

Determination report

Licence number: WA/055/0009/009/R001

Application reference number: PAN-032546

Site name: Strinds Quarry

Report of an application for a same terms renewal of full abstraction licence number WA/055/0009/009/V002.

The impact of the abstraction was originally assessed in our report dated 27/06/2013.

Purpose of this document

This determination report:

- explains how the application to renew the licence has been determined
- provides a record of the decision-making process
- shows how all relevant factors have been taken into account
- justifies any further conditions in the licence other than those applied as standard.

Unless the determination report specifies otherwise we have accepted the applicant's proposals.

NRW has decided to issue the licence.

We consider that in reaching this decision, we have taken into account all relevant considerations and legal requirements and that the licence will ensure that the appropriate level of environmental protection is provided.

A glossary of acronyms used can be found at the end of this document in [Annex 2](#).

Application details

Application details	
Applicant name and address	Tarmac Trading Limited Ground Floor T3 Trinity Park Bickenhill Lane Birmingham United Kingdom B37 7ES
Existing licence number	WA/055/0009/009/V002
New licence number	WA/055/0009/009/R001

Administrative details

Criteria	Details
Validation	The applicant has submitted all the required information for a complete and valid application. The application was validated on 30/04/2026. This means we considered it was in the correct form, the correct application fee had been received, and that the application contained sufficient information for us to begin our determination The applicant demonstrated that they are entitled to apply for the abstraction licence, as they have a right of access to the abstraction point.
Additional Information / reports supplied	Additional information supplied during the determination – an agreement to reduce the annual maximum licenced quantity (see <i>Tests to renew the Licence</i> below for further details).
Commercial confidentiality / National security	Not applicable to this application.
Advertisement	The proposal is exempt from the need to be advertised under Regulation 7(1) of the Water Resources (Abstraction and Impounding) Regulations 2006 (SI 2006/641).

External Consultation	It was not necessary to consult with external bodies, because the proposal was not subject to advertising.
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Statutory duties

Aspect	Criteria met	Justification / detail
Water Framework Directive	Yes	This proposed activity has screened out of requiring a Water Framework Directive Assessment because • it is a same terms renewal, • there were no recorded concerns from specialists, • NRW has concluded the abstraction will have no impact on the SSSI it is sited within (see below), • there are no monitoring conditions on the licence, and • the new licence will be time-limited. NRW are satisfied that there will be no deterioration in ecological status as a result of the components of the activity authorised by the licence.
The National Site Network and Ramsars	Yes	NRW is of the opinion that the proposal is not likely to have any impact on sites designated under the Habitats Directive as no sites were identified during the original determination, and no new sites have been identified since.
Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs), National Nature Reserves (NNRs) and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)	Yes	This activity was assessed under the CRow Act by the Natural Resources Wales when the original licence was granted, document dated 25/03/2013. NRW are satisfied that there will be no impact on any site designated under the CRow Act as a result of the components of the activity authorised by this licence.
Protected rights and lawful users of water	Yes	It was not necessary to reconsider protected rights and lawful users of water as part of the renewal. There has been no increase to the previously licensed abstraction.

Tests to renew the licence

Test	Criteria met?	Justification / detail
Environmental sustainability	Yes	We have reviewed the risk to the environment and deem that the abstraction continues to be sustainable.
Justification of need	Yes	The applicant has supplied returns for some of the period since the licence was issued to the most recent returns date. These data show that the applicant abstracted between 16 and 31% of the maximum licenced quantity of 93,440 cubic metres per year. The applicant agreed that the current maximum licenced annual quantity was not required and suggested a reduction to 65,408 cubic metres per year. (They requested that the hourly and daily maximum licenced quantities remain unchanged.) The applicant noted that they expect their water usage to increase from current levels in the near future as aggregate production at Dolyhir and Strinds Quarries and nearby Gore Quarry is expected to increase so more processing water will be required. The proposed new maximum annual licenced quantity should meet their future needs. NRW is satisfied that there is continued justification of need for the water and that the new maximum licenced annual quantity is justified.
Water efficiency	Yes	We have reviewed the applicant's water efficiency measures and have deemed them reasonable.

Changes to licence conditions

Condition number	Change
Condition 6.1	Annual licenced abstracted quantity reduced to reflect current and future needs of applicant.

