

KEY:

Site Boundary

0 
•
 200  
Metres

CLIENT: Oxfordshire County Council

SIZE: A4

ERM  
Eaton House  
Wallbrook Court  
North Hinksey Lane  
Oxford, OX2 0QS  
Telephone: 01865 384800  
Facsimile: 01865 204982



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PROJECTION: British National Grid

TITLE: Site 11: Finmere Quarry (Premier), Finmere

DATE: 20/07/2007	CHECKED:	PROJECT: 0051809
DRAWN: IG	APPROVED:	SCALE: 1:10,000
DRAWING: FinmereQuarry.mxd		REV: 0

**SITE 11 FINMERE QUARRY (PREMIER), FINMERE  
GRID REFERENCE: 462674, 232849**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Description</b>
<b>Site Description and Existing Use</b>	It is a large open site being currently in use for mineral extraction and landfill. Presently quarrying is not taking place, further permission is being sought - awaiting the outcome of appeal.
<b>Site Area</b>	3.63 ha
<b>Surrounding Land Uses</b>	The area nominated by the site operators (marked on the map) is surrounded by landfill cells that have been filled and capped or are currently being filled, and areas where further quarrying can be carried out. To the north east of the site is area of plantation which offers good screening. The wider site is surrounded by agricultural land and associated farm buildings. A dismantled railway runs to along the west side of the site with the village of Finmere situated over 700 m to the north east.
<b>Traffic and Transport</b>	The site is accessed via an internal road leading off the B4031. This links with the A421 approx. 1.25 km to the east and the A43 approx. 5.5 km to the west.
<b>Proximity to Waste Arisings</b>	This site lies just further than 10 km from the centre of Bicester. The site is 28 km from the centre of Oxford.
<b>Planning Policy</b>	Adopted Cherwell Local Plan 1996 Policy AG1 Non-Statutory Cherwell Local Plan 2001 Policy EN16 Both policies seek to protect best and most versatile agricultural land.
<b>Planning History</b>	In 2005, an application was submitted for the extraction of sand, gravel and clay, the deposit of overburden and reject quarrying material, the relocation of plant and restoration of the quarry to agriculture, woodland and grassland using imported inert wastes. The application was refused as it was contrary to policy SD5 of the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan 1996 (OMWLP), and the site was not identified as a location for future clay extraction. The proposal also failed to provide a satisfactory form of restoration or end date and was therefore contrary to policy EN1 of the Oxfordshire Structure Plan 2016 (OSP), PE1 of the OMWLP and EN34 of the Cherwell Local Plan (CLP). A similar application was made later in the same year and was again refused for similar reasons. Further, the proposal was not in line with policy W7 of the OMWLP and failed to demonstrate the need for an additional waste disposal facility at the specified location. A 2006 proposal for a materials recycling facility on the site has been refused. The reasons for refusal were non-compliance with policy WM2 of the OSP, W3 of the OMWLP and the proximity principle. The proposal was contrary to policy W4 of the OMWLP, as no overriding need was demonstrated for the site's location in the open countryside and not on a mineral extraction/landfill site. It was also discussed that by virtue of the height and scale of the building the proposed development would have been visually intrusive and in conflict with policy EN34 of the CLP, policy EN1 of the OSP and policy W7 of the OMWLP. In 2007 a proposal was made for the installation of an electricity generation plant fuelled by landfill gas from the site. This application has been approved.
<b>Landscape Designations</b>	There are no landscape designations for this site.
<b>Landscape Character</b>	The site is situated within the landscape character area of West Anglian Plain.
<b>Land Stability</b>	This site has been previously worked and is not fully restored. There is a risk that it may be subject to land instability.

Criteria	Description
<i>Ecology and Nature Conservation</i>	There are no ecology or nature conservation designations. The site is beyond 15 km from any Natura 2000 or Ramsar site.
<i>Agricultural Land Classification</i>	The site is designated grade 3 agricultural land.
<i>Flooding (potential)</i>	This site is not liable to flood.
<i>Groundwater Quality</i>	The site is located within a major aquifer with groundwater at intermediate vulnerability to pollution. The site is not located within an SPZ.
<i>Historic Environment</i>	There are a few listed buildings 800 m from the sites north east boundary. There is also a listed building on the Wildmore Farm, 400 m from the west of the site. There are no archaeological constraints for this site.
<i>Recreational Activities</i>	There are public rights of way within the vicinity of the site.
<i>Air Quality/Noise/Issues of Environmental Nuisance</i>	The nominated site is situated within previous mineral workings and landfill activities. It is set within a rural location, with residential properties located within 250 m (Foxley Fields Farm and Boundary Farm).
<i>Proximity to Existing Waste Facilities</i>	The site is an existing landfill facility.  Non inert facilities Proximity to Landfill: Premier Aggregates (Finnere) Proximity to Treatment: No non-inert facilities within 10 km Proximity to Recycling: No recycling facilities within 10 km Proximity to Transfer Station: No non-inert facilities within 10 km Proximity to Composting: Ardley Quarry, 10.4 km
<i>Landscape/ Visual Impact</i>	The site is set back from the access road and is well screened by trees and shrubs. The site contains raised capped landfill and open quarry workings.
<i>Site Ownership</i>	The site is owned by Premier Aggregates Limited. The company supports the inclusion of this site in the Waste Allocations Development Plan Document.

