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Alternative Temporary Park and Ride and Heavy Goods Vehicle Marshalling Area - Environmental Statement Volume 2 Chapter 13 Environmental Mitigation

United Utilities Water Limited

Haweswater Aqueduct Resilience Programme

Planning Application Document RVBC-P&R-APP-RP-002 / ES-CH-13 February 28, 2025



Water for the North West



Alternative Temporary Park and Ride and Heavy Goods Vehicle Marshalling Area -Environmental Statement Volume 2 Chapter 13 Environmental Mitigation

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Contents

13.	Envir	Environmental Mitigation					
			duction				
	13.2 Approach to Mitigation						
			Construction Code of Practice				
		13.2.2	Schedule of Environmental Mitigation2				
		13.2.3	Proposed Environmental Masterplan				

13. Environmental Mitigation

13.1 Introduction

- 1) As described throughout this Environmental Statement, the design of the Alternative Facility has taken account, where reasonably practicable, of known environmental constraints and opportunities. This iterative approach to design development has enabled the avoidance or reduction of potential adverse environmental effects during construction, operational and decommissioning phases. Additionally, existing planning condition requirements for the consented schemes have acted as a basis for mitigation proposals for the Alternative Facility.
- 2) The proposals as submitted with the planning application include three categories of environmental mitigation:
 - Embedded mitigation: measures that form part of the engineering design, developed through the iterative design process, and summarised in the technical chapters of the Environmental Statement
 - Good practice and industry guidance: mitigation measures involving established good practice techniques, or adoption of recognised technical guidance, which seek to avoid or reduce potential adverse effects during construction, operation and decommissioning. These are set out in, for example, the Construction Code of Practice (CCoP) (Volume 4 Appendix A.2) and the Construction Traffic Management Plan Addendum (Volume 4 Appendix F.2)
 - Essential Mitigation: any additional site-specific measures needed to avoid, reduce or offset potential impacts that could otherwise result in effects considered significant in the context of the EIA Regulations¹. Essential mitigation, where required, is presented in each environmental topic chapter of the Environmental Statement and collated in Table 13.1 of this chapter.²
- 3) The environmental topic chapters of this Environmental Statement (Chapters 5 to 12) have assessed the proposals taking into account embedded mitigation and good practice, and the outcome of these assessments then informed the need for any additional essential mitigation.
- 4) A list of acronyms and abbreviations is presented in Volume 4 Appendix A.1.

13.2 Approach to Mitigation

- 5) This chapter summarises the proposed environmental mitigation that has been identified as part of the EIA process. The environmental mitigation commitments are set out in the following documents:
 - CCoP (Volume 4 Appendix A.2)
 - Schedule of Environmental Mitigation (Table 13.1 of this chapter)
 - Proposed Environmental Masterplan (Drawing RVBC-P&R-APP-DR-010).

¹ The Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. [Online] Available at: https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2017/571/contents [Accessed: February 2025].

² It should be noted that under some circumstances, it may not be reasonably practicable to eliminate all likely significant effects despite implementing the three categories of mitigation.

- Summary information on each of these documents is provided below in Sections 13.2.1 to 13.2.3. The Environmental Statement documents capture the mitigation as proposed at the time of submission of the planning application for the Alternative Facility. However, it is acknowledged that some proposed measures may continue to evolve and be further refined during the planning determination process and through the development of planning conditions, subject to planning consent.
- 7) United Utilities is committed to a 10% Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) on the Alternative Facility. Since United Utilities does not own the land, the company cannot commit to habitat creation and the associated 30-year management plan on site. All habitats would be reinstated back to pre-commencement condition as a minimum and BNG delivery would be achieved through purchasing offsite units, as required. Further details are provided in Chapter 7 Ecology, and Appendix D Ecological Assessment Report.

