



## **PLANNING STATEMENT**

**FOR THE PLANNING APPLICATION FOR THE CONTINUATION OF THE LANDFILLING OPERATIONS AT THORNHAUGH LANDFILL SITE AND THE IMPORTATION OF CLEAN NATURALLY OCCURRING MATERIALS TO CREATE AN INTEGRATED RESTORATION LANDFORM WITH NATURE CONSERVATION HABITATS AT COOKS HOLE QUARRY AND THORNHAUGH LANDFILL SITE, LEICESTER ROAD, THORNHAUGH, PETERBOROUGH**

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## 1. Introduction

- 1.1** Augean South Ltd (Augean) operates the existing Cooks Hole Quarry and Thornhaugh Landfill Site. Cooks Hole Quarry (Cooks Hole) is a mineral extraction site which has been active since the 1950s. Thornhaugh Landfill Site (Thornhaugh) has been operational since the 1990s. Thornhaugh accepts a range of non-hazardous waste, and stable non-reactive hazardous waste including asbestos which is used to restore the previous mineral workings. Throughout this report when referred to collectively Cooks Hole Quarry and Thornhaugh Landfill Site will be called 'the sites'. The sites are located approximately 1km south west of the village of Thornhaugh and 10km west of Peterborough. Cooks Hole is to the south west of the A47 Leicester Road and Thornhaugh is adjacent to and south of the A47 Leicester Road. The site boundaries and locations are shown on Figure PS1.1.
- 1.2** The sites have a complex planning history and have been worked by various operators however the overarching principle of both sites is to restore them to a beneficial after use. The approved restoration scheme for Cooks Hole is to a low level and comprises agricultural grassland with some tree and shrub planting. The approved restoration profile for the north eastern corner of Cooks Hole is to return the land to original ground levels. The approved restoration scheme for Thornhaugh comprises a mixture of woodland, hedgerows, shrub and scrub and calcareous grassland. The currently approved restoration schemes for the sites are presented at Appendix PS1.1 and PS1.2 respectively. The currently approved restoration profile for Cooks Hole is presented at Appendix PS1.3.
- 1.3** Augean is proposing to revise the restoration schemes for Cooks Hole and Thornhaugh to provide an integrated, coherent landform for both sites. The proposed restoration scheme will extend the habitats from Thornhaugh to Cooks Hole so that a wider mix of habitats is available across both sites. In addition there is the potential for the revised restoration to tie in with wider aspirations for the enhancement of Rockingham Forest, to create green infrastructure links with Bedford Purlieus and for the proposals to contribute to landscape scale recovery.
- 1.4** The material that will be used to create the proposed landform at Cooks Hole will comprise clean, naturally occurring materials. Only clean naturally occurring materials which have been extracted as part of the existing landfill construction

operations and will be extracted as part of the future construction operations for the landfill at the East Northants Resource Management Facility (ENRMF) in Kings Cliffe and as part of the landfill construction operations at Thornhaugh will be used. It is proposed that only material arising from the construction operations at Thornhaugh and ENRMF will be deposited in Cooks Hole. Some of the additional void created at Thornhaugh will be filled with waste types already consented for disposal there. The creation of the proposed landform at Cooks Hole and its integration with the restoration scheme for Thornhaugh will facilitate the continued operation of ENRMF which is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project by utilising the material that arises during the construction operations of the landfill cells.

- 1.5** A single planning application has been submitted for the revised restoration profile for Cooks Hole and Thornhaugh. This application includes the continuation of the mineral processing operations at Cooks Hole and the continuation of the existing operations at Thornhaugh (construction of phases, landfilling and processing of waste). It is proposed that the existing planning permissions will be superseded on grant of a new planning permission. A summary of the proposed development is provided in Section 3 of this report. The planning application boundary is shown on Figure PS1.2
- 1.6** This Planning Statement addresses the specific policies related to the development including the site restoration and demonstrates how the proposed development complies with the policies as well as highlighting the positive contribution the proposed development will make to the area. The Planning Statement forms part of the planning application along with the application forms, Non-Technical Summary, Environmental Statement, plans and accompanying documents. The need for the proposed development is set out in Section 8 of this document.
- 1.7** Pre application engagement and consultation has been carried out with statutory consultees, local residents and other stakeholders. Details of the engagement and consultation are provided in the Statement of Local Engagement which is provided at Appendix PS1.3. Feedback and comments received during the pre-application consultation have been reviewed and assessed and taken into account in the finalisation of the proposed development design and in the Environmental Impact Assessment where appropriate.

## 2. The site location and description

- 2.1** The sites are located approximately 10km west of Peterborough and 1.7km west of the A1. The nearest villages to the sites are Thornhaugh which is located approximately 1km to the north east of the sites beyond the A47, Wittering located approximately 2km to the north of the sites and Yarwell located more than 2km to the south east of the sites. Cooks Hole is centred on National Grid Reference (NGR) 505207 299747 and is bordered by Thornhaugh to the north and by the A47 Leicester Road to the north east. Beyond the site boundary there are agricultural fields and scattered residential buildings. Immediately to the south of Cooks Hole lies an unrestored former quarry known as Thornhaugh II Quarry beyond which is Kings Cliffe Road which runs between the villages of Wansford and Kings Cliffe. To the south of Kings Cliffe Road are agricultural fields and woodland blocks. Immediately west of Cooks Hole Quarry is Old Oundle Road and Bedford Purlieus woodland (Figure PS2.1). Old Oundle Road is a Public Highway with no cars permitted. Thornhaugh is centred on NGR 504902 300111 and is bordered to the north by the A47 Leicester Road, to the south by Cooks Hole and to the west by Old Oundle Road and Bedford Purlieus woodland. Beyond the site boundary to the north are scattered residential properties and agricultural fields. Bedford Purlieus is an ancient woodland designated as a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a National Nature Reserve (NNR) (Figure PS2.1).
- 2.2** Cooks Hole comprises an active mineral extraction site covering an area of approximately 53 hectares. Ironstone, sandy limestones, silty sands and clays have been extracted from the site since the 1950s. The mineral extraction operations are now complete at Cooks Hole and no further mineral will be extracted. There are a number of stockpiles of mineral materials at Cooks Hole and there is mobile plant active at the site which is currently processing the material from the stockpiles and those materials arising from the construction operations at Thornhaugh (Figure PS2.1). There are also a number of soil stockpiles. An area in the north of Cooks Hole adjacent to the boundary with Thornhaugh is used to stockpile materials arising from the construction operations at Thornhaugh.
- 2.3** Thornhaugh comprises an active landfill site which is being filled in phases (Figure PS2.2). The area of Thornhaugh is approximately 30.5 hectares. The northern and north eastern phases of Thornhaugh have already been landfilled and are restored

albeit that the planting is not yet well established. Phase 7C has recently been constructed, construction of Phase 2 West will commence imminently and Phases 4B South, 5 and 7A are filled and awaiting capping. Thornhaugh Landfill Site is the subject of an Environmental Permit which is issued and regulated by the Environment Agency. Access to Thornhaugh is from the A47 Leicester Road. The site access is shared by Cooks Hole. A surfaced access road, site reception and welfare facilities, a weighbridge and wheel wash, landfill gas flare, hi pod storage area and car parking areas are located generally centrally within Thornhaugh. The access to Cooks Hole is to the east of the site entrance (Figure PS2.2).

- 2.4** The topography of the sites is varied due to the historical and ongoing operations with the ground level falling generally to the Thornhaugh Brook which runs through Cooks Hole generally from west to east. The Thornhaugh Brook rises to the west of Bedford Purlieus woodland and flows to the east to join the White Water Brook which is a tributary of the River Nene.
- 2.5** The geology at and in the vicinity of Cooks Hole comprises the Lincolnshire Limestone Formation which is underlain by the Grantham Formation and the Northampton Sand Formation. The central part of the site comprising the Thornhaugh Brook Valley is underlain by the Grantham Formation. The Northampton Sand Formation is underlain in turn by the Whitby Mudstone Formation (formerly referred to as the Upper Lias). Groundwater is present generally in the Grantham Formation and Northampton Sand Formation and in the base of the Lincolnshire Limestone underlying the site. Groundwater in the vicinity of the site is abstracted for domestic water supply and agricultural use and provides base flow to local rivers and streams. The Thornhaugh Brook is fed by groundwater including from Cooks Hole Spring located adjacent to Cooks Hole Farmhouse. Settlement ponds for mineral wash water are located in the south eastern corner of Cooks Hole.
- 2.6** The geology in the vicinity of Thornhaugh comprises the Lincolnshire Limestone Formation which in turn is underlain by the Grantham Formation and Northampton Sand Formation. In parts of the site the sequence has been replaced partly with backfilled material comprising reworked material from the Lincolnshire Limestone Formation and Grantham Formation. The Northampton Sand Formation is underlain by the Whitby Mudstone Formation (formerly referred to as the Upper Lias). The strata dip gently to the east at and in the vicinity of Thornhaugh. To the north, east

and south of the site the Lincolnshire Limestone Formation, Grantham Formation and Northampton Sand Formation are cut by several valleys.

- 2.7** Cooks Hole Farmhouse and outbuildings are located in the centre of Cooks Hole adjacent to the Thornhaugh Brook. The buildings are surrounded by dense vegetation and are owned by Augean. The property has been uninhabited for some time and is uninhabitable in its current state. Cooks Hole Farmhouse is a Grade II Listed Building. Beyond the sites there are 3 Grade II listed buildings to the north of the sites, the closest being Home Farm House approximately 80m from Thornhaugh and 540m from Cooks Hole. The Home Farm House group of buildings includes a barn and stable. There are also four listed buildings located to the east of the sites. Sibberton Lodge is a Grade II\* listed building which is approximately 495m from Cooks Hole and 940m from Thornhaugh. Sibberton Lodge is surrounded by four Grade II buildings which include a barn, a cottage and stables (Figure PS1.2).
- 2.8** The nearest residential properties to the sites which are not listed are located to the north of the A47 Leicester Road and include Thornleigh House (45m from the boundary) and Bedford Lodge (70m from the boundary). Toll Cottage is located approximately 40m north west of Thornhaugh (Figure PS1.2). Oaks Wood Cottage is located approximately 290m to the north of the sites and beyond the A47 Leicester Road. Nightingale Farm is located approximately 335m to the south of Cooks Hole. Leedsgate Farm is located approximately 630m south west of Cooks Hole Quarry.
- 2.9** There is a network of Public Rights of Way (PRoW) in the vicinity of the sites as shown on Figure PS2.3. Footpath Thornhaugh No. 3 Section 3 and Section 4 runs between Thornhaugh and Cooks Hole in an east to west direction before turning north on Old Oundle Road and then turning west to run through Bedford Purlieus. Thornhaugh Footpath No. 4 Section 1 currently runs along the southern boundary of Cooks Hole before turning north west along the A47 Leicester Road and then turning north east and running towards Thornhaugh village. Thornhaugh Footpath No 4 Section 1 originally ran through the centre of Cooks Hole through the area of the buildings associated with Cooks Hole Farmhouse before turning east north east towards the A47 before being diverted to its current route. Thornhaugh Footpath No 2 Section 2 which ran generally from south to north through the centre of Cooks Hole is currently stopped up. The diversion of Thornhaugh Footpath No 4 Section 1 and the stopping up of Thornhaugh Footpath No 2 Section 2 remain in force until 2042.



Thornhaugh Footpath No 2 which ran through Thornhaugh is currently diverted to follow Thornhaugh Footpath No 3 Section 4. The PRow in the vicinity of the site including the original routes, diversions and the potential new footpaths are shown on Figure PS2.3.

- 2.10** Barnack Hill and Holes Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is located approximately 4.5km to the north east of the sites. Bedford Purlieus located adjacent to the western boundary of the sites is designated as an ancient woodland, a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and a National Nature Reserve (NNR). Several other SSSIs (West, Abbot's and Lound Woods SSSI, Wansford Pasture SSSI and Old Sulehay Forest SSSI) are located in the vicinity of the sites but are located more than 500m from the sites and are shown on Figure PS1.1. Phase 4A of Thornhaugh is a designated County Wildlife Site as it supports amphibians including Great Crested Newts. Thornhaugh, Bedford Purlieus and Thornhaugh II are designated as brownfield biodiversity sites (Figure PS1.1). Cross Leys Quarry to the west of Thornhaugh is also designated as a brownfield biodiversity site.
- 2.11** Based on the Environment Agency Flood Map for Planning Thornhaugh is located in Flood Zone 1. Flood Zone 1 is defined as land having a less than 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river or sea flooding. The majority of Cooks Hole is located in Flood Zone 1 except a small area in the vicinity of Thornhaugh Brook that passes through Cooks Hole which is in Flood Zones 2 and 3. Flood Zone 2 is defined as land having between a 1 in 100 and a 1 in 1,000 annual probability of river flooding. Flood Zone 3 is defined as land having greater than a 1 in 100 annual probability of river flooding.
- 2.12** The RAF base at Wittering Airfield is located approximately 3km to the north west of the northern boundary of Thornhaugh at its closest point. The sites are located in the Aircraft Safeguarding Zone for Wittering Airfield.
- 2.13** The only mains service to the sites is water. Power is provided by site generators and foul sewage is collected in a cess pit at Thornhaugh.

### 3. Summary of the proposed development

3.1 The application boundary shown on Figure PS1.2 covers an area of approximately 83.5 hectares. A summary of the main elements of the proposed development at the sites is presented below:

- The continuation of landfilling at Thornhaugh with non hazardous waste and stable non-reactive hazardous waste. No new landfill cells additional to those that are already permitted will be consented as a result of the proposed development. Up to 120,000 tonnes per annum of non hazardous waste and stable non-reactive hazardous waste will continue to be imported. The currently consented void remaining at Thornhaugh is approximately 1,310,000m<sup>3</sup> and the maximum additional waste void created at Thornhaugh as a result of the proposed development is approximately 920,000m<sup>3</sup>.
- Continuation of the extraction of mineral to facilitate the construction of the permitted landfill cells at Thornhaugh. The cells which are consented but which have not yet been constructed are shown on Figure PS2.2.
- The continuation of stockpiling of materials imported to Thornhaugh for use in landfill engineering operations.
- Amendment of the restoration profiles for Thornhaugh and Cooks Hole to form one integrated, coherent landform. The proposed restoration profile is presented on Figure PS3.1. The elevation of the highest point of the restoration landform at Thornhaugh (71.5m Above Ordnance Datum (AOD)) will not change as a result of the proposed changes to the restoration profile.
- Continuation of the use of the existing Thornhaugh access from the A47 for the importation of waste for deposition at Thornhaugh, material for use in landfill engineering at Thornhaugh and material for use in the restoration of Cooks Hole.
- The importation of in the order of 1.2million m<sup>3</sup> of clean, naturally occurring excavated material from ENRMF to create the landform of Cooks Hole and to tie in with the landform at Thornhaugh. This volume of material to be imported from ENRMF includes clay for use in landfill engineering at Thornhaugh. On average approximately 80,000m<sup>3</sup> of material will be imported per annum from ENRMF. The

maximum amount of material that it is anticipated will be imported per annum from ENRMF would be 150,000m<sup>3</sup>.

