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For the Attention of:

David Marno
Head of Development Management
Planning Services
Department for Resources and Regulation
3 Knowsley Place
Bury, BL9 0EJ

29 April 2026

Our Reference: STG-WGH-BRYLHA-033

Dear David,

Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme of Works in the Borough of Bury under Planning Permission 66947 - Application for the discharge of Condition 19 (Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation) for works at Woodgate Hill WTW Compound

The Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme (HARP) is a regionally significant infrastructure programme which benefits from policy support and planning permission, and for which there is an established urgent need. United Utilities have appointed Cascade Infrastructure Ltd to fund, design, construct and maintain the HARP programme of works, and Cascade have in turn appointed STRABAG to carry out the design and construction.

HARP is a proposal to replace six existing underground tunnel sections of the 110km Haweswater Aqueduct. The aqueduct takes raw water from the Haweswater Reservoir along a 16km section to a water treatment works (WTW) near Kendal for treatment. From this WTW the aqueduct conveys treated water southward to a WTW in the borough of Bury. Along its length there are a number of water mains that branch off the aqueduct supplying treated water to customers in Cumbria, Lancashire and Greater Manchester.

A series of HARP works are proposed in the Bury Council authority area, including works



for a replacement section of aqueduct and associated temporary and permanent works and infrastructure.

Full planning permission (Council Ref: 66947) was granted in June 2023, subject to a series of planning conditions and s106 obligations.

Scope of this Application

This application is to discharge Condition 19 (Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation) of the above permission, for all phases of work at Woodgate Hill WTW Compound.

"Condition 19 – Archaeological Written Scheme of Investigation

Development within each phase approved under Condition 3 above shall not be commenced until the applicant or their agents or successors in title has secured the implementation of a programme of archaeological works for the relevant phase. The works are to be undertaken in accordance with a Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) submitted to and approved in writing by the local planning authority. The WSI shall cover the following:

- 1. Informed by the updated North West Regional Research Framework, a phased programme and methodology of investigation and recording to include:*
 - i. archaeological evaluation trenching (based on the trenching plan supplied to Jacobs by GMAAS on 10th March 2021)*
 - ii. informed by the above, more detailed targeted excavation (subject of a new WSI).*
- 2. A programme for post investigation assessment to include:*
 - iii. analysis of the site investigations records and finds*
 - iv. production of a final report on the investigation results*
- 3. Deposition of the final report with the Greater Manchester Historic Environment Record*
- 4. Dissemination of the results commensurate with their significance.*
- 5. Provision for archive deposition of the report and records of the site investigation.*
- 6. Nomination of a competent person or persons/organisation to undertake the works set out within the approved WSI.*

Reason. To record and advance understanding of the significance of any heritage assets to be lost (wholly or in part) in a manner proportionate to their importance and the impact, and to make this evidence (and any archive generated) publicly



accessible pursuant to Policies EN3/1 – Impact of Development on Archaeological Sites, EN3/2 – Development Affecting Archaeological Sites and EN3/3 – Ancient Monuments of the Bury Unitary Development Plan and Section 16 of the NPPF.

The following documents are submitted alongside this application, which, together with this covering letter comprise the application submitted for approval at the Woodgate Hill WTW Compound.

Table 1 - Documents accompanying this application

Drawing/Document Title (Number)	For Approval/For Information
Covering Letter 80061155-STB-WOODG-DS-CO-T-00002	For Approval

Summary of Proposed Approach

The proposed development at Woodgate Hill WTW Compound does not impact the area of archaeological interest. No further archaeological works are proposed or required on site.

This approach has been informed through engagement with Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS) which has confirmed its agreement to the approach, as set out in Appendix 1 to this covering letter.

Summary

This application is to fully discharge Condition 19 (Archaeology) of the above permission, in respect of all phases of work at the Woodgate Hill WTW Compound only. It has been developed and submitted in accordance with planning permission reference 66947.

We would be very grateful for a timely determination within the statutory decision-making timeframes, in order to assist in maintaining the programme for delivery of HARP.

I trust this is helpful. If you have any queries relating to this application, please don't hesitate to contact me on 07398 755525 or tim.snell@partner.strabag.com.

Yours Sincerely,

Tim Snell



Town Planning Lead, Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme, STRABAG UK Limited

Cc.



APPENDIX 1 – CONSULTATION RESPONSE FROM GMAAS



GMAAS
Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service

Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service
Environment & Life Sciences
Room LG20
Peel Building
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Salford
M5 4WX

Ken Whittaker
STRABAG UK Limited
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1 Oxford Street
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In relation to Planning Permission, Ref: 66947
Date: 25th March 2026

Archaeological Consultation:

Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme of Works in the Borough of Bury under Planning Permission 66947 – Development design update and archaeological approach to Discharge Condition 19 for works at Woodgate Hill WTW Compound.