Conditions 7.1(ii), 8.1, 8.2 and 8.3	References to 'the Body' updated to 'NRW'.
Condition 8.2	Updated wording to modern standards in line with policy and guidance.
Condition 9.1	Removed. No longer required as expiry date of renewed licence is in line with the next Common End Date for the Wye catchment.

Other considerations

Test	Criteria met?	Justification / detail
Biodiversity and sustainable development, and Considerations of Sustainable Management of Natural Resources	Yes	The principles of biodiversity and sustainable development are embodied in the conditions attached to the licence. We are satisfied that this decision is compatible with NRW's general purpose of pursuing the sustainable management of natural resources in relation to Wales and applying the principles of sustainable management of natural resources.
Time limit	Yes	A time limit of 31/03/2039 has been included in accordance with the Wye ALS common end date for the catchment and Natural Resources Wales approved policy.
Special agreements	Yes	No special agreements applied.
Measurement of water abstracted	Yes	In accordance with current guidance, monthly records of water abstracted will need to be submitted to NRW on an annual basis (within 28 days of 31 March) or within 28 days of the NRW requesting the records in writing. The Licence Holder will also be required to keep all records for at least 6 years and to make them available for inspection during all reasonable hours.

Cost / benefit analysis

Assessment of probable benefits and costs of proposed option to the:	
Water Resources/ The Environment	There is low risk of environmental damage occurring as a result of this proposal. The proposal accords with local water resources policy and is sustainable.
The applicant	The applicant will benefit from the availability of water for their operation. There will be a cost saving from not having to use mains water for this purpose. The applicant will incur the costs of installing and maintaining the method of abstraction and of measuring the volumes of water they abstract. The applicant will have to pay the application fee, any advertising costs that apply, and an annual subsistence charge based on their licensed quantity.
Natural Resources Wales	Natural Resources Wales will incur the cost of determining the application and enforcing the licence. These costs will be partly recovered through the application charge and annual charges, where applicable. In determining the licence in accordance with local and national policy, Natural Resources Wales is fulfilling its duties as a regulator.
The economic and social well being of the rural community.	No adverse effects upon the social and economic well being of local communities in the rural area are perceived as a result of this proposal.

Conclusion and decision

Full and due consideration has been given to any representations made, and due regard has been taken of protected rights and other lawful interests.

The principles of sustainable development are embodied in the conditions attached to the licence.

The conditions incorporated on the licence are considered to be necessary and reasonable in the light of the available and presented evidence. The conditions are also considered to be consistent with appropriate standards for enforcement by Natural Resources Wales.

NRW has therefore approved the application (as modified) and issue of Licence number WA/055/0009/009/R001 with the conditions as drafted.

Annex 1 – Administration

Purpose code and loss factor

Primary Code	Secondary Code	Use	Loss factor
I: Industrial, Commercial, Public Services	EXT: Extractive	300: Mineral Washing	Low

Finance

The licence will be subject to annual charges under paragraph 6.1 of [Natural Resources Wales’s water abstraction charges scheme](#)

Annex 2 - Glossary of acronyms used in this document

ALS	Abstraction Licensing Strategy
CAMS	Catchment Abstraction Management Strategy
CRoW	Countryside Rights of Way
EFI	Environmental Flow Indicator
FRAP	Flood Risk Activity Permit
GES	Good Ecological Status
GW	Groundwater
HAF	Hydro abstraction factor
HEP	Hydro-electric power
HES	High Ecological Status
HIA	Hydrological Impact Assessment
HoF	Hands-off flow
HoL	Hands-off level
HRA	Habitat Regulations Assessment
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LSE	Likely Significant Effect
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NRW	Natural Resources Wales
PALS	Permitting and Licensing System
PPS	Public Participation Statement
PWS	Public Water Supply
Q ₃₀	Flow exceeded 50% of the time period considered
Q ₅₀	Flow exceeded 50% of the time period considered
Q ₇₀	Flow exceeded 70% of the time period considered
Q ₉₅	Flow exceeded 95% of the time period considered
RBMP	River Basin Management Plans
ROA	Rights of Access (e
RSA	Restoring Sustainable Abstraction
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SINCs	Site of Importance for Nature Conservation (Local Wildlife Sites)
SMNR	Sustainable Management of Natural Resources
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPZ	Source Protection Zone
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
WAT	Welsh Archaeological Trust
WFD	Water Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)
WFS	Water Feature Survey
WIA	Water Industry Act
WR	Water Resources