



Nick Bainton
Gloucestershire County Council
Strategic Infrastructure
Shire Hall
Gloucester
GL1 2TH

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

10 July 2023

Dear Nick,

APPLICATION NO: 23/0030/SCREEN

DESCRIPTION: Screening request for proposed upgrade to catchment and treatment processes and associated works

LOCATION: Sewage Works, Rissington Mill Lane, Little Rissington, Cheltenham, Gloucestershire, GL54 2PD

Thank you for consulting the Cotswolds National Landscape Board¹ ('the Board') on this proposed development, which would be located within the Cotswolds National Landscape².

In reaching its planning decision, the local planning authority (LPA) has a statutory duty to have regard to the purpose of conserving and enhancing the natural beauty of the National Landscape.³ The Board recommends that, in fulfilling this 'duty of regard', the LPA should: (i) ensure that planning decisions are consistent with relevant national and local planning policy and guidance; and (ii) take into account the following Board publications⁴:

- Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) Management Plan 2023-2025 ([link](#));
- Cotswolds AONB Landscape Character Assessment ([link](#)) particularly, in this instance, with regards to Landscape Character Type (LCT) 17 (Pastoral Lowland Vale);
- Cotswolds AONB Landscape Strategy and Guidelines ([link](#)) particularly, in this instance, regards to LCT 17 ([link](#)) including Section 17.2;
- Cotswolds AONB Local Distinctiveness and Landscape Change ([link](#)); and
- Cotswolds Conservation Board Position Statements ([link](#)).

The Board agrees with the EIA screening opinion request report prepared by the applicant that the works proposed **will not result in any significant adverse environmental effects and as such the works do not constitute EIA development**. It is noted that, subject to the County Council confirming that the works do not constitute EIA development, most of the works at the Sewage Treatment Works would be undertaken under permitted development rights.

The Board considers that the works proposed at the Sewage Treatment Works would not have a significant adverse impact upon the landscape and scenic beauty of the National Landscape as it is proposed to introduce above-ground assets of a similar size and shape to those existing on the site at present and these would be located within the current site boundary. A new pipeline is proposed, but it would not have a significant adverse impact on the nearby Temple Ham Common Land as neither it nor construction compounds and access routes do not cross the designation and the

Cotswolds Conservation Board

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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

pipeline will be underground. Any visual impacts during construction would be temporary and reversible with it being proposed that the land shall be reinstated following completion of works. Paragraph 8.3.1.1 of the applicant's Screening Report outlines a number of mitigation measures which are considered to be appropriate.

It is understood that a separate planning application would be prepared for the potential expansion of the Bourton on the Water Sewage Pumping Station. We would agree that a Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment ('LVIA') should be undertaken in support of this application and would recommend to the applicant that the Board's policies and guidance, including those outlined above, are considered in the preparation of this application and any LVIA.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss this response further. The Board would be happy to provide further comments in relation to any forthcoming planning applications in connection with this development.

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