**Site 11**      ***Finnere Quarry (Premier), Finnere Preliminary Conclusions***

Finnere Quarry is a large and open site, with the nominated area located centrally within it. The nominated site is well screened to the north and east by tree plantations. The site has had some extensive work carried out and there are bunded areas where quarrying has previously occurred. Landfill is obvious as raised areas waiting to be capped. Presently quarrying is not taking place, further permission is being sought and the outcome of an appeal to this is pending.

The site is located to the north east of Oxfordshire, very close to the border with Buckinghamshire. Access to the site is via the B4031, which links with both the A421 and A43 and it does benefit from access into the wider road network using a satisfactory highway that does not travel through settlements.

The site lies beyond 10 km from Bicester; as such, this site is the furthest from any significant source of waste arisings within Oxfordshire. However, it is located within 10 km of Buckingham, to the east and could accept waste from beyond the county boundary.

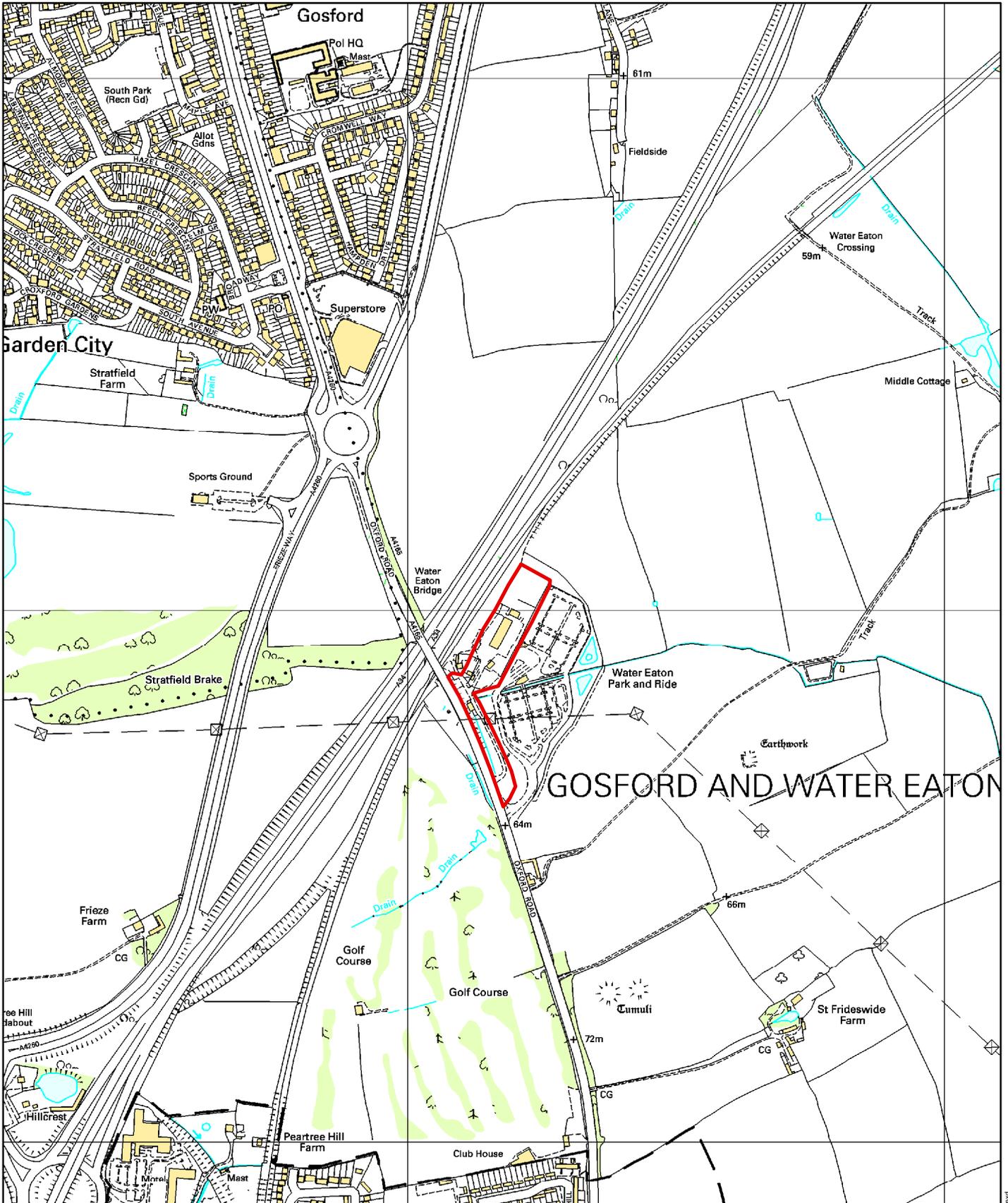
ERM concludes that it is not appropriate to consider this site for a permanent strategic waste facility. This is primarily due its location distant from significant source of waste within Oxfordshire. The regional spatial strategy does not require Oxfordshire to handle waste from Buckinghamshire and therefore this cross boundary movement of waste is not considered to be a material consideration.

