

1 REVIEW OF WATER RESOURCES CHAPTER

1.1 Introduction

1.1.1 Wardell Armstrong have been commissioned to review Chapter 12: Water Resources of the Wykham Park Farm, Banbury Environmental Statement, issued in November 2014, in regard to amendments made to the masterplan of the development, also known as the Development Framework Plan (revision P), and the adoption of the Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031.]

1.1.2 Chapter 12 has been reviewed to assess any significant environmental implication arising from the changes to the proposed development.

1.1.3 The Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 was adopted in July 2015 and land at Wykham Park Farm is allocated as part of the Strategic Development of South West Banbury, which comprises two allocations Ban 16 (South of Salt Way West) and Ban 17 (South of Salt Way East).

1.2 Assessment Methodology

1.2.1 Assessment methodology remains as previously described.

1.3 Relevant Policy

1.3.1 The Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 Part 1 was adopted in July 2015. Policies relevant to the assessment remain as previously described as the saved policies of the adopted Cherwell Local Plan (1996) remain valid.

1.4 Baseline Conditions

1.4.1 Paragraph 12.4.6 and Table 12.5 of the original ES refer to the Environment Agency's water quality status of the Sor Brook taken from the 2009 Thames River Basin Management Plan (RBMP). The Sor Brook (Broughton to Adderbury) was reclassified and renamed to Sor Brook (Broughton to Cherwell) in the EA's 2015 Thames RBMP. The Sor Brook (Broughton to

Cherwell) was classified in 2014 as having 'moderate' ecological status, 'good' chemical status and an overall 'moderate' status.

1.4.2 Paragraph 12.4.20 and Table 12.6 of the original ES refer to groundwater quality status of the groundwater underlying the site, which the EA refers to as Banbury Jurassic in their 2009 Thames RBMP. In the EA's 2015 Thames RBMP the groundwater quality of Banbury Jurassic was classified in 2015 as 'good' quantitative status, 'poor' chemical status and 'poor' overall status.

1.4.3 Paragraph 12.4.21 of the original ES concludes that the 'good' status of the groundwater means that the Drinking Water Protection Area (DrWPA) objective are met; groundwater pollutants are below threshold values of the Water Framework Directive (WFD) and Groundwater (Daughter) Directive (2006/118/EC); and the 'good' water quality is having a beneficial impact on the water quality of surface waters. As described above the EA's 2015 Thames RBMP reclassified the statuses of the Sor Brook and the groundwater beneath the site to 'moderate' and 'poor', respectively. Both these waterbodies have not met their target of maintaining 'good' status under the WFD and potentially are not meeting the DrWPA objectives.

1.4.4 The remaining baseline conditions remain as previously described.

1.5 Potential Effects

1.5.1 In Table 12.7 of the original ES the Sor Brook and the Secondary A Aquifer are described as having 'good' status as discussed above the EA have downgraded the statuses for Sor Brook to 'moderate' and the Secondary A Aquifer to 'poor', this however does not affect the assigned sensitivity of the receptors.

1.5.2 The remaining potential effects assessment remains as previously described.

1.6 Mitigation Measures

1.6.1 Section 12.7 of the Chapter 12: Water Resources (Mitigation Measures) refers to the Environment Agency's Pollution Prevention Guidelines (PPG). All PPGs that were previously maintained by the Environment Agency were withdrawn from use on 17 December 2015. PPGs contained a mix of regulatory requirements and good practice advice. Although the Environment Agency does not provide 'good practice' guidance, the PPGs can now be found on the National Archives and the PPGs are still considered to be a relevant and effective source

of best practice information. The Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) will incorporate, as appropriate, equivalent water pollution prevention measures.

1.6.2 The remaining mitigation measures remain as previously described.

1.7 Residual Effects

1.7.1 Residual effects remain as previously described.

1.8 Cumulative Effects

1.8.1 The Cherwell Local Plan 2011-2031 was adopted in July 2015. Land at Wykham Park Farm is allocated as part of the Strategic Development of South West Banbury, which comprises two allocations:

- Ban 16 (South of Salt Way West). Allocated for 150 units (Barwood), but outline planning permission has since been secured for 350 dwellings (LPA ref: 14/01188/OUT);
- Ban 17 (South of Salt Way East). Allocated for 1,345 dwellings. Comprises three development sites:
 - Land at Wykham Park Farm (Gallaghers). Application for 1000 dwellings (LPA ref 14/01932/OUT);
 - Horgan Land 145 dwellings already consented and being implemented; and
 - Gladman 280 units, contiguous with Wykham Park Farm site extending up to White Post Road, Bodicote (LPA ref: 15/01326/OUT).

1.8.2 The development of these schemes, along with Wykham Park Farm could have a significant “cumulative effect” relating to pressures on water resources and supply infrastructure. However the conclusion reached in the previous assessment remains valid since Thames Water have a responsibility to manage water resources effectively and strategic plans include water transfers from adjacent Water Resource Zones would be in line with EA guidance therefore, any water transfers associated with these potential developments will have a negligible cumulative impact.