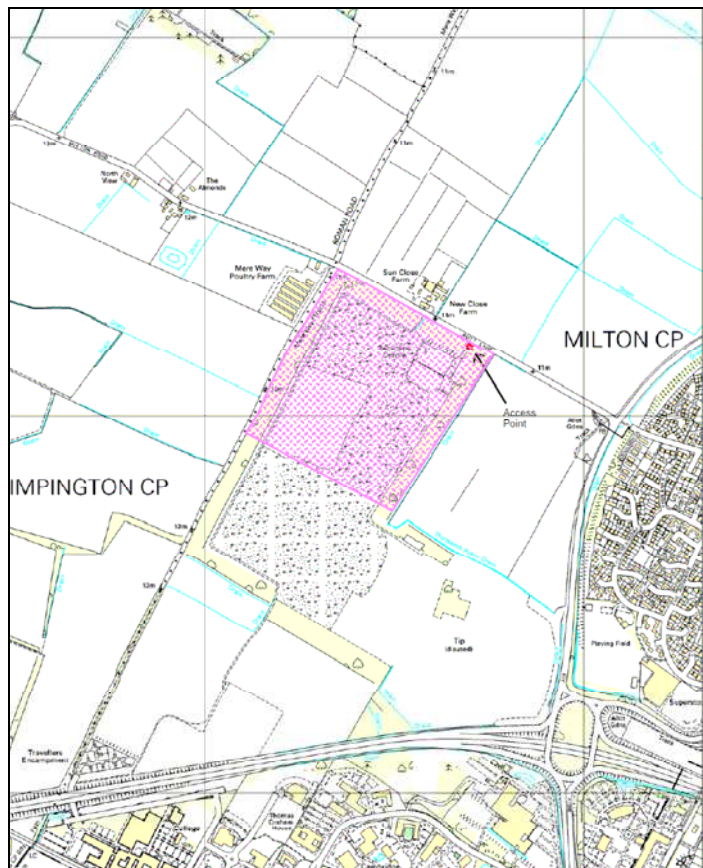


Site Assessment: SS4 Site 81 - Existing Milton HWRC



(Not to Scale – This map is for illustrative purposes only)

Proposed use:
Recycling Centre
(formerly known as
a Household waste
Recycling Centre)
and Transfer
Facility, Mixed
Waste, Single
Stream,
Composting, Inert
Recycling and
Energy from Waste.

Site Size (ha):
22.72

**Extension to
existing site:**
Yes (Extension to
timeframe of use
and type of uses)

Section 1: Overall Evaluation:

Existing use is short term, associated with landfill site. A permanent use on this site would compromise existing restoration proposals and landfill capacity. Queues at busy times affecting local highway capacity / road safety. Highway concerns exist as the A10 is already close to capacity, this would be exacerbated by HCV flows at peak periods. Site opposite Sun and New Close Farms which are sensitive receptors. Landscape concerns mean this site would be unsuitable for Energy from Waste uses. The site is within the Cambridge Green Belt and adjacent to an Area of Best Landscape. On balance this site is not preferred for the proposed uses.

Recommendation: This is not a preferred site for a waste Recycling Centre and Transfer Facility, Mixed Waste, Single Stream, Composting, Inert Recycling or Energy from Waste

Section 2: Representations from Preferred Options 1 consultation Site assessment in relation to Representations:

This site was not included in the Issues and Options Papers for public consultation, as it was suggested at a later date. The site operator made a representation during the preferred options consultation stating this should be a permanent site and the following uses should be considered in addition to waste recycling and transfer facility – Mixed Waste, Single Stream, Composting, Inert Recycling and Energy from Waste.

Note: Full copies of representations are available at Cambridgeshire County Council, Castle Court, Cambridge & Peterborough City Council, Bridge House Peterborough. Full summaries of the representations can be viewed on both council's websites at www.cambridgeshire.gov.uk & www.peterborough.gov.uk

Section 3. Performance against Key Site Selection Criteria:

Policy:

Core Strategy

The Core Strategy identifies a need for additional recycling centres for local people. These will contribute towards the delivery of the Plan's waste management vision and objectives by maximising the amount of municipal waste which can be recycled or recovered. The Core Strategy also requires these facilities need to be easily accessible to the communities they are intended to serve. Site would also contribute to other waste management capacity.

