

My Ref: SCH/YI/CollyWst

Your Ref:

Date: 13th December 2012

Phil Watson
Development Control Manager
Northamptonshire County Council
Planning Services
Floor 3
Guildhall Road Block
County Hall
Northampton
NN1 1DN

Dear Phil,

**Request for an EIA Screening and Scoping Opinion
Potential Extension to Collyweston Quarry, Northamptonshire
Bullimores Sand and Gravel Ltd**

Further to our earlier discussion and the previous site meeting with Bullimores Sand and Gravel Ltd, I am writing to seek a formal EIA Screening and Scoping Opinion from the Mineral Planning Authority in respect of the potential planning application for the above development.

To assist in the carrying out of EIA Screening and Scoping in respect of this proposal please find attached – EIA Screening and Scoping Report and accompanying plans.

You will see from the report that the development falls within Schedule 2 of the EIA Regulations 2011 and, although there is some discretion and judgement to be applied in the Screening of Schedule 2 developments, it is our view that an EIA will need to be undertaken on the proposal to extend the quarry in a westerly direction (as outlined in the report and on the drawings).

The report provides some background and reasoned justification for bringing forward the proposals. We welcome your views on the approach to be taken and the overall approach to sustaining mineral supply from the Collyweston Quarry.

You will see in the report that we have set out the matters that would be assessed as part of an EIA, including potential cumulative effects as well as the consideration of need/supply and alternatives. We trust that this document provides you with an understanding of the kind of impacts that might arise and how, generally, we intend to approach them and other potentially relevant matters.

We are more than happy to discuss the content of the attached report with you, including the thinking behind the scheme as well as any other considerations concerning EIA Screening and Scoping. In this regard your general suggestion of a meeting with you and some of your specialist colleagues is a good one. This might be best undertaken following your consultation on the EIA Screening and Scoping request?

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you need any further information at this stage.

We look forward to receiving the Mineral Planning Authority's formal EIA Screening and Scoping Opinion in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Simon Heaton