

Appendix 19-PD-1: Consultation

Table of Contents

Appendix 19-PD-1: Consultation	1
1. Introduction	1

Tables

Table 1: Scoping Opinion Responses	2
--	---

Appendix 19-PD-1: Consultation

1. Introduction

- 1.1.1 This Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI) Report appendix consolidates key comments raised in the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Scoping Opinion (**Appendix 5-PD-2** of PEI Report **Volume 4**) from the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and other consultees, such as Environment Agency, Natural England, Historic England, local planning authorities, in relation to noise and vibration.

1.2 Scoping Opinion and Additional Consultation

Scoping Opinion

- 1.2.1 A scoping exercise was undertaken in early 2025 to establish the content of the assessment and the approach and methods to be followed.
- 1.2.2 The EIA Scoping Report (**Appendix 5-PD-1** in PEI Report **Volume 4**) was issued on 28 March 2025 and records the findings of the scoping exercise and details the technical guidance, standards, best practice and criteria to be applied in the assessment to identify and evaluate the likely significant effects of the Proposed Development on noise and vibration.
- 1.2.3 Following receipt of the EIA Scoping Opinion on 08 May 2025 (**Appendix 5-PD-2** in PEI Report **Volume 4**), the requirements summarised in **Table 1** have been identified by consultees in relation to noise and vibration
- 1.2.4 **Table 1** outlines how and where these issues have been addressed within the PEI Report or will be addressed within the Environmental Statement (ES) to ensure they are taken account of as part of the ongoing assessment of effects on noise and vibration.

Table 1: Scoping Opinion Responses

Consultee	Topic	Inspectors Comment	How and where addressed
PINS	Direct permanent noise impacts on sensitive receptors during operation. (Parts 1b (excluding BPT), Part 3 and Part 4b)	3.11.1: This matter is proposed to be scoped out on the basis that these parts of the proposed development do not contain any noise producing plant. On this basis, the Inspectorate agrees that these parts of the proposed development are not likely to result in significant noise impacts on sensitive receptors. This matter can be scoped out of the ES.	No action required.
	Direct permanent vibration impacts on sensitive receptors during operation. (All Parts)	3.11.2: The scoping report proposes to scope this matter out on the basis that none of the proposed development installations are expected to generate levels of vibration that would constitute significant effects on nearby receptors and the applicant has committed to ensuring all relevant mechanical elements are fitted to manufacturer recommended antivibration mounts and that the structure of each permanent installation provides an adequate level of vibration isolation such that no significant levels of vibration are emitted into the environment. The Inspectorate considers that insufficient information has been provided on the nature and location of plant, noise sensitive receptors and operational activities to scope this matter out. The ES should assess direct permanent vibration impacts on sensitive receptors in proximity to the proposed development.	This is scoped back in. Due to the Proposed Development being at a relatively early design stage, noise data for the proposed noise sources associated with the operational phase of the Proposed Development. Therefore, no quantitative assessment was possible at the time of writing this PEI Report. This will be addressed prior to finalising the ES.
	Direct permanent noise impacts on sensitive receptors due to	3.11.3: The scoping report proposes to scope this matter out on the basis that the proposed development is not expected to generate significant additional traffic flows once operational.	This is noted. However, as identified in Chapter 21: Traffic and Transport (PEI Report

Consultee	Topic	Inspectors Comment	How and where addressed
	increased road traffic during operation. (All Parts)	Insufficient information has been provided on the location, type and duration of maintenance activities to rule out significant effects as a result of increased road traffic. As such, the Inspectorate is currently not in a position to scope this matter out. The ES should either assess noise impacts on sensitive receptors due to an increase in road traffic or provide justification as to why this matter is not expected to result in significant impacts.	Volume 2), the initial traffic flows are considered to be 'negligible' in terms of increased traffic generation arising from the Proposed Development during both the construction and operational phases of the Proposed Development. Therefore, at this stage, it is considered that the Proposed Development would not result in significant traffic noise due to the minimal increase, geographic spread of vehicle flows across and appropriate management plans. Although traffic related noise impacts are to remain scoped out, the ES will re-review the estimated traffic flow data for the final design of the Proposed Development. This will confirm whether the traffic flows exceed relevant assessment threshold / criteria to determine if likely significant adverse effects will

Consultee	Topic	Inspectors Comment	How and where addressed
			arise from the Proposed Development and thus the need further assessment. If traffic flows identify the requirement for further assessment at ES stage, then road traffic noise effects will be assessed.
	Ecological receptors	3.11.4: The Inspectorate notes that there is little reference to other receptor types that may be sensitive to noise and vibration, such as ecological receptors. The Inspectorate welcomes consideration of noise impacts on nature conservation areas and other ecological receptors (e.g. protected species). The noise assessment should cross-refer to the findings of other relevant aspect chapters. The ES should clearly explain any assumptions made regarding the assessment of likely significant effects arising from noise and vibration on sensitive ecological receptors.	Potential noise and/or vibration effects on ecological receptors are discussed in Chapter 12: Ecology – Aquatic and Chapter 13: Ecology – Terrestrial in PEI Report Volume 2 .
	Sensitive receptors	3.11.5: For the avoidance of doubt, the ES should provide a list of sensitive receptors in proximity to the proposed development. This should include consideration of ecological, heritage and human receptors. Figures showing the location of these receptors in relation to the proposed development should also be provided.	Human sensitive receptors are shown on Figure 19-PD-1 in PEI Report Volume 3 . Ecological receptors are discussed in Chapter 12: Ecology – Aquatic and Chapter 13: Ecology – Terrestrial in PEI Report Volume 2 .

Consultee	Topic	Inspectors Comment	How and where addressed
			Heritage receptors are covered in Chapter 11: Cultural Heritage in PEI Report Volume 2 .
	Study area	3.11.6: The scoping report states that the construction phase study area is defined as 300m from the Order limits for noise, and 100m for vibration. It is not clear where this study area has been derived. The ES should contain robust justification for the study areas, citing the likely extent of significant effects and any relevant guidance used.	Explanation is provided in Section 19.5 of Chapter 19: Noise and Vibration in PEI Report Volume 2 .
	Monitoring locations	3.11.7: The Inspectorates considers that the location of monitoring locations for noise and vibration should be detailed on a figure in relation to the proposed development and sensitive receptors.	This is shown on Figure 19-PD-1 in PEI Report Volume 3 .
	Methodology	3.11.8: The Inspectorate considers that predicted vehicle movements and details on the type, duration and location of plant on site should be used to inform a worst-case scenario for the assessment.	Details are provided in Appendix 19-PD-3 in PEI Report Volume 4 .