

DELEGATED OFFICER REPORT



**WOKINGHAM
BOROUGH COUNCIL**

Application Number:	242931
Site Address:	Wargrave Sewage Treatment Works (CHP Engine), Wargrave Road, Reading, RG10 8DJ
Expiry Date:	11 December 2024
Proposal: Consultation from Environment Agency for the following proposal: Environmental permit application for Wargrave Sewage Treatment Works (CHP Engine)	

CONSULTATION RESPONSES

Parish/Town Council	None received
Internal	WBC Drainage - No objection subject to no increases in flood risk. WBC Highways – No objection.

APPRAISAL

Is there a strategic impact upon Wokingham Borough?:

Yes	☐
No	☒

RECOMMENDATION

The Local Planning Authority understand that this substantial variation application relates to a biological treatment permit for the Wargrave Sludge Treatment Centre (STC), located at the Wargrave Sewage Treatment Works (STW), operated by Thames Water Utilities Ltd.

It is being made due to sludge treatment operations within sewage treatment works requiring a suitable Environmental Permit under the Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016 (as amended), in order to comply with the requirements of the Industrial Emissions Directive.

This proposal encompasses all aspects of the sludge treatment process occurring at the site, from the thickening of sludge separated from the main UWWTD treatment stream, blending with imported waste of a similar nature to indigenous sludge and anaerobic digestion of sludge, through to the storage of digested sludge cake prior to recovery to land offsite, including biogas storage and utilisation will fall within the scope of this permit application.

The site is an existing sewage treatment centre located within a relatively isolated position, circa 330metres away from the nearest residential dwelling at Loddon Park Farm. It is circa 550 metres away from Twyford's settlement boundary and circa 1100 metres away from Charvil's settlement boundary. Whilst it is noted that several small

scale commercial units are in closer proximity to the site, a modern permit is likely to improve the existing situation and permit a 'low level of odour', rather than exacerbating the existing situation. The visual impacts and transport impacts of the proposal will not change as these are minor changes to the existing sewage treatment centre only.

The LPA are unaware of any planning enforcement action, relevant planning history or environmental enforcement action previously undertaken on site.

Following the appraisal of the application and the submitted documents, given the site's location away from sensitive receptors regarding noise and odour, it is considered that the Local Planning Authority would not raise any objection to the proposal.

Date:	9 December 2024
Earliest date for decision:	12 December 2024

Recommendation agreed by: (Authorised Officer)	
Date:	10 December 2024