

Introduction

This Appendix provides a detailed assessment of the visual receptor groups in accordance with the LVIA methodology at **Appendix 7.1**. The SZTV and photolocation plan are contained at **Figures 7.2 and 7.7** and the Visualisations from Viewpoints 1-9 comprising existing view, and a Photowire or Photomontage at Years 1 and 15 are contained at **Appendix 7.3**.

Table 1: Users of Ashton Road				
Relevant Viewpoints: 1 and 2				
Receptor Type	Value of Views	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Approximate distance range to the Site
Road users	Medium	Medium	Medium	Adjacent to site access, extending up to 2km
Existing Views: The current views from the road corridor are represented by views close to the site boundary approaching the site from the south near the Site access (Viewpoint 1) and approaching the Site from the north (Viewpoint 2). All views from the route in the vicinity of the Site are of no recognised scenic value and comprises glimpses of ordinary countryside, with intermittent glimpses of built development including the Aggregate Industries buildings to the south, which is seen from Ashton Road on the approach to the Site. Views are more typically restricted by roadside planting, such that appreciation of the wider landscape beyond the route is typically limited. Beyond a ~400m section of the route adjacent and immediately approaching the Site, the site is not visible due to the flat landscape, sinuous nature of the route and roadside hedgerow planting.				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change			Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
Construction Phase: The SZTV indicates that partial views of the completed buildings/structures, and to a lesser degree short term construction activity on the Site, would be available from a localised section of the route adjacent to the Site and immediate approach to it that in total comprises approximately 400m of the route. Further from the Site, views would be largely restricted, even in winter, by the sinuous nature of the road and tall hedgerow planting along the route. The least restricted views (Viewpoint 1) close to the new access road junction there would be fleeting views into the Site that would include formation of the perimeter earthworks around the main Site. The construction activity would be partially restricted by the perimeter hedgerow although there would be clear views of cranes and the larger/taller structures and buildings, particularly those near the			High	Short-term, temporary Major adverse and Not Significant

Table 1: Users of Ashton Road

eastern and southern site boundary. An increase in road traffic on the Ashton Road would be perceptible but not unusual in the context of baseline traffic levels and type. It is assessed that fleeting views of the construction of the new access road and more distant and fleeting views of the main site, set behind an existing hedgerow would constitute a localised high magnitude of temporary adverse change.

Mitigation Measures:

The largest structures i.e. the tanks and storage buildings, would sit on new development platforms that would be cut into the gently rising land that comprises the Site. Perimeter low-level earth mounding to the southern boundary of the Site would minimise views of ground level activity on the Site approaching the Site from the south (mounds to be planted with woodland). Additional woodland planting along the eastern edge of the site would restrict views of new built form and vehicles within the Site. Adoption of neutral coloured external cladding/surfaces to reduce potential visual impact of new structures/buildings. Security fencing largely set behind earth mounding with agricultural post and wire fencing along the outer edge of planting.

Operational Phase (Year 1 following Construction):

Views of the proposed development would be increasingly screened by the growth of the existing hedgerow and young planting at the perimeter of the Site (**Viewpoints 1 and 2**). The tops of other structures including the single-storey portacabins near the site access would be seen on the skyline, however this would be a fleeting view from the site access (**Viewpoint 1**). The AD Digester dome would be seen against the sky, with its apparency reduced by its light colour. Occasional vehicular movements into and out of the site access would also be visible in the context of the portacabin buildings. The upper parts of the tanks and stack would be visible on the skyline. The magnitude of change for users of Ashton Road is assessed to be High, however this would only be available for a localised section of the route.

High

Medium-term and reversible.
Major adverse and **Significant**

Operational Phase (Year 15 following construction):

The growth of woodland planting on low level mounding along the perimeter of the Site, combined with the growth of the existing hedgerow along Ashton Road would combine to largely fully screen views of the proposals when planting is in leaf (see **Viewpoints 1 and 2 – Photomontage Year 15**). Views in winter would be restricted, although still heavily filtered by the hedgerow planting and woodland along the site perimeter. The junction of the access road with Ashton Road would include views of the portacabin buildings, although these would only be fleetingly visible as road users pass the junction to the site.