- The placement of restoration material and restoration of completed areas will be carried out in a phased manner. The proposed phasing of the operations at Cooks Hole and Thornhaugh is presented on Figure PS3.2. The restored landform to the south of Thornhaugh Brook will be created first. Further details on the phasing is provided in Section 5 of the Environmental Statement.
- The continuation of processing of materials from mineral stockpiles at Cooks Hole and processing of minerals arising from the construction of the landfill cells at Thornhaugh.
- The continuation of crushing and screening of imported soil forming materials and minerals arising from the construction operations at Thornhaugh. It is anticipated that up to 28,000 tonnes of material will be imported per annum.
- The continued extraction and redeposition or processing of historically deposited waste from Phases 1 and 2 at Thornhaugh as consented by the Environmental Permit for the landfill site.
- The continuation of the export of up to 10,000 tonnes per annum of material from the recycling, recovery and waste processing operations for reuse or disposal at an appropriate facility.
- There are no proposals to increase the numbers of HGV movements compared with historical traffic movements associated with the operations of the site.
- As is the case currently, during the operation of the sites haul roads will be constructed as necessary.
- As is the case currently, during the operation of the sites the site reception facilities including the welfare facilities which comprise portable cabins will be relocated as necessary to accommodate the phased activities.
- As is the case currently, the retention of the site management infrastructure at Thornhaugh for the continuation of monitoring and the management of landfill gas and leachate.

- The retention of Cooks Hole Farmhouse and the associated outbuildings for the duration of the operations at the sites. Proposals for the future use of the listed building and associated outbuildings will be the subject of a separate planning application.
- Continuation of the operations at the sites until the completion of restoration by 21 February 2042.
- During the operation of the sites surface water will be managed consistent with the current operations at Cooks Hole and continue to be managed in accordance with the Environmental Permit at Thornhaugh.
- The establishment of a surface water runoff management system at the sites as an integrated part of the design of the site restoration profile and restoration scheme. The principles of the surface water management system for the restored Thornhaugh site including the surface water attenuation ponds will remain generally as currently consented. Detention basins will be created in Cooks Hole to manage the rate of discharge from the sites of surface water.
- The restoration of the sites will be to nature conservation interest and the habitats currently included in the approved restoration scheme at Thornhaugh will be extended to the south to include and be integrated with Cooks Hole. The revised restoration scheme for Cooks Hole will deliver biodiversity net gain compared with the previously consented restoration scheme. The restoration plan is presented at Figure PS3.3. Further details on the restoration are presented in Section 6 of the Environmental Statement.
- The sites will be subject to an aftercare and maintenance period following the completion of restoration. The length of the aftercare period will be 30 years consistent with the requirements for Biodiversity Net Gain under the Environment Act 2021.
- The use of the access from the A47 at Cooks Hole for amenity access following restoration and the provision of a small car park for approximately 12 cars (Figure PS3.3).

- 3.2 There will be no changes to the principles of the landfilling operations at Thornhaugh as a result of the proposed development. The landfilling operations at Thornhaugh will continue to be the subject of an Environmental Permit. The Environmental Permit specifies the types of non hazardous wastes and stable non reactive hazardous waste which are permitted for deposition at the site as well as the detailed measures necessary for the containment, management and monitoring of the wastes and the surrounding environment.

#### 4. Planning history

- 4.1 As stated in Section 1 the sites have a complex planning history from the 1950s. A summary of the planning history is presented below and the detailed planning history is presented at Tables PS4.1 and PS4.2 respectively. Figure PS4.1 shows the relevant planning permission boundaries together with the application boundary for the development the subject of this application.

##### **Cooks Hole**

- 4.2 The planning history for Cooks Hole is long and complex with the first permissions granted for mineral extraction at the site in 1954 and 1957. Since then numerous planning applications have been submitted for site facilities, small extensions and amendments to various development details. Details of the planning permissions relating to Cooks Hole are provided at Table PS4.1. As set out in Table PS4.1 the most recent set of full planning conditions for Cooks Hole were set out in planning permission references 13/01372/WCMM and 13/01374/WCMM. The most recent amendment applications relevant to the proposed development are planning permission references 20/00977/NONMAT and 20/00978/NONMAT which revised the restoration contours for the site.
- 4.3 The planning permissions at Cooks Hole allow for the extraction and processing of limestone, sand and associated ironstone. The approved restoration contours for Cooks Hole include returning the ground to original ground levels in the north eastern area (Planning permission reference 15/00229/MMFUL). The approved restoration scheme for Cooks Hole comprises agricultural grassland with some tree and shrub planting (Appendix PS1.1). The operations at Cooks Hole are currently permitted to continue until 21 February 2042.

##### **Thornhaugh**

- 4.4 Operations have been ongoing at Thornhaugh since 1957 with planning permission first granted at the site for opencast working of ironstone, limestone, clay, sand, gravel and gannister. Backfilling through the importation of inert materials was first established at Thornhaugh in 1977 with planning permission reference P0304/77. Since 1977 several additional planning permissions have been granted for the site for varying aspects of development as set out in Table PS4.2. The extant planning

permissions for Thornhaugh are planning permission reference 12/00463/MMFUL which covers the whole of the landfill area at Thornhaugh and planning permission reference 20/01680/WCMM which covers the southern area of Thornhaugh (Figure PS4.1).

- 4.5** The planning permissions for Thornhaugh allow for the landfill disposal of non hazardous waste and stable non reactive hazardous waste. The approved restoration scheme for Thornhaugh comprises a mixture of woodland, hedgerows, shrub and scrub and calcareous grassland (Appendix PS1.2). The landfilling operations at Thornhaugh are currently permitted to continue until 31 December 2034 and the restoration of the site must be completed no later than 31 December 2035.

## 5. Planning policy context

5.1 The fundamental objective of the planning system is to facilitate development which is appropriate in a particular context having regard to relevant planning policies, government guidance and other material planning considerations. In development control terms appropriate development is that which is suitable for the location in which it is proposed, does not conflict with surrounding land uses and which does not result in significant detriment to the environment or amenity. The contribution which a particular development makes to the achievement of strategic national and local planning policy objectives such as economic development, employment and sustainability are material considerations that should be taken into account in determining applications.

### Legal Framework

5.2 Planning law in the UK is the subject of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990<sup>1</sup> as amended, the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004<sup>2</sup> (PCPA) and the Planning Act 2008<sup>3</sup> as amended by the Localism Act 2011<sup>4</sup> and associated regulations. Land use planning in the UK is a plan led system. In accordance with Section 38 of the PCPA all planning decisions should be made in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise. In Section 38 of the PCPA it is stated that:

*'If regard is to be had to the development plan for the purpose of any determination to be made under the planning Acts the determination must be made in accordance with the plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise'*

### National Policy

5.3 At a national level the objectives of the planning acts together with government policy in respect of planning are delivered through guidance published in the National

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<sup>1</sup> Town and Country Planning Act 1990 c.8

<sup>2</sup> Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 c.5

<sup>3</sup> Planning Act 2008 c.29

<sup>4</sup> Localism Act 2011 c.20



Planning Policy Framework<sup>5</sup> (NPPF) and the accompanying Planning Practice Guidance Notes (PPGNs). The NPPF is to be considered during the preparation of development plans and is a material consideration in the determination of planning applications. In Paragraph 2 of the NPPF it is reiterated that applications for planning permission must be determined in accordance with the Development Plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

- 5.4** Paragraph 11 of the NPPF states that there is a presumption in favour of sustainable development where it is stated inter alia that:

*“11. Plans and decisions should apply a presumption in favour of sustainable development... For decision taking this means... approving development proposals that accord with an up-to-date development plan without delay...”*

- 5.5** National policy in respect of waste management is contained in the National Planning Policy for Waste<sup>6</sup> (October 2014) and the Waste Management Plan for England<sup>7</sup> (January 2021). All local planning authorities should have regard to these policies when discharging their responsibilities to the extent that they are appropriate to waste management. Planning Authorities should also have regard to the Resources and Waste Strategy. Positive planning plays a pivotal role in the Government’s ambitions to work towards a more sustainable and efficient approach to resource use and management.

### **The Local Development Framework**

- 5.6** Under the PCPA the Local Plan comprises a series of Development Plan Documents collectively referred to as the Local Plan. The Development Plan for the site comprises:

- The Peterborough Local Plan 2016 to 2039<sup>8</sup> adopted on 24 July 2019 (LP)

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<sup>5</sup> Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Local Communities (2023) National Planning Policy Framework. March 2012. Last updated September 2023

<sup>6</sup> National Planning Policy for Waste. DGLC (October 2014)

<sup>7</sup> Waste Management Plan for England. DEFRA (January 2021)

<sup>8</sup> Peterborough Local Plan 2016 to 2039 Adopted 24 July 2019 (Peterborough City Council)

- The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2036<sup>9</sup> adopted on 28 July 2021 (MWLP)

**5.7** A review of the Peterborough Local Plan is currently being undertaken. It will address a range of issues including climate change, housing, employment, retail and the natural environment. The issues and options consultation has been undertaken and a call for sites exercise was held in 2023. It is anticipated that the draft Local Plan will be published for consultation in Autumn 2024 and submitted for consultation in June 2025. It is currently anticipated that the new Local Plan (which would replace the current LP) would be adopted in Spring 2026. As a draft of the new local plan has not yet been published therefore proposed revisions to the LP are not considered any further in this document.

**5.8** The MWLP sets out the planning strategy for minerals and waste development in the Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council areas. Objectives of the strategy in terms of sustainable waste management include:

- to contribute positively to the sustainable waste management of waste by managing the waste arising in the plan area over the plan period with appropriately located and distributed waste management facilities;
- to move the treatment of waste up the waste hierarchy; and
- to achieve net waste self-sufficiency.

**5.9** Thornhaugh Landfill Site is identified as a Waste Management Area under Policy 10 of the MWLP acknowledging that it makes a significant contribution to managing waste streams. Cooks Hole is identified as a Minerals Development Area under Policy 6 of the MWLP. The sites have an established history of waste management activities and minerals related activities which is demonstrated through their allocations in the Development Plan and the existing planning permissions. The consented activities at the site are consistent with a general acceptance in principle that the location is suitable for mineral extraction, processing, the continuing

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<sup>9</sup> *Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2036 Adopted July 2021 (Peterborough City Council and Cambridgeshire County Council)*

management of wastes and site restoration without unacceptable conflict with the surrounding land uses.

- 5.10** The main planning considerations in the determination of this planning application are the location of the development, sustainable waste management and the environmental impact associated with the proposed integrated restoration scheme. These include potential impacts associated with ecology and biodiversity, landscape and visibility, cultural heritage (with the exception of buried archaeology), surface water and flood risk, traffic and transport, noise, amenity and dust and aircraft safeguarding. The Scoping Opinion provided by Peterborough City Council on 23 November 2023 which is presented in Appendix ES2.3 of the Environmental Statement confirms that these topics are considered to be the key issues.
- 5.11** Policies relating to the sustainable management of waste are presented at Section 6 of this report. A summary of the key minerals and waste policies from the MWLP based on the pre-application advice issued on 28 September 2023 is provided in Section 7 of this report and a detailed review of the policies is provided in Table PS5.1. An analysis of policies for the protection of the environment contained in the Development Plan documents is presented in Table PS5.2. The need for the development in this location is provided in Section 8.

## 6. Sustainable management of waste

### National waste policy and legislation

- 6.1** As stated in Section 5 of this document, sustainable development is the core principle underpinning land use planning. National policy in respect of sustainable development is provided in the NPPF where the overarching objectives for development are identified as economic, social and environmental. National policy in respect of waste is contained in the National Planning Policy for Waste and the Waste Management Plan for England and states that planning plays a pivotal role in delivering the country's waste ambitions through the delivery of sustainable development by driving waste up the waste hierarchy. An analysis of the Development Plan policies relevant to sustainable development are presented in Table PS5.2.
- 6.2** The implementation of the waste hierarchy is key in order to manage waste sustainably by driving waste management up the waste hierarchy and addressing waste as a resource with disposal being the last option albeit one which must be catered for. In England, the waste hierarchy is both a guide to sustainable waste management and a legal requirement, enshrined in law through the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011. Before waste is directed for disposal to landfill the producer of the waste must first have considered alternative options for its minimisation, re-use or treatment. This is the case for all waste accepted at Thornhaugh.
- 6.3** The proposed development does not itself generate significant quantities of waste, it provides a necessary facility for the safe and environmentally secure management of waste generated by others (for Thornhaugh) and by Augean in the construction of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project to be used by others, therefore the methods of construction and operation, the materials which must be used to meet the containment specification for Thornhaugh and the associated controls that must be implemented are driven by regulations and guidance and there is limited opportunity to change aspects of the site construction and operation in order to implement the waste hierarchy.
- 6.4** Over recent years there has been increased treatment of non hazardous waste. Notwithstanding this there is a proportion of non hazardous waste that cannot be

reused, recycled or recovered and it is necessary for appropriate facilities such as Thornhaugh to be provided for the disposal of non hazardous waste in an appropriately regulated facility. Stable non reactive hazardous waste (SNRHW) such as asbestos also needs to be disposed of as there is no better recover or treatment option available. Thornhaugh will continue to provide this facility.

### **Local policy**

- 6.5** The waste hierarchy is reflected in local policy. Policy 4 of the MWLP states that the Councils will encourage waste to move as far up the waste hierarchy as possible. The policy also states that waste management proposals must demonstrably contribute towards sustainable waste management, by moving waste up the waste hierarchy; and proposals for disposal must demonstrate that the waste has been pre-treated and cannot practicably be recycled. The additional non hazardous void that will be created at Thornhaugh is a consequence of the amendments to the landform profile for the sites to create a coherent single landform. The waste that is landfilled at Thornhaugh has either been pre-treated or cannot reasonably be recycled or otherwise recovered. The naturally occurring clean materials that will be recovered for use in creating the restoration landform at Cooks Hole will be managed at the top of the waste hierarchy.

## 7. Summary of the key minerals and waste policies from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan

7.1 The key minerals and waste policies identified in the pre-application advice provided by Peterborough City Council were Policy 3 (waste management needs), Policy 4 (providing for waste management) and Policy 26 (other developments requiring importation of materials). A summary of the compliance with the policies is provided in this section and further detail is provided in Table PS5.1. The environmental policies identified by Peterborough City Council in the pre-application advice are presented in Table PS5.2.

7.2 Policy 3 of the MWLP sets out the total waste management capacity needs over the plan period. The proposed restoration landform at the sites has not been determined based on the waste management capacity needs for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. The landform has been designed based on the need to accommodate the volume of surplus excavated clean naturally occurring material arising principally at ENRMF and also at Thornhaugh. Based on the volume of materials arising from these sources, as explained in Section 3 of this report, an integrated restoration profile that is appropriate to the landscape setting has been designed. Due to the changes to the landform profile there has been a consequential increase in the engineered waste void at Thornhaugh for the disposal of non hazardous waste and SNRHW. A significant proportion of the waste inputs into Thornhaugh are those wastes that have been converted to non-hazardous waste from hazardous waste treated at the waste treatment and recovery facility at ENRMF which is part of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project (NSIP). As stated previously the operations at ENRMF, Thornhaugh and Cooks Hole are inextricably linked. Further detail is provided in the need for the development presented in Section 8.

7.3 Policy 4 of the MWLP sets out the overarching spatial strategy for waste recycling, treatment, recovery, landfill and landraising. Thornhaugh is a Waste Management Area and Cooks Hole is a Minerals Development Area. The proposals for the use of clean, naturally occurring material to create the integrated landform in Cooks Hole are in accordance with Policy 4 of the MWLP. The consequential additional non hazardous waste and SNRHW void created at Thornhaugh will be provided at an existing waste site as a result of the amendment to the landform profile which is in accordance with Policy 4 of the MWLP. The need for the consequential landraising

is presented in Section 8 of this report. It is demonstrated that there are exceptional circumstances for the landraising at Cooks Hole as the proposals are necessary to enable the continuation of the ongoing operations of a NSIP. By definition a NSIP is a major project considered by central Government to be of such a scale to be of national significance and importance.

