



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

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

18 August 2022

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 Conservation Board ('the Board') on the submission of the Regulation 25 addendum in support of this proposed development, which would be located within the Cotswolds National Landscape.¹

In our initial consultation response, we considered that the proposal had not been sufficiently justified in respect of the requirements of Gloucestershire Waste Core Strategy (GWCS) and Gloucestershire Minerals Local Plan (GMLP) policies. In particular the application made no assessment of, or demonstration that there is a lack of, alternative sites to serve market need which do not affect the Cotswolds National Landscape as required by GWCS policy WCS14.

With this in mind and whilst 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, we note and support the comments of the Council's Minerals and Waste Policy Officer, dated 11 August 2022, made in response to the Regulation 25 addendum.

These comments highlight the importance of compliance with policy MW06 of the adopted Minerals Local Plan, in particular the requirement that such ancillary minerals development within a mineral site must demonstrate that any importation of minerals and other materials used to produce secondary and / or recycled aggregates from elsewhere will represent an environmentally acceptable and sustainable option.

We also agree with the more detailed comments of the Policy Officer in respect of this matter, which conclude that due to the application site's location within the Cotswolds National Landscape a more cautious and less permissive approach should be always advocated as a means of effectively safeguarding its natural beauty and special qualities.

For this reason, the Board wishes to maintain a **holding objection** to these applications in their current form as they do not demonstrate compliance with the requirements of the Development Plan, in

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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

particular policy WCS14 of the Gloucestershire Waste Core Strategy and policy MW06 Gloucestershire Minerals Local Plan and supports the GCC Policy Officer's request for further evidence to justify the proposal.

The applicant's Regulation 25 addendum also addresses the other issues raised in our previous consultation response as well as those raised by other consultees. Due to a large number of recent consultations on major development applications across the Cotswolds National Landscape, the Board's officers have not had an opportunity to date to consider these in detail. We will endeavour to provide our further consideration on these matters in due course.

If you have any queries regarding the information provided in this response, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Yours sincerely,

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

Simon Joyce

Planning Officer

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

NOTES:

- 1) 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.