SCOPING REPORT

JUNE 2010

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INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND TO THE PROPOSAL

Outline

AmeyCespa is proposing to develop an integrated waste management facility, to provide a flexible and highly efficient solution capable of dealing with Municipal Solid Waste generated within North Yorkshire and the City of York. The facility will meet the requirements of the North Yorkshire County Council and City of York Council Waste Treatment PFI Contract.

The facility will be located at Allerton Park Quarry, Knaresborough and will be known as Allerton Waste Recovery Park (see Appendix A and B).

Allerton Waste Recovery Park will comprise a Mechanical Treatment (MT) plant, an Anaerobic Digestor Plant (AD), an Energy from Waste (EfW) plant and an Incinerator Bottom Ash processing plant designed collectively to deal with a throughput of 320,000 tonnes per annum of Municipal Solid Waste.

In addition the proposal includes the construction of an Office and Education Facility and ancillary development including, internal roads, parking, weighbridges, security facilities, offices, surface water drainage attenuation ponds, landscaping and fencing.

This request for a Scoping Opinion represents the first formal stage of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process. It's aim is to provide North Yorkshire County Council and any other bodies/persons they may wish to consult with, sufficient information on the development proposals and the current scope and methodology to be followed in the EIA.

Background to the proposals

Approximately 500,000 tonnes of municipal solid waste (MSW) is managed by North Yorkshire and the City of York each year and, after recycling, almost half of it goes to landfill. If this continues, over the next 25 years, the cost of landfilling will reach an estimated £1.8billion – a cost which will have to be met by the county's residents. This could mean a 15% rise in council tax .

The EU has set targets for the UK to reduce the amount of waste sent to landfill through the Landfill Directive, with limits set on the quantity of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) permitted to be landfilled by 2013 and 2020. In addition, the EU 2020 Energy Directive has set targets for the UK for energy coming from renewable sources – this must increase from 1.3% of energy from renewable sources in gross final consumption of energy in 2005 to 15% by 2020.

Also, the Waste Strategy for England 2007 has set targets to:

- Reduce waste not reused, recycled or composted from over 22.2 million tonnes in 2000 to 12.2 million tonnes in 2020
- Recycle and compost at least 40% of household waste by 2010 (45% by 2013 and 50% by 2020)

Financial penalties for local authorities that fail to meet landfill diversion and recycling targets are significant. Coupled with this is the increasing cost of landfill, making it an expensive option for dealing with waste.

Sending waste to landfill has also become increasingly unfavourable for environmental reasons, with landfill estimated to generate up to 40% of the UK's methane emissions. Methane is acknowledged as one of the most potent greenhouse gases.

Currently a quarter of a million tonnes of household waste is sent to landfill sites across North Yorkshire every year. North Yorkshire County Council and City of York Council have selected AmeyCespa as a partner to help implement a new strategy for dealing with the county's residual waste, which includes the development of Allerton Waste Recovery Park.

Allerton Waste Recovery Park has been developed following a detailed study of potential treatment options (considering all technologies commercially available) and a review of sites within the North Yorkshire and City of York administrative areas.

Allerton Waste Recovery Park aims to achieve the objectives of:

- Achieving the Councils' contract targets;
- Applying the principles of the waste hierarchy;
- Achieving best value; and
- Minimising environmental impact.

The process and equipment have been chosen on the basis of Best Available Techniques and the following key principles:

- Advanced and reliable technologies;
- Processes matched to meet the characteristics of the waste to be treated;
- Maximisation of recyclates;
- Reliability and ease of maintenance;
- Maximised environmental and personal protection; and

- Efficient power generation.

AmeyCespa

AmeyCespa has been formed to deliver excellence in waste management. The company combines the best of public service provision with an unparalleled knowledge of the waste market, with an emphasis on pioneering new technologies and service delivery models.

The organisation draws on over 40 years of experience in waste management, covering both construction and ongoing service delivery. This includes the operation of over 90 facilities across Europe and the treatment of 7,000,000 tonnes of waste every year. The company is also part of a wider group with significant expertise in managing a diverse range of local government contracts throughout the UK.

AmeyCespa is focused on helping local authorities to design and implement effective waste management strategies, aiming to reduce costs whilst improving environmental outcomes for both its customers and the UK public alike.

Environmental Impact Assessment

Integrated waste management facilities, such as Allerton Waste Recovery Park, are deemed to fall under Category 10 of Schedule 1 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England and Wales) Regulations 1999 (hereafter referred to as the EIA Regulations). This identifies "*Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment (as defined in Annex IIA to Council Directive 75/442/EEC under heading D9) of nonhazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 100 tonnes per day*" as a Schedule 1 development.

The EIA Regulations require an EIA in every case for a Schedule 1 development. Responsibility for compiling information during the EIA, regarding the environmental effects lies with the developer and will be submitted alongside the planning application for the proposed development, presented as an 'Environmental Statement'.

Scoping Exercise

Regulation 10(1) of the EIA Regulations details for a person who is minded to make an EIA application to ask the relevant planning authority to state in writing their opinion as to the information to be provided in the environmental statement.

Although not legally required by the EIA Regulations, it is widely acknowledged that a scoping exercise is an important part of the EIA process. Consequently this report has been prepared to assist in the formal scoping of the environmental aspects and impacts associated with the proposed development and to identify those elements that will need to be addressed further in the EIA. It also identifies approaches to mitigation where appropriate and necessary

Referring to Regulation 10 (2), requests for Scoping Opinions should be accompanied by:

- a plan sufficient to identify the land;
- a brief description of the nature and purpose of the development and of its possible effects on the environment; and
- such other information or representations as the person making the request wish to provide or make.

This report is structured as detailed below:

- the site and planning history
- description of the proposed developments and alternatives
- environmental issues
- proposed structure of the environmental statement
- consultations
- figures/drawings

Environmental Permitting

AmeyCespa intend to submit an application for an Environmental Permit, under the Environmental Permitting Regulations (2007) broadly in parallel to the planning application. This approach will ensure consistency between the data gathering and assessment stages of planning and permitting applications, during both the design phase and preparation of documents.

THE SITE AND PLANNING HISTORY

Location

AmeyCespa propose to locate Allerton Waste Recovery Park at Allerton Park Quarry which is an area of land, approximately 4.8ha in area, immediately to the east of the A1 (M) and A168, around 1.2km to the north east of the settlement of Coneythorpe, 1.6km to the south east of Arkendale and 3.9km to the north of Whixley. Appendix A shows the proposed location of Allerton Waste Recovery Park and the immediate surrounding area. The map in Appendix B shows the site in more detail. The thick green line outlines an indicative application boundary for the development of

Allerton Recovery Waste Park. The area within this line and the area covered by green hashing shows the area to which the scoping opinion relates.

Site Description

The site is presently used for the processing and storage of minerals (sand and gravel) extracted from the quarry to the north. A free-standing process plant currently occupies the site. The surrounding landscape is primarily used for agriculture, set to a mix of pasture and arable crops. Allerton Park (a Grade II registered Historic Park and Garden), together with Allerton Castle (a Grade I Listed Building) and other associated listed buildings and features lie to the south of the site, with the operational landfill area separating the site from the Park, Gardens and Castle.

Surrounding Land Uses and Proximity to Sensitive Receptors

The site is set in a predominantly rural context. The surrounding area is generally agricultural with several dispersed residential or agricultural related properties within 1 km of the site. Typically, these properties are located alongside the A168 and within the Allerton Park Estate.