- 7.4** Policy 26 of the MWLP relates to other development requiring the importation of materials in order to achieve development platforms such as for outdoor recreational areas and increasing ground levels such as for attenuation or landscaping purposes. The policy sets out four criteria and states that the importation of significant quantities of material will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that the proposal will not prejudice the restoration of mineral extraction sites, there is a need for the material to be imported, the material imported will be used in a sustainable manner and the minimum amount of material that is necessary is imported for the development. The proposed development will not prejudice the restoration of mineral extraction sites as the material that will be used for the proposed development is from another Augean site and will not be sourced from the open market. The material needs to be exported from ENRMF to allow the continuation of the operations at that NSIP site. The material will be used in a sustainable manner and the landform has been designed to accommodate the volume of material that needs to be exported from ENRMF and Thornhaugh. It is considered that the proposed development is in accordance with Policy 26.

**8. Assessment of the need for the proposed development**

**8.1** Augean own and operate three sites within 3km of each other; ENRMF, Cooks Hole and Thornhaugh. In January 2023 a Development Consent Order was granted for the western extension to ENRMF which comprises a NSIP. The construction of the first landfill cell in the western extension has now been completed. Approximately 1.2 million m<sup>3</sup> of excess material needs to be exported from ENRMF which has been and will be extracted during the construction operations to create the hazardous waste and low level radioactive waste (LLW) landfill in the western extension at ENRMF. The operations at ENRMF and the sites are inextricably linked due to a significant proportion of the waste inputs to Thornhaugh arising as treatment residues from the treatment of predominantly hazardous wastes at the ENRMF waste treatment facility and the engineering clay materials arising from the formation of landfill cells at ENRMF being used in the construction of the engineered containment to the landfill cells at Thornhaugh.

**8.2** ENRMF provides hazardous waste treatment and recovery facilities and a hazardous waste and LLW landfill. The site is nationally significant and serves the West Midlands, East Midlands, East of England, South East and Greater London. There are no hazardous waste or LLW disposal facilities in the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough City Council area and it is stated in Paragraph 3.3.8 of the MWLP that:

*‘Regarding hazardous wastes, these wastes tend to be generated in lower quantities and are managed at a wider scale to account for economies of scale and operational requirements.’*

**8.3** It is acknowledged in the Waste Needs Assessment 2019 that the volume of hazardous material which will need recycling, treating and landfilling across the planning period is likely to increase. It is acknowledged in Paragraph 3.32 of the MWLP that a small amount of LLW is produced in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough from the non-nuclear industry. ENRMF provides waste treatment facilities and disposal facilities for hazardous waste and disposal facilities for LLW and is the nearest appropriate facility for waste arising in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.

**8.4** As stated in Paragraph 3.41 there are no site allocations for new waste management facilities in the MWLP. Policy 3 of the MWLP states that proposals for the disposal of hazardous waste will only be supported in exceptional circumstances, and where it



is demonstrated that there is a clear need for such a facility to be located in the plan area and Policy 12 states that where there is a demonstrated need for LLW management facilities, such proposals will be considered on their merits, including demonstration that it represents the most appropriate management option. Given the proximity of ENRMF to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Local Plan area it is highly unlikely that other disposal facilities for these waste types will be established in the MWLP area.

**8.5** As stated above in order to facilitate the continued nationally significant operations at ENRMF it is necessary to export 1.2 million m<sup>3</sup> of naturally occurring clean material from ENRMF. The movement of materials arising from construction is not economical over anything other than short distances. Extensive enquiries over the last 5 to 10 years for developments which might need the material for construction or fill purposes have only identified an appropriate need within a cost effective distance for a small volume of the arisings. Excess material excavated to date is stockpiled at ENRMF and there is a risk that if it is not used in the near future its continued presence will begin to affect the ability of the site to operate effectively. The ENRMF NSIP therefore requires a nearby, confirmed and available route for the entire volume of material which has been excavated and will be excavated in order for the development to be able to continue in accordance with the DCO consent.

**8.6** The export of material needs to be undertaken on a continual basis to facilitate the sequential construction of the landfill cells in the western extension. As Augean have control of Cooks Hole the material can be imported to create the landform as needed and there is only a short distance between the two locations. Without the confidence that all the excess material will be used at an alternative site the operations at ENRMF could be delayed and the provision of a NSIP could be prevented due to the practical and planning restrictions on stockpiling on site while the construction, treatment, disposal and engineering operations are all taking place in parallel. The proposed development will facilitate the continued operation of a NSIP at ENRMF hence it is considered that there are exceptional circumstances for landraising at Cooks Hole which is in accordance with Policy 4 of the MWLP.

**9. Conclusions**

- 9.1** The proposed development has been assessed against the planning policies relevant to the environment in National Policy and the Local Development Framework. It is concluded that the proposal is in accordance with the relevant planning policies and that the proposed development is considered to be an appropriate land use for this location.
- 9.2** The proposed development comprises sustainable development and sustainable waste management. The presumption in favour of sustainable development is a material consideration with respect to the development. It has been demonstrated that the proposed development meets the three overarching objectives of sustainable development.
- 9.3** The proposed development is necessary to facilitate the continued operation of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project at ENRMF therefore there are exceptional circumstances for the proposed landraising at Cooks Hole.
- 9.4** The restoration scheme proposed will provide significant biodiversity net gain compared with the existing restoration proposals.

**TABLES**

Table PS4.1

**Planning permissions and variations relevant to the proposed development at Cooks Hole Quarry**

| <b>Date of planning permission and status</b> | <b>Reference</b> | <b>Description of the development on the planning permission and interpretation in italics</b>   |
|---|------------------|--|
| 10.09.2020<br>Valid                           | 20/00978/NONMAT  | Non material amendment (revised restoration contours) to planning permission 13/01374/WCMM. This decision must be read in conjunction with that granted under 13/01374/WCMM, and the following conditions replace the equivalent conditions in that permission (including that approved under 15/01710/NONMAT, although Condition 15 remains in force, and including that approved under 16/00607/NONMAT). |
| 10.09.2020<br>Valid                           | 20/00977/NONMAT  | Non material amendment (revised restoration contours) to planning permission 13/01372/WCMM. This decision must be read in conjunction with that granted under 13/01372/WCMM, and the following conditions replace the equivalent conditions in that permission (including that approved under 15/01708/NONMAT, although Condition 15 remains in force, and including that approved under 16/00606/NONMAT). |
| 30.08.2019<br>Withdrawn                       | 19/01090/WCMM    | Variation of Condition C8 (Ecological management plan) of planning permission 13/01374/WCMM.   |
| 11.04.2016<br>Superseded                      | 16/00607/NONMAT  | Non-material amendment (revised restoration contours) to planning permission 13/01374/WCMM – Application to vary Condition 11 of 13/00432/WCMM. The condition has been replaced by 20/00978/NONMAT.  |
| 11.04.2016<br>Superseded                      | 16/00606/NONMAT  | Non-material amendment (revised restoration contours) to planning permission 13/01372/WCMM application to vary Condition 11 of 13/00434/WCMM. Revised restoration contours and fixed location of minerals processing plant. The condition has been replaced by 20/00977/NONMAT.  |
| 19.11.2015<br>Valid                           | 15/01710/NONMAT  | Non-material amendment to planning permission 13/01374/WCMM Application to vary Condition 11 of 13/00432/WCMM.   |

| Date of planning permission and status | Reference       | Description of the development on the planning permission and interpretation in italics   |
|--|-----------------|---|
|  |                 | <p>Revised restoration contours and fixed location of minerals processing plant. Conditions 1, 15, 17 and 18 were amended for the 2011 ROMP area. References to plans were superseded by 16/00607/NONMAT and 16/00606/NONMAT.</p> <p>With the exception of Condition 15 the conditions have been replaced by 20/00978/NONMAT.</p>   |
| 19.11.2015<br>Valid                    | 15/01708/NONMAT | <p>Non-material amendment to planning permission 13/01372/WCMM. Application to vary Condition 11 of 13/00434/WCMM. Revised restoration contours and fixed location of minerals processing plant.</p> <p>Conditions 1, 15, 17 and 18 were amended for the 2011 extension area. References to plans were superseded by 16/00607/NONMAT and 16/00606/NONMAT.</p> <p>With the exception of Condition 15 the conditions have been replaced by 20/00977/NONMAT.</p> |
| 31.07.2015<br>Valid                    | 15/00229/MMFUL  | <p>Restoration of part of quarry to original ground levels using inert materials and consequential amendments to the restoration contours.</p> <p>Relates to the northern part of the quarry and approves changes to restoration contours.</p>  |
| 09.12.2013<br>Valid                    | 13/01374/WCMM   | <p>Application to vary Condition 11 of 13/00432/WCMM to amend working hours. This consent relates to the 2011 ROMP area.</p> <p>This was the latest set of full conditions.</p>   |
| 06.12.2013<br>Valid                    | 13/01372/WCMM   | <p>Application to vary Condition 11 of planning permission 13/00434/WCMM to amend operating hours. This consent relates to the 2011 extension area.</p> <p>This was the latest set of full conditions.</p>  |
| 12.07.2013<br>Superseded               | 13/00434/WCMM   | <p>Variation of Condition C11 of planning permission 12/01545/WCMM dated 25/01/2013 – to amend the operating hours.</p>   |

| <b>Date of planning permission and status</b> | <b>Reference</b> | <b>Description of the development on the planning permission and interpretation in italics</b>  |
|---|------------------|---|
| 12.07.2013<br>Superseded                      | 13/00432/WCMM    | Variation of Condition C11 of planning permission 12/01544/WCMM dated 25/01/2013 - to amend the operating hours.  |
| 25.01.2013<br>Superseded                      | 12/01266/MMFUL   | Proposed relocation of site offices and weighbridge as a result of the variation to the scheme of working under 12/01544/WCMM and 12/01545/WCMM.  |
| 25.01.2013<br>Superseded                      | 12/01544/WCMM    | Variation of Condition C1 of Planning Permission 03/01171/RMP - Application for the determination of updated planning conditions to vary the scheme of working.   |
| 25.01.2013<br>Superseded                      | 12/01545/WCMM    | Variation of Condition C2 of planning permission 10/01441/MMFUL – Extension of quarry area for the winning and working of minerals (limestone, sand and ironstone) to vary the scheme of working.   |
| 09.11.2012<br>Valid                           | 12/00463/MMFUL   | Continued operation and restoration (by landfill) of Thornhaugh Landfill Site until 31 December 2029, including restoration by landfill of Phase 4B and 4C, temporary storage of materials on part of Cook's Hole Quarry, revised restoration (nature conservation) and landscaping schemes, and recycling of soils for site restoration and for export off site.   |
| 27.04.2011<br>Superseded                      | 03/01171/RMP     | ROMP determination of new conditions for the quarry area subject to planning permissions 1900/40009/6 and 1900/4009/3.<br><br>ROMP for the 1954/1957 permissions. The ROMP permission excludes mineral extraction in the northern corner of Cooks Hole Quarry however this area is included in the red line. A separate permission to work the mineral in the northern corner of the quarry was also issued in tandem (10/01441/MMFUL). |
| 27.04.2011<br>Superseded                      | 10/01441/MMFUL   | New area forming an extension to the north of the quarry for the winning and working of minerals.<br><br>An area in the northern corner of the site was excluded from the original permission 1900/40009/6. This 2011 permission granted approval for the extraction of mineral in the northern corner of the site.   |
| 27.04.2011<br>Superseded                      | 10/01442/MMFUL   | Construction of an alternative means of access and wheel wash facility.   |

| <b>Date of planning permission and status</b> | <b>Reference</b> | <b>Description of the development on the planning permission and interpretation in italics</b>  |
|---|------------------|---|
| 27.04.2011<br>Superseded                      | 10/01440/MMFUL   | Installation of a weighbridge, weighbridge and site offices, mess room, fuel store, equipment store, processing plant, sub-station and other ancillary facilities.<br><br>Relates to a small area of land in the central northern part of the site.                   |
| 29.03.1957<br>Superseded                      | 1900/40009/6     | Winning and working of ironstone and overlying mineral in the eastern part of the site.<br><br>Original planning permission for mineral working in the eastern part of the site. The original permission excluded mineral working in the northern corner of the site. |
| 05.08.1954<br>Superseded                      | 1900/4009/3      | Winning and working of ironstone and overlying mineral in the western part of the site.<br><br>Original planning permission for mineral working in the eastern part of the site.  |

Table PS4.2

## Planning permissions and variations for Thornhaugh Landfill Site

| <b>Date of planning permission and status</b>       | <b>Reference</b> | <b>Description of the development on the planning permission and interpretation in italics</b>  |
|---|------------------|---|
| 8 Mar 2021  | 20/01680/WCMM    | Variation of condition C1 and C2 (to revise the order of approved phasing and allow the storage of Hi-pod containers) pursuant to planning permission 17/00726/WCMM   |
| 19 Jul 2017   | 17/00726/WCMM    | Variation of conditions C2 (Plans and documents), C4 (Phasing Plans), and C7 (Lighting Scheme), of planning permission 15/00230/MMFUL   |
| 31 Jul 2015   | 15/00230/MMFUL   | Continuation of landfilling in phases 1 and 2; consequential amendments to the phasing scheme; relocation of site roads and infrastructure including the landfill gas flare; minor amendments to the final restoration contours; continued periodic use of crushing and processing plant and the deferment of the dates for the cessation of landfilling and final restoration by 6 years |
| 9 Nov 2012  | 12/00463/MMFUL   | Continued operation and restoration (by landfill) of Thornhaugh Landfill Site until 31 December 2029, including restoration by landfill of Phase 4B and 4C, temporary storage of materials on part of Cook's Hole Quarry, revised restoration (nature conservation) and landscaping schemes, and recycling of soils for site restoration and for export off site                          |
| 26 Jan 2012<br>Temporary permission end date passed | 11/01993/WCMM    | Variation of condition C1 of planning permission 10/01659/WCMM to allow continued siting and operation of temporary gas flare until 30/12/2016  |
| 15 Feb 2011<br>Temporary permission end date passed | 10/01659/WCMM    | Variation of condition C1 of planning permission 09/01458/WCMM - Siting and operation of a temporary gas flare and associated equipment - to extend date of commencement to 30 December 2011  |
| 3 Feb 2010<br>Temporary permission                  | 09/01458/WCMM    | Variation of condition 1 of planning permission 07/01466/MMFUL to allow for the retention of a temporary gas flare and associated equipment until 30.12.2010  |



| <b>Date of planning permission and status</b>       | <b>Reference</b> | <b>Description of the development on the planning permission and interpretation in italics</b>   |
|---|------------------|--|
| end date passed                                     |                  |  |
| 23 Dec 2008   | 08/01260/WCMM    | Variation of condition 1 of planning permission 07/01466/MMFUL to allow for the retention of the operation of a temporary gas flare and associated equipment   |
| 30 May 2008   | 08/00391/MMFUL   | Installation and operation of a micro turbine landfill gas power generator, permanent flare and associated equipment   |
| 19 Oct 2007   | 07/01466/MMFUL   | Siting and operation of a temporary gas flare and associated equipment   |
| 11 Oct 2006<br>Temporary permission end date passed | 06/01069/MMFUL   | Processing of secondary aggregate materials recovered from Phase 7 within Thornhaugh Quarry for use off-site; processing of secondary aggregates from suitable waste streams brought to the site for disposal for use off-site, for a temporary period ending 15 November 2011 |
| 8 Jun 2006  | 06/00145/MMFUL   | Siting of temporary gas flare and associated equipment   |
| 21 Apr 2006   | 05/00685/WCMM    | Variation of condition 7 of planning permission P070/97 to enable mineral extraction over a larger area within the currently approved boundaries of the Quarry   |
| 18 May 2004<br>Withdrawn                            | 04/00329/CLE     | Removal of material from north of site   |
| 18 May 2004<br>Withdrawn                            | 04/00352/CLP     | Construction using imported waste and other materials of the restoration landform  |
| 17 Feb 2004<br>Refused (allowed on appeal)          | 04/00004/MMFUL   | Erection of 6m high mesh fencing around boundaries of landfill cells to prevent blown litter from leaving the site   |
| 25 Apr 1997<br>(associated appeal in 2004)          | 97/00006/MMFUL   | Application for determination of new conditions for extraction of limestone and restoration to agricultural use by landfill  |
| 1 Aug 1980  | P0610/80         | Backfilling and restoration to agriculture of quarry   |
| 6 May 1977  | P0304/77         | Backfilling of the quarry prior to restoration by importing inert materials, top soil, subsoil and builders' rubble from contractors' sites  |

| <b>Date of planning permission and status</b> | <b>Reference</b> | <b>Description of the development on the planning permission and interpretation in italics</b>                            |
|---|------------------|---|
| 3 May 1963                                    | T7767            | Extraction of limestone   |
| 27 Jun 1957                                   | T2466            | Opencast working of Ironstone, Limestone, Clay, Sand, Gravel and Gannister and ancillary purposes in connection therewith |

