

1. Introduction

- 1.1 Barratt & David Wilson Homes (BWH) (hereby referred to as ‘the applicant’) is seeking to obtain full planning permission for a residential led development on the land off Cherryfield Drive, Kirkby. The site is located within the administrative authority of Knowsley Metropolitan Borough Council (KMBC). The planning application to which this Environmental Statement (“ES”) directly relates is a full planning application for a proposed residential led development at the Site.
- 1.2 The site location plan and redline planning application boundary is shown on drawing H9305-DWH-XX-XX-DR-UD-201001 and H9305-DWH-XX-XX-DR-UD-203002. The site is described in detail in Chapter 3: Site Description. A detailed description of the development is provided in Chapter 5: The Proposed Development, which is supported by a number of plans and drawings.
- 1.3 Egniol have been appointed by the applicant Barratt & David Wilson Homes to coordinate the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process and produce the ES for the proposed development.

The Site

- 1.4 The site is irregular in shape and occupies c. 23.7 hectares (ha). The Site is located to the south of Kirkby Town Centre and occupies an area of mostly undeveloped land. The Site is bordered to the west by the A506, to the south by Bewley Drive and to the north and east by Cherryfield Drive. At the northeast corner of the Site is the Knowsley Community College, Kirkby Campus, which consists of a college building, carparking and playing fields. To the east of the Site is Kirkby Leisure Centre, with associated carparking and football pitches. The character of the area to the south, east and west of the Site is defined by 20th and 21st century residential development.

There is also a smaller residential development on the north side of Bewley Drive. To the northwest of the Site is the historic settlement of Kirkby, including the Church of St Chad.

Development Proposals

Outline of the Proposed Development

1.6 The planning application seeks full planning permission for residential led development on the site. Overall, the planning application is seeking approval for 781 residential dwellings.

1.7 The full description of development on the planning application form is:

“Full planning application for residential development (Use Class C3) with associated access, landscaping, parking and infrastructure including extension to existing Cherryfield Drive car park and highways improvements to Cherryfield Drive”

1.8 Environmental constraints and potential significant effects have been identified throughout the EIA process and, as a result, mitigation measures have been incorporated into the proposals through design (known as embedded mitigation). Where environmental mitigation measures have not been integrated into the proposals through design, it is expected that the requisite mitigation measures will be secured by appropriate planning conditions where relevant (known as further mitigation). Further detail relating to the approach to mitigation is presented in Chapter 2: Approach. Mitigation has been identified, where appropriate, in each technical chapter of this ES (Chapters 6-12) and summarised in Chapter 13: Summary of Mitigation and Residual Effects.

1.9 A detailed description of the Proposed Development can be found in Chapter 5: Proposed Development of this ES.

The Planning Application and Environmental Impact Assessment

EIA Context

- 1.10 EIA is a systematic process by which information about the scope and likely environmental effects of a proposed development are assessed and presented to the Local Planning Authority (LPA), relevant stakeholders and the public to inform the decision on whether the development should be granted planning permission.
- 1.11 The Proposed Development constitutes 'EIA development' under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) (England) Regulations 2017 (SI 2017/571) as amended (hereafter referred to as the 'EIA Regulations'). Criteria for establishing the need for an EIA are set out in Schedules 1 and 2 of the EIA Regulations. The Proposed Development falls under Schedule 2, Category 10 'Infrastructure Projects', Subsection (b) 'Urban Development Projects'.
- 1.12 This document is the ES which reports the findings of the EIA and supports the planning application for the proposed development. It has been prepared by Egniol Consulting Ltd with technical contributions from a range of specialist consultants experienced in EIA (see Chapter 2). This ES provides sufficient environmental information to enable KMBC to make an informed decision on whether to grant planning permission.
- 1.13 This ES relates to the planning application which is defined by the description of the development and the detailed plans for development that accompany the application.

The Environmental Statement

1.14 This ES comprises of three volumes:

- Volume 1: Non-Technical Summary and Main Text – The NTS comprises a synopsis of the Environmental Statement (ES) without utilising technical language. The main body of the text is split into a series of chapters which present the overall approach of the EIA and the technical assessments which form part of this supplementary ES.
- Volume 2: Figures – This volume includes all figures associated with the NTS and Main Text within the ES.
- Volume 3: Appendices – This volume contains supporting information and a collection of technical reports upon which the conclusions of this ES are based.

1.15 All volumes of this ES are available to view on the KMBC's planning portal. Further copies of this ES are available electronically at a cost of £25, and hard copies subject to a fee sourced from printing companies but likely to be in the region of £250. If hard copies of the ES are required please contact Egniol Consulting at:

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