

# **Northampton Gateway Environmental Statement**

## **APPENDIX 1.1 ES Team Competency Statement**

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### **'Competent Experts' Statement**

- 1.1 Part 5 [s18 (5)] of the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 requires:

*(a) the developer must ensure that the environmental statement is prepared by competent experts; and*

*(b) the environmental statement must be accompanied by a statement from the developer outlining the relevant expertise or qualifications of such experts.*

- 1.2 This Environmental Statement has been prepared by a team of highly qualified and experienced consultants, who are experts in their subject areas. A full list of those organisations who have contributed to this document is set out below:

#### **Oxalis Planning Limited (Chapters 1, 2, and 15)**

- 1.3 Oxalis Planning Ltd is an experienced and well-established planning consultancy. The team has significant experience working on strategic development projects, providing advice to clients on the planning impacts of bringing forward land for development. The consultancy promotes sites through the local plan process, making representations and giving evidence at examinations. The team is involved in all aspects of planning application work, including pre-application negotiations and the preparation and submission of planning applications and subsequent appeals. Oxalis frequently works on strategic employment and residential development proposals, including those that are subject to Environmental Impact Assessment and projects involving nationally significant infrastructure.
- 1.4 Oxalis has been involved in numerous strategic employment and housing schemes, including East Midlands Gateway (M1, J24) strategic rail freight interchange (NSIP); Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway, including Whitley South; and Interlink South Leicestershire. Oxalis is also involved in numerous urban extensions, including in Nottingham and Coventry.
- 1.5 The team involved in the preparation of this Environmental Statement is:
- Ben Holmes (MA, BA (Hons), MRTPI) – 19 years' experience of working on EIA development projects for the private sector;
  - Steve Harley (BSocSc (Joint Hons), MPhil, MRTPI) – in excess of 5 years' experience working on EIA development projects for the private sector, with over 13 years of varied public sector experience in a range of local and strategic planning roles.

#### **Savills (UK) Limited (Chapter 3)**

- 1.6 Savills Planning is part of Savills (UK) Ltd, which employs over 200 professional planners, EIA specialists and urban designers.
- 1.7 Savills has significant expertise in EIA and has co-ordinated numerous EIAs for project types that include: major urban extensions, brownfield mixed-use urban regeneration schemes,

sports and leisure uses, contaminated sites and large scale infrastructure projects such as waste water treatment works, rail freight interchanges, marinas and ports.

- 1.8 Peter Traves (Chapter 4, socio-economics). Environmental Scientist with over 17 years' experience of EIA. BSc(Hons), Practitioner Member of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment.
- 1.9 Relevant project examples by Peter relating to commercial and infrastructure developments are: East Midlands Gateway Strategic Rail Freight Interchange M1 J24; Howbury Park Strategic Rail Freight Interchange; B1/B8 development at Maidstone M20 (junction 8); London Distribution Park, Tilbury; Whitely South (Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway).

#### **FPCR Environment & Design Limited (Chapters 4 and 5)**

- 1.10 FPCR is a multi-disciplinary environmental and design consultancy with over 50 years' experience of architecture, landscape, ecology, urban design, master planning and environmental impact assessment. The practice is a member of the Landscape institute (LI), the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA), and the Urban Design Group and is frequently called upon to provide expert evidence at Public and Local Plan Inquiries. FPCR have experience and expertise of the EIA process.
- 1.11 The practice provides a complete ecological service covering a range of disciplines from desk-based development scoping / constraints surveys and planning application support through to the implementation of complex species or habitat specific mitigation schemes.

#### *Chapter 4 – Landscape Visual Impact Assessment*

- 1.12 The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment (LVIA) has been prepared by FPCR Environment and Design Ltd (FPCR).
- 1.13 In accordance with the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) Regulations (2017) the LVIA and ES chapter have been carried out by competent experts, comprising Chartered Members of the Landscape Institute, and is in accordance with guidance of the professional institution, the 'Guidelines for Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment', third edition (GLVIA3), published by the Landscape Institute and the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment, in 2013.
- 1.14 FPCR is a multi-disciplinary environmental and design consultancy with over 50 years' experience of architecture, landscape, ecology, urban design, master planning and environmental impact assessment. The practice is a member of the Landscape institute (LI), the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA), and the Urban Design Group and is frequently called upon to provide expert evidence at Public and Local Plan Inquiries. FPCR have experience and expertise of the EIA process.
- 1.15 For the Northampton Gateway project FPCRs involvement has been led and coordinated by:
- Tim Jackson - Tim has been a partner/ director of FPCR Environment and Design Ltd (FPCR) for over 18 years and has over 27 years' experience of landscape and development projects from initial conceptual design through to final completion and long-term aftercare. He frequently advises on landscape and visual impact issues on a wide range of development schemes, including mixed use, residential, commercial and industrial led projects and has worked on a number of SRFI and rail related projects over the past 10 years. He also frequently acts as an expert witness on landscape and visual