Local Plan/ Emerging LDF

S. Cambs Local Plan; Located within Green Belt. LDF; Green Belt.

Site Availability

Put forward by company currently operating the site

Policy Summary:

Fits well with Core Strategy and site availability is confirmed. Site does however, conflict with the local plan and emerging LDF as it is located within the Greenbelt.

Natural and Historic Environment:

International and National wildlife sites

No likely impact on SSSIs

Local Wildlife Designations

Protected species survey required.

Ecological Assessment with mitigation

Site is likely to have a Low/medium impact on ecology with medium/high mitigation potential.

Archaeology with mitigation

The site is located in an area rich in remains of prehistoric and Roman date, as demonstrated by previous and current work within the existing landfill site.

Best and Most Versatile Land (BMVL)

The entire site is Grade 2.

Historic and built environment with mitigation

Limited information at time of assessment.

Natural & Historic Environment Summary:

Impact upon the natural and historic environment is likely to be relatively low, the only concern relates to the high-grade of land and its location in relation to archaeological remains.

Water Environment:

Ground Water Vulnerability:

A small area of the site is above a Minor Aquifer. No Source protection Zones.

Flood Zones:

Site is within Flood Risk Zone 1.

Water Environment Summary:

There are no concerns under this category.

Landscape:**Landscape Capacity and visual impact with Mitigation:**Waste Treatment/Recycling

The site comprises a waste recycling centre, former mineral extraction, and rough grassland, and lies to the north of Cambridge. Dense woodland belts contain the site. Sensitive siting and access, together with extended screen planting, would ensure that the site is able to accommodate development for waste treatment/recycling works.

Energy From Waste

The site comprises a waste recycling centre, former mineral extraction, and rough grassland, and lies to the north of Cambridge. Dense woodland belts contain the site. It would be difficult to mitigate the visual impact of a 60-80m high stack and 30m high building (forming part of this development), which are not in character with the open rural landscape north of Cambridge.

Landscape Summary:

There is significant capacity in the landscape to accommodate the waste treatment/recycling. The Energy from Waste proposal would be more difficult to mitigate because of the visually impairing high stacks and building which would not be in keeping with the open rural landscape of the north of Cambridge.

Traffic Movement:**Local Traffic:**

No comments.

Highway Matters:

A10 approaching capacity during peak flow periods

HCV Matters:

Route Control- Traffic should be direct from the A10 rather than allowed to travel through nearby Impington, which is already a serious problem. Egress Requirements- Hard engineering measures have already been agreed with the current operators of this site, if they were to obtain planning permission. These measures would force HCVs to drive towards the A10 when leaving the site and visa versa when entering

Traffic Movement Summary:

Local traffic volumes and the routing of traffic are an issue for this site.

Sensitive receptors:**Sensitive receptors:**

There are various Sensitive Land Uses within 200-400m of the site. There are also many Sensitive Land Uses within 400m-2km of the site.

Airport Safety Maps:

Plan A is height of structures. Plan B is birdstrike concerns. Plan E is explosives.

Cambridge Plan A. Cambridge Plan B.

Sensitive Receptors Summary:

There are a number of sensitive land uses in the vicinity of the site which may be an issue.

Other factors:

Unless circumstances change this is only a short term site. Queues at busy times affecting local highway capacity / road safety. Highway concerns exist as the A10 is already close to capacity, this would be exacerbated by HCV flows at peak periods. Site in close proximity to the relocated Park and Ride site. Site opposite Sun and New Close Farms which are sensitive receptors. Development of this site would result in a reduction of landfill capacity and would require a change in restoration proposals which could compromise future disposal and final restoration profiles. This would result in an unsatisfactory landform. Local concerns about traffic flows to a facility through the villages and from the A10 junction. Landscape concerns mean this site would be unsuitable for Energy from Waste uses.

Criteria considered in initial desk top study:

Green Belt

The entire site is within the Green Belt.

Area of Best Landscape

The Western boundary of the site is adjacent to an Area of Best Landscape.

Rights of Way

There is a byway (135/3) that runs adjacent to the Western boundary of the site. There are two footpaths approximately 1.9km West of the site. There are numerous others within 5km of the site.

Listed Buildings

There are a cluster of Grade II Listed Buildings approximately 1km East of the site and a cluster of Grade II buildings approximately 1.8km Northeast of the site. There are numerous other clusters between 2 and 5km from the site.

Conservation Area

There are Conservation Areas in the following locations: Milton, 1.1km east of the site; Impington, 1.6km west of the site and Landbeach, 1.7km northeast of the site. There are other Conservation Areas within 5km of the site.