



Appendix 15-PD-1: Consultation

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Appendix 15-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** in PEI Report **Volume 4**) from the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) and other consultees, such as Environment Agency, Natural England, Historic England and local planning authorities, in relation to human health.

2. Scoping Opinion and Additional Consultation

2.1 Scoping Opinion

- 2.1.1 A scoping exercise was undertaken in early 2025 to establish the content of the assessment and the approach and methods to be followed.
- 2.1.2 The 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 human health.
- 2.1.3 Following receipt of the 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 human health.
- 2.1.4 **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 human health.

Table 1: Scoping Opinion Responses

Consultee	Topic	Summary of comment	How and where addressed
PINS	Changes in air pollutants from construction activities during construction. (Parts 1a, 1b, 4a and 4b)	3.8.1: The scoping report proposes to scope this matter out on the basis that significant construction air quality effects are not expected at Parts 1a and 4a with the implementation of management measures and, at Part 1b and 4b, air quality effects on human health would be managed by a Dust Management Plan and Odour Management Plan under the Code of Construction Practice. The Inspectorate agrees that dust impacts on human health, including from NRMM can be scoped out provided information on the type, duration and location of NRMM is provided in the Dust Management Plan. Where mitigation measures are being relied upon, these should be secured in the draft DCO. It is noted on figure 21-1 that the proposed development will go through two areas identified as historic landfill. The Inspectorate therefore does not agree to scope out an assessment of odour at this stage. Accordingly, the ES should include	Based on the assumption that an agreement with relevant Local Planning Authorities can be met, a statement justifying the decision to scope out odour effects and air quality effects from PM10, PM2.5 and NOx in the context of human health is set out in section 15.4 of Chapter 15: Human Health in PEI Report Volume 2. Information and details of NRMM will be reported within the Outline Dust Management Plan that will be submitted as part of the DCO application.

		an assessment on odour impacts related to construction works in or adjacent to landfill sites or the information referred to demonstrating agreement with the relevant consultation bodies and that significant effects are unlikely to occur. The Inspectorate considers that insufficient information has been provided concerning emissions of PM10, PM2.5 and NOx and how baseline emissions may be affected by construction traffic. As such, the Inspectorate is not in a position to scope this matter out. The ES should consider air quality effects from PM10, PM2.5 and NOx in the context of human health.	
	Changes in air pollutants from road traffic during construction and operation. (All parts)	3.8.2: The scoping report seeks to scope impacts from changes in air pollutants from road traffic during construction and operation. The Inspectorate considers that changes in air pollutants are unlikely to be significant during operation and therefore this may be scoped out. However, the scoping report does not include an estimate of anticipated traffic volumes and paragraph 9.7.7 of the scoping report states that a review of traffic flow estimates will be undertaken at PIER and ES stages. The scoping report does not present any	Further information on estimated traffic flows will be available at the ES stage and based on the assumption that these will fall below the IAQM criteria, a statement justifying the decision to scope out air quality effects on from PM10, PM2.5 and NOx in the context of human health is set out in section 15.4 of Chapter 15: Human Health in PEI Report Volume 2.

		information concerning PM10 and PM2.5 NOx and how the emissions may change during the construction phase. At this stage the Inspectorate does not agree to scope out changes to air pollutants on human health during construction. The ES should include details of anticipated traffic volumes associated with the construction phase or demonstrate that traffic flows would not exceed relevant IAQM criteria. Information relating to emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 NOx should be included in the ES. Appropriate cross references to the air quality chapter should be made where relevant.	
	Noise and vibration. Permanent changes to road traffic noise during operation. (All parts)	3.8.15: This matter is proposed to be scoped out on the basis that the proposed development is not expected to generate significant additional traffic flows once operational. 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 and vibration impacts	Further estimated traffic flows will be available in the ES, as part of this, it will be confirmed whether the traffic flows exceed relevant ISEP criteria in the ES (which will conclude whether certain Parts of the Proposed Development can be scoped out of further assessment). If the flows exceed ISEP criteria, then assessments will be undertaken.

