



17 February 2026

Sent electronically

Dear Sarah Hill,

[PL/2026/00198 Chemring Countermeasures Ltd, Netton, Salisbury, SP4 6AS](#)

Thank you for consulting the Stonehenge and Avebury World Heritage Site (WHS) Coordination Unit on this application for full planning permission to erect a 900 sqm (Gross External Area) warehouse, with associated yard areas and improved internal access following demolition of an existing building.

This application takes place c. 1.4km southeast of the Stonehenge part of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites WHS. The role of the WHS Coordination Unit is to monitor the impact of all development on the Attributes of Outstanding Universal Value (OUV) as inscribed by UNESCO to maintain the Integrity and Authenticity of the WHS and its setting. For full details of OUV please refer to the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites WHS Management Plan (2015)¹.

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) recognises at paragraph 202 that WHS are among assets of the highest significance and Policy 59 in the Wiltshire Core Strategy underlines that precedence should be given to the protection of the WHS and its setting.

A description of setting can be found in Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) 'Setting of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site'², adopted by Wiltshire Council in October 2025. We believe this proposal to be a Level 4 development which requires screening by the LPA on impact to the WHS as described in the SPD.

As described in the Planning Statement, the application site is on relatively high and exposed ground where there is potential for long range views from the northeast and southeast. The statement assesses that the visual impact of the proposed development on the surrounding landscape is considered to be negligible due to an established tree belt to the north of the site and that the proposed warehouse is positioned amongst other buildings of a similar scale and character. It should be noted that the WHS Setting SPD describes how the screening of modern woodland should be discounted when assessing impact³.

The application does not include consideration of impact to the WHS. The proposal takes place in an elevated position within c. 1.4km of the WHS, and within c. 1.4km of monuments located at high points in the southern part of the WHS including Scheduled Monument Lake Down Round Barrow Cemetery.

The WHS Coordination Unit is unable to confirm for the LPA whether the proposal presents harm to the WHS, and if so the level harm and mitigations, without the applicant providing a form of

¹ [Stonehenge and Avebury WHS Management Plan 2015](#)

² [Setting of the Stonehenge, Avebury and Associated Sites World Heritage Site Supplementary Planning Document \(2025\)](#)

³ [WHS Setting SPD](#), page 50



Landscape Visual Impact Assessment based on a confirmed height for the structure and the proposed wall and roof colour of goosewing grey.

The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal describes how the development may result in an increase in lighting from external lights, and recommends that external lighting complies with the latest guidance. To monitor the individual and cumulative impact to dark skies within the setting of the WHS from external lighting, and lightspill from glazing, a lighting plan should be provided prior to determination to allow for assessment and mitigation where required.

Historic England should be consulted with regard to impact to WHS and Scheduled Monuments within and outside of the WHS.

Our comments relate solely to the impact of the proposal to Stonehenge and Avebury WHS and it's setting to inform the LPA's decision making. To monitor the cumulative impact of development, this response has been produced alongside a response from the WHS Coordination Unit to PL/2025/09805 for solar installation on the Chemring site.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Selman

Partnership Manager

Stonehenge & Avebury World Heritage Site Coordination Unit

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