Table PS5.1

Waste and minerals policies from the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2036

| Policy Area      | Policy  | Assessment of compliance  |
|------------------|---|---|
| Waste Management | <p><b>Policy 1 [MWLP]</b></p> <p>Mineral and waste management proposals will be assessed against the overarching principle of whether the proposal would play an active role in guiding development towards sustainable solutions. In undertaking that assessment, account will be taken of local circumstances such as the character, needs, constraints and opportunities of the plan area. Proposals which are not consistent with this principle will be refused.</p> <p>Proposals should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures. Proposals which ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals, including operational practices and restoration proposals, must take account of climate change for the lifetime of the development (including the lifetime of its restoration scheme, where applicable). This will be through measures to minimise greenhouse gas emissions, and measures to ensure adaptation to future climate changes.</p> <p>Proposals should, to a degree which is proportionate to the scale and nature of the scheme, set out how this will be achieved, such as:</p> <p>(a) demonstrating how the location, design, site operation and transportation related to the development will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (including through the adoption of emission reduction measures based on the principles of the energy hierarchy); and take into account any significant impacts on human health and wellbeing and on air quality;</p> <p>(b) where relevant, setting out how the proposal will make use of renewable energy including opportunities for generating energy from waste for use beyond the boundaries of the site itself, and the use of decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy;</p> <p>(c) for proposals which involve the temporary or permanent removal of peat soils, measures to make long term sustainable use of such soils (see also Policy 24); and</p> <p>(d) for waste management proposals, (i) how the principles of the waste hierarchy have been considered and addressed; and (ii) broadly quantifying the reduction in carbon dioxide and other relevant greenhouse gases e.g. methane, that should be achieved as part of the proposal, and how this will be monitored and addressed in future.</p> <p>Proposals should also set out how they will be resilient to a changing climate, taking account of the latest available evidence on the impact of climate change, such as:</p> <p>(e) avoiding proposals which could increase vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change;</p> <p>(f) incorporation of sustainable drainage schemes to minimise flood impacts, and, if viable opportunities exist, reduce current flood risk;</p> | <p>The proposed development represents in general terms a continuation over a longer period of the current consented activities. The proposed development does not itself generate significant quantities of waste, it provides a necessary facility for the safe and environmentally secure management of waste generated by others (for Thornhaugh) and by Augean in the construction of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project to be used by others, therefore the methods of construction and operation, the materials which must be used to meet the containment specification for Thornhaugh and the associated controls that must be implemented are driven by regulations and guidance and there is limited opportunity to change aspects of the site construction and operation in order to reduce impacts on climate change.</p> <p>a) Wherever possible opportunities are implemented to minimise impacts on greenhouse gas emissions and climate change such as by using baled used tyres as a leachate drainage medium in place of gravel aggregate. In addition it is a standard condition in the Environmental Permit for Thornhaugh that the operator must review and record at least every 4 years whether there are further suitable opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of the activities and to consider whether suitable alternative materials can be used to reduce the impacts associated with the use of raw materials.</p> <p>There will be no significant impacts on human health or air quality as a result of the proposed development, The operations at the sites are currently consented to continue until 2035 for Thornhaugh and 2042 for Cooks Hole. The transportation of the material has been minimised at the imported restoration material is arising from ENRMF which is a short distance from the sites thereby minimising the distance over which that material will travel for its final management. A significant proportion of the waste inputs to Thornhaugh also arise from the nearby ENRMF. Augean will continue to investigate the potential for improving energy efficiency at the site in accordance with the Environmental Permit for Thornhaugh including investing in energy efficient plant and diverse other policies and operational measures as set out in the Augean Corporate and Social Responsibility Policy and their externally certified Integrated Management System which satisfies the requirements of the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System Standard together with other standards. Augean are also members of the Energy Saving Opportunity Scheme.</p> <p>b) The proposed development will minimise greenhouse gas emissions by continuing to manage and control landfill gas generated by the limited proportion of degradable wastes deposited in Thornhaugh by capturing the gas and combusting it in the gas flare. Landfill gas is not generated in sufficient quantities from the site to generate renewable power. This is a matter which Augean reviews periodically and if it were viable Augean would install the appropriate infrastructure for the use of the landfill gas that is generated. Where appropriate Augean use solar panels to power site infrastructure such as the weather station.</p> <p>c) There are no peat soils present at the sites. The soils and overburden at the sites have already been stripped and almost all were removed from the sites before they were in the</p> |

|  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
|  | <p>(g) measures to manage water resources efficiently (and where restoration proposals are reliant on water, ensure sufficient water resource will be available);</p> <p>(h) measures to assist habitats and species to adapt to the potential effects of climate change; and</p> <p>(i) measures to adapt to the potential impacts of excess heat and drought.</p> | <p>ownership of Augean. There are soil stockpiles present in Cooks Hole. Any soils or overburden present on site will be used in the restoration of the sites in accordance with the Good Practice Guide for Handling Soils in Mineral Workings<sup>10</sup>.</p> <p>di) In England, the waste hierarchy is both a guide to sustainable waste management and a legal requirement, enshrined in law through The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (as amended). Before non hazardous waste and stable non-reactive hazardous waste (SNRHW) is directed for disposal to landfill the producer of the waste must first have considered alternative options for its minimisation, re-use or treatment. This is the case for all waste accepted at Thornhaugh. The clean naturally occurring materials that will be imported to Cooks Hole predominantly from ENRMF and also material generated at Thornhaugh to create the landform is being recovered for beneficial use in the restoration of the site which is at the top of the hierarchy.</p> <p>dii) The energy efficiency of the activities at the site are reviewed every 4 years in accordance with the Environmental Permit for Thornhaugh. Appropriate opportunities are implemented as necessary. As stated under b) landfill gas is captured and combusted at the site in order to minimise the release of methane which is a potent greenhouse gas. None of the clean, naturally occurring materials imported to the site from ENRMF for use in restoration will result in biodegradation and the generation of greenhouse gases.</p> <p>Based on consideration and professional judgement taking into account the operations proposed at the sites and further consideration of the sources of greenhouse gases from the waste sector which contribute to the UK carbon budget it is concluded based on a qualitative assessment that the proposed development will not result in likely significant adverse effects on greenhouse gas emissions or on the ability of the UK to achieve its carbon budget targets.</p> <p>e) The resilience of the proposals to climate change are taken into account through detailed consideration of the main potential consequence of climate change on the development which is the projected increase in the intensity and frequency of rainfall and storm events. These increased factors are included in the surface water management plan calculations and provisions for surface water runoff attenuation.</p> <p>The proposed development will not increase the vulnerability of the sites or the surrounding area to impacts arising from climate change. The proposed development incorporates surface water attenuation measures. The attenuation capacity needed has been calculated taking into account the projected increase in storm intensity and runoff as a result of climate change.</p> <p>f) See comments under e. The sites are mainly located in Flood Zone 1 and surface run off attenuation has been incorporated into the restoration design.</p> <p>g) The waterbodies that will be created for great crested newts (GCNs) will be lined with clay so that the ponds retain water. They have been designed to capture surface water run off from the sites once the restoration operations have been completed. It is anticipated that the water levels will fluctuate over the year depending on the season.</p> |
|--|---|--|

<sup>10</sup> Institute of Quarrying (2021) Good Practice Guide for Handling Soils in Mineral Workings

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|  |  | <p>h) and i) A review mechanism will be included in the proposed Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan which will be submitted under an appropriately worded condition to enable changes to the species mix if restoration planting is not adapting successfully to the effects of climate change including excess heat or drought.</p>  |
|  | <p><b>Policy 4 [MWLP]</b> - the Councils aim to actively encourage, and will in principle support the sustainable management of waste, which includes encouraging waste to move as far up the waste hierarchy as possible, whilst also ensuring net self-sufficiency over the Plan area. In order to ensure this aim can be met, waste management proposals must demonstrably contribute towards sustainable waste management, by moving waste up the waste hierarchy; and proposals for disposal must demonstrate that the waste has been pre-treated and cannot practicably be recycled. Proposals which do not comply with this spatial strategy for waste management development must also demonstrate the quantitative need for the development.</p>  | <p>The proposed development does not itself generate significant quantities of waste, it provides a necessary facility for the safe and environmentally secure management of waste generated by others (for Thornhaugh) and by Augean in the construction of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project to be used by others, therefore the methods of construction and operation, the materials which must be used to meet the containment specification for Thornhaugh and the associated controls that must be implemented are driven by regulations and guidance and there is limited opportunity to change aspects of the site construction and operation in order to further improve the sustainable management of waste. In England, the waste hierarchy is both a guide to sustainable waste management and a legal requirement, enshrined in law through The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (as amended). Before non hazardous waste and stable non-reactive hazardous waste (SNRHW) is directed for disposal to landfill the producer of the waste must first have considered alternative options for its minimisation, re-use or treatment. This is the case for all waste accepted at Thornhaugh. The clean naturally occurring materials that will be imported to Cooks Hole to create the landform is being recovered for beneficial use in the restoration of the site which is at the top of the hierarchy.</p> <p>The proposed development would enable the continued operation of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project by allowing the continuation of the construction operation at the western extension at ENRMF as the clean, naturally occurring materials that arise as a result of construction have been recovered for beneficial use in the restoration of Cooks Hole. Further detail on the need for the development is provided at Section 7 of this report.</p> |
|  | <p><b>Policy 4 [MWLP]</b><br/><b>Waste Management Facilities - Non-Hazardous Waste Disposal:</b></p> <p>Where the need for additional capacity for the disposal of non-hazardous waste is demonstrated such capacity must be provided through extension to existing Non Hazardous Waste and Stable Non-Reactive Hazardous Waste (SNRHW) disposal sites, unless the extension for additional capacity would prejudice the wider strategic objectives of this plan and supporting appendices or it is demonstrated that a new standalone site would be more sustainable and better located to support the management of waste close to its source. It may also be supported where it is demonstrated that it is required for reasons of site stability or to address a potential pollution risk.</p> | <p>Thornhaugh is an existing non hazardous waste and SNRHW facility.</p> <p>The proposed development amends the restoration profile of Cooks Hole and Thornhaugh. The proposed restoration profile for the site is determined by the need to accommodate the volume of surplus excavated clean naturally occurring material arising principally at ENRMF and also at Thornhaugh. Based on the volume of materials arising from these sources, as explained in Section 3 of this report, an integrated restoration profile that is appropriate to the landscape setting has been designed.</p> <p>The changes in the profile at Thornhaugh allow the landform to tie in with the proposed restoration profile for Cooks Hole and create a single integrated profile. The change in restored landform results in a consequential increase in waste capacity at Thornhaugh.</p>  |
|  | <p><b>Policy 4 [MWLP]</b><br/><b>Waste Management Facilities - Inert Waste Disposal:</b></p> <p>The deposit of inert waste to land will normally be permitted only within a Mineral Development Area (MDA) or Mineral Allocation Area (MAA). Proposals for the deposit of inert waste to land in other areas may only be permitted where:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(c) there are no MDAs or MAAs within the plan area which can accommodate the inert waste in a timely and sustainable manner; or</li> <li>(d) there is clear and convincing evidence that the non-MDA/MAA site would be more suitable for receiving the inert waste; or</li> <li>(e) landfill engineering is required for reasons of land stability.</li> </ul>  | <p>Cooks Hole is allocated as a Minerals Development Area in the MWLP. The deposit of clean naturally occurring materials at Cooks Hole is permitted in policy terms. The material will be available in a timely manner as its source and the timescale for its generation are known as they arise from a consented and implemented Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project.</p> <p>The additional void that will be created by the proposed restoration profile at Thornhaugh will be filled using permitted waste types which include inert wastes.</p>   |