Allerton Castle is used predominantly as a private residence. In addition to agricultural use, the grounds of Allerton Park Estate are also used for equestrian events, shooting and fishing and by agricultural tenants. An area of ancient woodland, Shepherd's Wood, lies to the east of the site.

The nearest large scale industrial developments are located some distance to the south of the site on the western side of the A1. Both the A1 (M) and A168 have been subject to recent upgrading with the A1 (M) being three lanes north & south with full motorway standard equipment (overhead gantries etc) there has been extensive re-grading to the immediate topography with the carriageway set into a cutting at its closest point to the site. As expected of a major trunk route there is a high level of background noise that is detectable in the Allerton Quarry Site.

Planning History

The site has an extensive planning history with over twenty consents previously granted for mineral, waste and ancillary development. The proposed development is considered to broadly complement existing uses. A review of the relevant planning files has shown that the longest consent at the site which includes land covered by the project site expires in 2018, with a further year for restoration.

The table below identifies the key the planning permissions relevant to the proposed development. A number of other more minor consents do exist across the site for a range of mineral, waste and associated developments.

Relevant Planning History

Application Reference No.	Relevant Key Dates	Description of Development
C6/500/63/PA	Granted 18 July 1988. Condition 2 limits waste disposal to July 2013 and restoration by July 2014	Extraction of sand and gravel and progressive restoration by controlled landfill
C6/500/63A/PA	Granted 12 September 1988	Screening, planting and restoration proposals to the north of Claro House
C6/500/63D/PA	Granted 16 May 1997. Condition 2 permits disposal of waste until 31 December 2018. Restoration in accordance with conditions 26 and 27	Revision of the restoration and landscaping scheme by raising of site levels
C6/500/63J/PA	Granted 23 May 2002	Revision of final contours
NY/2008/0002/FUL	Granted October 2008	Extraction of sand and gravel at Holly Bank Farm

Ownership and Availability

The Allerton Park Quarry site is currently in the freehold ownership of the Honourable Edward William Stephen Stourton, of the Estate Office, Allerton Park, Knaresborough, North Yorkshire. The current leaseholder of the site is Hanson Quarry products. The site, while currently occupied, is considered available. The site operator, Hanson Aggregates, is aware of the proposal and is preparing to vacate that part of the site required.

The site has been identified by AmeyCespa as available, deliverable and suitable for this type of facility.

DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED DEVELOPMENT AND ALTERNATIVES

Key Elements

Allerton Waste Recovery Park will have four principal elements.

1) Mechanical Treatment (MT) plant:

The mechanical treatment (MT) plant utilises a series of physical separation techniques to extract plastics, metals, paper, card and organic wastes. This will either be recycled and sold to reprocessors or, in the case of organic waste, follow treatment on-site. The MT plant will operate with two parallel separation lines fed from two waste storage bunkers in an adjacent tipping hall. The plant can be configured to address wide variations in waste composition, maximising recovery.

The MT has a design capacity of 70 tonnes per hour of waste, with an absolute capacity of c500,000 tonnes/year. The material remaining after the extraction process will be used as feed into the Anaerobic Digester (AD) and Energy from Waste (EfW) plant (see details below).

MT outputs will include approximately:

- 11,500 tonnes per annum of plastics, paper, ferrous and non-ferrous metals in separate fractions for off-site recycling and a rejects stream for disposal to landfill.
- 40,000 tonnes per annum of organic material to the AD plant.
- 166,000 tonnes per annum Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) to the EfW plant

The electrical power required to operate the mechanical treatment plant is around 1.3MW and will be supplied directly by the energy created in the EfW plant.

The tipping hall and mechanical treatment hall will be maintained under a slight negative pressure to ensure that no odours, dust or litter can escape the building. This will be achieved by drawing combustion air for the Energy from Waste plant from these buildings.

2) Anaerobic Digester (AD) plant:

Anaerobic Digestion is a complex bio-chemical process that involves the breakdown of organic materials within solid waste in an oxygen free environment. The process results in the formation of:

- a 'bio-gas' which mainly comprises carbon dioxide and methane,
- a solid digestate 'compost; and
- a liquid.

The bio-gas will be stored prior to passing through a bio-gas engine generating 1.1MW of electricity generation for sale to the National Grid. The remaining digestate will be used as fuel for the EfW (see below).

The AD plant will treat approximately 40,000 tonnes per annum of organic rich waste from the MT plant utilising a single anaerobic digestion vessel.

3) Energy from Waste plant (EfW):

The plant will operate using two lines from the EfW waste storage bunkers. Each line will have a design capacity of 20 tonnes per hour. This equates to a total capacity of 320,000 tonnes per annum based on 8000 hours operation per annum.

Approximately 205,000 tonnes per annum of the total capacity will be used to process the outputs from the mechanical treatment plant and the anaerobic digestion plant. The remaining capacity will process waste supplied direct from Household Waste Recycling Centres and Commercial and Industrial sources.

The EfW plant has been designed as an energy recovery plant. The plant will produce electricity, an inert bottom ash material (that will be processed into aggregate), and an Air Pollution Control residue (APC waste) which will be sent to a suitably licensed hazardous waste facility.

The heat produced by the EfWwill be used to generate approximately 24 MW of electricity for export to the National Grid.

4) Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) processing :
The IBA processing plant has an absolute capacity of 75,000 tonnes per annum. Its primary purpose is to process IBA into an aggregate (Incinerator Bottom Ash Aggregate – IBAA) for re-use in a variety of applications such as road construction. IBA will be delivered from the EfW to the reprocessing facility in bulk vehicles. The IBA is stored in stockpiles prior to processing to allow acceptance checks and quality analysis.

IBA being processed is transferred into the process plant via a feed hopper by a mobile front-loading shovel, from which it is then transported by conveyor into the screening system. The screening process removes ferrous and non-ferrous materials as well as splitting the aggregate product into various sizes according to technical specifications and market requirements. Any oversize or reject materials (typically 10% of volume by weight) will be sent to a suitably licensed landfill.

Ancillary Developments

The proposed development would also comprise of the construction of an Office and Education Facility, internal roads, parking, weighbridges, security, offices, surface water drainage attenuation ponds, landscaping and fencing.

Landscaping

Design of the landscape proposals for the site has been undertaken as an iterative process to reduce and minimise any effect on the setting of cultural heritage features and local landscape character.

The landscape proposals have been formulated to date in consultation with English Heritage and North Yorkshire County Council. This process has been supported by detailed landscape and visual baseline studies coupled with the visualisation of effects using a three dimensional digital terrain model.

The landscaping proposals extend beyond the EfW site boundary to include part of the restored areas of the landfill site to the south towards the northern boundary of Far Park within the Grade II Registered Park and Garden, Allerton Park. Extending the landscape boundary to the south provides an opportunity to partially recreate a former landscape feature, Sand Hill, identified on Ordnance Survey plans as far back as 1853. With woodland planting sympathetic to local landscape character, the re-interpretation of Sand Hill provides screening mitigation to the EfW plant when viewed from the south and south-east.

Furthermore, extending the landscape site boundary to the south, provides an opportunity for the early partial completion of landfill restoration, enabling the landscape proposals to become synonymous with the approved restoration plans by relating better to surrounding landscape features, providing landforms and new planting areas sympathetic to the Marton Rolling Arable Farmland Landscape Character Area, and also providing a visual extension to the 18th Century designed landscape of Allerton Park.