matters and undertakes landscape design, landscape character assessment and landscape capacity studies for a variety of local authority and private sector clients.

- Jonathan Evans Associate Director BA (Hons), PG Dip LA CMLI – Jonathan joined FPCR in 2007 as a landscape architect and has over 10 years' experience in environmental assessment, masterplanning, detailed landscape design, project implementation, and landscape management. Jonathan has both led and worked as part of multi-disciplinary teams on numerous major developments including, commercial, mixed-use and urban extension schemes and is comfortable working at a variety of scales, from strategic masterplanning to detailed design and construction. Jonathan has undertaken EIA projects and development strategies and produced Environmental Statements for many mixed use, housing, and employment developments. He is experienced at detailed landscape and visual analyses, incorporating photomontage techniques in particularly sensitive locations.

1.16 The team has also comprised:

- Harriet Taylor Senior Landscape Architect MA PDip LA CMLI
- Olivia Damsell Landscape Architect BA(Hons), MLA

#### *Chapter 5 – Ecology and Nature Conservation*

1.17 The Ecological Impact Assessment for the proposed development has been prepared by FPCR Environment and Design Ltd (FPCR). The purpose of the assessment is to identify the likely effects of the proposed development on the ecological resources within the site.

1.18 The Ecological Impact Assessment has been carried out by suitability experienced ecologists and Members of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management in accordance with guidance of the professional institution, Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management's (CIEEM) Ecological Impact Assessment Guidelines.

1.19 The components of the Ecological Impact Assessment report in summary include: baseline studies; identification and description of likely effects on flora and fauna arising from the proposed development; and an assessment of the significance of these effects. The criteria used in the assessment are set out within the chapter.

1.20 For the Northampton Gateway project FPCRs involvement has been led and coordinated by:

- Peter Hoy - Peter is a Director of FPCR Environment and Design Ltd (FPCR) and has over 18 years' experience of ecological consultancy from site selection, constraints analysis, mitigation to minimise environmental impacts and detailed design. He holds an Honours Degree in Zoology and a Postgraduate Diploma in Environmental Management and is a full member of the Chartered Institute of Ecology and Environmental Management (CIEEM). He is routinely responsible for the planning and execution of the bulk of the baseline ecological input for environmental assessments within the practice and for co-ordinating ecological surveys, from the evaluation of vegetation and habitats to the assessment of effects on fauna. He advises frequently on a wide range of development projects from mixed use, residential, commercial and industrial projects to large scale minerals and restoration schemes.

## **RSK**

- 1.21 Chapter 6 was prepared by RSK Environment Ltd whom have extensive experience working on similar complex schemes requiring Environmental Statements. The Team whom have worked on this chapter and the supporting documents include a variety of highly qualified and highly experienced staff. The Project Manager was responsible for designing, preparing and delivering the Environmental Statement Chapter for Geology, Soils and Groundwater and supporting investigation assessments which formed part of the Environmental Statement for the East Midlands Gateway SRFI project in Leicestershire, which was approved by the secretary of state in 2016 and is now under construction. This experience is directly relevant to the current proposals.
- 1.22 The project lead has been Darren Bench, Associate Director with 28 years experience in the field of Geological investigation and associated civil engineering. Darren is a Chartered Geologist (CGeol), with several other qualifications or memberships of relevance including: Member of the Institution of Civil Engineers, Fellow of the Geological Society, MSc Geotechnical Engineering Design & Management, HNC Civil Engineering.
- 1.23 The wider team in brief has included the following individuals:
- Dr Shon Williams BSc Civil Engineering Director, PhD Soil Structure Interaction. Chartered Civil Engineer, Fellow of the Geological Society, and. Shon has 31 years experience and was actively involved in providing input and advice to the Geotechnical design.
  - Mark Steward BSc Earth Sciences, MSc Sedimentology and its applications. Director, Chartered Scientist, Chartered Geologist, Fellow of the Geological Society, European Geologist. Mark has 28 years experience, and was a Technical Reviewer and Approver of the ES Chapter.
  - Marc Dixon, Principal Consultant, BSC Environmental Science. Marc has 16 years' experience, and was involved in all Geo-environmental Assessments.
  - Michael Lawson, Senior Consultant, BSc Environmental Science. Michael was the Lead Project Consultant, and is a Chartered Environmentalist, Member Institution of Environmental Science, and Fellow of the Geological Society. He was the Investigation Works and Reporting Lead.