13.2.1 Construction Code of Practice

- 8) The CCoP outlines the environmental control measures, standards and other good practice mitigation measures identified to reduce potential adverse effects and environmental risks associated with the Alternative Facility.
- 9) The CCoP is an outline document in that it sets out a series of proposed measures and standards of work, but also provides a framework for the planning authority to develop planning conditions based on the mitigation measures proposed in the Environmental Statement. It is intended that the CCoP would be used by United Utilities in directing its contractor(s) to apply appropriate measures throughout the construction and decommissioning periods to:
 - Provide effective planning, management and control during construction to control adverse effects on people, businesses and the natural and historic environment
 - Assist in engaging with stakeholders including the local community throughout the construction period.
- The contractor would produce and implement a site-specific Construction Environmental Management Plan (CEMP) in full accordance with the CCoP and in consultation with the local authority and relevant stakeholders. The CEMP would demonstrate how the CCoP would be implemented by the contractor throughout the life of the Alternative Facility.

13.2.2 Schedule of Environmental Mitigation

- 11) The Schedule of Mitigation (Table 13.1 of this chapter) collates the essential mitigation measures which have been reported in Chapters 5 to 12 of the Environmental Statement. These mitigation measures form commitments made by United Utilities and/or obligations that would be placed on its contractor(s).
- 12) The Schedule of Environmental Mitigation is presented on an EIA topic basis. It should be noted that no essential mitigation measures have been proposed for the following topics:
 - Water Environment
 - Traffic and Movement
 - Noise and Vibration
 - Cumulative Effects.
- 13) Table 13.1 below presents the Schedule of Environmental Mitigation.

Alternative Temporary Park and Ride and Heavy Goods Vehicle Marshalling Area - Environmental Statement Volume 2 Chapter 13 Environmental Mitigation

Table 13.1: Schedule of Environmental Mitigation

Environmental Aspect/Location	Phase	Essential Mitigation Description
Landscape and Arboriculture		
Within the planning application boundary	Construction, operation and decommissioning	Advanced planting of native hedgerow and individual trees to gap up existing remnant hedgerow located within the Alternative Facility. Advanced planting to be protected and maintained throughout the construction, operation and decommissioning of the site. All fencing to be removed and footings broken out.
Ecology		
Worston Brook, north of the planning application boundary	Construction, operation and decommissioning	Water quality and biological monitoring would be carried out on Worston Brook, in line with any permitting requirements requested by the competent authorities.
Land adjacent to and within the planning application boundary, and at New House (HB1)	Construction	Bat boxes would be installed on mature trees and on the south-western elevation of HB1, subject to landowner agreement.
Within the planning application boundary	Construction	If vegetation clearance is to take place within the bird nesting season, works would be preceded by a nesting bird survey carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist, with appropriate exclusion zones established by an Ecological Clerk of Works (ECoW) around active nests.
HB1 and tree BT2, adjacent to the planning application boundary	Construction, operation and decommissioning	Disturbance to barn owl roosts within HB1 and tree BT2 adjacent to the site, and a bat roost within HB1 and potential roosts within trees adjacent to the site, would be mitigated by adding solid plywood panel hoarding along the northern site boundary and around HB1. This would also provide a physical/noise/visual boundary to prevent access/working close to sensitive bat roosting habitats. Prior to the commencement of each development phase, a licensed surveyor would inspect HB1 to confirm whether barn owls are roosting. If barn owl is confirmed to be roosting during these checks, a dedicated barn owl mitigation strategy would be required.
Either within or in close proximity to the planning application boundary	Construction	Fragmentation of barn owl roosting sites from adjacent hunting grounds would be mitigated by adding in additional barn owl boxes further north of the site, providing alternative roosting opportunities in the local area that would not be subject to disturbance (subject to landowner agreement).
Within the planning application boundary	Construction and decommissioning	If the installation of the surface water drainage pipe between the Site Drainage Attenuation Area and headwall structure is to take place within the nesting bird season, works would be preceded by a nesting bird survey carried out by a suitably qualified ecologist, with appropriate exclusion zones established by the site ECoW around active nests. No works would proceed until the ecologist has confirmed the nest is no longer active.
Within and adjacent to the planning application boundary	Pre-construction	Pre-construction surveys would be carried out to establish current badger activity within and adjacent to the planning application boundary. If required, an additional method statement would be produced detailing further monitoring/licence requirements.

