



RAYMOND BROWN
QUARRY PRODUCTS

ENVIRONMENTAL STATEMENT

ADDENDUM

‘Sandland’ Extension to Brickworth Quarry

**Brickworth Quarry,
Whiteparish, Wiltshire
SP5 2QG**

March 2026



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Chapter 1 Introduction

- 1.1 On 17 September 2025, Raymond Brown Quarry Products Limited (the applicant) submitted a planning application to Wiltshire Council for:
- 'Extension to Brickworth Quarry (Sandland) to allow the extraction, processing and export of sand followed by backfill with imported inert materials and quarry waste; Importation and blending of sand; Retention and continued use of site compound and buildings, plant site and storage areas; Restoration to commercial forestry and agriculture at original ground levels together with long-term biodiversity enhancements'.*
- 1.2 The application was subsequently registered and assigned the following application reference: PL/2025/07278. The planning application was accompanied by an Environmental Statement (ES) 'Sandland' Extension to Brickworth Quarry, dated September 2025.
- 1.3 The application has since been subject to public consultation and consideration by stakeholders. Following this exercise and at the request of Wiltshire Council as Mineral Planning Authority, we are now pleased to provide an addendum to the ES. This ES Addendum should be read in conjunction with the ES submitted with the application (hereafter referred to as 'the Original ES').
- 1.4 In accordance with Planning Practice Guidance (PPG)¹, the content of the ES is focussed on the 'main', or 'significant' environmental effects to which the development is likely to give rise. Consequently, PPG states that Local Planning Authority requests for further information in relation to an ES should also be limited to the main or significant environmental effects to.

Contents

- 1.5 This ES Addendum addresses the following topics:
- Socio-economic impacts;
 - Climate change;
 - Cumulative/in-combination effects;
 - Alternatives;
 - Archaeology;
 - Ecology.

¹ [Planning Practice Guidance - Environmental Impact Assessment](#)



Chapter 2 Socio-Economic

- 2.1 Brickworth Quarry produces approximately 140,000 tonnes of soft (building) sand per year for use within the construction industry. Soft sand is mainly used as an aggregate in the building industry for producing mortars and plasters and in the manufacture of asphalt and macadam. The products produced by the quarry are distributed across south Wiltshire and Hampshire. The quarry provides employment for approximately eight members of staff directly on site, in addition to numerous associated roles such as lorry drivers and suppliers.
- 2.2 The mineral operations support further employment within RBQP such as the sales team, IT support, plant maintenance teams, compliance Officers and the estates and planning department. There are also in-direct jobs created in haulage, goods and services. These jobs are reliant on there being a continuation of operations.
- 2.3 Operation and maintenance of quarry infrastructure and equipment will generate long-term in-direct employment through businesses able to supply these services. The quarry will also maintain and generate additional down-chain economic activity through the supply of aggregates to local construction projects and markets.
- 2.4 As set out in the Planning Statement accompanying the planning application, the landbank for soft sand within Wiltshire now appears to comprise only the remaining permitted reserves at Brickworth Quarry. As a result and based on average annual sales from the quarry, the permitted landbank for soft (building) sand within Wiltshire and Swindon is estimated to be approximately equivalent to between 0.44 - 1.25 years. Wiltshire and Swindon is therefore close to being in a position where it is no longer able to supply essential soft (building) sand in order to support continued functioning of the Wiltshire and regional economy.
- 2.5 The proposed extension would contribute a further 0.2mt (1.5 years) to the Wiltshire soft (building) sand landbank and allow sand extraction and related activities to continue at present rates, meeting an urgent need to maintain a steady and adequate supply of aggregates as required by local and national planning policy. The proposed extension will also support Wiltshire in making an appropriate contribution to national supply.