## **BWB Consulting (Chapters 7 and 14)**

- 1.24 Established over 25 years ago, BWB is a reputable multi-disciplinary engineering and environmental design consultancy, working across an array of development sectors. BWB's service offerings include Environmental Impact Assessment coordination, the production of Environmental Statement Chapters and supporting technical documentation.

### *Chapter 7 Water Resources and Drainage*

- 1.25 Input into the Water Resources and Drainage Chapter of this ES has been undertaken by the Water Environment Team, established 15 years ago. The team is led by Iqbal Rassool CEng MCIWEM, with over 15 years' industry experience, and includes further CIWEM accredited personnel and individuals with relevant degree qualifications. In addition to input from Iqbal,

the following persons contributed to the production of this ES Chapter and supporting technical documents:

- Chris Dodd – BEng (Hons) IEng MICE: Associate with 10 years' experience in Transport and Infrastructure Design, Flood Risk Management and Sustainable Drainage.
- Robin Green BSc (Hons): Technical Manager with 10 years' experience in the Water Environment Team specialising in Flood Risk and Hydraulic Modelling.

#### *Chapter 14 Waste*

- 1.26 Input into the waste chapter of the ES has been undertaken by BWB's Environmental Planning team. This team is led by Jim MacQueen with over 15 years industry experience with multiple IEMA accredited personnel and individuals with degree qualifications. The team has experience on a number of waste developments from the environmental permitting stage to the provision of relevant inputs into the planning process.
- 1.27 Chapter 14 was led by George Bagley AffIEMA, BSc (Hons) - 5 years' experience in the environmental consultancy sector with focus on Waste and Environmental Impact Assessment Coordination

#### **Vanguardia (Chapters 8, 9, and 11)**

- 1.28 Vanguardia has provided consultancy services in the fields of Noise, Air Quality and Lighting since 2006. Vanguardia retains the expertise for the specialised assessment techniques necessary for undertaking Environmental Impact Assessments in these disciplines and has produced Environmental Statement Chapters and supporting technical documentation across a wide range of projects of all types and scales. These include the Coventry and Warwickshire Gateway Scheme, Whitley South (Coventry/Warwick), and Warth Park (Raunds, Northamptonshire).
- 1.29 Input into the Noise, Air Quality and External Lighting chapters of this Gateway South ES has been undertaken by highly experienced individuals in all three disciplines. The following individuals have contributed to the production of these ES Chapters and supporting technical documents:

#### *Chapter 9 - Noise*

- Stephen Turner MA, MSc, HonFIOA – Associate, Honorary Fellow and former Vice President of the Institute of Acoustics, with over 40 years' experience in acoustics.
- Anne Thompson BSc (Hons), MIOA – Principal Consultant and specialist in environmental acoustics and ES chapter preparation, with over 9 years' experience.
- Chris Goff BA (Hons), MSc, MIOA – Senior Consultant and specialist in environmental acoustics, with over 6 years' experience.

#### *Chapter 10 - Air Quality*

- Dr Paul Beckett, BSc (Hons) MSc, DPhil, MCIEEM, MIEEnvSc, MIAQM, CSci – Director with over 19 years' experience in undertaking air quality assessments.
- Nigel Jenkins, BSc (Hons) MSc MIEEnvSc MIAQM, Principal Consultant with over 20 years' experience in air quality and provision of ES chapters;

- Harley Parfitt, BSc (Hons) Air Quality Consultant 2 years' experience specialising in air quality modelling assessments.