Specific designed landscape features include for large woodland areas of mixed tree and understory shrub species sympathetic to the Southern Magnesian Limestone Ridge, woodland glades with shade tolerant low maintenance grasses and wild flora, and sweeping grassland areas suited to grazing.

An adaptive approach to landscape maintenance and management will ensure the successful establishment of new woodland and grassland areas, and also ensure the development of a designed landscape with a semi-natural parkland appearance immediately to the north of Allerton Park.

Site Access

Site access to Allerton Park Quarry is along Moor Lane from the A168. Moor Lane is currently used as an access point to the existing Quarry and landfill site. The A168 runs along the western edge of the site and allows access to Boroughbridge via the A1(M), Junction 48 to the north and Knaresborough via the A1(M) Junction 47 in the south.

Moor Lane forms the northern boundary edge of the proposed development. A haul road linking the minerals extraction area to the processing plant area provides secondary routes to and from

the site. With the wider site forming part of a former quarry, the landform, together with established mitigation vegetation at the boundaries and higher areas of the site, provide a degree of local enclosure and restricts or prevents views into the site from the road network and the surrounding land.

AmeyCespa propose to use the existing site access on Moor Lane to serve Allerton Waste Recovery Park.

Vehicle numbers

Initial analysis has provided further details of the vehicle movements expected at the site. The following details vehicle origins/destinations proposed:

INPUTS

- Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Waste Transfer Stations
- City of York Council Kerbside Waste
- Harrogate Borough Council Kerbside Waste
- Commercial & Industrial Waste

OUTPUTS

- Materials recovered through the MBT process (Metals, Plastic, Paper)
- Incinerator Bottom Ash Aggregate
- APC waste

It is estimated that 120 vehicle movements will be made per day.

Operating Hours

Allerton Waste Recovery Park will receive waste between the hours of 0800 hours to 2200 hours Monday to Friday and 0800 hours to 1700 hours Saturday, Sunday and Bank holidays.

The residual waste will be delivered from waste transfer stations in North Yorkshire by bulking lorries, from the local area in Refuse Collection Vehicles (RCVs) and from the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) by Roll-On Roll-Off skip vehicles. Commercial and Industrial waste will be delivered in HGVs in contracts with privately operated waste firms.

Electricity Connection

The AD and EfW plants will be in constant operation and at a fixed capacity, which will enable Allerton Waste Recovery Park to become a base supplier to the National Grid. The energy generated from Allerton Waste Recovery Park will be sold to licensed electricity suppliers over distribution network maintained by Northern Electric Distribution Limited (NEDL).

AmeyCespa propose that the energy generated at Allerton Waste Recovery Park will be transferred from a sub-station on site, via underground 33kV cabling to a local grid connection point near Coneythorpe. The Environmental Statement will include full consideration of the potential environmental impacts of this connection.

Employment

Allerton Waste Recovery Park will employ approximately 70 full time employed staff spread over two shifts/day during the operational phase. It is expected that the construction and commissioning of Allerton Waste Recovery Park will require an estimated peak workforce of 400. Construction is programmed to take 36 months.

Visitor and Education Facilities

Visitor and education facilities will be located within the office block and will be designed to hold up to 50 people at a time. Allerton Waste Recovery Park will be designed to allow safe viewing of the various items of plant and equipment for education purposes.

Emissions to Air

All emissions to air will be controlled and managed using a variety of techniques to ensure that there are no unacceptable impacts attributed to employees, visitors or adjoining land users. Potential generators of emissions include:

- Odour from the mechanical treatment plant during periods when the EFW is not operating and not drawing sufficient combustion air to maintain overall negative pressure in the Mechanical Treatment plant
- Emissions from the bio gas combustion plant
- Emissions from the EFW stack
- Emissions from the IBA processing plant

Wastes

The purpose of Allerton Waste Recovery Park is to reduce waste in the most sustainable way, taking into account economic, social and environmental factors. A minimum of 90% of MSW and 95% of BMW will be diverted from landfill leaving just three outputs from the process:

- Incinerator Bottom Ash, which will be reprocessed to create a secondary aggregate
- APC residues, which will be sent off site as hazardous waste for disposal at a suitably licensed facility
- MT rejects, which will be sent to a suitably licensed landfill

Water and Drainage

Allerton Waste Recovery Park will use water in a number of processes. The main ones are:

- 'Make up' water for the EFW boiler
- Anaerobic digestion water for steam generation and control of solids concentration

Water used in the processes will be kept separate to surface water drainage systems and will be retained in a closed loop system as explained below

- Most of the steam produced in the EfW boiler will be recycled as condensate. The remainder will be lost as blow-down to prevent build-up of sludge and chemicals, through soot blowing and through continuously flowing sample points.
- Most of the steam and water injected into the anaerobic digester will be lost as water to the sludge which is output as feed to the EfW plant. The remainder leaves the digester in the biogas and is condensed by the gas cooling unit. This condensate is returned to the process via the AD process water tank
- Waste water from the EfW will be reused in the bottom ash quench system
- Waste water from the MT and AD plants will be reused in the AD process water supply

Water discharge will be limited to surface water runoff and site drainage outside the process areas. This will be piped via an attenuation/Sustainable Urban Drainage (SUDs) pond prior to discharge at an agreed point.

Consideration of Alternatives

In line with advice contained within Schedule 4 of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Regulations) (England and Wales) 1999 and Annex C of Circular 02/99 the main alternatives options have been assessed taking into account the environmental effects. The consideration of alternatives will comprise of three main elements:

- Alternative Sites

- Alternative Technologies
- Do nothing

SCOPE OF ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT

Key EIA Topics

AmeyCespa consider the following environmental areas to be potentially of significance in relation to the proposed development. These topic areas will form the basis of the EIA chapters:

- Archaeology & Cultural Heritage
- Landscape and Visual Impact
- Ecology and Nature Conservation
- Geology, Contaminated Land, Hydrogeology and Ground Stability
- Hydrology and Flood Risk
- Noise
- External Lighting
- Air Quality
- Highways and Public Rights of Way
- Human Health
- Socio-Economic

The following sections describe the current context with respect to these environmental topics and the proposed scope of impact assessment required to identify mitigation, compensation, monitoring and enhancements. Each chapter will consider and assess construction, operation and decommissioning impacts. The order of the sections below replicates the proposed chapter layout.

Cumulative environmental impacts may arise from other known significant development within the planning system, consented and/or operational. Weighting will be attributed to the status of the development, where appropriate. Only 'significant' development will be identified i.e. those of a scale likely to give rise to noticeable impacts which, may affect or be affected by the proposed development. The cumulative impact on identified receptors as a result of any other development will be assessed. If necessary, appropriate mitigation would be proposed to ensure that the cumulative impact of the development is acceptable.

Archaeology & Cultural Heritage

Context

The site sits to the north of Allerton Park (a Grade II registered Park and Garden of Special Historic Interest), together with Allerton Castle (Listed as Allerton Mansion - a Grade I Listed Building), with an operational landfill area separating the site from the Parkland and Castle. There are a number of Listed Buildings within the area surrounding the Allerton Park Quarry site. These range from Grade II*, Grade I and Grade II and are located south of the village of Marton (to the north of the site), at the village of Arkendale (to the north-west of the site), at Coneythorpe (to the south-west of the site) and within Allerton Park (south of the site).