Furthermore, the site is required to be restored by 2014. The nominated site is located centrally within the wider working area; permanent development would detract from comprehensive restoration, which is due to be completed within the next ten years.

Notwithstanding this conclusion, there may be potential to develop the site for a non-strategic facility (for example a waste transfer station or materials recovery facility) that could be linked to the lifetime of the current landfill operations, thus enabling waste to be managed more sustainably whilst the landfill and site restoration is being completed.

*Figure 11.1 Site 11 Finmere Quarry (Premier), Finmere*





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PROJECTION: British National Grid

SIZE: A4

TITLE: Site 12: Gosford Grain Silos, Gosford

DATE: 17/07/2007	CHECKED:	PROJECT: 0051809
DRAWN: IG	APPROVED:	SCALE: 1:10,000
DRAWING: GosfordGrainSilos.mxd		REV: 0

File: 0051809\0051809\_GosfordGrainSilos.mxd

**SITE 12      GOSFORD GRAIN SILOS, GOSFORD**  
**GRID REFERENCE: 450250, 212050**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Description</b>
<i>Site Description and Existing Use</i>	The site is open and currently used for storage. In the centre of the site is the grain silo, a substantial building.
<i>Site Area</i>	2.51 ha.
<i>Surrounding Land Uses</i>	Railway sidings, the Oxford-Bicester mainline and the A34 run alongside the northern boundary of the site. The railway sidings are used as an aggregates depot. Beyond these lie open farm land and the southern tip of Kidlington. Agricultural land also surrounds the site to the east and south, but immediately south is the Water Eaton Park and Ride. The A4165 runs along the south western boundary, beyond which is the North Oxford Golf Course.
<i>Traffic and Transport</i>	Access is gained from the A4165 which leads to the A34 to the north and the A40/Oxford City centre to the South. Local access to the site is good although movements in and out of the site might involve tight manoeuvres. The access to the site is controlled by traffic lights, installed for the Park and Ride.
<i>Proximity to Waste Arisings</i>	Kidlington lies in close proximity to the site, to the north. The site is 6 km from the centre of Oxford.
<i>Planning Policy</i>	The site lies within the Oxford Green Belt.
<i>Planning History</i>	In 2004, an application to for change of use as a vehicle storage depot, to vehicle hire depot was refused, as a result of 'inappropriate development in the Green Belt'.
<i>Landscape Designations</i>	There are no landscape designations for this site.
<i>Landscape Character</i>	The site is located within the landscape character area of Thames and Avon Vales.
<i>Land Stability</i>	There is no information to suggest that the site would be subject to land instability.
<i>Ecology and Nature Conservation</i>	The site is not subject to ecology or nature conservation designations. This site lies within 2-5 km of the Oxford Meadows SAC and within 10-15 km of the Cothill Fen SAC.
<i>Agricultural Land Classification</i>	The site is designated grade 4 agricultural land. However, it has been substantially developed.
<i>Flooding (potential)</i>	The eastern edge of the site is within 300 m of flood zone 2 and 600 m of flood zone 3. The site's western edge is within 850 m of flood zone 2 and flood zone 3. There are parts of flood zone 2 which are historic flood areas. There are also some other pockets of historic flood areas within 550 - 700 m of the site.
<i>Groundwater Quality</i>	Half of the site (the north western edge) is located within a minor aquifer with groundwater at high vulnerability to pollution. The site is not located within a SPZ.
<i>Historic Environment</i>	There are 4 listed buildings within 650 m of the site.
<i>Recreational Activities</i>	The North Oxford Golf Course lies to the west, on the opposite side of the A4165 and footpaths within the vicinity of the site, but these are unlikely to be affected.
<i>Air Quality/Noise/Issues of Environmental Nuisance</i>	The site is surrounded by agricultural land, railway sidings, major A roads and the Park and Ride facility. The nearest residential property is situated approx. 550 m to the north, at the southern tip of Kidlington.