#### *Chapter 12 - Lighting*

- Tony Price BSc (Hons), CEng, MILP, MSLL - Associate with over 40 years' experience in lighting assessments including those for EIA projects. Recently, in addition to examples given above these have included West Midlands Interchange SRFI (NSIP), Sturry and Broad Oak residential developments (Canterbury), Woodcut Farm (Maidstone) and a sequence of projects at Rushden Lakes (East Northampton).

#### **CGMS Consulting (Part of the RPS Group) (Chapter 10)**

- 1.30 CgMs Ltd was formed in 1997 and provides specialist consultancy advice to clients in the combined disciplines of planning and development, archaeology, historic buildings and conservation. In August 2014 CgMs became part of RPS Group Plc and now forms part of a group providing an extensive range of advice on the built and natural environment.
- 1.31 The CgMs team specialise in varied projects, including input to numerous EIAs in the form of Cultural Heritage chapters covering both buried archaeological remains and built heritage. All of CgMs's team have suitable academic and professional qualifications, including membership of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (CIfA) and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC). CgMs is a Registered Archaeological Organisation with CIfA.
- 1.32 The core team has consisted of:
- Nick Cooke BA (Hons), PhD, MCIfA, FSA - Nick has over 20 years' experience as a professional archaeologist and consultant. He has led on several major schemes including HS2, East West Rail, the A1 Dishforth to Leeming and A1 Leeming to Barton road schemes and the A4 Enniskillen bypass in Northern Ireland. Nick is a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists and a Fellow of the Society of Antiquaries.
  - Richard Smalley BA (Hons) MCIfA - Richard has over 14 years' experience as a professional archaeologist, geophysical surveyor and consultant. He has led on a variety of projects including residential, industrial and solar developments. Richard holds a degree in Archaeology from the University of Newcastle-upon-Tyne and is a Member of the Chartered Institute for Archaeologists.
  - Florence Maxwell BA (Hons), MA, IHBC - Florence has over six years' experience as a heritage consultant, which includes time spent in both private sector consultancy and as a public sector conservation officer. She has consequently advised on a variety of schemes including a number of large scale developments within the setting of heritage assets. Florence holds a Masters degree in Conservation Studies (Historic Buildings) from the University of York and is a member of the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC).
  - Jessica Jones BA (Hons), MA, MRICS, IHBC - Jessica has over nine years' experience as a chartered surveyor and heritage consultant, advising on development schemes nationwide. She has led on a variety of projects involving assessment of both historic fabric and setting, including several major development schemes within the setting of

listed buildings, Conservation Areas, and Registered Parks and Gardens. Jessica is a member of the Royal Institution of Chartered Surveyors (MRICS) and the Institute of Historic Building Conservation (IHBC).

### **ADC Infrastructure**

- 1.33 ADC Infrastructure Ltd provide consultancy services in transport planning, infrastructure design, and water management. Established in 2013, the company employs an experienced team whom have extensive background in the production of Environmental Statements and supporting Transport Assessments, Travel Plans and other technical documentation for a wide range of development projects. These include strategic employment and housing schemes such as: East Midlands Gateway Strategic Rail Freight Interchange; South East Coalville Urban Extension (2,700 dwellings); Sustainable urban extension to the south of Melton Mowbray (1,500 dwellings); Warth Park Phases 2 and 3, Raunds Northamptonshire; and the Thoresby Colliery redevelopment (800 dwellings and 25-acre business park).
- 1.34 The team involved in the prepared of this Environmental Statement (Chapter 12, Transportation) is:
- Dr Stuart Dunhill, BEng (Hons), PhD, MICE, CEng – Director and Chartered Civil Engineer with over 16 years’ experience providing transport planning and highways advice;
  - Mark Higgins, MEng (Hons) – Associate Director with over 15 years’ experience providing specialist transport and modelling advice.

### **Land Research Associates**

- 1.35 Land Research Associates have specialised in soil and land quality assessments for over twenty five years. During this period they have been involved in numerous impact assessments for nationally important infrastructure schemes and major urban extensions on behalf of both developers and local authorities.
- 1.36 The ES Chapter was prepared by Mike Palmer - Mike holds a PhD in agricultural land management and is a professional member of the British Society of Soil Science. He has been involved in land and soil assessment work for over ten years and has acted as an expert witness on the issue at a number of planning enquiries.