An area of ancient woodland, Shepherd's Wood, lies to the east of the site. There are no existing large scale industrial developments located within the area surrounding the site.

With respect to cultural heritage the nearest Scheduled Ancient Monument (SAM) is over 4km to the south-west of the site. It is anticipated that the site will have limited, if any archaeological interest given it's previous history of mineral extraction.

Scope of the assessment

The assessment will consider the potential effects of the construction, operation and decommissioning of the development upon any likely archaeological remains or features of cultural significance and provide an indication of what, if any, further work would be required with regard to archaeology and/or features of cultural heritage.

The assessment will conform to the relevant legislation and guidance, including:

- Planning Policy Statement 5: Planning for the Historic Environment, March 2010
- Code of Conduct Institute of Field Archaeologists 2002
- Standard And Guidance for Archaeological Desk based Assessment Institute of Field Archaeologists 2001
- Environmental Impact Assessment: A Guide to Good Practice and Procedures DCLG June 2006.

The assessment will be informed by the work already undertaken at the site and the following additional proposed work:

- Consultation and examination of the North Yorkshire Historic Environment Record
- Review of the Sites Ancient Monuments (SAM) Record
- Consultation with English Heritage to gather information on SAMs, Registered Parks and Gardens and Registered Battlefields

- Review of relevant documentary and archival material, both published and unpublished, held in libraries and archives
- A field visit and walkover survey will be undertaken to establish the presence of previously unrecorded above ground archaeology, and/ or to further assess the potential of recorded above ground archaeology. This will in addition inform an assessment of the site's context within the wider historic landscape

There will be significant interaction between this element of work and that to be undertaken by the Landscape and Visual Team. The effect of the proposed development on the setting of cultural heritage features will be assessed by an appropriately qualified/ experienced archaeologist.

Landscape and Visual Impact

Context

The site lies within a Southern Magnesian Limestone Landscape Character Area, typically made up of smooth rolling landforms. The area is characterised by the escarpments of the Upper and Lower Magnesian Limestone which stretch from Bedale in the north down to Derbyshire in the south. The soils in this area are very fertile and so farming is intensive and arable crops predominate. The site is not under agricultural use, being part of an operational quarry and is beyond the limits of the Green Belt.

The site is largely remote from sensitive receptors. A cluster of properties are located 550 metres to the north east of the site following a farm conversion a number of years ago. To the western side is Claro House, a residential property, located close to the access of the site, and just beyond is the A168 ('the old A1') and A1(M). To the south is Allerton Castle over 1.5 kilometres from the site and surrounding parkland. The small hamlet of Coneythorpe is located over 1 kilometre to the south west, separated from the site by the A1 corridor.

The general topography of the area is broadly flat with isolated rolling landscape. Arable crops make up the predominant land use, with an occasional patchwork of established woodlands. To the south east of the site is an operational landfill accepting a range of municipal and commercial and industrial waste. The area identified for the development of Allerton Waste Recovery Park is set within an extracted quarry. The perimeter of the site has the benefit of major landscaping, which has been planted as part of the approved restoration and management scheme for the site.

To the south of the site is a "Site of Importance for Nature Conservation" and the park and garden (Grade II registered Park and Garden of Special Historic Interest). Local Planning Policy dictates that development will not be permitted, which is likely to have an adverse affect on these

designations, or harm the character of them. While the site is partly removed from these designations, with varied topography, and well established planting, further evaluation and careful consideration of the visual impacts is required.

Scope of the assessment

The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) will be undertaken to determine the construction, operation and decommissioning effects of the proposed development upon:

- Individual landscape features and elements
- Landscape character
- Visual amenity and the people who view the landscape

The LVIA will be undertaken in accordance with the principles of best practice, as outlined in published guidance:

- The Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment, 2nd Edition (2002) Landscape Institute and the Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment
- Guidelines for Landscape Character Assessment, (2002) Countryside Agency and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)
- The Guidelines for Environmental Impact Assessment (2004) Institute for Environmental Management and Assessment.

The assessment of representative viewpoints will be supplemented by the scheduling of specific visual receptors and selected additional site visits to various locations to determine visual effects upon those likely to be affected to the greatest degree.

Informal discussions have already been held with English Heritage (EH) to agree the location of these viewpoints from which photomontages will be created to assess the effect Allerton Waste Recovery Park will have on the landscape character and visual amenity. Further consultation with EH will be undertaken as the assessment progresses.

Ecology and Nature Conservation

Context

The site has been extensively quarried and managed such that the biodiversity of habitat within the environs of the site is considered to be extremely limited. There are no known ecological interests on the site and, based on initial work undertaken, it is thought to be of limited ecological value.

Nearby sites of ecological interest and value include:

- Two Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) which are located within 1km of the site, as designated in the Harrogate District Local Plan. One lies within Allerton Park to the south and the other to the south-east.
- Upper Dunsforth Carrs SSSI – some 4.5km to the north-east and the
- Hay-a-Park SSSI – some 4.5km to the south-west of the site.
- Several areas of Ancient Woodland within 2km, one of which is directly adjacent to the site.

Scope of the assessment

The Ecological Assessment will address any potential terrestrial and freshwater impacts resulting from the construction, operation and decommissioning of Allerton Waste Recovery Park and will take into account possible combined effects resulting from other existing or planned operations. The assessment will be informed by the work already undertaken at the site and the following additional proposed work:

- A desk-based assessment, including an appraisal of the data held at the North and East Yorkshire Ecological Data Centre to identify:
    - Statutory designated sites such as SSSI, SACs and SPAs
    - Non-statutory designated sites in North Yorkshire such as Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC) and Ancient Woodland Inventory (AWI) sites
    - Records of protected species including bats, badgers, otter, water vole, great crested newt, birds etc.
    - Records of species included as priorities within the UK Biodiversity Action Plan.
- Consultation with organisations such as the North Yorkshire Bat Group for records of bats
- A review of the Harrogate Biodiversity Action Plan
- Further consultation with the Environment Agency, Natural England and the County Ecologist to fully determine any biodiversity concerns and the scope of any further surveys
- An extended Phase 1 Habitat Survey (JNCC standard)
- An appraisal of habitats present at the site for their suitability to support protected or notable species of fauna, including birds, mammals and herpetofauna
- (Where identified as necessary) Protected species surveys to make an assessment of the potential impact of the development upon nature conservation
- A survey of adjacent areas to assessed for the possible presence of bats

In order to fully assess impacts the Ecology team will work closely with other teams. In particular they will review:

- Emission modelling from the air quality team to determine if any contaminants are exceeding critical levels and warrant further investigation. In order to assess air quality impacts (in particular, increased deposition of atmospheric nitrogen compounds) on sensitive habitats such as broadleaf woodland, it will be necessary to cross reference with air-quality modelling data produced for stack emissions
- Data from the site investigation and hydrological teams to determine any potential impacts on surface or ground water quality. Environmental Quality Standards (EQS)/Environmental Assessment Limit (EAL) levels for potential contaminants and the potential for exceedances assessed
- The results of the noise surveys and predictive modelling to assess the potential noise impacts on any local species identified
- The Landscape Mitigation Strategy to identify opportunities for biovidersity enhancement

Assessments relating to the terrestrial environment will follow guidance by the Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (IEEM) Guidelines for Ecological Impact Assessment in the United Kingdom (2006), and take into consideration field surveys and assessments, the desk-based study, and the development scheme design.