Medium

Long-term and reversible.
Moderate and **Not Significant**

Table 2: Users of Public footpath AKEY4				
Relevant Viewpoints: 3, 4, 5 and 7				
Receptor Type	Value of Views	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Approximate distance range to the Site
Footpath users	Medium	High	High	Adjacent to site, extending up to ca. 400m
Existing Views: The current views comprise the approach from the southeast towards the Site from less elevated ground (Viewpoint 3) and the approach towards the Site from the north (Viewpoint 4) where adjacent to the Site boundary there is a view across the Site towards the buildings and associated infrastructure on the Aggregate Industries complex in the background centre of the view. Further afield there are glimpses of the Aggregate Industries complex beyond the northern boundary of the Site that is defined by a mature hedgerow with trees (Viewpoint 5). Further afield, and north of the Site there are views towards the Site from the public footpath where it crosses fields between the western edge of South Cerney and Ashton Road (Viewpoint 7). The ground level of the Site is not visible in summer and predicted to be screened in winter due to the maturity of the intervening field boundary hedgerows. Glimpses of trees on the skyline to the western boundary of the Site are available.				

Table 2: Users of Public footpath AKEY4**Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development**

Description of Predicted View / Change	Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
Construction Phase: There would be intermittent views of the buildings/structures under construction especially from the route close to the Site, noting that low level earth mounding installed at an early stage of the construction phase would restrict views of ground level construction activity on the Site (Viewpoint 3) The cranes and the upper parts of buildings under construction would be visible to varying degrees from the route with additional screening providing by the retained existing hedgerow with mature trees that follows the western boundary of the site, apart from a small gap at the northwest corner that has been recently infilled with new hedgerow planting (Viewpoint 4). Away from the immediate vicinity of the Site and approaching it from the north, views would be increasingly restricted, even in winter, by intervening mature hedgerows both along the northern boundary of the Site (Viewpoint 5) and from more distant locations where multiple layers of field boundary hedgerows combine to provide effective screening, even in winter (Viewpoint 7). The High magnitude of change assessed relates to a localised section of the public footpath in the immediate vicinity of the Site, with views further afield from the route where the construction activity would not be visible or reduced to an extent where significant effects would not be experienced (Viewpoint 7).	High	Short-term, temporary Major adverse and Significant
Mitigation Measures: The largest structures i.e. the tanks and storage buildings, would sit on new development platforms that would be cut into the gently rising land that comprises the Site. Perimeter low-level earth mounding to the southern boundary of the Site would minimise views of ground level activity on the Site approaching the Site from the south (mounds to be planted with woodland). Additional woodland planting along the western edge of the site beyond the retained hedgerow would reinforce the existing level of screening and restrict views of new built form within the Site. Adoption of neutral coloured external cladding/surfaces to reduce potential visual impact of new structures/buildings. Security fencing largely set behind earth mounding with agricultural post and wire fencing along the outer edge of planting.		
Operational Phase (Year 1 following Construction): Views of the proposed development would be partially interrupted by the young planting on low level earth mounds at the perimeter of the Site (Viewpoints 3, 4, & 5). The upper parts of the	Medium	Medium-term and reversible.

Table 2: Users of Public footpath AKEY4		
tallest built structures including the tanks would be partially visible obliquely behind intervening hedgerow planting (Viewpoint 7). The upper parts of the taller structures on the Site would be visible below or just above the skyline depending on the elevation of the viewer relative to the Site. The medium magnitude of change assessed relates to a localised section of the public footpath in the immediate vicinity of the Site, with views further afield from the route where the construction activity would not be visible or reduced to an extent where significant effects would not be experienced (Viewpoint 7).		Major adverse and Significant
Operational Phase (Year 15 following Construction): The growth of woodland planting on low level mounding along the perimeter of the Site, would combine to largely fully screen views of the proposals when planting is in leaf (see Viewpoints 3, 4 & 5 – Photomontage Year 15). Views in winter would be restricted, although still heavily filtered by the existing hedgerow and new woodland along the site perimeter. The overall magnitude of change for this localised route section is assessed as Low and adverse to reflect the loss of open character, however the overall effect would be Moderate and Neutral (Not Significant). Enclosing wider views from a localised section of the footpath route would be characteristic of PRoW in the area e.g., bridleway No. 33 to the southeast of the Site close to the boundary with the Aggregate Industries complex. Views to the open agricultural landscape to the north, south and east of the Site would be maintained in other viewing directions from the route.	Low	Long-term and reversible. Moderate neutral and Not Significant