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|  | <p><b>Policy 4 [MWLP] Waste Management Facilities - Stable Non-Reactive Hazardous Waste (SNRHW) Disposal:</b></p> <p>Where the need for additional capacity for the disposal of SNRHW is demonstrated such capacity will only be permitted at, or through an extension to, existing SNRHW and Non-Hazardous Waste disposal sites unless the extension for additional capacity would prejudice the wider strategic objectives of this plan and supporting appendices.</p>  | <p>Thornhaugh is an existing non hazardous waste and SNRHW facility.</p> <p>The proposed development amends the restoration profile of Cooks Hole and Thornhaugh. The changes in the profile at Thornhaugh allow the landform to tie in with Cooks Hole and create a single integrated profile. The change in restored landform results in a consequential increase in waste capacity at Thornhaugh for the continued disposal of non-hazardous and stable non-reactive hazardous wastes.</p>  |
|  | <p><b>Policy 4 [MWLP] Waste Management Facilities - Landraising:</b></p> <p>Landraising will only be permitted in exceptional circumstances where there is a need for a waste disposal facility to accommodate waste arising that cannot be accommodated by any other means.</p>  | <p>Cooks Hole, Thornhaugh and ENRMF are all owned and operated by Augean and their operations are inextricably linked. Suitable treated wastes arising at the waste treatment facility at ENRMF are landfilled at Thornhaugh and suitable materials extracted during the construction of the landfill cells at ENRMF are used to construct engineered containment lining and capping layers of the landfill cells at Thornhaugh. ENRMF is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project and the timescales for the operations at ENRMF have been set out in the Development Consent Order for the western extension to the landfill which was granted in January 2023. By definition a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project is a major project considered by central Government to be of such a scale that it is of national significance and importance.</p> <p>In order to construct the western extension at ENRMF it is necessary to remove approximately 1.2Mm<sup>3</sup> of excavated clean natural materials comprising excess clays and overburden from ENRMF. It is not possible for the construction operations to be undertaken at the site without the regular movement of material from ENRMF to another site. The revised landform at Cooks Hole and Thornhaugh enables the clean naturally occurring materials to be recovered for beneficial use in the restoration of a former mineral working in close proximity to ENRMF. The proposed development represents exceptional circumstances as it is necessary to facilitate the continuation of a development which is nationally significant.</p> |
|  | <p><b>Policy 10: [MWLP] Waste Management Areas (WMAS)</b></p> <p>Waste Management Areas (WMAs) are defined on the Policies Map and identify existing or committed waste management facilities that make a significant contribution to managing any waste stream. Waste management proposals within WMAs will be considered under Policy 4. Within a WMA, new non-waste management development will not be permitted other than:</p> <p>(a) proposals which are compatible for that specific site as identified in the non-Mineral and Waste Plans that make up the Development Plan for the area; or</p> <p>(b) proposals which demonstrate clear wider regeneration benefits which outweigh the harm of discontinued operation of the site as a WMA, together with a demonstration to the Waste Planning Authority as to how the existing (or recent) waste stream managed at the site will be (or already is being) accommodated elsewhere.</p> | <p>Thornhaugh Landfill Site is allocated as a Waste Management Area in the MWLP. The proposed development is for revised landform profile results in an integrated landform at Cooks Hole and Thornhaugh to create one coherent landform. The proposed restoration profile for the sites is determined by the need to accommodate the volume of surplus excavated clean naturally occurring material arising principally at ENRMF and also at Thornhaugh. Based on the volume of materials arising from these sources, an integrated restoration profile that is appropriate to the landscape setting has been designed. As a result of the change in the landform profile there is a consequential increase in the total volume of waste that can be accommodated at Thornhaugh. The proposals have been considered against MWLP Policy 4 earlier in this table.</p>  |
|  | <p><b>Policy 26: [MWLP] Other Developments Requiring Importation Of Materials</b></p> <p>Proposals for developments (including: golf courses and any other significant outdoor recreation facilities; and amenity bunds) which require the importation of significant quantities of minerals and/or inert waste, will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated that:</p> <p>(a) the proposal does not prejudice the restoration of mineral extraction sites;</p> <p>(b) there is a proven need for the material to be imported;</p> <p>(c) any mineral or waste imported will be used in a sustainable manner; and</p> <p>(d) the minimum amount of material is imported, consistent with the purpose of the development.</p>   | <p>The proposed restoration profile for the site is determined by the need to accommodate the volume of surplus excavated clean naturally occurring material arising principally at ENRMF and also at Thornhaugh. Based on the volume of materials arising from these sources, an integrated restoration profile that is appropriate to the landscape setting has been designed.</p> <p>a) The proposed development will not jeopardise the restoration of other mineral extraction sites as the material that will be used in the restoration of Cooks Hole will arise from the applicant's own sites and the material will not be sourced from the open market.</p>  |

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|                             | <p>The determination of planning applications will have regard to the objectives of the mineral and waste spatial strategies in this Plan.</p>   | <p>b) The proposed development facilitates the continuation of the operations at ENRMF which is a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project. Further detail is provided on the need for the development in Section 8 of this report.</p> <p>c) The clean, naturally occurring material arising at ENRMF will be transported over a limited distance for its final management. ENRMF is located approximately 3km from the sites. The transportation distances are small and the ENRMF site is also owned by the applicant. The material used in the restoration of Cooks Hole will be handled in accordance with best practice. Once completed the landform will be used for recreation and amenity purposes. The restoration proposals will result in a significant biodiversity net gain</p> <p>d) The landform profile at Cooks Hole has been designed to accommodate the volume of material that will be generated from the landfill construction operations at ENRMF and Thornhaugh. The consequential additional void at Thornhaugh is the volume created as a result of the design of the coherent landform which is driven by the volume of excavated material to be accommodated and which arises principally from ENRMF and also from Thornhaugh.</p> |
| <p>Minerals Development</p> | <p><b>Policy 5: [MWLP] Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSAS)</b><br/>                 Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSAs) are identified on the Policies Map for mineral resources of local and/or national importance. The Mineral Planning Authority must be consulted on all development proposals in these areas except:</p> <p>(a) development that falls within a settlement boundary*;<br/>                 (b) development which is consistent with an allocation in the Development Plan for the area;<br/>                 (c) minor householder development within the immediate curtilage of an existing residential building;<br/>                 (d) demolition or replacement of residential buildings;<br/>                 (e) temporary structures;<br/>                 (f) advertisements;<br/>                 (g) listed building consent; and<br/>                 (h) works to trees or removal of hedgerows.</p> <p>Development within MSAs which is not covered by the above exceptions will only be permitted where it has been demonstrated that:</p> | <p>Cooks Hole and Thornhaugh are located in a Mineral Safeguarding Area for limestone. Thornhaugh Landfill Site is also identified as a waste management area. The extraction operations at Cooks Hole have been completed and no further extraction will be undertaken. Thornhaugh has been previously worked for minerals. Any minerals that are extracted during the construction of new landfill cells will be used on site.</p> <p>The proposals do not involve any change in the footprint of the permitted activities at either of the sites hence there is no change to the mineral safeguarding area or sterilisation of mineral resources of local or national importance as a result of the proposals.</p>   |
|                             | <p><b>Policy 6: [MWLP] Mineral Development Areas (MDAs) And Mineral Allocation Areas (MAAs)</b><br/>                 Mineral Development Areas (MDAs) and Mineral Allocation Areas (MAAs) are defined on the Policies Map. Within a MAA, only development for which it is allocated for (including, where relevant, its restoration) will be permitted</p>   | <p>Cooks Hole is identified as a Mineral Development Area on the MWLP Policies Map as it is an existing site. The proposed development is for a revised restoration profile, consistent with this policy.</p>   |

Table PS 5.2

Review of the relevant environmental planning policies

Relevant Development Plan

- National Planning Policy Framework (September 2023) [NPPF]
- National Planning Policy for Waste (October 2014) [NPPW]
- Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan (July 2021) [MWLP]
- Peterborough Local Plan (July 2019) [PLP]

| Policy Area | Policy                       | Assessment of compliance   |
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| Amenity     | Air pollution including dust | <p><b>Paragraph 174e [NPPF]</b> Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:... e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of... air... pollution</p> <p><b>Appendix B g [NPPW]</b>...Determining planning applications, waste planning authorities should consider the factors below... g. Considerations will include the proximity of sensitive receptors, including ecological as well as human receptors, and the extent to which adverse emissions can be controlled through the use of appropriate and well-maintained and managed equipment and vehicles</p> <p><b>Policy 18 [MWLP]</b><br/>Proposals must ensure that the development proposed can be integrated effectively with existing or planned (i.e. Development Plan allocations or consented schemes) neighbouring development. New development must not result in unacceptable adverse impacts on the amenity of existing occupiers of any land or property, including:<br/>...(f) air quality from odour, fumes, dust, smoke or other sources;...<br/>Where there is the potential for any of the above impacts to occur, an assessment appropriate to the nature of that potential impact should be carried out, and submitted as part of the proposal, in order to establish, where appropriate, the need for, and deliverability of, any mitigation.</p> <p><b>Policy LP17 [PLP]</b><br/>New development should not result in an unacceptable impact on the amenity of existing occupiers of any nearby properties. These impacts may include:...<br/>f. adverse impact on air quality from odour, fumes, dust, smoke or other sources;...</p> |
|             | Lighting                     | <p><b>Policy 18 [MWLP]</b><br/>Proposals must ensure that the development proposed can be integrated effectively with existing or planned (i.e. Development Plan allocations or consented schemes) neighbouring development. New development must not result in unacceptable adverse impacts on the amenity of existing occupiers of any land or property, including:<br/>(e) loss of light to and/or overshadowing of any nearby property;<br/>(g) light pollution from artificial light or glare;</p> <p><b>Policy LP17 [PLP]</b><br/>New development should not result in an unacceptable impact on the amenity of existing occupiers of any nearby properties. These impacts may include:...<br/>d. loss of light to and/or overshadowing of any nearby property; or...<br/>g. light pollution from artificial light or glare.</p>   |
|             | Odour                        | <p><b>Appendix B h-</b> ...Determining planning applications, waste planning authorities should consider the factors below... h. Considerations will include the proximity of sensitive</p>  |



| Policy Area              |                                   | Policy  | Assessment of compliance   |
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|                          |                                   | receptors and the extent to which adverse odours can be controlled through the use of appropriate and well-maintained and managed equipment <b>[NPPW]</b>   | their placement. The effective control and monitoring of emissions of odour at Thornhaugh will continue to be implemented and regulated through the Environmental Permit.  |
|                          |                                   | <b>Policy 18 [MWLP] –</b><br>Proposals must ensure that the development proposed can be integrated effectively with existing or planned (i.e. Development Plan allocations or consented schemes) neighbouring development. New development must not result in unacceptable adverse impacts on the amenity of existing occupiers of any land or property, including:<br>(f) air quality from odour...  |  |
|                          |                                   | <b>Policy LP17 [PLP]</b><br>New development should not result in an unacceptable impact on the amenity of existing occupiers of any nearby properties. These impacts may include:...<br>f. adverse impact on air quality from odour...  |  |
|                          | <b>Overbearing</b>                | <b>Policy 18 [MWLP] –</b><br>Proposals must ensure that the development proposed can be integrated effectively with existing or planned (i.e. Development Plan allocations or consented schemes) neighbouring development. New development must not result in unacceptable adverse impacts on the amenity of existing occupiers of any land or property, including:...<br>(b) privacy for the occupiers of any nearby property;...<br>(d) unacceptably overbearing;<br>(e) loss of light to and/or overshadowing of any nearby property;...                 | The sites are well screened and there are limited receptors with clear views of the site.<br>b) The proposed development will not result in a loss of privacy for any occupiers of the nearby properties.<br>d) The landform will assimilate into the landscape as the restoration operations progress and the planting matures.<br>e) The proposed development will not result in a loss of light or overshadowing of the properties in close proximity to the proposed development.  |
| <b>Cultural heritage</b> | <b>Designated heritage assets</b> | <b>Paragraph 199 [NPPF]-</b> When considering the impact of a proposed development on the significance of a designated heritage asset, great weight should be given to the asset’s conservation (and the more important the asset, the greater the weight should be). This is irrespective of whether any potential harm amounts to substantial harm, total loss or less than substantial harm to its significance  | A heritage statement which focuses on the setting of designated heritage assets is presented at Appendix ES9.1 to the Environmental Statement. The assessment concludes that there will be no direct impacts on designated heritage assets as a result of the proposed development. There will be minor adverse impacts on views from Cooks Hole Farmhouse during restoration operations but the farmhouse will remain unoccupied until the restoration operations are complete. There will be no effect on the appreciation of the significance of the asset during the restoration operations. Following completion of restoration there will be no adverse effects on the setting of Cooks Hole Farmhouse due to the natural appearance of the restored landform and its integration into the landscape. No residual impacts will remain once restoration is complete. The appreciation of views of Cooks Hole Farmhouse will be increased due to the elevated reinstated Footpath Thornhaugh No 3 Section 3 and Footpath Thornhaugh No 3 Section 4.<br><br>There will be no adverse impact as a result of the proposed development on the setting of designated assets outside the application boundary due to the intervening vegetation and road infrastructure. |
|                          | <b>Impacts</b>                    | <b>Policy 21 [MWLP]</b><br>...To assist decision makers, all development proposals that would directly affect any heritage asset and/or its setting (whether designated or non-designated), must be accompanied by a Heritage Statement which, as a minimum, should:<br>(a) describe and assess the significance of the asset and/or its setting to determine its architectural, historic, artistic or archaeological interest;<br>(b) identify the impact of the development on the special character of the asset (including any cumulative impacts); and | A heritage statement which focuses on the setting of designated heritage assets is presented at Appendix ES9.1 to the Environmental Statement. The sites have been consented for and subject to mineral extraction operations since the 1950s. The soils and overburden at the sites have already been stripped so there is no potential for buried archaeology to be present. An assessment of buried archaeology therefore has been scoped out of the EIA in agreement with the planning authority. Details of the impacts on the heritage assets are set out above.   |

| Policy Area | Policy   | Assessment of compliance |
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|             | <p>(c) provide clear and convincing justification for any harm to, or loss of, the significance of a heritage asset (from its alteration or destruction, or from development within its setting).</p> <p>The level of detail in the Heritage Statement should be proportionate to the asset's significance and sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on its significance and/or setting.</p> <p><b>Policy LP19 [PLP] – The Historic Environment</b></p> <p>...All new development must respect, and enhance or reinforce where appropriate, the local character and distinctiveness of the area in which it would be situated, particularly in areas of high heritage value. There will be particular emphasis on the following:...</p> <p>c. the protection of designated heritage assets and their settings;<br/>d. the identification and protection of significant non-designated heritage assets and their settings; and</p> <p>All development proposals that would directly affect any heritage asset (whether designated or non-designated), including any contribution made by its setting, will need to be accompanied by a Heritage Statement which, as a minimum, should cover the following:</p> <p>f. describe and assess the significance of the asset and its setting to determine its architectural, historic, artistic or archaeological interest; and<br/>g. identify the impact of the development on the special character of the asset including the cumulative impact of incremental small-scale changes which may have as great an effect on the significance of a heritage asset as a larger scale development; and<br/>h. provide a clear justification for the works, especially if these would harm the significance of the asset or its setting, so that the harm can be mitigated and weighed against public benefits.</p> <p>The level of detail required should be proportionate to the asset's importance and sufficient to understand the potential impact of the proposal on its significance and/or setting.</p> <p>Unless it is explicitly demonstrated that the proposal meets the tests set out in the NPPF, planning permission will only be granted for development affecting a designated heritage asset where the impact of the proposal will not lead to substantial harm or loss of significance.</p> <p>Where a development proposal will lead to less than substantial harm to the significance of a designated heritage asset, this harm will be weighed against the public benefits of the proposal, including securing its optimum viable use.</p> <p>Where a non-designated heritage asset is affected by development proposals, there will be a presumption in favour of its retention, though regard will be had to the scale of any harm or loss and the significance of the heritage asset. Any special features which contribute to an asset's significance should be retained and reinstated, where possible.</p> <p>The council recognises the significance of setting to a heritage asset and proposals that fail to preserve or enhance the setting of a designated heritage asset will not be</p> |                          |