Potential hazards from the proposed development have been identified as including atmospheric emissions, changes to water quality and noise issues. Potential pathways for these hazards to impact the conservation objectives of the designated sites exist and this will be assessed as part of the EIA.

Geology, Contaminated Land, Hydrogeology and Ground Stability

Context

Geology - The site geology comprises superficial glacial deposits, described as either till or sandy till, with a local outcrop of glacial sand and gravel, which is quarried at the site. The underlying bedrock is Sherwood Sandstone, which is Triassic in age. The Sherwood Sandstone Group overlies the Upper Marl with Evaporites and the Upper Magnesian Limestone which are both Permian in age.

The available borehole records confirm the records of the British Geological Survey. They indicate that between 7.5 m to 16.7 m of superficial glacial deposits overly the Sherwood Sandstone bedrock. In the deeper boreholes, the Sherwood Sandstone bedrock was found to be a thickness of around 25 m, below which around 21 m of the Upper Marl was encountered over 8.8 m of the Upper Magnesian Limestone.

A thin layer of up to 1.6 m of made ground, comprising reworked superficial glacial deposits, was also encountered in the exploratory holes.

Hydrogeology - The site lies within a Zone 3 total catchment area, close to its western limit. This zone defines the total area required to support removal of water from an abstraction point. In this case, the abstraction points, indicated by two Zone 1 inner source protection zones, are shown approximately 4 km northeast of the site, on the south eastern and south western limits of Lower Dunsforth.

The hydrogeological map of the area (IGS, 1982) indicates that the potentiometric surface within of the Sherwood Sandstone Group was predicted, in the early 1980's, to be around 40 m below OD, some 20 m below the floor of the quarry.

Due to the presence of variably permeable till comprising clays, sands and gravels, perched groundwater is likely to occur closer to ground level. Groundwater levels around the margins of the nearby, Holly Bank Farm Quarry Extension (Hanson) have been found to be variable, between 43 m below OD and 53.5 m below OD.

Contaminated land - Although no comprehensive investigations for contamination have been carried out, site investigations to date have not identified any contamination. Potential sources of contamination at, or adjacent to this site, include:

- a registered landfill adjacent to the proposed site
- on site made ground
- existing above ground and underground storage tanks

The superficial glacial deposits overlying the Sherwood Sandstone aquifer are predominantly clay and act as a barrier to the vertical migration of contamination towards the groundwater.

Ground Stability - the current and historical use of the site for sand and gravel extraction, and now processing of minerals, has resulted in an exhaustive catalogue of localised information in respect of the geological stability of the site and the potential for land instability. Detailed records demonstrate that the geological strata is sound and there is minimal risk of instability.

Scope of the assessment

An assessment of baseline conditions and impacts on the ground conditions and hydrogeological regimes will be undertaken using existing site investigation data and data from other adjacent sources (e.g. the adjacent WRG landfill site). The following assessments will then take place:

- Determination of potential impacts on ground conditions and hydrogeological regimes as part of construction (this includes the assessment of potential accidental impacts)
- Determination of potential impacts on ground conditions and hydrogeological regimes from the operation of Allerton Waste Recovery Park such as the storage of hazardous materials and the operation of pollution prevention measures
- Determination of potential impacts on ground conditions and hydrogeological regimes as part of decommissioning (this includes the assessment of potential accidental impacts)

In considering the issues of land contamination, the focus will be in relation to contamination risks from former and/or proposed uses and activities, and/or the migration of potential contaminants. It is proposed that a Phase II ground contamination investigation will be undertaken in accordance with current best practice guidance including:

- CLR11: Model procedures for the management of land contaminations (2004), Environment Agency
- SR1 and SR2 guidance notes
- BS10175: Investigation of Potentially Contaminated Sites: Code of Practice, BSI

This will inform the development of a conceptual model for the site and the undertaking of appropriate risk assessments to establish the risks to the water environment and in particular the Source Protection Zone (SPZ) and an appraisal of any geotechnical constraints to the development based on the geotechnical data collected as part of site investigations.

Hydrology and Flood Risk

Context

Allerton Waste Recovery Park will be situated within the surface water catchment of the River Ure, which is located some 6.5 km to the east of the site, at its closest approach. The closest watercourse to the Application Area is situated to its East. It flows through Shepherds Wood, Bog Plantation and continues eastwards, ultimately discharging into the Ousegill Beck. The North Kills Gutter is situated some 1 km to the north west of the application area respectively. Both of these watercourses flow away from the site.

There are no natural waterbodies situated within a 750 m radius of the development site boundary. There is a small pond to the east of the site in Claro field.

There are man made balancing ponds and silt lagoons to the north of the development site in support of the existing quarrying operations.

The closest features to the south of the development comprise a number of ornamental ponds which are part of the Allerton Park and Gardens. These are known as the High Fish pond, Middle Fish pond and Lower Fish pond.

The site is located within Flood Zone 1 (as identified on the Environment Agency flood maps). This is an area which falls outside the extent of extreme flooding, and the chance of flooding each year from rivers or the sea is 0.1% (1 in 1000) or less. PPS25 (Development and Flood Risk) states that, in identifying sites for development, local authorities and developers should apply a sequential test to demonstrate there are no reasonably available sites with a lower probability of flooding. The Allerton Park site lies within the area of lowest risk and is therefore appropriate from this perspective.

There are several silt lagoons located close to the site, with a drain to the south east. The site lies within the catchment area of a Groundwater Source Protection Zone. These zones are designated by the Environment Agency and require protection to ensure contaminants do not enter the drinking water supply. The proposed development will be designed to ensure that both foul and surface water is retained within impermeable surfacing/retainers and thereafter controlled on-site. This mechanism will ensure the zone is not breached and the ground water protection zone is appropriately protected.

The site is currently occupied by a stocking area for an existing quarry operator. The hydrology and hydrogeology across, and through, the site are known and well recorded by virtue of the site's past and current operations. Accordingly, any potential impact can be appropriately managed and controlled. It is considered that there is minimal risk to local water resources.

Scope of the assessment

The hydrology assessment will incorporate a hydrological site evaluation within the ES and a stand alone Flood Risk Assessment (FRA). The assessments will be undertaken in consultation with the Environment Agency, Internal Drainage Board, Yorkshire Water and other relevant statutory authorities. The FRA is a mandatory requirement for any development over 1.0ha in size, however given the site is in an area of low flood risk, it will focus on the impact of possible increase of run-off on adjoining land as a result of the increase in impermeable structures.

The FRA will address the following key areas:

- Flood risk posed to the site by the relevant fluvial scenarios
- Possible impacts on surface water features through the potential changes to the water quality of discharges and the receiving waters.

The hydrology assessment will consider the construction, operation and decommissioning phases of the proposed development. It will describe how the proposal will comply with limits set out in relevant legislation and demonstrate how surface water will be managed/mitigated to reduce the risk of flooding to both the development itself and the surrounding environment.

Noise and Vibration

Context

The site is in a predominantly rural location. However the dominant noise source in the area is road traffic noise from both the A168, which has a steady flow of traffic, and the A1(M), which has a heavy flow of traffic throughout the day. The quarry processing and landfilling operations also provide a background level of noise throughout the hours of operation.

