

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

CHAPTER 7: DESCRIPTION OF COMMITTED DEVELOPMENTS

Land South of Rover Way, Cardiff CF24 5PH

Harsco Metals Group Limited

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7.1.0 Introduction

- 7.1.1 This chapter of the Environmental Statement (ES) considers the committed developments in proximity to the application site which have been considered in terms of assessing cumulative effects. The chapter also seeks to outline the regulatory position regarding the assessment of cumulative effects and any previous consultation with Cardiff Council, including the content of the Scoping Opinion, which detailed the requirements for the assessment of cumulative effects.

EIA Regulations

- 7.1.2 In accordance with The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (Wales) Regulations 2017, the EIA must include an assessment of any direct and indirect cumulative effects arising from the inter-relationship between different impacts arising from the proposed development when considered alongside any other developments in the area surrounding the site.
- 7.1.3 The objective is to identify any combined impacts from the Development or impacts from several developments; and if, whilst individually they may be insignificant, could when considered together cause a further significant direct or indirect impact requiring mitigation.
- 7.1.4 In relation to other developments, best practice dictates that cumulative assessments of this nature should have regard to those schemes which are 'reasonably foreseeable' (i.e. usually those under construction or with planning permission). It should be emphasised that such assessments are only capable of being carried out based on the information available at the time of assessment.
- 7.1.5 The assessment should focus only where there is the potential for significant cumulative impacts and, for this development, an initial review of potential developments requiring review has therefore focussed on those developments which due to their proximity or scale are most likely to give rise to cumulative impacts. Consideration has also been given to the areas within which cumulative impacts are most likely.
- 7.1.6 The cumulative assessment will therefore include a review of the potential for impacts when the scheme is considered alongside the Committed Developments outlined within this Chapter of the ES.

Scoping and Consultation

- 7.1.7 As detailed within Chapter 5: Scoping and Consultation, a formal Scoping Request Report was submitted to Cardiff Council on 4th April 2019. A copy of the Scoping Request Report is provided within Appendix 5-3.
- 7.1.8 Section 5.6 of the Scoping Request Report sought to detail the proposed scope for the consideration of cumulative effects and the committed developments that were to be included within the assessment cumulative impacts.
- 7.1.9 Section 5.6 of the Scoping Request Report identified that the cumulative assessment will therefore include a review of the potential for effects when the scheme is considered alongside the following committed developments located within the immediate vicinity of the application site:
- **Land at Rover Way, Pengam (The Cardiff Motocross Centre MX)** – The removal of fill material and the construction of a biomass power plant (up to 9.5MW) and a maximum of 130,000 sq

ft of industrial accommodation (B8 Use Class), new access roads and associated landscaping works – **application ref. 17/02130/MJR**;

- **Land at Rover Way, Pengam (The Cardiff Motocross Centre MX)** – Amendments to Condition 28 to incorporate minor amendments to access layout previously approved under 17/02130/MJR – **application ref. 19/00244/MJR**; and
- **SIMS Metal UK Metal Recovery Plant, Rover Way, Pengam** – Proposed industrial building (Class B2) to house scrap metal sorting machinery, in addition to related works, associated with existing site use – **application ref. 18/02065/MJR**.

7.1.10 Section 5.6 continues by identifying that, given the interrelationship of the application proposals with the wider Celsa Steel Works site, consideration of the effects associated with the Steel Works will already be contained within the technical assessments given that this forms part of the baseline environment.

7.1.11 Given that the context of the Scoping Request Report was to seek a formal Scoping Opinion from Cardiff Council, Section 5.6 closed by requesting *“If the authority is aware of any other proposals that it considers will need to be assessed in terms of potential cumulative effects, it would be appreciated if these could be identified as part of the EIA Scoping Opinion duly adopted”*.

7.1.12 The formal Scoping Opinion adopted by Cardiff Council (17th May 2019), whilst providing comments on the assessment of various EIA topics, remained silent on the assessment of cumulative effects and the developments which were necessary to be considered in the undertaking of the assessment (Appendix 5-4).

7.1.13 On this basis, it has been assumed that the Council is satisfied with the scope of assessment and the developments to be considered within the assessment of cumulative effects as detailed within the submitted Scoping Request Report.