| Policy Area | Policy   | Assessment of compliance  |
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|             | <p>supported. Development proposals that make a positive contribution to, or better reveal the significance of, the heritage asset and its setting will, in principle, be supported.</p> <p><b>Archaeology</b></p> <p>In the case of application sites which include, or could potentially include, heritage assets with archaeological interest, designated or non-designated, the council will require the developer to carry out a preliminary desk-based assessment. If this does not provide sufficient information, developers will be required to undertake a programme of field evaluations.</p>   |   |
| Ecology     | <p><b>Paragraph 174d [NPPF]</b>...Decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:... d) minimising impacts on and providing net gains for biodiversity, including by establishing coherent ecological networks that are more resilient to current and future pressures...</p> <p><b>Policy 19 [MWLP]</b> All mineral extraction related proposals, and all waste management proposals which are likely to be temporary in nature, must be accompanied by a restoration and aftercare scheme proposal, secured if necessary by a legal agreement.</p> <p>Such a proposal must, where appropriate:...</p> <p>(d) demonstrate net biodiversity gain through the promotion, preservation, restoration and recreation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations, linked to national and local targets;</p> <p><b>Policy LP28 [PLP] –</b><br/> <b>2. Biodiversity and Geodiversity in Development</b><br/>                     All development proposals should:...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Deliver a net gain in biodiversity, where possible, by creating, restoring and enhancing habitats and enhancing them for the benefit of species;</li> </ul>  | <p>The restoration scheme for Cooks Hole has been designed to meet the objective of achieving Biodiversity Net Gain. The Biodiversity Net Gain for Thornhaugh is consistent with the current restoration scheme. The habitat creation and biodiversity enhancement proposals are set out in detail in the Biodiversity Net Gain Plan presented at Appendix ES6.1 of the Environmental Statement. The proposed restoration includes priority habitats and will create a mosaic of woodland with shrubby edges, a large area of calcareous and neutral grassland, scattered trees, a network of hedgerows, waterbodies and areas of open mosaic habitats. The proposed measures will provide a BNG of over 104% for habitats and over 124% for hedgerows. The calculated net gain is substantially above the target of 10% which is specified in the Environment Act 2021. The proposed restoration will provide new and enhanced links to existing habitats and will extend the capacity of Bedford Purlieus to support notable species. This will contribute to the conservation aims of Nature Recovery Networks within the wider Rockingham Forest area.</p>  |
|             | <p><b>Paragraph 174a [NPPF]</b> ...Decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by: a) protecting and enhancing... sites of biodiversity or geological value...</p> <p><b>Paragraph 180b [NPPF]</b> When determining planning applications, local planning authorities should apply the following principles:... b) development on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest, and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), should not normally be permitted. The only exception is where the benefits of the development in the location proposed clearly outweigh both its likely impact on the features of the site that make it of special scientific interest, and any broader impacts on the national network of Sites of Special Scientific Interest;</p> <p><b>Appendix B d [NPPW]</b> ...Determining planning applications, waste planning authorities should consider the factors below... d. Considerations will include any adverse effect on a site of international importance for nature conservation (Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation and RAMSAR Sites), a site with a nationally recognised designation (Sites of Special Scientific Interest, National Nature Reserves), Nature Improvement Areas and ecological networks and protected species</p> <p><b>Policy 20 [MWLP]</b></p> | <p>An Ecological Impact Assessment has been undertaken and is presented at Appendix ES8.1 of the Environmental Statement. Barnack Hill and Holes Special Area of Conservation (SAC) is located approximately 4.5km to the north east of the sites. Due to the distance from the sites and the lack of potential pathways for significant effects there will be no adverse impacts on National Network Sites. There is the potential for the proposed development to affect four SSSIs the closest of which is Beford Purlieus which is adjacent to the western boundary of the sites. With the proposed appropriate mitigation measures in place it is considered that that there will be no adverse effect or a negligible adverse effect on any statutorily protected site in the vicinity of the proposed development.</p> <p>No work will be undertaken in the County Wildlife Site in the south west of Thornhaugh. There will be no effect on the County Wildlife Site as a result of the proposed development. In the long-term, the restoration will provide new and enhanced links to existing habitats extending the capacity of Bedford Purlieus and the County Wildlife Site to support notable species and contributing to conservation aims of Nature Recovery Networks within the wider Rockingham Forest area. This would be a major beneficial effect at a regional level.</p> |

| Policy Area | Policy  | Assessment of compliance  |
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|             | <p><b>International Sites</b><br/>                     The highest level of protection will be afforded to international sites designated for their nature conservation or geological importance. Proposals having an adverse impact on the integrity of such areas, that cannot be avoided or adequately mitigated to remove any adverse effect, will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances. These circumstances will only apply where:<br/>                     (a) there are no suitable alternatives;<br/>                     (b) there are imperative reasons of overriding public interest; and<br/>                     (c) necessary compensatory provision can be secured.</p> <p>Development proposals that are likely to have an adverse effect, either alone or in combination, on European designated sites must satisfy the requirements of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), including determining site specific impacts and avoiding or mitigating against impacts where identified.</p> <p><b>National Sites</b><br/>                     Development proposals on land within or outside a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), and which is likely to have an adverse effect on it (either individually or in combination with other developments), will not be permitted unless the benefits of the development clearly outweigh both the adverse impacts on the features of the site and any adverse impacts on the wider network of SSSIs.</p> <p><b>Local Sites</b><br/>                     Development likely to have an adverse effect on locally designated sites, their features or their function as part of the ecological network, including County Wildlife Sites and Local Geological Sites, will only be permitted where the need and benefits of the development clearly outweigh the loss and the coherence of the local ecological network is maintained</p> <p><b>Habitats and Species of Local and Principal Importance</b><br/>                     Where adverse impacts are likely on the protection and recovery of priority species and habitats, development will only be permitted where the need for and benefits of the development clearly outweigh these impacts. Where adverse impacts are likely on other locally important habitats and species as identified by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Biodiversity Partnership, the benefits of development must outweigh these impacts. In both cases, appropriate mitigation and/or compensatory measures will be required.</p> <p><b>Policy LP28 [PLP]</b><br/>                     Through the development management processes, management agreements and other positive initiatives, the council will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• aid the management, protection, enhancement and creation of priority habitats, including limestone grasslands, woodlands and hedgerows, wet woodlands, rivers and flood meadows;</li> <li>• promote the creation of an effective, functioning ecological network throughout the district, consisting of core sites, buffers, wildlife corridors and stepping stones that link to green infrastructure in adjoining local authority areas to respond to and adapt to climate change;</li> </ul> | <p>A number of protected species have been recorded at and in the vicinity of the sites including during numerous survey visits to identify the habitats and biodiversity present at the sites. It is concluded that the restoration of the site will fully mitigate all adverse effects and provide additional enhancement with overall beneficial impacts with respect to protected species.</p> <p>The sites will be subject to an aftercare and maintenance period following the completion of restoration. The length of the aftercare period will be 30 years consistent with the requirements for Biodiversity Net Gain under the Environment Act 2021. A Habitat Management and Monitoring Plan will be submitted under an appropriately worded planning condition.</p> |

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|             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• safeguard the value of previously developed land where it is of significant importance for biodiversity and/or geodiversity;</li> <li>• work with developers and Natural England to identify a strategic approach to great crested newt mitigation, where this is required, on major sites and other areas of key significance for this species.</li> </ul> <p><b>1. Designated Sites</b></p> <p><b>1a) International Sites</b><br/>                     The highest level of protection will be afforded to international sites designated for their nature conservation or geological importance. Proposals having an adverse impact on the integrity of such areas, that cannot be avoided or adequately mitigated to remove any adverse effect, will not be permitted other than in exceptional circumstances. These circumstances will only apply where there are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• no suitable alternatives;</li> <li>• imperative reasons of overriding public interest; and</li> <li>• necessary compensatory provision can be secured.</li> </ul> <p>Development will only be permitted where the council is satisfied that any necessary mitigation is included such that, in combination with other development, there will be no adverse effects on the integrity of international sites.</p> <p>Development proposals that are likely to have an adverse impact, either alone or in combination, on international designated sites, must satisfy the requirements of the Habitats Regulations, including determining site specific impacts and avoiding or mitigating against impacts where identified. Such impacts may include increased recreational pressure, air pollution and water quality impacts.</p> <p><b>1b) National Sites</b><br/>                     Development proposals within or outside a SSSI, likely to have an adverse effect on a SSSI (either individually or in combination with other developments), will not normally be permitted unless the benefits of the development, at this site, clearly outweigh both the adverse impacts on the features of the site and any adverse impacts on the wider network of SSSIs.</p> <p><b>1c) Local Sites</b><br/>                     Development likely to have an adverse effect on locally designated sites, their features or their function as part of the ecological network, including County Wildlife Sites, Local Geological Sites and sites supporting Biodiversity Action Plan habitats and species, will only be permitted where the need and benefits of the development clearly outweigh the loss and the coherence of the local ecological network is maintained.</p> <p><b>1d) Habitats and Species of Principal Importance</b><br/>                     The council will consider all development proposals in the context of its duty to promote the protection and recovery of priority species and habitats. Where adverse impacts are likely, development will only be permitted where the need for and benefits of the development clearly outweigh these impacts.</p> <p><b>2. Biodiversity and Geodiversity in Development</b><br/>                     All development proposals should:</p> |                          |



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|                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Conserve and enhance the network of habitats, species and sites (both statutory and non-statutory) of international, national and local importance commensurate with their status and give appropriate weight to their importance;</li> <li>• Avoid negative impacts on biodiversity and geodiversity;</li> <li>• Deliver a net gain in biodiversity, where possible, by creating, restoring and enhancing habitats and enhancing them for the benefit of species;</li> <li>• Where necessary, protect and enhance the aquatic environment within or adjoining the site, including water quality and habitat. For riverside development, this includes the need to consider options for riverbank naturalisation. In all cases regard should be had to the council's Flood and Water Management SPD.</li> </ul> <p>All development proposals should complete the council's biodiversity checklist to identify features of value on and adjoining the site and, for major development proposals, provide an audit of losses and gains in existing and proposed habitat. Where there is the potential for the presence of protected species and/or habitats, a relevant ecological survey(s) must be undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist. The development proposals must be informed by the results of both the checklist and survey. In all cases, regard should be had to the council's Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity SPD.</p> |  |
| <p><b>Impacts</b></p> | <p><b>Policy 20 [MWLP]</b></p> <p>...Unless national policy or legislation provides an alternative but similar mechanism, mineral and waste management proposals must (unless a decision taker would clearly not benefit from it) be accompanied by a completed biodiversity checklist (see respective planning authority website for details) and must identify features of value on and adjoining the site and to provide an audit of losses and gains in existing and proposed habitat. Where there is the potential for the presence of protected species and/or habitats, a relevant ecological survey(s) must be undertaken by a suitably qualified ecologist. The development proposals must be informed by the results of both the checklist and survey.</p> <p><b>Mitigation of Potential Adverse Impacts of Development</b></p> <p>Development should avoid adverse impact on existing biodiversity and geodiversity features as a first principle. Where adverse impacts are unavoidable they must be adequately and proportionately mitigated. If full mitigation cannot be provided, compensation will be required as a last resort where there is no alternative...</p>  | <p>Replacement habitats for those that will be lost during the development are embedded within the design fully mitigating all potential adverse effects and providing additional enhancement with overall beneficial impacts. As the operations will be phased not all habitat will be lost at one stage and the phased restoration of the sites is designed to create new habitats from an early stage. The proposed restoration will create a mosaic of habitats that will directly benefit wildlife such as amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates and mammals. The proposed restoration will provide new and enhanced links to existing habitats and will extend the capacity of Bedford Purlieus to support notable species. This will contribute to the conservation aims of Nature Recovery Networks within the wider Rockingham Forest area.</p> |

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|   | <p><b>Trees and Woodland</b></p>   | <p><b>Policy LP29 [PLP]</b></p> <p>Development proposals should be prepared based on the overriding principle that:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the existing tree and woodland cover is maintained, improved and expanded; and</li> <li>opportunities for expanding woodland are actively considered, and implemented where practical and appropriate to do so...</li> </ul> <p><b>...New Trees and Woodland</b></p> <p>Where appropriate and practical, opportunities for new tree planting should be explored as part of all development proposals (in addition to, if applicable, any necessary compensatory tree provision). Where new trees are proposed, they should be done so on the basis of the five Tree Planting Principles. Proposals which fail to provide practical opportunities for new tree planting will be refused.</p> <p><b>Management and Maintenance</b></p> <p>In instances where new trees and/or woodlands are proposed, it may be necessary for the council to require appropriate developer contributions to be provided, to ensure provision is made for appropriate management and maintenance of the new trees and/or woodland.</p>  | <p>A tree survey has been undertaken and is presented at Annex 2 of Appendix ES8.1 of the Environmental Statement. The proposed development will result in the loss of two hedgerows and three tree groups. The wet woodland and woodland adjacent to the Thornhaugh Brook corridor will be retained throughout the development. The Brook Corridor will be protected during the proposed development by the implementation of a Construction Exclusion Zone. The loss of the hedgerows and the trees will be more than mitigated during the restoration of the site, resulting in a significant overall increase in hedgerows and other woody vegetation on site.</p>   |
| <p style="writing-mode: vertical-rl; transform: rotate(180deg);"><b>Ecology</b></p> | <p><b>Green infrastructure</b></p> | <p><b>Policy LP22 [PLP] Green Infrastructure Network</b></p> <p>All development proposals should ensure that existing and new green infrastructure is considered and integrated into the scheme design from the outset. Where new green infrastructure is proposed, the design should maximise the delivery of ecosystem services and support healthy and active lifestyles.</p> <p>Strategic and major development proposals should incorporate opportunities for green infrastructure provision, to reverse the decline in biodiversity and restore ecological networks at a landscape scale, reverse habitat fragmentation and increase connectivity of habitats, and to preserve, restore and create priority and other habitats within and adjacent to development schemes.</p> <p>Proposals will be expected to provide clear arrangements for the long-term maintenance and management and/or enhancement of green infrastructure assets. Where appropriate, the council may utilise planning conditions, CIL or planning obligations to deliver green infrastructure projects.</p> <p>Development must protect the existing linear features of the green infrastructure network that provide connectivity between green infrastructure assets, including public rights of way, bridleways, cycleways and waterways, and take opportunities to improve such features.</p> <p>Development proposals that cause loss or harm to the green infrastructure network will not be permitted, unless the need for and benefits of the development demonstrably outweigh any adverse impacts. Where adverse impacts on the green infrastructure network are unavoidable, development will only be permitted if suitable mitigation measures for the network are provided.</p> | <p>The proposed restoration will create a mosaic of habitats that will directly benefit wildlife such as amphibians, reptiles, invertebrates and mammals. The proposed restoration will provide new and enhanced links to existing habitats and will extend the capacity of Bedford Purlieus to support notable species. This will contribute to the conservation aims of Nature Recovery Networks within the wider Rockingham Forest area.</p> <p>The proposed development includes detention basins for the management of surface water during storm events. The detention basins are integrated in the restoration design. As a result of the proposed development a number of new permissive paths will be created which cross the site to increase public access.</p> |