Scope of the assessment

The scope of the noise and vibration assessment will include consideration of impacts arising from both the construction, operation and decommissioning of Allerton Waste Recovery Park, including on-site and offsite traffic movements. Vibration is likely to be insignificant and will be scoped out of the assessment. The assessment methodology will address:

- Identification of appropriate standards and guidance to identify noise (and vibration) impacts;
- Collection of daytime and night-time background and ambient noise level data in order to determine the existing baseline noise climate at potentially sensitive receptors in the vicinity of the site;
- Qualitative assessment of noise levels at potentially sensitive local receptors during the construction phase of the development;
- Quantitative / qualitative prediction and assessment of operational noise levels at a selection of receivers (including the site boundary), which have the potential to be affected by a change in noise level in future years as a result of the development;
- Quantitative / qualitative prediction and assessment of road traffic noise on the wider road network as a result of the proposed development;
- Determination of the significance of the effects associated with the operation of the development;

- Identification of mitigation measures, where appropriate, in order to minimise any potential significant adverse effects arising from the development;
- Prediction of the magnitude of any residual effects that may remain following the implementation of any recommended mitigation measures.

Informal discussions have been previously held with the relevant Environmental Health Officer to agree the location, number and duration of noise surveys and the prediction methods and criteria to be adopted for the determination of significance. Prior to any further survey or assessment work commencing, further consultation with the EHO will be undertaken.

For construction, the methodology contained within BS 5228 will be adopted to predict noise and vibration levels.

For operation, the methodology contained within BS 4142 will be adopted to assess the likelihood of complaints.

For road traffic noise impacts at noise sensitive receptors in close proximity to the road impacts will be predicted using the "Calculation of Road Traffic Noise", DoT, 1998 188 (CRTN) methodology.

Analysis of noise impacts will be made with reference to BS 8233 as this defines the range of ambient noise levels for a number of different criteria. The World Health Organisation guidelines for community noise will also be referred to.

External Lighting

Context

The site is located in a rural location adjacent to the A168, providing access to the site. This existing private access is currently unlit. The existing site is illuminated during the hours of darkness through the use of several general high powered but low mounted floodlights which are fixed to many of the existing structures within the site. The lighting in general is controlled by photo electric control units (PECU's) which will provide illumination from dusk till dawn. The lighting provides a combination of functional lighting to allow safe working during the hours of darkness (for example illuminating the weighbridge) and security purposes outside normal working hours.

Scope of the assessment

There are no prescriptive methodologies for undertaking lighting assessments; however the following guidance documents will be referred to:

- Guidance notes for the reduction of obtrusive light – The institution of lighting Engineers (ILE)
- Environmental considerations for exterior lighting – Charted institute of Building Services Engineers (CIBSE)
- Outdoor Environment Lighting Guide 6 - CIBSE

Lighting impacts will be considered for construction, operation and decommissioning phases.

In order to fully assess impacts the Lighting team will work closely with other teams. In particular they will feed into the landscape and visual impact assessment work in order to provide a complete overview of potential visual impact from Allerton Waste Recovery Park, in addition to consulting with ecology specialists to review possible impact on habitats and biodiversity.

Air Quality

Context

The site is located within the Harrogate Borough Council administrative area. A review and assessment of air quality carried out in 2009, confirmed that the annual objective for nitrogen dioxide was exceeded in central Ripon (Low and High Skellgate) and Bond End Knaresborough. These areas have shown an exceedence of the objective for nitrogen dioxide in the past.

There are a total of 6 AQMA's in neighbouring councils including 4 within Bradford Metropolitan District and 2 in Leeds City, as well as an area within the City of York that covers the primary roads and several properties in the city centre. These AQMA's are all a significant distance from the proposed site.

Scope of the assessment

The air quality assessment will, as far as possible, be developed for consistency with the requirements of the PPC permit process. Further consultations to those already undertaken informally will be held with the EA and local authorities to confirm the scope of available information, and to discuss and clarify the approach proposed prior to the assessment commencing. The assessment methodology will include a review of current air quality objectives and guidelines, assessment of background concentrations of all relevant pollutants, a review of the surrounding area in order to identify especially sensitive receptors, results of air dispersion modelling and the identification of air quality impacts predicted from traffic movements.

Construction, operation and decommissioning phase impacts will be assessed using a mainly qualitative approach. Odour and traffic impacts will also be considered as part of the overall assessment.

The following guidance will be used:

- Technical Guidance Note (Dispersion) D11: Guidelines on Discharge Stack Heights for Polluting Emissions. June 1993, HMIP.
- Technical Guidance Note (Odour Management Guidance) H4, publish by the Environment Agency (In Appendix 6 to Part 1 of this document, the EA recommends some indicative odour exposure criteria for ground level concentrations of mixtures of odorant, below which there would be "no reasonable cause for annoyance". For "more offensive odours", including those from activities involving putrescible waste, the criterion is 1.5ouE/m3 as the 98th percentile of hourly averages. This will been used as the evaluation criterion for the odour assessment).

Detailed flue gas dispersion modelling will be carried out using the computer model ADMS 4.1. This is a new generation dispersion model, which characterises the atmospheric boundary layer in terms of the Monin-Obukhov length and the boundary layer depth. In addition, the model uses a skewed Gaussian distribution for dispersion under convective conditions, to take into account the skewed nature of turbulence. Modules within the model take account of the effect of complex terrain and nearby buildings.

The modelling of traffic emissions will be carried out as outlined in Section 3 of Volume 11 of the Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB) produced by the Highways Agency.

Interaction with the ecology team and the traffic and transport team will be undertaken to ensure that traffic and transportation issues are addressed correctly and that cumulative effects and potential impacts on biodiversity are addressed appropriately.

Highways and Public Rights of Way

Context

Both the A1 (M) and the A168 run adjacent to the western boundary of the site and allow access from to Boroughbridge via A1 (M) Junction 48 in the north and Knaresborough via A1 (M) Junction 47 in the south. The Allerton Park Site is located to the South of Hanson Quarry and shares the existing access adjacent to Moor Lane with both the quarry and landfill operators.

The A168, which routes directly adjacent the site, is designated by the County Council as a primary route. This section of the A168, between Junctions 47 and 48 is a single carriageway and is currently subject to a 60mph speed restriction. The A168 near Braimber Lane T junction, which is 1.1 miles north of Allerton Park, is currently subject to a 30mph speed restriction. The A59, at Junction 47 is a single carriageway which is currently subject to a 60mph speed restriction.

The site is remote from existing public rights of way, and would not require the diversion temporarily or permanently of any definitive rights of way.

Scope of assessment

The predicted vehicle numbers arising from the development proposals will be reviewed and a Transport Assessment (TA) will be undertaken.

In outline the following lists the anticipated origins/destinations of transport movements:

INPUTS

- Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Waste Transfer Stations
- City of York Council Kerbside Waste
- Harrogate Borough Council Kerbside Waste
- Commercial & Industrial Waste

OUTPUTS

- Materials recovered through the MBT process (Metals, Plastic, Paper)
- Incinerator Bottom Ash Aggregate
- APC waste

The TA will follow the recommended procedures outlined in the 'Guidelines for Transport Assessment' published by the Department for Transport, 2007 and will consider the impact of the development proposal on the highway and public transport networks, in relation to peak hours and daily flows and highway safety accident data.

It will consider the baseline conditions through the completion of current traffic surveys and counts in addition to predicted trip vehicle movements generates as result of:

a) constructional and site preparation works
b) operational waste imports and exports from site
c) decommissioning and restoration works

This will identify the 'net' traffic impacts, giving regard to the existing vehicular movements on site. As well as considering the impact of vehicles and HGVs on the highway network, consideration will be given to the potential use of all forms of transport, including rail.