Chapter 3 Climate Change

- 3.1 As required by the Scoping Opinion (Ref: PL/2025/04038) issued by Wiltshire Council on the 11 July 2025, climate change and sustainability matters were considered within each chapter of the original ES where relevant. This approach was noted as a suitable method for assessing climate change as part of any future planning application.
- 3.2 Paragraph 164 (Planning for climate change) of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)(2024)² states that new development should be planned for in ways that:
- 'a) avoid increased vulnerability to the range of impacts arising from climate change. When new development is brought forward in areas which are vulnerable, care should be taken to ensure that risks can be managed through suitable adaptation measures, including through incorporating green infrastructure and sustainable drainage systems; and*
- b) help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, such as through its location, orientation and design. Any local requirements for the sustainability of buildings in plans should reflect the government's policy for national technical standards.'*
- 3.3 Paragraph 222 (Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals)³ of the NPPF (2024) identifies that *'since minerals are a finite natural resource, and can only be worked where they are found (my emphasis), best use needs to be made of them to secure their long-term conservation'*. The proposed development is a small extension to a large existing quarry, in accordance with the Minerals Development Plan. It is a temporary use of the land and does not seek permission for or involve any additional built form than currently permitted.
- 3.4 In relation to the proposed development, the site benefits from an existing, direct, purpose-built highway access on the A36 Strategic Road Network (SRN) and designated 'Local Lorry Route'. The extension area would benefit from use of the established operational infrastructure associated with the existing quarry, conveying significant sustainability benefits compared to constructing and commissioning an entirely new quarry. This effective 'windfall' of mineral, able to be produced from an established site, will also reduce pressure on the Mineral Planning Authority to identify additional new mineral reserve.
- 3.5 Operations on site associated with the proposed development would comprise road-going HGV movements involved in the export of mineral and the import of backfill material and the operation of heavy mobile plant used for earthworks, mineral extraction and processing and placement of backfill material. The industry is investigating the viability, both economically and practically, of alternative power sources and fuels for both road-going HGVs and on-site heavy mobile plant – at present, long-established fossil fuel-powered internal combustion engines remain the primary, viable technology for these purposes.

² [National Planning Policy Framework \(2024\) - Meeting the challenge of climate change, flooding and coastal change](#)

³ [National Planning Policy Framework \(2024\) - Facilitating the sustainable use of minerals](#)



- 3.6 Based on the scale of the proposed development and associated activity, it is considered unlikely to have a significant impact on climate change. Notwithstanding this, as set out above, the original ES has had regard to climate change where relevant to the proposed development.
- 3.7 Chapter 5 (Water Environment) of the original ES considers the vulnerability and adaptation to the impacts of climate change, arising as a result of increased and more intense rainfall events. Using a +45% allowance for climate change, perimeter swales with detention basins have been incorporated into the design of the restoration landform in order to accommodate increased runoff volumes. These will ensure that post-restoration, surface water run-off will be no greater than the existing rate and therefore will not increase flood risk elsewhere. The proposed development has therefore incorporated sustainable drainage systems as part of the design.
- 3.8 The site will be restored to agriculture in combination with requisite Biodiversity Net-Gain areas, thereby reinstating and enhancing existing green infrastructure.



Chapter 4 Cumulative/in-combination effects

- 4.1 The EIA Scoping Opinion Request (April 2025) submitted to Wiltshire Council, set out that cumulative impacts arising from the proposed development would be encompassed within the ES topics assessed.
- 4.2 PPG⁴ states that *'there are occasions when other existing or approved development may be relevant in determining whether significant effects are likely as a consequence of a proposed development. Local planning authorities should always have regard to the possible cumulative effects arising from any existing or approved development'*. The potential for cumulative effects in relation to the proposed development were subsequently considered within each chapter of the original ES where present and relevant.
- 4.3 In accordance with the Scoping Opinion (PL/2025/04038) issued by Wiltshire Council, the original ES assesses the impact of the development on the following main aspects of the environment:
- Landscape and Visual Impact
 - Water Environment
 - Noise
 - Ecology
 - Soils
 - Archaeology (& Cultural Heritage)
 - Air Quality
- 4.4 Information relating to cumulative/in-combination effects contained within the original ES is re-produced in the following sections below, with additional commentary where appropriate. No specific, significant, cumulative effects were identified in relation to any other approved but not yet implemented development in the vicinity of the site.

Landscape and Visual Impact

- 4.5 The Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment submitted with the application considers that the effects from the proposed development on landscape character would be principally limited to the site and its immediate vicinity. The site is well screened by mature vegetation that surrounds the existing quarry, and further enclosed by woodland, copses and hedgerows within the wider landscape. There are very few settlements or standalone residential properties within the vicinity of the site. Longer distance views are precluded by existing vegetative screening around the quarry, intervening topography, mature woodland and hedgerows within the wider landscape.
- 4.6 Beyond the immediate locality of the proposed works, landscape impacts would be more limited and are predicted to be minor – moderate adverse. The greatest effects on visual amenity would be for receptors using public footpath WHIT 12, along sections of the route adjacent to the extraction area. Any views will be glimpsed through the existing woodland and scrub.

⁴ [Planning Practice Guidance - Environmental Impact Assessment](#)



- 4.7 The visual impact during the schemes operational period, will be a moderate adverse effect on receptors using the footpaths around the quarry. No significant cumulative effects are identified.
- 4.8 Once restoration has been completed, there will be no or negligible effect on the landscape character or visual amenity within the study area, as the site will have been returned to its pre-development condition and/or restored in accordance with the extant mineral permission.
- 4.9 It is considered that there will be no effect long term on landscape character and that the site has the capacity to accept the proposed mineral extraction operation without causing significant adverse effects on the quality or character of the local landscape.