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|                   | <p>Development proposals which are consistent with and support the delivery of the opportunities, priorities and initiatives identified in the Peterborough Green Infrastructure and Biodiversity SPD will be supported.</p> <p><b>Policy 20 [MWLP]</b><br/> <b>Biodiversity and Geodiversity in Development</b><br/>                     All development proposals must:<br/>                     (d) conserve and enhance the network of geodiversity, habitats, species and sites (both statutory and non-statutory) of international, national and local importance commensurate with their status and give appropriate weight to their importance;<br/>                     (g) where viable opportunities arise, contribute to the delivery of the Local Nature Partnership vision to 'double land for nature';</p>  |   |
|                   |  |   |
| <b>Flood risk</b> | <p><b>Paragraph 167 [NPPF]-</b> When determining any planning applications, local planning authorities should ensure that flood risk is not increased elsewhere. Where appropriate, applications should be supported by a site-specific flood-risk assessment. Development should only be allowed in areas at risk of flooding where, in the light of this assessment (and the sequential and exception tests, as applicable) it can be demonstrated that: a) within the site, the most vulnerable development is located in areas of lowest flood risk, unless there are overriding reasons to prefer a different location; b) the development is appropriately flood resistant and resilient such that, in the event of a flood, it could be quickly brought back into use without significant refurbishment; c) it incorporates sustainable drainage systems, unless there is clear evidence that this would be inappropriate; d) any residual risk can be safely managed; and e) safe access and escape routes are included where appropriate, as part of an agreed emergency plan.</p> <p><b>Policy 22 [MWLP] –</b><br/>                     Mineral and waste management development will only be permitted where it can be demonstrated (potentially through a detailed hydrogeological assessment) that there would be no significant adverse impact on:<br/>                     (a) the quantity and quality of surface or groundwater resources;<br/>                     (b) the quantity and quality of water abstraction currently enjoyed by abstractors unless acceptable alternative provision is made; and<br/>                     (c) the flow of groundwater at or in the vicinity of the site;</p> <p>Development located on sites in areas known to be at risk from any form of flooding will only be permitted following:</p> <p>(d) the successful completion of a sequential test (if necessary) and an exception test if required, with both tests applying climate change allowances to define flood risks;<br/>                     (e) the submission, where appropriate (as defined by national policy), of a site-specific Flood Risk Assessment, setting out appropriate flood risk that:<br/>                     i. defines the flood zones in relation to the proposal;<br/>                     ii. demonstrates the impacts of climate change on the flood zones, over the lifetime of the development;<br/>                     iii. demonstrates that a sequential approach has been taken to the design of the layout of the proposal, placing those aspects of the development most sensitive to the impacts of flooding in the area of lowest flood risk;</p> | <p>The impacts of the proposed development on groundwater levels, groundwater quality and surface water quality have been scoped out of the EIA which was agreed in the scoping opinion provided by Peterborough City Council on 23 November 2023.</p> <p>The majority of Cooks Hole is located in Flood Zone 1 except a small area in the vicinity of Thornhaugh Brook that passes through Cooks Hole which is in Flood Zones 2 and 3a. Thornhaugh is located in Flood Zone 1. The proposed development will not increase flood risk at or in the vicinity of the sites. No raising of existing ground levels is proposed within the parts of the application area located within Flood Zones 2 or 3a.</p> <p>A site specific flood risk assessment for the proposed development has been undertaken and is presented at Section 11 of the Environmental Statement. A 40% allowance for climate change has been included in the attenuation calculations for the Flood Risk Assessment. The drainage and surface water management strategy for the proposed development is presented at Appendix ES4.1 to the Environmental Statement. It is concluded that due to the location of the sites and the measures proposed in the surface water management plan that the proposed development can be undertaken without significant residual effects on flood risk at or in the vicinity of the sites.</p> |



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|             | <p>iv. demonstrates that appropriate mitigation measures have been incorporated into the development so that there will be no negative off-site impacts to people and property and that the users will be safe for the lifetime of the development; and</p> <p>v. demonstrates that all reasonable actions have been taken to contribute to the overall reduction of flood risk.</p> <p>(f) the consideration of any necessary ongoing maintenance, management of mitigation measures and adoption and that any relevant agreements are in place; and</p> <p>(g) where built development is proposed, the incorporation of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) wherever feasible into the proposals.</p> <p>All proposed development will be required to incorporate adequate water pollution control and monitoring measures.</p> <p>Proposals should also have due regard to the latest policies and guidance in the Cambridgeshire Flood and Water SPD and the Peterborough Flood and Water Management SPD (or their successors).</p> <p><b>Policy LP32 [PLP]</b></p> <p>Development proposals should adopt a sequential approach to flood risk management, taking into account the requirements of the NPPF and the further guidance and advice set out in the council's Flood and Water Management SPD.</p> <p>Development located in areas known to be at risk from any form of flooding will only be permitted following:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. the successful completion of a sequential test (if necessary) and an exception test if required;</li> <li>b. the submission of a site specific flood risk assessment, setting out appropriate flood risk management and demonstrating no increased risk of flooding to the development site or to existing properties, and where possible should seek to reduce flood risk;</li> <li>c. the consideration of any necessary ongoing maintenance, management of mitigation measures and adoption and that any relevant agreements are in place; and</li> <li>d. the incorporation of Sustainable Drainage Systems (SuDS) into the proposals.</li> </ol> <p>A site specific Flood Risk Assessment appropriate to the scale and nature of the development and risks involved, taking into account future climate change, will be required for development proposals:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• in Flood Zones 2 and 3; and</li> <li>• in Flood Zone 1 where there are critical drainage problems; and</li> <li>• on sites of 1 hectare or greater in Flood Zone 1; and</li> <li>• sites where development or change of use to a more vulnerable use may be subject to</li> <li>• other sources of flooding; and</li> <li>• sites of less than 1 hectare in Flood Zone 1 where they could be affected by sources of</li> <li>• flooding other than from rivers and the sea.</li> </ul> <p>Development proposals should also protect the water environment and must demonstrate:</p> |                          |

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|                             | <p>e. that water is available to support the development proposed;</p> <p>f. that development contributes positively to the water environment and its ecology where possible and does not adversely affect surface and ground water;</p> <p>g. that adequate foul water treatment and disposal already exists or can be provided in time to serve the development;</p> <p>h. in areas served by combined sewers, surface and foul flows should be separated and no new combined sewers created. Connections to the existing combined sewer should only be made in exceptional circumstances where it can be demonstrated that there are no feasible alternatives, such as (and in this priority order): into the ground (infiltration); to a surface water body; or to a surface water sewer, highway drain, or another drainage system (this applies to new developments and redevelopments). Where and existing combined or surface water sewer is utilised, there must be no detriment to existing users of such a sewer;</p> <p>i. that suitable access is safeguarded for the maintenance of water supply and drainage infrastructure.</p>   |  |
| <p>Landscape and visual</p> | <p><b>Paragraph 130c [NPPF]</b>...Decisions should ensure developments:... c) are sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting...</p> <p><b>Paragraph 7 [NPPW]</b> When determining waste planning applications, waste planning authorities should:... ensure that waste management facilities in themselves are well-designed, so that they contribute positively to the character and quality of the area in which they are located...</p> <p><b>Appendix B c(i) [NPPW]</b> ...Determining planning applications, waste planning authorities should consider the factors below... c. Considerations will include (i) the potential for design-led solutions to produce acceptable development which respects landscape character</p> <p><b>Policy 17 [MWLP]</b> - All waste management development, and where relevant mineral development, should secure high quality design. The design of built development and the restoration of sites should be sympathetic to and, where opportunities arise, enhance local distinctiveness and the character and quality of the area in which it is located. Permission will be refused for development of poor design that fails to take the opportunities available to achieve this.<br/>                     New mineral and waste management development must:<br/>                     (a) make efficient use of land and buildings, through the design, layout and orientation of buildings on site and through prioritising the use of previously developed land;<br/>                     (b) be durable, flexible and adaptable over its planned lifespan, taking into account potential future social, economic, technological and environmental needs through the structure, layout and design of buildings and places;<br/>                     (c) provide a high standard of amenity for users of new buildings and maintain or enhance the existing amenity of neighbours;<br/>                     (d) be designed to reduce crime, minimise fire risk, create safe environments, and provide satisfactory access for emergency vehicles;<br/>                     (e) create visual richness through building type, height, layout, scale, form, density, massing, materials and colour and through landscape design;<br/>                     (f) be sympathetic to local character and history, including the surrounding built environment and landscape setting, while not preventing or discouraging appropriate innovation or change (such as increased densities);</p> | <p>A Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment has been undertaken and is presented at Appendix ES10.1 of the Environmental Statement. With respect to landscape features the tree belt which runs adjacent to Thornhaugh Brook will be retained through the operations. There will be a loss of 2 hedgerows and 3 tree groups as a result of the proposed development but the vegetation will be replaced in the phased manner in greater quantities than will be lost.</p> <p>The assessment concludes that effects on landscape character as a result of the proposed development are limited due to the existing context and setting. The landscape character of the sites is not considered highly valued or highly sensitive and the sensitivity of the landscape character at the sites to the proposed development is assessed as low. On completion of restoration it is determined that there would be minor benefits to landscape character following restoration due to improved planting and enhancements to the rights of way network.</p> <p>The sites lie within Landscape Character Area (LCA) Nassaburgh Limestone Plateau 2b Burghley and Walcot Slopes; LCA 2c Wittering Limestone Plateau. There will be negligible effects on the Landscape Character Areas 2 'Nassaburgh Limestone Plateau' (specifically LCA sub areas 2b and 2c) due to the small size of the sites in comparison with the overall area covered by these landscape character areas and the existing operational context (i.e. the landscape character of the proposed development is consistent with the landscape character of the permitted development).</p> <p>The proposed development will result in noticeable but limited adverse effects on visual receptors. The visibility of the site is restricted by the boundary hedgerow vegetation, the scrubby land to the south and Bedford Purlieus to the west and there are limited receptors with clear views of the site. The only significant effect as the result of the proposed development will be the loss of views from Footpath No 3 Sections 3 and 4 due to the temporary closure of the footpaths during the operational period. The footpaths will be reinstated following the completion of the operations. Following reinstatement there would be a beneficial effect as there would be elevated views of the</p> |

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|             | <p>(g) retain or enhance important features and assets (including trees and hedgerows) within the landscape, treescape or townscape and conserve or create key views; and<br/>                     (h) provide a landscape enhancement scheme which takes account of any relevant landscape character assessments (including any historic landscape characterisation) and which demonstrates that the development can be assimilated into its surroundings and local landscape character; and, where appropriate for the development:<br/>                     (i) provide well designed boundary treatments (including security features) that reflect the function and character of the development and are well integrated into its surroundings; and<br/>                     (j) provide attractive, accessible and integrated vehicle and cycle parking which also satisfies the parking standards of the Development Plan for the area, and incorporates facilities for electric plug-in and other ultra-low emission vehicles.</p> <p>For waste management proposals, detailed design guidance can be found in Appendix 3: The Location and Design of Waste Management Facilities. This guidance provides a framework for creating distinctive places, with a consistent and high quality standard of design. Whilst the guidance provides a degree of flexibility, it will be used to assist in determining whether a proposal is consistent with the approach set out in this policy.</p> <p><b>Policy LP16 [PLP]</b><br/>                     All development proposals are expected to positively contribute to the character and local distinctiveness of the area and create a sense of place. As such, and where applicable, proposals will be required to demonstrate to a degree proportionate to the proposal, that they:</p> <p>a. Respect the context of the site and surrounding area and respond appropriately to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the local patterns of development, including street plots and blocks, spaces between buildings and boundary treatments;</li> <li>• building form, including size, scale, massing, density, details and materials; topography;</li> <li>• existing natural, historic and built assets and features that contribute positively to local character and distinctiveness;</li> <li>• existing landmarks and focal points; ;...</li> </ul> <p>...f. Provide well designed boundary treatments, that reflect the function and character of the development and its surroundings;..</p> <p>g. Provide well designed new public realm, with appropriate landscaping (hard and soft), street furniture, opportunities for public art and opportunities to enhance biodiversity;...</p> <p><b>Policy LP27 [PLP]</b> - New development in and adjoining the countryside should be located and designed in a way that is sensitive to its landscape setting; retaining, enhancing or restoring the distinctive qualities of the landscape character area and sub area in which it would be situated.</p> <p>There are six landscape character areas (with associated sub-areas), which have been identified in the Peterborough Landscape Character Assessment. Their general extent is shown on Map B. They are: ...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Nassaburgh Limestone Plateau...</li> </ul> | <p>surrounding landscape from the footpath. The proposed restoration scheme will result in significant biodiversity net gain which is beneficial for landscape features and character. There would be some cumulative effects on visual receptors during the operations at the sites and at Thornhaugh II located immediately to the south of Cooks Hole but these would be minor. On restoration of the sites and the other developments the cumulative effects would be beneficial for users of the A47, public rights of ways and for biodiversity,</p> |

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|             |        | <p>...planning permission will be granted if the proposed development would:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. recognise and, where possible, enhance the character and special qualities of the local landscape through appropriate design and management;</li> <li>b. reflect and enhance local distinctiveness and diversity;</li> <li>c. identify, maintain and, where possible, enhance any natural or man-made features of significant landscape, historical, cultural, wildlife and geological importance. Where a proposal may result in significant harm, it may be permitted in exceptional circumstances, if the overriding benefits of the development demonstrably outweigh the harm: in such circumstances the harm should be minimised and mitigated;</li> <li>d. safeguard and enhance important views and vistas, including sky lines in to, out of and within the development layout;</li> <li>e. protect the landscape settings and separate identities of settlements; and</li> <li>f. provide appropriate landscape mitigation proportionate in scale and design, and/or suitable off-site enhancements.</li> </ul> <p>In considering the impacts of a proposal, the cumulative as well as the individual impacts on the landscape will be considered, including the potential impacts on adjacent Landscape Character Areas.</p> |  |
| Noise       | Impact | <p><b>Paragraph 174e [NPPF]</b>- Planning policies and decisions should contribute to and enhance the natural and local environment by:... e) preventing new and existing development from contributing to, being put at unacceptable risk from, or being adversely affected by, unacceptable levels of... noise pollution... <b>[NPPF]</b></p>  | <p>A noise assessment has been undertaken and is presented at Appendix ES13.1 of the Environmental Statement. The results of the assessment demonstrate that the proposed development including traffic movements can be undertaken whilst adhering to the existing noise limits for the sites. It is considered by Peterborough City Council that the existing noise limits provide sufficient protection for nearby sensitive receptors. It is considered unlikely that the proposed development would result in any significant or unacceptable adverse impacts at noise-sensitive premises in the vicinity of the sites.</p> <p>A noise monitoring scheme for the proposed development is presented at Appendix ES4.5 of the Environmental Statement. This scheme is based on the currently approved noise monitoring schemes for the sites.</p> |
|             |        | <p><b>Paragraph 185a [NPPF]</b>- Planning policies and decisions should also ensure that new development is appropriate for its location taking into account the likely effects (including cumulative effects) of pollution on health, living conditions and the natural environment, as well as the potential sensitivity of the site or the wider area to impacts that could arise from the development. In doing so they should a) mitigate and reduce to a minimum potential adverse impacts resulting from noise from new development – and avoid noise giving rise to significant adverse impacts on health and the quality of life <b>[NPPF]</b></p>  |  |
|             |        | <p><b>Appendix B j-</b> ...Determining planning applications, waste planning authorities should consider the factors below... j. Considerations will include the proximity of sensitive receptors. The operation of large waste management facilities in particular can produce noise affecting both the inside and outside of buildings, including noise and vibration from goods vehicle traffic movements to and from a site. Intermittent and sustained operating noise may be a problem if not properly managed particularly if night-time working is involved... <b>[NPPW]</b></p>   |  |
|             |        | <p><b>Policy 18 [MWLP] –</b><br/>Proposals must ensure that the development proposed can be integrated effectively with existing or planned (i.e. Development Plan allocations or consented schemes) neighbouring development. New development must not result in unacceptable adverse impacts on the amenity of existing occupiers of any land or property, including:<br/>;<br/>(c) noise and/or vibration levels resulting in disturbance;</p> <p>Where there is the potential for any of the above impacts to occur, an assessment</p>   |  |