Criteria	Description
<i>Proximity to Existing Waste Facilities</i>	Non inert facilities Proximity to Landfill: Weston Park Farm, 8 km Proximity to Treatment: No non-inert facilities within 10 km Proximity to Recycling: No recycling facilities within 10 km Proximity to Transfer Station: Worton Rectory Farm WTS, 3.3 km Proximity to Composting: Worton Rectory Farm, 3.3 km
<i>Landscape/ Visual Impact</i>	The grain silo building is visible from a number of locations. The surrounding area is quite flat with the A34 set down within a cutting.
<i>Site Ownership</i>	The site is owned by Grundon Waste Management Ltd. The company supports the inclusion of this site in the Waste Allocations Development Plan Document.

**Site 12**      ***Gosford Grain Silos, Gosford***  
***Preliminary Conclusions***

The site is open and dominated by the extremely large grain silo. Within this building remain a number of silos within which grain was stored until relatively recently. The grain was transported by rail using the sidings on site. Around the base of the building there are skips and piles of rubble. Unused cars are parked to the east of the site. Smaller buildings are situated to the east of the grain silo which are currently used by a number of companies including Seeneys Animal Foods.

The site offers a key location, central within the County and close to Oxford. It benefits from good access and excellent links with the wider road network. There is potential to use the rail sidings adjacent to the site – although this would depend on any final development scheme and land ownership details. Furthermore, the sidings are safeguarded under the Oxfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan policies SD7 and SD9.

Whilst the access into the site is good, and controlled by traffic lights, Oxfordshire Highways has advised that there is no separate phase for turning into the site at the signals and therefore turning traffic may have an affect on movements through the signals. It is likely that this concern could be addressed as part of any development proposal.

The site would benefit from improvement; the grain silo is not an attractive building and is visible from many locations. Furthermore, over time it will deteriorate and become less attractive and it is unrealistic to expect the building to be removed without some form of enabling development – not least to cover the cost of its demolition. A building with a stack would be visible from similar locations, but a well designed development need not result in detrimental visual impact.

This site is within a 2-5km range of the Oxford Meadows Special Area for Conservation (SAC). ERM considers that waste management involving incineration, gasification and pyrolysis would be likely to have a significant effect on the identified SAC.

Part of the site is situated over a minor aquifer with high groundwater vulnerability. Whilst any new development would need to ensure that redevelopment of the site did not result in groundwater pollution, this is not considered to be an overriding constraint.

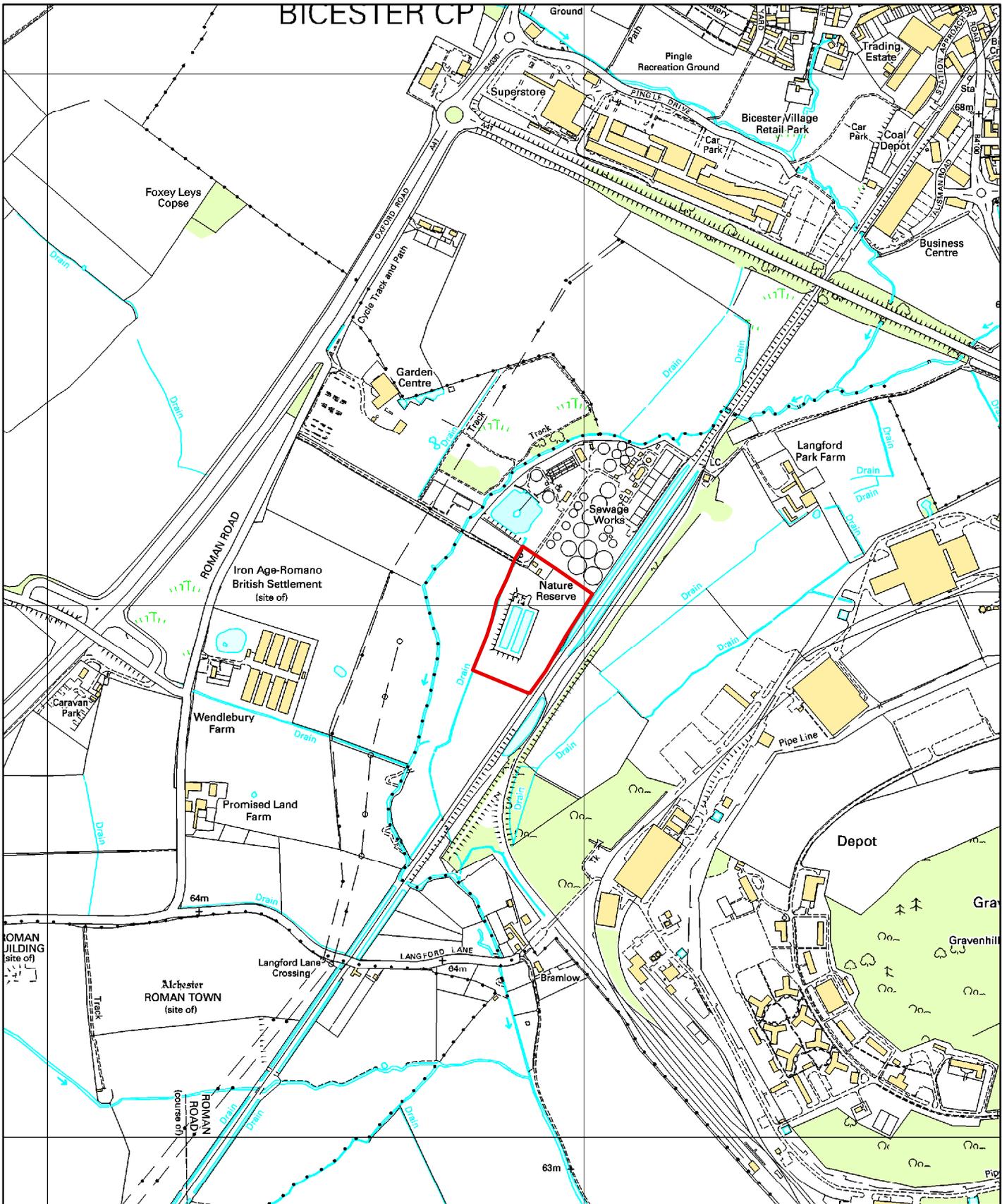
This site is considered to offer potential for development of a strategic waste management facility. It is located close to significant sources of waste arisings and is well located within the County to provide strategic capacity. There are potential markets for the recovery of energy generated by waste management facilities and the site benefits from good access and access into the wider road network.