Water Environment

- 4.10 The area local to the site has a long history of sand extraction; potential therefore exists for cumulative impacts to occur. The baseline dataset (upon which impact assessment has been based) is representative of the extant conditions present at the time of assessment, which includes any influence upon the water environment resulting from existing permitted operations and any third party development in the vicinity of the Site (thus accounting for any potential cumulative impact in this regard).
- 4.11 Where significant impact relative to baseline conditions has been identified, mitigation measures have been formulated to limit any such risk to acceptable levels. Further consideration of cumulative impact / the formulation of additional mitigation in this regard is not considered necessary at this time.

Noise

- 4.12 The Noise Impact Assessment accompanying the application assessed the Operational Cumulative Noise Levels compared to Background Noise Levels. No significant cumulative effects were identified either in relation to the existing quarry operations nor any other approved development.

Ecology

- 4.13 The footprint of the proposed works will impact upon (currently) fallow cropland, a common and not intrinsically ecologically valuable habitat. As such, ecological impacts resulting from the loss of cropland are deemed to be negligible. The small area of neutral grassland in the south is also a common and widespread habitat. Its temporary loss to quarrying works is unlikely to create significant adverse impacts within the landscape, however this habitat will be recreated and enhanced when quarrying works cease and the site is reinstated.
- 4.14 The Preliminary Ecological Appraisal And Ecological Impact Assessment (February 2026) states that there is considered to be little potential for cumulative impacts resulting from the extension of extraction into the proposed development area.

Soils



4.15 No significant cumulative effects were identified.

Archaeology (& Cultural Heritage)

4.16 No significant cumulative effects were identified.

Air Quality

4.17 There are no other significant or planned sources of dust in the vicinity of the site that have the potential to cause significant cumulative dust impacts, other than the previous quarry which will not be worked concurrently. There may be other sources of dust in the vicinity of the site such as from arable farming, however dust generation from farming activities is generally very short-lived and therefore any cumulative impacts are not considered to be significant.



Chapter 5 Alternatives

- 5.1 The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017⁵ specify that an ES should contain a description of the reasonable alternatives studied in relation to a particular proposed development.
- 5.2 PPG clarifies that the 2017 Regulations do not require an applicant to consider alternatives, rather the requirement applies only where alternative approaches to development have been considered.
- 5.3 In relation to this planning application, no specific alternatives to the proposed development were studied by the applicant.

⁵ [The Town and Country Planning \(Environmental Impact Assessment\) Regulations 2017](#)



Chapter 6 Archaeology

- 6.1 We are pleased to submit the following document: 'Results of an archaeological trial trench evaluation - January 2026', produced by AC Archaeology Limited.

Chapter 7 Ecology

- 7.1 We are pleased to submit the following document: 'Preliminary Ecological Appraisal and Ecological Impact Assessment' – February 2026, produced by Stark Ecology Limited.



Chapter 8 Summary & Conclusion

- 8.1 Brickworth Quarry has been in operation since 2003, supplying approximately 140,000 tonnes of soft sand to the market per year for use within the construction industry. Sand from Brickworth Quarry is used in both the local and wider region within a range of aggregate products used to build homes, roads, schools and hospitals.
- 8.2 The existing Brickworth Quarry has a remaining mineral reserve equivalent to approximately a further 10 months of extraction. In order to maintain the supply of construction materials to the local market beyond the life of the existing reserve, RBQP propose an extension to the existing permitted quarry. The extension will also provide further void space to meet the need for management of excavation and demolition material generated by the construction industry.
- 8.3 The proposed extension would contribute a further 0.2mt of soft sand to the Wiltshire sand and gravel landbank and allow sand extraction and related activities to continue at present rates, meeting an urgent need to maintain a steady and adequate supply of aggregates as required by local and national planning policy. The proposed extension will also support Wiltshire in making an appropriate contribution to national supply.
- 8.4 The proposal has been carefully designed in accordance with the principles set out in this Statement. The effects of the development have been assessed and with the inclusion of recommended mitigation measures, it is considered that the development will not result in any unacceptable adverse effects.
- 8.5 The proposal is considered to be in accordance with local and national planning policy and is not predicted to result in any unacceptable adverse social, economic or environmental impacts. A presumption in favour of sustainable development contained within paragraph 11 of the National Planning Policy Framework therefore applies.
- 8.6 There are no other material planning considerations which would indicate that the proposals are unacceptable. The benefits of the development have been demonstrated to outweigh any minor impacts and as a result, the report concludes that there are no planning policy reasons as to why the proposal should not proceed.