		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. This justification should be supported by information on maintenance activities such as the location, type and duration of such activities.	
Atherstone Town Council	Order Limits	ATC notes the GUCT project team's stated commitment, as far as possible, to avoid buildings, settlements and ancient woodlands. It is therefore considered that a strong and clear justification is required to support the current plan, as it currently appears to disregard all of those considerations, in that it would clearly disrupt people's lives and businesses over a long period of time. It would also partially destroy long-established woodland and potentially a much needed facility for young, disabled and vulnerable children (Ruby's Yard). Should the project proceed, ATC strongly advocates the use of an agricultural corridor to the East of Atherstone, bypassing the town and causing far less disruption. ATC and Atherstone residents need to know why	Chapter 15: Human Health in PEI Report Volume 2 identifies the potential for significant effects arising from the Proposed Development. The design of the Proposed Development for DCO application will be further refined and significant impacts to be 'designed out' where practicable.

		such a route does not even appear to be under consideration.	
Atherstone Town Council	Social Impacts	Some residents are concerned about the potential negative effects on the communities that reside near the canal, as people do not want to live in, or visit, a sewage blighted environment. Such individuals include those who reside on the canal barges. Also, currently, there is a junior canoe club at Ruby's Yard. The young participants will be at risk from any sewage discharge into the canal. Ruby's Yard is a valued and relatively new facility offering a range of exciting water-sport and other outdoor activities in a socially deprived part of the town, with a considerable focus on residents' physical and mental wellbeing. Even if it is bypassed, it seems bound to have its activities disrupted by the GUCT, and there is concern that new structures might impair the future of paddle-boarding and other water-based activities.	Chapter 15: Human Health in PEI Report Volume 2 provides a preliminary assessment of the potential effects of the Proposed Development on the health determinants relating to social participation, interaction and support, as well as open space, recreation and leisure. The assessment considers impacts on community centres, publicly accessible open spaces, play areas and recreational facilities, including water-based recreation. As set out in sections 15.7-15.12, no significant effects on either health determinant are anticipated at the PEI stage. These matters will be reassessed in the Environmental Statement.
Hinckley & Bosworth	Scoping in odour impacts	HBBC request that odour be considered within the EIA scope. The proposal references treated water, which may result	Based on the assumption that an agreement with HBBC can be met, a statement justifying the decision to scope out air quality and odour

Borough Council		in odour issues at the outfall location near Atherstone. Such impacts could affect the amenity of residents within the Borough.	effects in the context of human health is set out in section 15.4 of Chapter 15: Human Health in PEI Report Volume 2 .
Braunston Parish Council	Assessment of stop locks	Regarding Part 2 of the proposed development, these sections all mention that additional stop locks are under consideration but nowhere are the effects of additional stop locks scoped into assessment of effects on navigation.	The impact on canal users as a result in changes to the canal has been assessed within section 20.10 of Chapter 20: Socio-economics in PEI Report Volume 2 , with physical changes to the canal such as water flow accounted for in line with Chapter 3: The Proposed Development in PEI Report Volume 2 .
Cosgrove Parish Council	Impact on residential moorings	CPC note that access to the lock side cottages and the residential canal boats on the far side of the lock at Cosgrove will need to be maintained during the work. CPC also record concerns regarding four leaks in the canal banks where it passes through Cosgrove Parish.	The impact on residential moorings and properties as a result of construction activities associated with the canal has been assessed within section Error! Reference source not found.10 of Chapter 20: Socio-economics in PEI Report Volume 2 .
Environment Agency	Modelling of water quality	The issue is that 2D dissolved oxygen modelling will be completed for the River Tame between Minworth WwRC and Lea Marston lakes. The solution is to also include temperature as an additional output from the 2D modelling, as agreed in Gate 3 comments.	Further modelling updates (water quality, hydrological and hydraulic) have taken place across several scheme parts using up-to-date information, to feed into the PEI Report Volume 2, Chapter 22: Water Environment and Flood Risk and ES; this includes updating the River Tame model for flood compensation assessment and design. The Environment Agency have been consulted on the modelling

			scopes, and consultation will continue through to the ES stage and DCO submission.
UK Health Security Agency	Scope of assessment	Recommend scoping in dust impacts due to nearby receptors. Highlight health risks from all levels of PM/NOx. Support exposure reduction. Note EMF and noise health impacts not yet addressed.	PINS agrees that dust impacts can be scoped out on the basis that a Dust Management Plan will be secured through the Code of Construction Practice. As set out in Chapter 15: Human Health in PEI Report Volume 2, noise and vibration as a health determinant has been assessed for all Parts of the Proposed Development. sections 15.8, 15.9 and 15.10 of the chapter identify the potential for significant construction noise effects at Parts 1b, 2 and 3. These effects will be reassessed in the Environmental Statement once further design information is available. As set out in section 15.5 of Chapter 15: Human Health in PEI Report Volume 2, impacts relating to radiation as a health determinant have been scoped out of the assessment due to the nature of the Proposed Development and the absence of any source-pathway-receptor links for increased exposure.