Dear Ken,

Thank you for consulting GMAAS on this application and setting out the relevant project history and current state of play with regard to satisfying Condition 19 of the consented scheme.

As your Consultation Letter (dated 25th March 2026) quite rightly indicates, the site was evaluated via a Geophysical Survey in 2020, with a report submitted as part of the scheme's Environmental Statement, Volume 4 Technical Appendices, Appendix 10.4 (Magnitude Surveys, January 2021). This was followed by a scheme of targeted evaluation trenching undertaken by ECUS in 2023. A trenching plan was created during numerous consultations between GMAAS and archaeological consultants linked to the scheme between March 2021 and April 2023, culminating in a plan to excavate seven trenches outside of previously disturbed or topographically impractical areas, whilst still largely led by the geophysical results in areas of archaeological potential.

The trenching did not encounter significant remains from any period, though a small number of undated features around Trenches 1, 2 and 5 to the north and east of Hercules Farm did highlight an area where further monitoring and recording might become necessary as and when a detailed design plan for the Woodgate Hill Compound and associated haul roads was devised. ECUS provided a report on the results of the work, and following minor edits shared a final version, Version 1.2, dated December 2023. This included paragraph 4.1.5 which stated that further monitoring may be required following submission of detailed designs for the compound layout.

The detailed design has now been devised, and during the meeting I attended with yourself and others on the 12th March we discussed the likelihood of any further archaeological works needing to take place. Having reviewed the detailed design it is clear that the area of archaeological potential (around Trenches 1, 2 and 5) will not be subject to significant surface groundworks that pose any threat to archaeological interests, inclusive of any works required to protect vegetation. Additionally, the proposed compound, located north-west of the covered reservoir off the west side of Castle Hill Road at Woodgate Hill, does not pose any significant threats to archaeological interests as it is mostly on previously disturbed ground. Likewise, the associated haul road leading to the compound from Castle Hill Road will not negatively impact on known or suspected



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archaeology. There is an area of ridge & furrow earthworks noted on the Historic Environment Record (remnant of potential medieval, probable later to post-medieval agricultural activity – HER 3550.1.0, ES Asset 5031) located just north of the proposed haul road, that was confirmed by the Geophysical Survey (fragmentary within Plots 9, 10 and 11). These lie outside of the redline boundary of the scheme, will not be affected by groundworks, and do not require any further consideration or survey.

With regard to planning condition 19 of permission 66947:

- A Written Scheme of Investigation (WSI) for evaluation trenching was produced by a suitable nominated organisation, with appropriate methodologies, and aims and objectives based on research interests in the North West Regional Research Framework: **Pre-commencement element and Stage 6 satisfied.**
- The evaluation took place in accordance with the WSI (trench plan informed by Geophysical Survey and consultation with GMAAS). Recent consultation following detailed design has been undertaken and no further fieldwork is deemed necessary: **Stages 1i, and 1ii (not required) satisfied.**
- A report on the results of the trenching was produced and submitted to GMAAS for comment. Following minor revisions, the report was approved by GMAAS. A copy has been stored for accession to the HER upon final discharge. An OASIS record for the project has also been created for the work in accordance with the WSI: **Stages 2i, 2ii and 3 satisfied.**
- The report will be accessioned to the HER, becoming a publicly accessible 'Grey Literature' report. No further dissemination or publication required: **Stage 4 satisfied.**
- The evaluation did not result in retention of a physical artefactual archive and therefore no deposition of a physical archive is necessary. A digital archive was put together by ECUS in accordance with the WSI, but it is unclear if that was ever deposited with the Archaeology Data Service (ADS) as per paragraph 3.12.8 of the WSI – they might have kept the digital archive locally until they knew if any further monitoring works were to be required. **This will need checking**, but ultimately the only archive is digital and the report will be publicly available through the HER and OASIS: **Stage 5 satisfied (pending confirmation of archive)**

On the basis of the above, I am happy that no further archaeological works are required on site and the various elements of Condition 19 have been appropriately satisfied (excepting the confirmation of digital archive deposition). As such, I will be happy to recommend full discharge of the condition on formal consultation from Bury Council.

Yours sincerely,



Ben Dyson BA MLitt

Senior Planning Archaeologist

Greater Manchester Archaeological Advisory Service (GMAAS)

Tel: ~~0161 295 6917~~ / 07934903149