RVBC-P&R-APP-RP-002 / ES-CH-13 3

Alternative Temporary Park and Ride and Heavy Goods Vehicle Marshalling Area - Environmental Statement Volume 2 Chapter 13 Environmental Mitigation

Environmental Aspect/Location	Phase	Essential Mitigation Description
Cultural Heritage		
Alignment of Roman road and geophysical anomalies, within the planning application boundary	Pre-construction	Archaeological trial trenching prior to the construction works and in line with the CIfA Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation ³ . This would target the Roman road between Ribchester and Ilkley (HER MLA15479/MLA15480/MLA26080) and geophysical anomalies identified during the geophysical survey undertaken on the site (Appendix E Geophysical Survey Report). There may be further archaeological investigation required based on the results of the trial trenching.
Roman road and other potential archaeological remains, within the planning application boundary	Construction	Avoidance of any remains of the Roman Road between Ribchester and Ilkley (Historic Environment Record MLA15479/MLA15480/MLA26080 presented on Figure 8.1) and other archaeological remains. If avoidance is not feasible then archaeological mitigation to make a permanent record may need to be undertaken. Sufficient time must be allowed within the construction programme to mitigate any previously unknown archaeological remains identified during the archaeological trial trenching. These or any other mitigation measures would be agreed with the competent authority's archaeological advisor.
HB1, adjacent to the planning application boundary	Pre-construction	A photographic record of HB1 will be undertaken ahead of any construction works in order to make a record of the asset within its existing setting and environment. The photographic record shall be in accordance with Historic England's Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice ⁴ guidance and, at a minimum, a copy will be provided to the Lancashire Historic Environment Record ⁵ .
Soils, Geology and Land Use		
Soil resources, within the planning application boundary	Construction	Completion of an agricultural land classification survey and soil resource survey to support the implementation of a Soil Resource Plan.
Soil resources, within the planning application boundary	Construction and Operation	Implementation of a Materials Management Plan to manage the long-term storage and eventual reuse of the Alternative Facility soils.
Farming enterprise, on land within the planning application boundary	Construction	Farming enterprise is compensated through prior agreement for loss of some 3 ha of agricultural land within the planning application boundary.

RVBC-P&R-APP-RP-002 / ES-CH-13

³ Chartered Institute for Archaeologists (2023). CIfA Universal Guidance for Archaeological Field Evaluation. [Online] Available at: https://www.archaeologists.net/sites/default/files/Universal%20guidance%20for%20archaeological%20field%20evaluation.pdf [Accessed: February 2025].

⁴ Historic England (2016). Understanding Historic Buildings: A Guide to Good Recording Practice. [Online] Available at: https://gat04-live-1517c8a4486c41609369c68f30c8-aa81074.divio-media.org/filer_public/1c/94/1c942b62-d945-4bde-b00a-fc0a273d168a/nr83_understanding_historic_buildings-a_guide_to_good_recording_practice.pdf [Accessed: February 2025].

⁵ Heritage Gateway (2020). Lancashire Historic Environment Record. [Online] Available at: https://www.heritagegateway.org.uk/gateway/chr/herdetail.aspx?crit=&ctid=90&id=4722 [Accessed: February 2025].

Alternative Temporary Park and Ride and Heavy Goods Vehicle Marshalling Area - Environmental Statement Volume 2 Chapter 13 Environmental Mitigation

Environmental Aspect/Location	Phase	Essential Mitigation Description
Public Access		
Footpath FP0348005	Construction, operation and decommissioning	Footpath to be temporarily diverted during construction, operation and decommissioning. Footpath alignment to be reinstated as part of decommissioning.
Footpath FP0301008	Construction and decommissioning	Footpath to be temporarily diverted for up to a week during installation of the drainage outfall. Footpath to be reinstated following completion of drainage outfall works.

RVBC-P&R-APP-RP-002 / ES-CH-13 5

13.2.3 Proposed Environmental Masterplan

14) The Proposed Environmental Masterplan (Drawing RVBC-P&R-APP-DR-010) illustrates locations where site-specific mitigation measures are proposed. Mitigation notes for these topics highlight the design response to reduce or offset identified adverse environmental effects.