

Catcheside, Emily - Communities

From: Briggs, Adam - Public Health
Sent: 10 December 2021 10:55
To: Catcheside, Emily - Communities
Subject: RE R.138/21

Dear Emily,

Many thanks for the opportunity to review this application. I have read the relevant documents relating to the application and have also requested additional advice from colleagues working in Environmental Hazards at the UKHSA.

The applicant reports are that there is no significant risk to human health from the work and that industry control standards will be applied as part of the Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP). Furthermore, the Environmental Statement states:

“The CEMP will include a range of industry standard good practice construction phase dust mitigation measures required during all works undertaken based on the level of construction dust risk at sensitive receptors. This includes measures focused on preparing and maintaining the site such as screens, vegetating stockpiles, specifying the type of machinery used, surfacing of haul routes, wheel washing, as well as specific or additional measures within a Dust Management Plan, potentially including dust monitoring.”

I would expect that a dust management plan (DMP) is provided as a condition of planning consent, that that this DMP should include clear criteria for assessing air quality as well as what actions are to be taken at different air quality thresholds, both in and outside of operational hours. My UKHSA colleagues also conclude that a DMP is required at this stage and it “should take into consideration the proposed route proximity to sensitive receptors. For instance, in Appendix 3.1: Extract from OCC, WebTAG Preliminary Environmental Impact Appraisal Report 2018 notes that a day nursery is located within 200 m of the proposed route and may be affected by the planned works.”

Furthermore, please can the applicant note the final paragraph of the attached UKHSA response that reads:

“Reducing public exposures to non-threshold pollutants (such as particulate matter and nitrogen dioxide) below air quality standards has potential public health benefits. UKHSA support approaches which minimise or mitigate public exposure to non-threshold air pollutants, address inequalities (in exposure), and maximise co-benefits (such as physical exercise) and encourage their consideration during the design, environmental and health impact assessment, implementation, and post-implementation monitoring stages.”

I have no further comments or additional reasons from an air quality and human health perspective as to why this application should not go ahead if an adequate DMP is produced.

Do please let me know if you have any questions.

Very best wishes,

Adam

Dr Adam Briggs
Consultant in Public Health

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Please note, I also work at the Health Foundation and may be slow to reply. My usual Oxfordshire County Council working days are Monday, Tuesday, and Friday.

For information on COVID- 19 visit www.gov.uk/coronavirus



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Our Ref: CIRIS 58500

Your Ref: R3.0138/21

Dr Adam Briggs
Oxfordshire County Council,
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8th December 2021

Dear Dr Briggs,

Planning Application for: Didcot Garden Town

We have reviewed the relevant planning application documents and agree that a Dust Management Plan (DMP) is required at this stage of the planning application. The DMP should take into consideration the proposed route proximity to sensitive receptors. For instance, in *Appendix 3.1: Extract from OCC, WebTAG Preliminary Environmental Impact Appraisal Report 2018* notes that a day nursery is located within 200 m of the proposed route and may be affected by the planned works.

Reducing public exposures to non-threshold pollutants (such as particulate matter and nitrogen dioxide) below air quality standards has potential public health benefits. UKHSA support approaches which minimise or mitigate public exposure to non-threshold air pollutants, address inequalities (in exposure), and maximise co-benefits (such as physical exercise) and encourage their consideration during the design, environmental and health impact assessment, implementation, and post-implementation monitoring stages.

Should you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely

Onyeka Uche
Environmental Public Health Scientist