Table 3: Views from Settlement of South Cerney**Relevant Viewpoints: 6**

Receptor Type	Value of Views	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Approximate distance range to the Site
Settlement	Medium	High	High	500m

Existing Views:

The current views from the edge of the settlement are predominantly confined to the southwestern edge of the settlement that comprises the new housing estate and associated public open space recently constructed off Berkeley Close (**Viewpoint 6**). Views from the settlement edge towards the Site include the higher levels of the Site, glimpsed between the mature hedgerow planting along Ashton Road. This is pleasant, but unremarkable countryside with no recognised scenic value noting that recent hedgerow and tree planting along the edge of the housing estate will further restrict views over time and this has been accounted for in the assessment below.

Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development

Description of Predicted View / Change	Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
Construction Phase: The SZTV indicates that partial views of the completed buildings/structures, and to a lesser degree short term construction activity on the Site, which would be available from a localised section of the settlement in the vicinity of Viewpoint 6 . Further from the Site, views from the settlement would be largely restricted, even in winter, by intervening planting. Closest to the proposed development there would be intermittent glimpses of construction activity that would be partially restricted by the intervening hedgerow although there would be clear views of cranes and the larger/taller structures and buildings under construction, particularly of those near the eastern site boundary in winter when the screening effects of intervening planting would be reduced. An increase in road traffic on the Ashton Road would be perceptible but not unusual in the context of baseline traffic levels and type. It is assessed that views of the construction set behind an existing	Low	Short-term, temporary Moderate adverse and Not Significant

Table 3: Views from Settlement of South Cerney

hedgerow and over 0.5km distant would constitute a localised low magnitude of temporary adverse change.		
Mitigation Measures: The largest structures i.e. the tanks and storage buildings, would sit on new development platforms that would be cut into the gently rising land that comprises the Site. Woodland planting along the eastern edge of the site and Ashton Road would restrict views of new built form within the Site. Adoption of neutral coloured external cladding/surfaces to reduce potential visual impact of new structures/buildings. Security fencing is set behind existing hedgerows and not visible.		
Operational Phase (Year 1 following Construction): Views of the proposed development would be increasingly screened by the growth of the existing hedgerow and tree planting at perimeter of the settlement in the foreground of the view, and in time, along the eastern boundary of the Site. The tops of the tallest structures including tanks may be perceived on the skyline, particularly in winter (Viewpoint 6) although heavily filtered by mature hedgerow planting along Ashton Road. Occasional vehicular movements along Ashton Road would also be intermittently visible in the context of current vehicle movement of similar vehicles along the road. The magnitude of change for people at the southwestern settlement edge of South Cerney is assessed to be Low, noting this change would only be available for a localised part of the settlement, the majority of which would remain unaffected by the Proposed Development.	Low	Medium-term and reversible. Moderate adverse and Not Significant
Operational Phase (Year 15 following construction): The growth of woodland planting along the eastern boundary of the Site, combined with the growth of the existing hedgerow along Ashton Road would combine to largely fully screen views of the proposals when planting is in leaf. Views in winter would be restricted, although still heavily filtered by the hedgerow planting and woodland along the site perimeter. The growth of the existing hedgerow and trees along the settlement edge in the foreground of the view is likely to largely prevent any views in the direction of the Site by Year 15.	Negligible	Long-term and reversible. Negligible and Not Significant

Table 4: Views from Playing Fields, South Cerney**Relevant Viewpoints: 8**

Receptor Type	Value of Views	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Approximate distance range to the Site
Users of recreation ground	Medium	Medium	Medium	650m-800m

Existing Views:

The current views from the playing fields on the western edge of South Cerney are characterised by open low lying land that is enclosed in the middle ground by multiple layers of tree and hedgerow planting. The layers of planting between the viewers and the Proposed Development, including planting on both sides of Ashton Road, and are predicted to prevent any ground level views of the Site, even in winter.

Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development

Description of Predicted View / Change	Magnitude of Change	Nature and Significance of Effect
Construction Phase: The SZTV indicates that partial views of the completed buildings/structures, and to a lesser degree short term construction activity on the Site, would be available from the northeastern part of the playing fields where the focus of users will be on active sport or a spectator of that sport, not the wider landscape. Further from the Site, views would be largely restricted, even in winter, by the sinuous nature of the road and tall hedgerow planting along the route. In reality, it is predicted that construction activity would be barely perceptible and likely limited to glimpses of cranes and very heavily filtered glimpses in winter of the proposed development under construction.	Negligible	Short-term, temporary Negligible and Not Significant
Mitigation Measures: The largest structures i.e. the tanks and storage buildings, would sit on new development platforms that would be cut into the gently rising land that comprises the Site. Additional woodland planting along the eastern and northern edge of the site would restrict views of new built form over time. Adoption of neutral coloured external cladding/surfaces to reduce potential glimpses of new structures/buildings.		

Table 4: Views from Playing Fields, South Cerney		
Operational Phase (Year 1 following Construction): Views of the proposed development are predicted to be fully screened in summer (Viewpoint 8). The tops of the tallest structures including the larger buildings and tanks may be glimpsed in heavily filtered views in winter although they would be barely perceptible.	Negligible	Medium-term and reversible. Negligible and Not Significant
Operational Phase (Year 15 following construction): The growth of woodland planting along the eastern and northern boundaries of the Site would reinforce screening potential over the winter months as it adds to the multiple layers of vegetation restricting views of the new built development.	Negligible	Long-term and reversible. Negligible and Not Significant

Table 5: Views from Public Footpath BSC3**Relevant Viewpoints:** 9

Receptor Type	Value of Views	Receptor Susceptibility	Receptor Sensitivity	Approximate distance range to the Site
Footpath users	Medium	High	High	1.2km
Existing Views: The current views from the footpath towards the site are available from a localised section of the route on rising land to the northwest of South Cerney. Views from the route are currently characterised by a well treed skyline that is formed by tree cover in the middle ground and background of the views. The multiple layers of planting between the viewer and the Proposed Development, including planting on both sides of Ashton Road, are predicted to prevent any ground level views of the Site, even in winter.				
Predicted Visual Impacts of Proposed Development				
Description of Predicted View / Change				Magnitude of Change Nature and Significance of Effect
Construction Phase: The SZTV indicates that partial views of the completed buildings/structures, and to a lesser degree short term construction activity on the Site, would be available from a localised section of the route. It is predicted that construction activity would be barely perceptible and likely limited to glimpses of cranes and very heavily filtered glimpses in winter of the proposed development under construction.				Negligible Short-term, temporary Negligible and Not Significant
Mitigation Measures: The largest structures i.e. the tanks and storage buildings, would sit on new development platforms that would be cut into the gently rising land that comprises the Site. Additional woodland planting along the eastern edge of the site would restrict views of new built form over time. Adoption of neutral coloured external cladding/surfaces to reduce potential visual impact of new structures/buildings.				
Operational Phase (Year 1 following Construction): Views of the proposed development are predicted to be fully screened in summer (Viewpoint 9). The tops of the tallest structures including the larger buildings and tanks may be glimpsed in				Negligible Medium-term and reversible.

Table 5: Views from Public Footpath BSC3		
heavily filtered views in winter and set against a backdrop landscape, so that they would be barely perceptible.		Negligible and Not Significant
Operational Phase (Year 15 following construction): The growth of woodland planting along the eastern and northern boundaries of the Site would reinforce screening potential over the winter months as it adds to the multiple layers of vegetation restricting views of the new built development.	Negligible	Long-term and reversible. Negligible and Not Significant