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|             |   | <p>appropriate to the nature of that potential impact should be carried out, and submitted as part of the proposal, in order to establish, where appropriate, the need for, and deliverability of, any mitigation.</p> <p><b>Policy LP17 [PLP]</b></p> <p>New development should not result in an unacceptable impact on the amenity of existing occupiers of any nearby properties. These impacts may include:...</p> <p>c. noise and/or vibration levels resulting in disturbance for the occupiers or users of any nearby property or land; or...</p>  |   |
|             |   |   |   |
| Traffic     | Impacts, highway safety and suitability | <p><b>Policy 23 [MWLP]</b></p> <p>Mineral and waste management development will only be permitted if:</p> <p>(a) appropriate opportunities to promote sustainable transport modes can be, or have been, taken up, to the degree reasonably available given the type of development and its location. If, at the point of application, commercially available electric Heavy Commercial Vehicles (HCVs) are reasonably available, then development which would increase HCV movements should provide appropriate electric vehicle charging infrastructure for HCVs;</p> <p>(b) safe and suitable access to the site can be achieved for all users of the subsequent development;</p> <p>(c) any significant impacts from the development on the transport network (in terms of capacity and congestion), or on highway safety, can be cost effectively mitigated to an acceptable degree;</p> <p>(d) any associated increase in traffic or highway improvements would not cause unacceptable harm to the environment, road safety or residential amenity, and would not cause severe residual cumulative impacts on the road network; and</p> <p>(e) binding agreements covering lorry routing arrangements and/or HCV signage for mineral and waste traffic are agreed, if any such agreements are necessary and reasonable to make a development acceptable.</p> <p><u>Use of HCV Route Network</u></p> <p>Where mineral and/or waste is to be taken on or off a site using the highway network, then all proposals must demonstrate how the latest identified HCV Route Network is, where reasonable and practical to do so, to be utilised. If necessary, arrangements ensuring that the use of the HCV Route Network takes place may need to be secured through an appropriate and enforceable agreement. Any non-allocated mineral and waste management facility in Cambridgeshire which would require significant use of the highway must be well related to the HCV Route Network.</p> | <p>A Transport Statement has been prepared for the proposed development and is presented at Appendix ES12.1 to the Environmental Statement. The proposed development will result in fewer HGV movements than those previously and currently consented for the operations. The existing access is suitable and provides adequate visibility in both directions. The amenity access that will be created following the completion of the operations at the site will provide suitable visibility and access to a small car park. It is concluded that the proposed development will not result in an unacceptable impact on highway safety.</p> |
|             | Rights of Way                           | <p><b>Policy 23 [MWLP]</b></p> <p><b>Public Rights of Way</b></p> <p>During all phases of development, including construction, operation and restoration, proposals must make provision for suitable and appropriate diversions to affected public rights of way, and ideally the enhancement of the public rights of way network where practicable. Opportunities should be taken for the provision of new routes and links between existing routes, especially at the restoration stage. Priority should be given to meeting the objectives of any Rights of Way Improvement Plans. Where development</p>   | <p>There is a network of Public Rights of Way (PRoW) at and in the vicinity of the sites. The footpaths which are already diverted or stopped up will remain diverted or stopped up until the operations are completed in 2042. It will be necessary for Footpath Thornhaugh No 3 Section 3 and Section 4 to be diverted once operations for the placement of restoration materials begin north of Thornhaugh Brook. An alternative footpath route to the south of Thornhaugh Brook will be provided prior to the temporary closure of the existing footpath.</p>   |

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|                         |                         | would adversely affect the permanent use of public rights of way (including temporary diversions) planning permission will only be granted where alternative routes are provided that are of equivalent convenience, quality and interest.   | New permissive paths will be constructed at the site as part of the proposed restoration scheme. A number of rights of way which have been historically diverted will be reinstated across the restored sites and a number of new permissive paths will also be established to provide circular walks around the site. A permissive path will be established adjacent to the A47 to allow walkers to walk inside the boundary of the sites rather than on the highway verge. Following restoration there will be a benefit to users of the rights of way as there will be elevated views and additional paths to use.   |
| Sustainable development | Sustainable development | <b>Paragraph 10-</b> So that sustainable development is pursued in a positive way, at the heart of the Framework is a presumption in favour of sustainable development <b>[NPPF]</b>   | <p>The proposed development provides a necessary facility for the safe and environmentally secure management of waste generated by others and by Augean. The methods of construction and operation, the materials which must be used to meet the containment specification for Thornhaugh and the associated controls that must be implemented are driven by regulations and guidance and there is limited opportunity to change aspects of the site construction and operation in order to further improve the sustainable management of waste. In England, the waste hierarchy is both a guide to sustainable waste management and a legal requirement, enshrined in law through The Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 (as amended). Before non hazardous waste and stable non-reactive hazardous waste (SNRHW) is directed for disposal to landfill the producer of the waste must first have considered alternative options for its minimisation, re-use or treatment. This is the case for all waste accepted at Thornhaugh. The clean naturally occurring materials that will be imported to Cooks Hole to create the landform is being recovered for beneficial use in the restoration of the site which is at the top of the hierarchy.</p> <p>It is considered that the proposals the subject of this application fulfil the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development as defined in the NPPF and as demonstrated in Section 6 of the Planning Statement. The potential impacts arising from the proposed development have been considered in the Environmental Statement and it is concluded that the proposed development will not result in significant adverse impacts on the environment or human health.</p> |
|                         |                         | <b>Paragraph 11-</b> Plans and decisions should apply a presumption in favour of sustainable development... For decision-taking this means:  |   |
|                         |                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>c) approving development proposals that accord with an up-to-date development plan without delay; or</li> <li>d) where there are no relevant development plan policies, or the policies which are most important for determining the application are out-of-date, granting permission unless:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. the application of policies in this Framework that protect areas or assets of particular importance provides a clear reason for refusing the development proposed; or</li> </ul> </li> </ul>  |   |
|                         |                         | any adverse impacts of doing so would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in this Framework taken as a whole. <b>[NPPF]</b>   |   |
|                         |                         | <b>Policy 1 [MWLP]</b> – Mineral and waste management proposals will be assessed against the overarching principle of whether the proposal would play an active role in guiding development towards sustainable solutions. In undertaking that assessment, account will be taken of local circumstances such as the character, needs, constraints and opportunities of the plan area. Proposals which are not consistent with this principle will be refused.  |   |
|                         |                         | <b>Policy LP1 [PLP]</b> – When considering development proposals, the council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the National Planning Policy Framework. It will seek to work proactively with developers and investors to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the area, and in turn helps Peterborough create the UK’s Environment Capital. Planning applications that accord with the policies in this Local Plan (and, where relevant, with policies in neighbourhood plans) will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. |   |

|                                | Policy Area                    | Policy  | Assessment of compliance   |
|--------------------------------|--------------------------------|---|--|
| Development in the Countryside | Development in the Countryside | <p><b>Policy LP2: [PLP] The Settlement Hierarchy and the Countryside</b></p> <p>... Development in the countryside (i.e. outside the boundary of all settlements in the hierarchy) will be restricted to that which is:...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>minerals or waste development in accordance with the separate Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents...</li> </ul> | The proposed development is minerals and waste development and is a suitable development in the countryside. |

| Policy Area    | Policy  | Assessment of compliance  |
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| Climate change | <p><b>Policy 1 [MWLP]</b></p> <p>Proposals should take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures.</p> <p>Proposals which ensure the future resilience of communities and infrastructure to climate change impacts will be supported.</p> <p>Proposals, including operational practices and restoration proposals, must take account of climate change for the lifetime of the development (including the lifetime of its restoration scheme, where applicable). This will be through measures to minimise greenhouse gas emissions, and measures to ensure adaptation to future climate changes.</p> <p>Proposals should, to a degree which is proportionate to the scale and nature of the scheme, set out how this will be achieved, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) demonstrating how the location, design, site operation and transportation related to the development will help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (including through the adoption of emission reduction measures based on the principles of the energy hierarchy); and take into account any significant impacts on human health and wellbeing and on air quality;</li> <li>(b) where relevant, setting out how the proposal will make use of renewable energy including opportunities for generating energy from waste for use beyond the boundaries of the site itself, and the use of decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy;</li> <li>(c) for proposals which involve the temporary or permanent removal of peat soils, measures to make long term sustainable use of such soils (see also Policy 24); and</li> <li>(d) for waste management proposals, <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) how the principles of the waste hierarchy have been considered and addressed; and</li> <li>(ii) broadly quantifying the reduction in carbon dioxide and other relevant greenhouse gases e.g. methane, that should be achieved as part of the proposal, and how this will be monitored and addressed in future.</li> </ul> </li> </ul> <p>Proposals should also set out how they will be resilient to a changing climate, taking account of the latest available evidence on the impact of climate change, such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(e) avoiding proposals which could increase vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change;</li> <li>(f) incorporation of sustainable drainage schemes to minimise flood impacts, and, if viable opportunities exist, reduce current flood risk;</li> <li>(g) measures to manage water resources efficiently (and where restoration proposals are reliant on water, ensure sufficient water resource will be available);</li> <li>(h) measures to assist habitats and species to adapt to the potential effects of climate change; and</li> <li>(i) measures to adapt to the potential impacts of excess heat and drought.</li> </ul> <p><b>Policy LP31: Renewable and Low Carbon Energy [PLP]</b><br/> <b>Low Carbon Energy</b><br/> Development proposals will be considered more favourably if the scheme would make a positive and significant contribution towards one or more of the following (which are listed in order of preference):...</p> | <p>The resilience of the proposals to climate change are taken into account through detailed consideration of the main potential consequence of climate change on the development which is the projected increase in the intensity and frequency of rainfall and storm events. Consideration and assessment of the potential impact of the proposed development on water resources and flood risk with allowance for climate change is presented within Section 11 of the Environmental Statement. The design of the surface water management scheme presented at Appendix ES4.1 of the Environmental Statement includes the necessary provisions for climate change in particular the predicted increase in frequency and intensity of rainfall storm events. Consistent with guidance, the design rainfall event used in the surface water management plan presented at Appendix ES4.1 of the Environmental Statement comprises the 1 in 100 year rainfall event plus a 40% allowance for climate change. The proposed development will not increase the vulnerability of the sites or the surrounding area to impacts arising from climate change. The proposed development incorporates surface water attenuation measures. The attenuation capacity needed has been calculated taking into account the projected increase in storm intensity and runoff as a result of climate change.</p> <p>The proposed development will minimise greenhouse gas emissions by continuing to manage and control landfill gas generated by the limited proportion of degradable wastes deposited in Thornhaugh by capturing the gas and combusting it in the gas flare. None of the clean, naturally occurring materials imported to the site from ENRMF for use in restoration will result in biodegradation and the generation of greenhouse gases. The restoration proposals for the site have been designed with future-proofing the site for a changing climate with the site to be restored to a mix of nature conservation uses.</p> <p>The proposed development will result in fewer HGV movements than those previously and currently consented for the operations. Based on consideration and professional judgement taking into account the operations proposed at the sites and further consideration of the sources of greenhouse gases from the waste sector which contribute to the UK carbon budget it is concluded based on a qualitative assessment that the proposed development will not result in likely significant adverse effects on greenhouse gas emissions or on the ability of the UK to achieve its carbon budget targets.</p> <p>Wherever possible opportunities are implemented to minimise impacts on greenhouse gas emissions and climate change such as by using baled used tyres as a leachate drainage medium in place of gravel aggregate. In addition it is a standard condition in the Environmental Permit for Thornhaugh that the operator must review and record at least every 4 years whether there are further suitable opportunities to improve the energy efficiency of the activities and to consider whether suitable alternative materials can be used to reduce the impacts associated with the use of raw materials. Augean will continue to investigate the potential for improving energy efficiency at the site in accordance with the Environmental Permit for Thornhaugh including investing in energy efficient plant and diverse other policies and operational measures as set out in the Augean Corporate and Social Responsibility Policy and their externally certified Integrated Management System which satisfies the requirements of the ISO 14001 Environmental Management System Standard together with other standards. Augean are also a member of the Energy Saving Opportunity Scheme.</p> <p>The proposed development represents in general terms a continuation over a longer period of the current consented activities. The proposed development does not itself</p> |



| Policy Area               | Policy   | Assessment of compliance  |
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|                           | <p><b>...Carbon off-setting:</b> development could provide extensive, well designed, multi-functional woodland (and, if possible, include a management plan for the long term management of the wood resource which is produced), fenland or grassland.</p> <p>Proposals which address one or more of the above principles (whether in relation to an existing development or as part of a wider new development scheme) but which are poorly designed and/or located and which have a detrimental impact on the landscape, the amenity of residents, or the natural and built environment, will be refused.</p> | <p>generate significant quantities of waste, it provides a necessary facility for the safe and environmentally secure management of waste generated by others (for Thornhaugh) and by Augean in the construction of a Nationally Significant Infrastructure Project to be used by others, therefore the methods of construction and operation, the materials which must be used to meet the containment specification for Thornhaugh and the associated controls that must be implemented are driven by regulations and guidance and there is limited opportunity to change aspects of the site construction and operation in order to reduce impacts on climate change.</p> <p>The proposed restoration scheme will provide significant areas of woodland, scrub and hedgerow planting which could make a significant contribution to carbon off setting.</p>  |
| Restoration and aftercare | Beneficial afteruse  | <p><b>Paragraph 7-</b> When determining waste planning applications, waste planning authorities should:... ensure that land raising or landfill sites are restored to beneficial after uses at the earliest opportunity and to high environmental standards... <b>[NPPW]</b></p> <p><b>Policy 19 [MWLP]</b> - All mineral extraction related proposals, and all waste management proposals which are likely to be temporary in nature, must be accompanied by a restoration and aftercare scheme proposal, secured if necessary by a legal agreement. Such a proposal must, where appropriate:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) set out a phasing schedule so as to restore available parts of the site to a beneficial afteruse as soon as is reasonably practicable to do so, and to restore the whole of the site within an agreed timeframe. Only in exceptional circumstances, such as where the afteruse is a reservoir or on very small sites where phasing is not practical, will a non-phased scheme be approved;</li> <li>(b) reflect strategic and local objectives for countryside enhancement and green infrastructure, including those set out in relevant Local Plans and Green Infrastructure Strategies, in the Local Nature Partnerships vision and strategic proposals, as well as any applicable wider Development Plan objectives;</li> <li>(c) contribute, if feasible, to identified flood risk management and water storage needs (including helping to reduce the risk of flooding elsewhere) or water supply objectives and incorporate these within the restoration scheme;</li> <li>(d) demonstrate net biodiversity gain through the promotion, preservation, restoration and recreation of priority habitats, ecological networks and the protection and recovery of priority species populations, linked to national and local targets;</li> <li>(e) protect geodiversity and improve educational opportunities by incorporating this element within the restoration scheme, by leaving important geological faces exposed and retaining access to them; and</li> <li>(f) incorporate within the restoration scheme amenity uses, such as formal and informal sport, navigation, and recreation uses.</li> </ul> <p>In the case of mineral workings, restoration schemes which will contribute to addressing or adapting to climate change will, in principle, be supported e.g. through flood water storage; through biodiversity proposals which create habitats that enhance ecological networks (and thus assist species to adapt to climate change); and/or through living carbon sinks.</p> <p>Any site specific restoration and after-care requirements are set out in Policy 2: Providing for Mineral Extraction. Where there is a conflict between this policy and Policy 2, then the provisions of Policy 2 take precedence.</p> |

|  | Policy Area                          | Policy  | Assessment of compliance  |
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|  | <p><b>Aerodrome safeguarding</b></p> | <p><b>Policy 25 [MWLP]</b> Mineral and waste management development within aerodrome safeguarding areas will only be permitted where it can be clearly demonstrated that the development would not constitute a significant hazard to air traffic. Where it cannot be demonstrated, or where the significance of any hazard is uncertain, the proposal will be refused. Where bird strike is an identified potential hazard, then the preparation and implementation of an approved Bird Management Plan may be required.</p> | <p>As part of the restoration operations twelve ponds will be created in the Great Crested Newts conservation area of Cooks Hole Quarry. The waterbodies have been sized so that they are unlikely to be attractive to flocking birds that could pose a hazard to aircraft using RAF Wittering.</p> |