Other Developments

7.1.14 No other developments, beyond those identified within the Scoping exercise, have been considered in the undertaking of the assessment of cumulative effects.

7.2.0 Land at Rover Way, Pengam

- 7.2.1 Land at Rover Way, Pengam extends to a site area of approximately 16.6 Ha (41 acres) and is located immediately to the east of the planning application site, predominantly consisting of the Cardiff Motocross Centre MX and adjoining land. This site was previously used as a non-domestic land fill site, known as the former ‘frag-tip’ site which contains automotive shredded residue (ASR).
- 7.2.2 The red line application site area also extends north of the motocross site to abut Rover Way and to the south to incorporate a secondary internal access road, to the south of the Celsa Steel works site, which provides links onto Tide Fields Road.
- 7.2.3 The site was also historically used for the accommodation of a significant level of construction and demolition waste fill from a number of large-scale developments within the local authority area, including that of the St Davids 2 retail scheme.

Application ref. 17/02130/MJR

- 7.2.4 On 14th June 2018, outline planning permission, with all matters reserved except access, was granted for *“The removal of fill material and the construction of a circa 9.5MW biomass power plant and 130,000 sq ft of industrial accommodation (Use Class B8), new access roads and associated landscaping works”* (planning permission ref. 17/02130/MJR).
- 7.2.5 The application was supported by an Environmental Impact Assessment that considered the following topics:
- Ecology;
 - Land Contamination;
 - Air Quality;
 - Visual;
 - Transport;
 - Noise; and
 - Hydrology.
- 7.2.6 The decision notice was issued with a total of 38 conditions which comprised of a range of pre-commencement, pre-operational and compliance requirements. Subsequent to the approval of reserved matters, this consent would expire in June 2023.

Application ref. 19/00244/MJR

- 7.2.7 On 1st March 2019, a Section 96A planning application was granted for *“Amendments to Condition 28 to incorporate minor amendments to access layout previously approved under 17/02130/MJR”* (planning permission ref. 19/00244/MJR).
- 7.2.8 Except for the minor alteration to the layout of the proposed access, this permission did not vary

any other part of planning permission ref. 17/02130/MJR. As such, there are still a range of reserved matters which require consent and a number of planning conditions which must be discharged prior to the formal implementation of planning permission ref. 17/02130/MJR as varied by planning permission ref. 19/00244/MJR.

- 7.2.9 On this basis, subsequent to the approval of reserved matters, both consents would expire in June 2023.

7.3.0 SIMS Metal UK, Rover Way, Pengam

- 7.3.1 The SIMS Metal UK application site comprised of 0.23 Ha of land within the wider Celsa Steel Works site, immediately to the north of the current application site.
- 7.3.2 The site is utilised for the management of ferrous scrap metal and includes a number of small industrial buildings and plant machinery associated with these operations.
- 7.3.3 As per the Harsco application site, the land comprises made ground and has been historically used in association with the wider Celsa Steel Works operations, including the tipping of metal ore, slag and similar material.

Application ref. 18/02065/MJR

- 7.3.4 On 23rd November 2018, full planning permission was granted for *“Proposed industrial building (Class B2) to house scrap metal sorting machinery, in addition to related works, associated with existing site use”* (planning permission ref. 18/02065/MJR).
- 7.3.5 The proposed workshop building will be utilised for the housing of new scrap metal sorting machinery, in addition to related works complementary to the site’s existing operations. The building will have an approximate Gross Internal Area of 1,426m² and will measure 46m in length, 31m in width and 13.2m in height.
- 7.3.6 Existing access arrangements into the site will be utilised, whilst no other physical alterations are proposed to either the SIMS Metal or the wider Celsa Steel Works site.
- 7.3.7 Given the scale of the development proposals, the application was not deemed to constitute EIA development and was accompanied by a range of standalone supporting assessments, including:
- Planning, Design and Access Statement;
 - Noise Assessment;
 - Flood Consequences Assessment; and
 - Air Quality Screening.
- 7.3.8 The decision notice contained a total of 4 conditions all of which related to points of compliance. There were no pre-commencement or pre-operational conditions attached to the consent. It is understood that the development has formally commenced on site.

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