Farmington Quarry, Farmington, Gloucestershire, GL54 3NZ

Thank you for consulting the Cotswolds National Landscape Board¹ ('the Board') on the consultee and applicant responses to Regulation 22/25 request dated 24th June 2022 pursuant to this proposed development, which would be located within the Cotswolds National Landscape². Please consider this response in conjunction with our previous responses dated 26 April 2022 and 18 August 2022.

Our previous responses had raised a holding objection and requested further information regarding the principle of development, potential impacts upon the tranquillity of the National Landscape arising from increased HGV movements as well as noise and dust impacts.

Taking each in turn, the applicant's agent has provided a response on the concerns raised by the Board and the County Council Minerals & Waste Policy Team and has provided further justification for the proposals against Policy MW06 of the Minerals Local Plan for Gloucestershire 2018-2032. We acknowledge the applicant's proposal in the Regulation 25 addendum to restrict imports to a definable 'localised' market linked to an area of the northern half of the Cotswolds National Landscape and note the further justification provided in the response dated 7 December 2022, including the assessment of the lack of long-term alternatives for this type of aggregate recycling facilities within the northern part of the National Landscape. Without prejudice, should the local authority be minded to grant planning permission, we would recommend that appropriately-worded conditions are imposed to restrict imports to the area outlined on dwg. ref. 2921-4-1 DR-002 S4-P1.

Whilst the applicant's Regulation 25 addendum comments on highways matters including HGV movements, and the assessment of the County Council's Highways Development Management team dated 1 December 2022 is noted, our previous comments in respect of an assessment of the potential impact of increased HGV movements upon the tranquillity of the National Landscape (one of its special qualities) and a lack of measures to enhance tranquillity do not appear to have been addressed. Section 4.5 of the Board's Tranquillity Position Statement and our response dated 26 April 2022 provides further information. Therefore, we request that the applicant addresses this matter.

Cotswolds Conservation Board

Cotswold Business Centre
2 A P Ellis Road, Upper Rissington
Cheltenham, Gloucestershire GL54 2QB
07841 663607
info@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

The Cotswolds National Landscape is a designated Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), managed and looked after by the Cotswolds Conservation Board.

cotswoldsaonb.org.uk

Chairman:
Brendan McCarthy

Vice Chair:
Rebecca Charley

We note the additional information submitted by the applicant in respect of air quality and noise impacts and the responses of the local authority's specialist consultants in accepting their conclusions. Having reviewed that information, we would not wish to maintain an objection on these matters.

In conclusion, we wish to maintain our **holding objection** and recommend that the applicant provides further information requested above in order that the potential impact of the proposal on the landscape and scenic beauty of the National Landscape can be fully assessed.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this response further.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'S. Joyce', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Simon Joyce

Planning Officer

simon.joyce@cotswoldsaonb.org.uk | 07808 391227

NOTES:

- 1) The name used for the organisation associated with the AONB designation is the Cotswolds National Landscape Board. At times this is abbreviated to National Landscape Board or The Board. The legal name of the organisation remains the Cotswolds Conservation Board but this name is no longer used in most circumstances.
- 2) Cotswolds National Landscape is the new name for the Cotswolds Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The new name takes forward one of the proposals of the Government-commissioned 'Landscapes Review' to rename AONBs as 'National Landscapes'. This change reflects the national importance of AONBs and the fact that they are safeguarded, in the national interest, for nature, people, business and culture.
- 3) Section 85 of the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000.
www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2000/37/section/85
- 4) The documents referred to in our response can be located on the Cotswolds National Landscape website under the following sections
 - a. Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan 2023-2025
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/management-plan
 - b. Cotswolds AONB Landscape Character Assessment
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/lca
 - c. Cotswolds AONB Landscape Strategy and Guidelines
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/lsg
 - d. Cotswolds AONB Local Distinctiveness and Landscape Change
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ldlc
 - e. Cotswolds Conservation Board Position Statements
www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ps1 www.cotswoldsaonb.org.uk/ps2