



Meeting Note

File reference	WS010003
Status	FINAL
Author	Michael Baker

Meeting with	Whitemoss Landfill Ltd
Meeting date	1 March 2013
Attendees (Planning Inspectorate)	Jeffrey Penfold (Case Officer) Michael Baker (Assistant Case Officer) Alan Ridley (EIA and Land Rights Advisor)
Attendees (non Planning Inspectorate)	Guy Titman (MJCA) Mark Parkin (Whitemoss Landfill Ltd) Rob Routledge (Whitemoss Landfill Ltd) Dominic Carr (West Lancashire Borough Council) Jonathan Haine (Lancashire County Council)
Location	Whitemoss Landfill Site Offices

Meeting purpose	Meeting to discuss the progress of the project.
------------------------	--

Summary of key points discussed and advice given	<p>Attention is drawn to The Planning Inspectorate - National Infrastructure Directorate's openness policy and legal obligation to publish any advice under s51 of the Planning Act 2008 ('the 2008 Act'), which is published on The Inspectorate's website.</p> <p>Project Progress</p> <p>Guy Titman provided The Planning Inspectorate with an update on the progress of the project on behalf of Whitemoss Landfill Limited (WLL):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Baseline studies began in mid 2012 and were ongoing.• The Planning Inspectorate were informally notified on 6 September 2012.• The draft Statement of Community Consultation (SoCC) was sent to Lancashire County Council (LCC) and West Lancashire Borough Council (WLBC) for comment in September/October 2012 and to The Planning Inspectorate for informal comment on 19 October 2012.• Comments were received from WLBC on 26 October 2012 and from LCC on 8 January 2013. Informal comments were provided by The Planning Inspectorate on 30 October 2012.• WLL accepted most comments from WLBC and LCC and proposed to agree revisions to the SoCC with WLBC and LCC.• The GIS Shapefile was submitted to The Planning
---	---

Inspectorate on 26 October 2012.

- The scoping opinion was requested by WLL on 9 November 2012 and formal notification was provided of the intention to submit an Environmental Statement with the application.
- The scoping opinion was issued by the Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State on 19 December 2012.
- The main focus of WLL currently is the preparation of Preliminary Environmental Information (PEI).
- The consultation website is being prepared by WLL.
- WLL expects to submit their s46 notification 'duty to notify Secretary of State of proposed application' to The Planning Inspectorate including the relevant consultation information during the W/C 15 April 2013 with a view to commencing the s42 and s47 consultation for a period of 6 weeks from 22 April 2013;
- WLL intend to submit the application Q3, with a view to a final decision date of late 2014 if the application is accepted for examination at this time.
- WLL propose to twin track the Environmental Permit application process with the process for obtaining a Development Consent Order (DCO).

The Planning Inspectorate advised that a 'letter of comfort' may be sought from the Environment Agency with regard to the Environmental Permit.

West Lancashire Borough Council (WLBC) advised that due to an anticipated period of purdah, it may be delayed in responding to the s42 consultation exercises. Dominic Carr undertook to seek clarity with respect to this matter.

The Planning Inspectorate made reference to the recently published [DCLG guidance on pre-application consultation](#) and provided a broad overview of its content and statutory requirements of the Planning Act 2008 consenting regime.

In response to specific points raised, WLL informed The Planning Inspectorate:

- The majority of the site which will be the subject of the application for a DCO is in the ownership of WLL. WLL are in discussion with a view to purchase the area of the site which they currently do not control. Whilst it is not the preferred option of WLL to seek Compulsory Acquisition powers in the draft DCO WLL may have to reserve its position in this regard. WLL is not aware of any special category or Crown land which has been identified as part of the site.
- WLL does not envisage currently any requests under s52 of the 2008 Act 'obtaining information about interests in land' being made to The Planning

	<p>Inspectorate.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WLL confirmed that it will work with consultees to agree Statements of Common Ground (SOCGs) and that this work will start as soon as possible in the process. <p>EIA</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate advised WLL that the assessment of transboundary impacts is an ongoing process and WLL should address transboundary effects within the ES however unlikely they may seem. The Planning Inspectorate advised WLL that it would be helpful for WLL to provide a table within the ES to show where issues identified in the scoping opinion are addressed in the ES. These matters were agreed by WLL.</p> <p>The Planning Inspectorate enquired whether the Habitats Regulations were likely to be engaged, resulting in the submission of a prescribed Habitats Regulation Assessment report with the application. WLL informed the Planning Inspectorate that it is in discussion with Natural England (NE) and that they will be providing baseline evidence to NE in due course. WLL did not anticipate that the Habitats Regulations would be engaged.</p>
--	--

Circulation List	Meeting attendees