ERM concludes that development should not include thermal treatment, unless it can be demonstrated through appropriate assessment that such development would not have adverse impacts upon the integrity of the Oxford Meadows SAC. Additionally, development may be restricted by the site's size, 2.5 ha. Finally, the site is located within the Oxford Green Belt. Development of a waste management facility would constitute inappropriate development for which very special circumstances would need to be demonstrated. However, national and regional policy identifies that locations within the Green Belt should not be precluded from consideration for the delivery of waste management capacity. Very special circumstances might include consideration of the site's central position within the County, its proximity to Oxford, good access arrangements linking with the A40, and that there is substantial building on the site currently constituting its designation as a major developed site in the Green Belt.

Figure 12.1 Site 12 Gosford Grain Silos, Gosford



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KEY:

 Site Boundary

0 200  
Metres

CLIENT:  
Oxfordshire County Council

ERM  
Eaton House  
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PROJECTION: British National Grid

SIZE:  
A4



TITLE: Site 19: TWA Sewage Farm, Bicester		
DATE: 17/07/2007	CHECKED:	PROJECT: 0051809
DRAWN: IG	APPROVED:	SCALE: 1:10,000
DRAWING: TWASewageFarm.mxd		REV: 0

**SITE 19**      **TWA SEWAGE FARM, BICESTER**  
**GRID REFERENCE: 457818, 220939**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Description</b>
<i>Site Description and Existing Use</i>	This is an extension of the existing sewage treatment farm with two lagoons situated in the middle of the site.
<i>Site Area</i>	3.28 ha.
<i>Surrounding Land Uses</i>	The site is mainly surrounded by agricultural land. To the west of the site there are retail units and a garden centre. The eastern boundary of the site is flanked by a railway line, beyond which is Langford Park Farm. Further to the south east is a general depot. To the south west of the site there are farms and more agricultural land and to the west there is an iron age settlement. The A41 lies further to the south west.
<i>Traffic and Transport</i>	Access to the site is gained via the A41, leading onto a minor road which leads to the site internal access road. The A41 joins to the A34/M40.
<i>Proximity to Waste Arisings</i>	The site lies within 2 km of the centre of Bicester. The site is 16 km from the centre of Oxford.
<i>Planning Policy</i>	No specific policies identified.
<i>Planning History</i>	No applications have been made in the last 5 years.
<i>Landscape Designations</i>	There are no landscape designations for this site.
<i>Landscape Character</i>	The site is located within the landscape character area of Thames and Avon Vales
<i>Land Stability</i>	There is no information to suggest that the site would be subject to land instability.
<i>Ecology and Nature Conservation</i>	There is an ancient woodland less than 700 m from the site. Bicester wetland nature reserve is to the left of the entrance (with bird hive). This site lies within 10-15 km of the Oxford Meadows SAC.
<i>Agricultural Land Classification</i>	The site is a designated grade 4 agricultural land. It has been partially developed.
<i>Flooding (potential)</i>	Flood zone 3 runs within 30 m of the site, following the course of surface water lying to the western side of the site.
<i>Groundwater Quality</i>	The site is located not located in proximity to any groundwater aquifers or SPZ.
<i>Historic Environment</i>	There is a listed building on the Langford Park Farm, less than 400 m from the site. There are no archaeological constraints for this site.
<i>Recreational Activities</i>	The Bicester Wetland Reserve, a County Wildlife Site, is adjacent to the nominated site.
<i>Air Quality/Noise/ Issues of Environmental Nuisance</i>	The site is adjacent to an operational sewage works within an area that is largely rural, but on the edge of Bicester. There is a depot to the south west but this is separated from the site by the railway. Residential property is at least 300 m distant.
<i>Proximity to Existing Waste Facilities</i>	Non inert facilities Proximity to Landfill: Manor Farm, 2 km Proximity to Treatment: No recycling facilities within 10 km Proximity to Recycling: No recycling facilities within 10 km Proximity to Transfer Station: Ardley Fields Farm WTS, 6.4 km Proximity to Composting: Ardley Quarry, 6.2 km