Access arrangements to the site will also be considered and where appropriate further analysis will be undertaken of specific junctions. AmeyCespa will ensure the site access itself is safe to accommodate the traffic, meeting necessary visibility, acceleration and deceleration requirements.

Further consultation will be undertaken with both the Local Authority Highways Department and the Highways Agency prior and during the assessment being undertaken.

Human Health

Context

The site lies adjacent to an operational landfill within open countryside with limited, isolated residential properties close by and small villages further afield. The site is a predominantly rural location with large areas in agricultural use. The site is very close to the A1(M) and A168.

Scope of assessment

An assessment of the effects of the proposed development on Human Health will focus on the impacts from the various processes on site. A preliminary risk assessment will seek to examine the significance of each pathway in order to determine whether more detailed quantitative risk assessment (QRA) is required. Assessment will address:

- Compounds that exist predominantly in the gaseous phase
- Compounds that exist associated with the particulate phase

Assessment will also consider the deposition of particulates to soil followed by direct ingestion and dermal contact or incorporation into the food chain. However, indirect effects can also occur following deposition of emissions onto soil and water and consequential uptake into plants and animals. AmeyCespa will undertake food chain modelling of the dioxins and furans and trace metals based on standard methodologies.

The health impact assessment will be based on a QRA, which will be informed by air quality and dispersion modelling. Modelling will be undertaken to evaluate indirect exposure following deposition, by comparing predicted pollutant intake rates to threshold limit values (e.g. published health criteria values).

Socio Economic

Context

The site lies adjacent to an operational landfill within open countryside with limited, isolated residential properties close by and small villages further afield. Larger population centres include the market towns of Knaresborough 5km to the southwest, and Boroughbridge 6km to the north. The city of York is approximately 20km to the south-east.

In establishing a demographic and economic baseline for the area immediately surrounding the site and further afield, an inner impact area and a wider impact area have been identified. The inner impact area comprises six output areas which intersect a one kilometre radius of the site.

The total number of people residing in the inner impact area, according to 2001 Census data, is approximately 1,200 people. This is 6% of the total population of the wider impact area which includes the wards of Boroughbridge, Claro, Knaresborough East, Knaresborough Scriven Park, Ouseburn and Ribston. This demonstrates the nature of the community that lives in the area surrounding the development site as sparsely populated and rural.

Deprivation levels, as measured by the Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) in their Indices of Multiple Deprivation (2007) show that the area surrounding the site does not experience severe levels of deprivation in six of its seven domain indicators. The area is, however, in the top 10% for deprivation on the Barriers to Housing and Services domain. This domain essentially measures the availability and affordability of homes and distances from services such as primary schools, food store, GP surgery and post offices.

As might be expected, the population of the inner impact area displays similar demographic characteristics to that of the wider impact area. Ethnic diversity in the area is low and the population has a higher percentage of older working age people living there (28%) when compared against the regional average (24%).

The proposed development will result in significant local employment opportunities, both during construction and throughout operation. The development of Allerton Waste Recovery Park would assist in ensuring that Landfill Allowance targets would be met, thus reducing the taxable implications on the local authority and therefore on the local economy as whole. AmeyCespa estimates that the annual turnover of Allerton Waste Recovery Park will be between £35m and £40m per annum, including the sale of power.

Scope of assessment

This section will assess the effects of the proposed development upon the local and wider economy, and on the amenity of sensitive receptors in close proximity to the development site. The direct and indirect socio-economic effects resulting from the scheme will be assessed, together with potential mitigation and compensation measures that could be adopted to prevent, reduce or off-set any adverse impacts.

In order to fully assess impacts the Socio Economic team will work closely with other teams. In particular they will review:

- Emission modelling will be used to determine if any health impacts are predicted and warrant further investigation
- The results of the noise surveys and predictive modelling will be used to assess the potential socio economic impacts on the local community and/or local area
- The results of the traffic assessment will be evaluated to ascertain any impacts on the local community and/or local area
- The results of the landscape and visual impact assessment work will be evaluated to understand the wider impacts on the local community and other receptors

PROPOSED STRUCTURE OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

Outline

The EIA will assess the potential significant impacts associated with the proposal. The proposed content of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) has been developed following:

- an initial, informal scoping exercise;
- a review of a number of desk based assessments and assessment work undertaken by others;
- site visits where appropriate
- evaluation of the relevant development plans & policies; and
- further assessments where and when required

The Environmental Statement will be structured so that Chapters 1 and 2, and the NTS will form a Part 1, to include:

- a Non technical Summary - providing a brief description of each of the environmental topics considered within the EIA in a non-technical language
- Chapter 1 Introduction - providing an introduction to the framework of the EIA

- Chapter 2 Proposed development - providing a summary of the development proposals and need

Chapters 3 to 15 will then form the Technical evaluation of the proposals – (Part 2). This will outline those environmental issues considered to be significantly impacted upon during the construction, operation and decommissioning of Allerton Waste Recovery Park. This will consist of:

- Chapter 3 Archaeology & Cultural Heritage
- Chapter 4 Landscape and Visual Impact
- Chapter 5 Ecology and Nature Conservation
- Chapter 6 Geology, Contaminated Land, Hydrogeology and Ground Stability
- Chapter 7 Hydrology and Flood Risk
- Chapter 8 Noise
- Chapter 9 External Lighting
- Chapter 10 Air Quality
- Chapter 11 Highways and Public Rights of Way
- Chapter 12 Human Health
- Chapter 13 Socio Economic
- Chapter 14 Summary tables
- Chapter 15 Consideration of alternatives – providing details on the consideration of alternatives sites, technologies and design layouts

A full Transport Assessment, Flood Risk Assessment and Preliminary Risk Assessment will be included as supporting information to the Planning Application as appropriate.

Non technical summary

This section will provide a brief description of each of the environmental topics considered within the EIA in a non-technical language. In accordance with the Regulations, it will be made available to all those who are interested in the Project but who do not necessarily need to read the full ES.

Chapter 1 - Introduction

This chapter will include narrative on:

- the statutory background to the EIA process;
- information regarding the applicant;
- information regarding the assessment team; and
- the format and content of the ES.

Chapter 2 – The Development Proposal

This part of the ES will describe the general physical and operational characteristics of the development. It will provide a site description and context, a full description of the development and the construction methods proposed.

Chapters 3 to 13

Chapter 3 to 13 will assess the impacts of the construction, operation and decommissioning of Allerton Waste Recovery Park, in addition to considering cumulative impacts (fed in from other chapters) of the proposal. Each chapter will be structured to follow a common format (where appropriate) as follows:

- Introduction - setting out the scope of the chapter
- Site Description - in the context of the subject matter of the chapter
- Assessment Methodology - including references, models, guidance used and assumptions, in addition to defining the criteria to establish the impact magnitude and significance
- Policy Context - outlining only legislation relevant to the specific environmental
- Baseline Conditions
- Identification and Evaluation of Significant Impacts - as a result of the development
- Monitoring, Mitigation, Compensation and Enhancement Proposals
- Residual Impacts – both positive and negative resulting from the development and that will require management
- Summary - conclusions, key points and cumulative impacts
- Figures/ Maps/ Diagrams

Chapter 14 – Summary tables

The concluding section of the ES will draw together the results of the topic specific assessments. It will describe the disciplines addressed, summarise how they have been assessed, identify the likely significant effects and detail further mitigation measures that are required. This chapter will structure its contents separately as construction, operation and decommissioning phases in a chronological manner, to help prevent confusion for any non-specialist readers.

