

GA2, Land off Great Ashby Way, Great Ashby, Stevenage, Herts - 23/00806/SCOP

North Herts Council's comments on Applicant response (dated 17th July 2023) to North Herts Formal EIA Scoping Opinion.

Date: 4th August 2023

Noise and Vibration

With regards to the requirements with regards to Noise and Lighting, your comments are noted, and we have asked the Environmental Health Officer to consider your comments and will provide our response when we've heard back from her.

Ecology

We would reiterate that we would suggest you calculate a zone of influence for each of the 'scoped in' environmental impacts (topics). The receptors will change topic by topic as will depend on different catchment areas.

Landscape and Visual Impact

Following your comments, we are prepared to dispense with the requirements for an indicative layout to demonstrate how the different elements of open space/green infrastructure can be accommodated within the site to be provided within the Landscape and Visual Impact chapter. It is acknowledged that this element will be included within the Strategic Masterplan.

Built Heritage (Cultural Heritage)

We remain of the view that Built Heritage matters should be scoped into the Environmental Statement for the reasons set out in our original Scoping Response, which is in line with the advice received from our Conservation Officer, which was quoted in our Scoping Opinion. We would suggest that you add the Heritage Impact Assessment as an appendix to the Environmental Statement and include a chapter on Built Heritage.

Waste

We concede that Waste can be scoped out and not included as part of the Environmental Impact Assessment and does not require a chapter in the Environmental Statement. We had given this view in order to be consistent with the Scoping Opinion provided in relation to the site NS1, Land North of Stevenage (18/01610/SCOP). It is acknowledged that it was required to be 'scoped in' in relation to site NS1 considering the scale of the proposed development, particularly cumulatively with the adjoining site to the south (within Stevenage Borough) and which together would provide up to 1,7000 homes, it was considered that the NS1 site would be likely to result in a significant amount of waste both during the construction and operational phases. However, there is not a large development site adjacent to the GA2 site. A Site Waste Management Plan and clear waste management strategy would

be required with the planning application as advised by the Minerals and Waste Policy Team, Herts County Council. Please can any circular economy, reduction of waste matters etc be included in the chapter on Climate Change.

Utilities, Services and Infrastructure

With regards to Utilities, Services and Infrastructure, North Herts Council remain of the view that these matters should be 'scoped in'. They could be a stand-alone chapter or could be incorporated into the Socio-economic (Community services) chapter of the Environmental Statement for the reasons set out in the Scoping Opinion. This is particularly given issues with matters such as waste water, overhead power cables etc.