Criteria	Description
<i>Landscapel Visual Impact</i>	The site is well screened by a raised edging and vegetation along the western and south western boundaries. The site is set back from the main access road and the A41. The surrounding landscape is flat.
<i>Site Ownership</i>	The site is owned by Thames Water. The company supports the site's consideration for a strategic waste management facility, subject to no future requirement to extend the STW due to growth in the area.

**Site 19**      *TWA Sewage Farm, Bicester*  
*Preliminary Conclusions*

This site is an extension of the existing sewage treatment facility. It is enclosed with bunding and is well screened by trees including Poplar and Willow. The area marked on the map is mainly overgrown scrubland. The two holding pools/lagoons in the middle of the site are surrounded by a fence which is elevated slightly compared to the remaining part of the site surrounding it. There is a bunding down the west side of the site separating it from the wetland nature reserve.

The site is located in a good location within the County, close to significant sources of waste arisings and with good links with the wider road network. Access to the site is readily taken from the A41. However, Oxfordshire Highways have advised that access to this site is substandard with regard to vision to the right and the approach road is narrow with a passing place some way along. The proximity of the access to the garden centre development may result in some confusion on the highway. Further that the poor standard of the access and road and its junction may be considered to preclude further development.

The site is adjacent to a wetland nature reserve. Whilst they are separated by bunding it is inevitable that any significant development would have some impact upon this reserve, and recreational use of it.

There are three lagoons in the middle of the site. Thames Water has confirmed that these lagoons are currently used. Furthermore, in clarifying the companies' interests in the site, it has identified its useful position adjacent to the existing waste water treatment facility. This is particularly relevant with current proposals to significantly extend Bicester and consideration of the South East Plan.

This site lies within 10-15 km of the Oxford Meadows Special Area for Conservation (SAC). ERM considers that the development of a waste management facility is not likely to have a significant effect on the identified SAC.

ERM concludes that this site is not suitable for development of a strategic waste management facility, for solid waste, primarily on the basis of its substandard access, and the judgement that this cannot be readily resolved. It

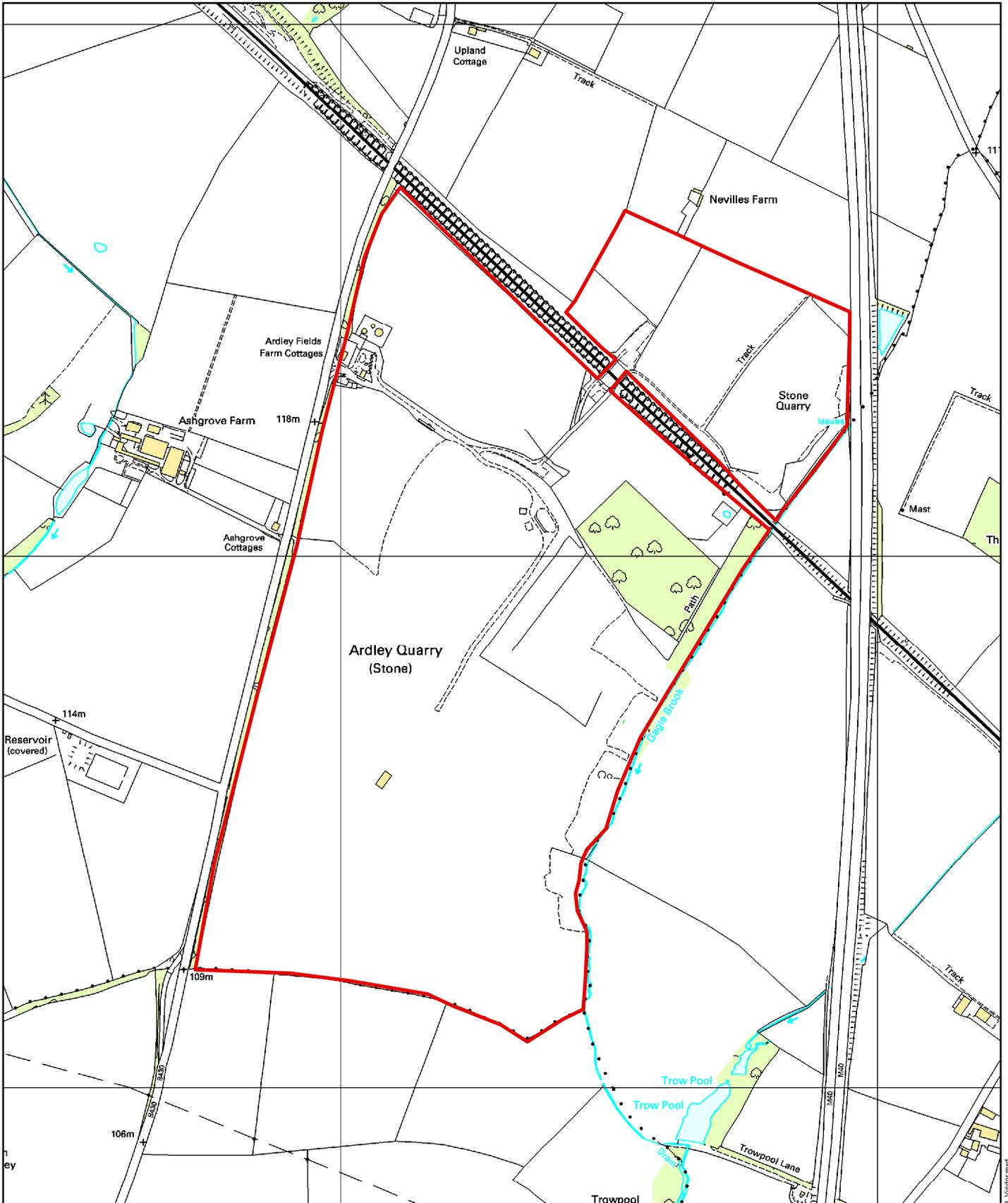
is recognised that the site is already developed, and may be extended in the future. However, the traffic movements associated with a sewage treatment works are very much less than those of a strategic waste management facility. Furthermore, it seems likely that the site will be required for a future extension of the sewage treatment works. In this way it may provide a strategic facility to manage waste water, but not solid wastes.