It will also give consideration to the following categories of impacts:

- Cumulative environmental impacts
- Interactions between impacts, where impacts in different categories as set out in the individual topic sections may act together to the benefit or detriment of the development proposals

- Residual impacts, which relate to those that remain significant following the application of mitigation measures

Chapter 15 – Consideration of Alternatives

This chapter will consider the need for the development and the alternatives that have been considered including reasons they were discounted.

The 'need' for the development will be examined in the context of available data on waste arisings from Local Authority sources and a review of existing waste management arrangements for the waste to be managed at Allerton Waste Recovery Park.

The chapter will demonstrate how Allerton Park Quarry is the best possible site for Allerton Waste Recovery Park and how other sites have been investigated, detailing the methodology for identifying their availability, deliverability and suitability.

The assessment of alternatives will additionally focus on technological and designs layouts in addition to a 'do nothing' option identifying the potential implications of such a scenario.

CONSULTATIONS

A number of formal consultations with statutory and non-statutory bodies have taken place and will take place to inform the EIA process. AmeyCespa will look to continue this consultation process. Consultations to date have included:

- North Yorkshire County Council Planners
- NYCC Countryside Services
- NYCC Highways Authority
- Environment Agency
- WRG
- Highways Agency
- English Heritage
- Natural England
- MOD
- CABE
- Harrogate EHO
- Enviros Consulting Limited (representing North Yorkshire County Council).

- Yorkshire Wildlife Trust
- NEDL

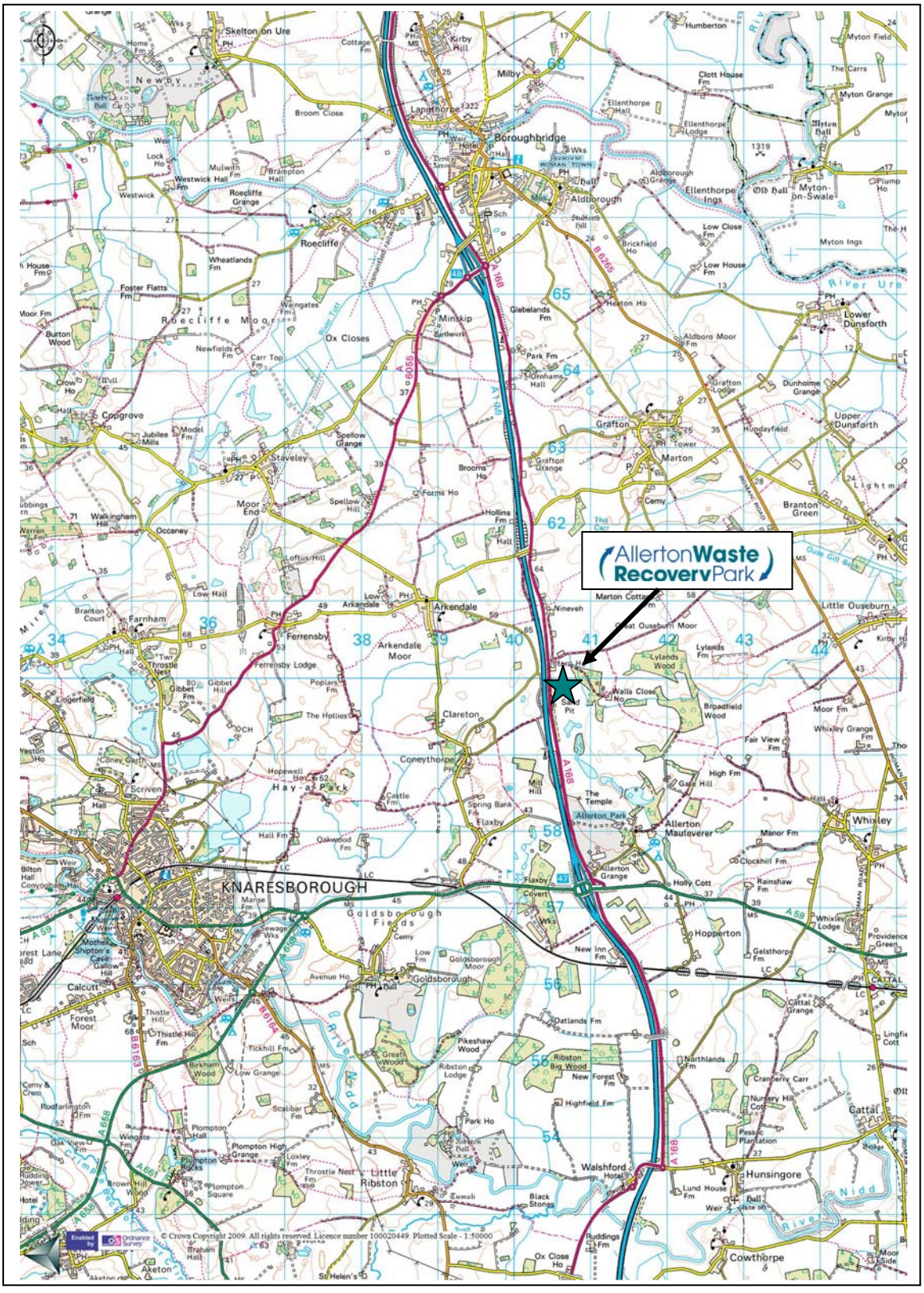
The following table provides an indication of other key stakeholders we are proposing to engage with during the EIA process:

Stakeholder	Reason for Consulting
Yorkshire Water	To inform - may be concerned with water supply, FRA
Internal Drainage Board	To discuss any impact on the drainage system
North Yorkshire Fire and Rescue Service	To raise awareness and discuss any implications the development may have
Yorkshire Ambulance Service	To raise awareness and discuss any implications the development may have
North Yorkshire Police	To raise awareness and discuss any implications the development may have
Health and Safety Executive	To inform, relating to any emissions, concerned with hazardous substances
Health Protection Agency – the North Yorkshire and Humber Health Protection Unit	To inform - may be concerned with emissions
North Yorkshire and York PCT (NHS)	To inform - may be concerned with emissions
NHS Yorkshire and Humber	To inform - may be concerned with emissions
Food Standards Agency	To inform - may be concerned with emissions
National Grid	To discuss existing utility apparatus
United Utilities – Northern Gas Networks	To discuss existing utility apparatus
British Telecom	To discuss existing utility apparatus
Yorkshire and Humber Regional Assembly	Regional energy/environment issues
Local Government Yorkshire and Humber	Regional energy/environment issues
Campaign to Protect Rural England	Regional energy/environment issues
The Garden History Society	To discuss any concerns in relation to Allerton Gardens
The Ramblers Association	Issues affecting footpaths and access
Open Spaces Society	Issues affecting footpaths and access
RSPB	To inform -may be concerned about nesting birds etc

It is noted that in addition to the above, the EIA will detail and reflect on the robust Public Consultation programme which will be undertaken in the coming months. The outcome of such consultation may, where relevant, be considered as part of the EIA.

FIGURES/DRAWINGS

Appendix A: Site Location Map



Appendix B:

The thick green line outlines an indicative application boundary for the development of Allerton Recovery Waste Park. The area within this line and the area covered by green hashing shows the area to which the scoping opinion relates.