

From: Lane, Philippa <greatermanchester-ca.gov.uk>

Sent: 28 November 2024 11:13

To: Booth, Claire <bury.gov.uk>

Subject: Ref 71273 Pilsworth Quarry, Pilsworth Road, Bury, BL9 8QZ

Hi Clare,

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on the above planning application.

This is a retrospective application for a Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) at Pilsworth South landfill. Permission was granted in December 2023 for a MRF (ref. 69956) but the facility has not been built in line with the planning permission. The applicant is therefore seeking planning approval for a MRF which will have an increased maximum throughput of 250,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) (increased from 150,000tpa).

It is understood that the proposal will not increase overall waste inputs to the site but it will provide a pre-treatment process for some of the waste already headed to Pilsworth South Landfill in order to extract recyclable material. Waste not extracted for recycling will be taken to the landfill.

National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) (October 2014)

Para. 1 of NPPW explains that positive planning plays a pivotal role in delivering this country's waste ambitions through the delivery of sustainable development and resource efficiency, including provision of modern infrastructure, local employment opportunities and wider climate change benefits, by driving waste management up the waste hierarchy.

Para. 7 of NPPW states that when determining waste planning applications, waste planning authorities should [...] consider the likely impact on the local environment and on amenity against the criteria set out in Appendix B and the locational implications of any advice on health from the relevant health bodies. NPPW Appendix B provides a list of criteria to be considered: protection of waste quality and resources and flood risk management; land instability; landscape and visual impacts; nature conservation; conserving the historic environment; traffic and access; air emissions, including dust; odours; vermin and birds; noise, light and vibration; litter; and potential land use conflict [...].

Greater Manchester Joint Waste Plan – Adopted April 2012

The Waste Plan was adopted in 2012 and sets out a waste planning strategy to 2027 to enable the adequate provision of waste management facilities in appropriate locations. The Waste Plan forms part of Bury's development plan.

The waste hierarchy forms the fundamental basis for the Waste Plan. Waste Plan Objective 2 seeks to promote the movement of waste up the waste hierarchy, assuming minimisation at source, increasing reuse, recycling and recovery, whilst recognising there may still be a need for additional landfill capacity of residual wastes. The proposed development would divert more recyclable waste from landfill each month when compared to the MRF as permitted in December 2023 (4,166 tonnes each month compared with 3,000 tonnes) which is in accordance with the principle of the waste hierarchy and Objective 2 of the Greater Manchester Joint Waste Plan.

The proposed development is in the Green Belt and linked to the existing operation at Pilsworth South Landfill therefore any planning permission, if granted, should be conditioned as temporary and linked to the life of the existing Pilsworth South Landfill, which under planning permission ref 53453 is to cease landfilling and be restored by 31st December 2028. ie. Operations at the MRF should stop when landfilling stops and the site should be restored alongside the landfill restoration by 31st December 2028.

Traffic Impacts

Para. 5.3 of the planning statement explains that the proposed development will, in a typical month, divert 4,166 tonnes of wood, plastic and glass from landfill, which will be removed from the site via 20t bulkers.

The proposed development would result in an additional 10 x 2-way 20t bulker movements per day as recyclable materials are taken away for processing.

The MRF as consented under ref. 69956 would, in a typical month, divert 3,000 tonnes of wood, plastic and glass from landfill, which would be removed from the site via 20t bulkers and result in 8 x 2-way movements per day.

The proposed development would therefore result in an additional 2 x 2-way 20t bulker movements compared to what is already consented. Your highways team will advise on impacts of this.

Dust, odour and noise impacts

The proposed development has the potential to result in increased noise, dust and odours from operations at the MRF.

The applicant has provided a noise assessment as part of the planning application.

The applicant has provided a Dust Management Plan and this document should be listed in any planning permission, if granted. Waste taken to the MRF should be deposited only when the roller-shutter doors are closed ie. In an enclosed building, in line with the Dust Management Plan.

I cannot see any information relating to potential odour impacts. This should be requested from the applicant to ensure that potential odour impacts can be assessed as part of the planning application, along with an odour management plan.

Pilsworth South Landfill

You will be aware that operations at the adjacent Pilsworth South Landfill have been the subject of a number of odour complaints from members of the public and Councillors. The site is being monitored by the Environment Agency and is understood not to be currently accepting waste.

For information, the Mayor of Greater Manchester, Andy Burnham, wrote to Unsworth and West Heywood Councillors on 30th September 2024 regarding Pilsworth South Landfill and I attach a copy of this letter.

Kind regards,

Philippa

Philippa Lane

Minerals and Waste Planner

Greater Manchester Combined Authority

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