*Figure 19.1 Site 19 TWA Sewage Farm, Bicester*



*Figure 19.2 Site 19 TWA Sewage Farm, Bicester*





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ERM  
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PROJECTION: British National Grid

SIZE: A4

TITLE: Site 22: Ardley Quarry Landfill (Viridor)

DATE: 20/07/2007	CHECKED:	PROJECT: 0051809
DRAWN: IG	APPROVED:	SCALE: 1:10,000

DRAWING: ArdleyQuarryLandfill\_Viridor.mxd

REV: 0

File: 0051809\_OxfordGIS\_LSPphase\_10\OXD\ArdleyQuarryLandfill\_Viridor.mxd

**SITE 22      ARDLEY QUARRY LANDFILL (VIRIDOR)**  
**GRID REFERENCE: 454200, 225900**

<b>Criteria</b>	<b>Description</b>
<i>Site Description and Existing Use</i>	The site is an existing quarry and landfill facility. An HWRC is located close to the entrance of the site.
<i>Site Area</i>	111.12 ha.
<i>Surrounding Land Uses</i>	The site is surrounded by agricultural land. The M40 runs in a north south direction, to the east of the site. The B430 runs along the western boundary. Ashgrove Farm is situated to the west of the site, separated from it by the B430.
<i>Traffic and Transport</i>	The site has a dedicated access from the B430, which leads to J10 of the M40. The B430 is of a good standard, formerly a trunk road, running past the village of Ardley.
<i>Proximity to Waste Arisings</i>	The site lies within 6 km of the centre of Bicester and is in close proximity to the village of Ardley. The site is 19 km from the centre of Oxford.
<i>Planning Policy</i>	No specific policies identified.
<i>Planning History</i>	In 2002, an application was submitted for a compound for storing waste refrigerators for a temporary period of 2 years. This was approved. A 2003 application for the extension to the operating hours for landfilling of waste from the CA site, was also approved. In 2003 an application was approved for the construction of a composting bay. In 2005 an application was made for the replacement landfill gas flare. This application has also been approved.
<i>Landscape Designations</i>	There are no landscape designations for this site.
<i>Landscape Character</i>	The site is located within the landscape character area of Cotswolds.
<i>Land Stability</i>	This site has been previously worked. Until restoration is complete, there is a risk that it may be subject to land instability. There remains a reduced risk of land instability following completion of landfill.
<i>Ecology and Nature Conservation</i>	The site is adjacent to the Ardley Cutting and Quarry SSSI. The site is beyond 15 km from any Natura 2000 or Ramsar site.  Natural England has advised that Dinosaur footprints/tracks have been found near the site. The geological find is considered to be of national and international significance due to the nature and extent of the trackways. NE hopes to designate the site as a SSSI.
<i>Agricultural Land Classification</i>	The site is designated grade 3 agricultural land. However, it has been worked for mineral and is being restored through landfill.
<i>Flooding (potential)</i>	A small section of the site's south eastern corner is within flood zones 2 & 3.
<i>Groundwater Quality</i>	The site is located within a major aquifer with groundwater at high vulnerability to pollution. The site is not located in an SPZ.
<i>Historic Environment</i>	There are no formal archaeological constraints for this site.
<i>Recreational Activities</i>	Public Rights of Way run through this site. The necessary diversion orders have been obtained.
<i>Air Quality/Noise/ Issues of Environmental Nuisance</i>	The site is an operational quarry, with HWRC and landfill facility. Otherwise the site is set within a rural area. Ardley Field Cottages are located within the site; Ashgrove Cottage is located immediately opposite the western boundary of the site.

Criteria	Description
<i>Proximity to Existing Waste Facilities</i>	<p>This site is an existing landfill with HWRC.</p> <p>Non inert facilities</p> <p>Proximity to Landfill: Ardley Quarry (southern extension)</p> <p>Proximity to Treatment: No recycling facilities within 10 km</p> <p>Proximity to Recycling: No recycling facilities within 10 km</p> <p>Proximity to Transfer Station: Ardley Fields Farm</p> <p>Proximity to Composting: Ardley Quarry</p>
<i>Landscape Visual Impact</i>	<p>The site is well screened by trees and hedgerow along the B430, this hedging also extends along the southern boundary. The site is visible from the M40 in the east. Where quarrying is currently ongoing the land level is significantly lower than surrounding land; consequently, the land is higher where filling has been completed.</p>
<i>Site Ownership</i>	<p>The site is owned by Viridor Waste Management. The company supports inclusion of this site in the Waste Allocations Development Plan Document.</p>

**Site 22**      ***Ardley Quarry Landfill (Viridor)***  
***Preliminary Conclusions***

The primary uses of this site are for mineral extraction (limestone) and for separate areas of mixed waste and inert waste landfill. A small household waste recycling centre (HWRC) is situated close to the entrance.

The site itself is quite open, although bunding, tree plantation and hedging provide a good screen from the B430 and surrounding agricultural land. Much of the landfill operations are visible from the M40. This raised land would provide a screen for any substantial buildings located north of the filled land, although it is likely that any chimney stack would remain visible across a wide area.

The site has an established and dedicated access, with good links into the wider transport network. The B430 does skirt the edge of the village of Ardley. This is a former trunk road and established link to the M40, and consequently is subject to heavy traffic beyond that generated by the existing activities at Ardley Quarry. The M40 junction 10 is located less than 2 km to the north east.

Flood zones 2 and 3 are identified within the south eastern corner of the site. However, the designated area is very small and the site is substantial in size; significant development could be accommodated without being affected by this designation.

The Ardley Cutting and Quarry incorporates the railway line that runs along to the north of the nominated site. The SSSI has been designated for geological interest for its exposures of Jurassic rocks and has biological interest associated with limestone grassland, scrub, ancient woodland and wetland habitats. *Site 22* is also of great palaeontology interest due to the presence of dinosaur footprints/tracks found on the quarry floor. Natural

England has advised that it has put the site forward as a Geological Conservation Review and hopes to then move towards notifying it as a SSSI. The potential SSSI and designated SSSI to the north of *site 22* are considered to be very different in nature. Natural England further advises that further land filling could damage the footprints and make them inaccessible for further scientific/educational purposes. Ground investigations are due to take place at Ardley Quarry, to assess the full extent of the geological interest and determine the SSSI area. The Ardley Quarry site is extensive. Whilst landfill operations may be restrained, built forms of development are considered to be deliverable without impacting on these features of interest. Substantial development at the site may be expected to bring enhanced facilities to enable scientific and educational access to the geological features of interest.

This site is beyond 15 km of a Natura 2000 or Ramsar site. ERM considers that the development of a waste management facility is not likely to have a significant effect on the identified SAC.

ERM concludes that this site offers potential for development of a waste management facility. The site is due to be restored to agriculture by 31 December 2012. Substantial development will detract from the current restoration requirements for the site, which is situated in a rural area, albeit adjacent to the M40. However, the site analysis work completed to date has demonstrated that there is a lack of genuine brownfield sites available for development of a strategic waste management facility. Ardley Quarry has dedicated access with good links to the wider road network; it is close to significant sources of waste arisings and would provide waste management capacity within the north eastern part of the County. It is distant from any SAC and would be unlikely to impact on local residential or recreational amenities. Furthermore, development would be expected to bring added benefits, such as an enhanced restoration scheme which could include enabling maximum benefit to be gained from the geological features of interest.

*Figure 22.1 Site 22 Ardley Quarry Landfill (Viridor)*



*Figure 22.2 Site 22 Ardley Quarry Landfill (Viridor)*



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