

LEICESTERSHIRE & RUTLAND MINERALS LOCAL PLAN – FUTURE SAND & GRAVEL PROPOSALS

SITE : **Lockington**

Resource and Operational Details

- Total Reserve (tonnes).

7 million

- Estimated Annual Output.

360,000

- Geological evidence to indicate that a suitable quality and quantity of material is available.

Yes. The reserve is fully proven by borehole data.

- Timescale for proposed extraction (approximate start date; estimated life of workings).

Circa 2023 and the estimated life of workings based on extraction rates would provide for a further nineteen years.

- Phasing of proposed workings.

Given the ecological sensitivities surrounding the northern allocation of Lockington, Tarmac are seeking the allocation for the whole area to enable a concept restoration strategy to be developed in consultation with the County Council and Natural England. It is unlikely that a planning application would be submitted for this whole area it is more likely that smaller areas will be pursued throughout the life of the quarry. However, to enable Tarmac the security in developing a wider restoration strategy the security offered by the site being allocated is key. If the whole area is not allocated then future planning applications will only be able to pursue a restoration strategy pertinent to that area and the opportunity for an encompassing scheme may be lost.

Environmental Information

- Does the site affect Agricultural Grades 1, 2 or 3a 'best and most versatile' land?

Yes, Grade 2 and 3a. (Source: Magic.gov.uk)

- Has any impact on Ecology been assessed?

The land is in agricultural use with hedgerows running through it. The proposed extension area has been subject to a Phase 1 Habitat Survey, with some smaller areas being assessed as part of the ecological assessment linked to previous workings. A water monitoring scheme was put in place for Lockington Marshes SSSI as per the requirements of the previous planning permission.

An initial meeting has been held with Natural England to discuss the Company's proposals and the steps required to satisfy Natural England that the site could be worked without adversely impacting on the Lockington Marshes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) as well as deriving benefit through restoration enhancement of the site where possible.

Any application will include a full assessment of ecological impact and appropriate standoffs and /or restrictions will be designated or adopted.

- Has any impact on Groundwater/Hydrology been assessed?

A network of water monitoring boreholes exist within the proposed extension area. These demonstrate there is a natural seasonal variation of water in the sand & gravel. A planning application will include full hydrology assessment and appropriate standoffs and/or restrictions will be put in place. The site falls within the flood plain of the River Soar and is categorised as Flood Zone 3 by the Environment Agency. Sand and gravel workings can assist in providing enhanced water storage/water management.

- Will the site affect any international, national, regional or local designated sites?

The extension area incorporates ecological and environmental designations, including Priority Habitat Inventory: Costal and flood plain grazing marsh, deciduous woodland, lowland fens and reedbeds. National Inventory of Woodland and Trees designations are also present. Lockington Marshes SSSI is located on the site and covers a large area of the site north of Ratcliffe Lane; this is within Lockington Marshes Impact Risk Zone. The SSSI is in a mix of 'favourable and 'unfavourable recovering' states. Any application will include a full assessment of ecological impact to understand these designations and appropriate standoffs and /or restrictions will be designated or adopted. Opportunities for protection and enhancement will be provided as part of the restoration proposals where practicable.

- Will the site affect any known archaeological features and/or historical buildings, structures or gardens?

A Scheduled Monument (roman villa and enclosures -ref. 1003567) is adjacent to existing workings and located on the extension area, north of Ratcliffe Road. An adjoining but distinct Scheduled Monument (ref. 1003565) directly east of the roman villa and enclosures has been identified. There is a further Scheduled Monument in the north-west corner of the extension area (ref. 1003564). The eastern boundary of the extension area is within 100m of the scheduled monument 'Roman site on Red Hill' (ref. 1003667). Listed Structures includes both portals of the Red Hill rail tunnel are listed and are within 300m east of the site. Packhorse Bridge Redhill Lock is listed and is located within 130m east of the site. Any application for the proposed extension will assess and mitigate where necessary against impacts.

Transportation

- Means and route of transportation of material to any processing plant and out of the site.

Similar combination of field conveyors, excavators and articulate dumptrucks to the existing plant site as is the current situation. Access to the site will remain as existing, off Warren Lane. Mineral will be transported by HGV on the existing road network and supplying on site readymix concrete and bagging operations.

Restoration

- Proposed use at the cessation of workings.

Predominantly to agriculture together with complementary marginal wetland that has the potential to enhance Lockington Marshes SSSI. Through the restoration there is opportunity to separate the ground and surface water drainage delivering overall enhancement of the site.

- Will the restoration require importation of waste?

Yes

Buffer zones

- Are there any sensitive uses adjoining or adjacent to the proposed site (i.e. housing, schools, health, community uses)? If Yes, what distance are these uses from the proposed site?

There is a clubhouse used by a scout group and other community uses on the south bank of the River Trent, located at the far north of the site. There are boat moorings and marinas along the eastern boundary of the extension area, on the River Soar. There are isolated residential properties located along an unnamed road east of the River Soar, fronting the river and within close proximity to the eastern site boundary.

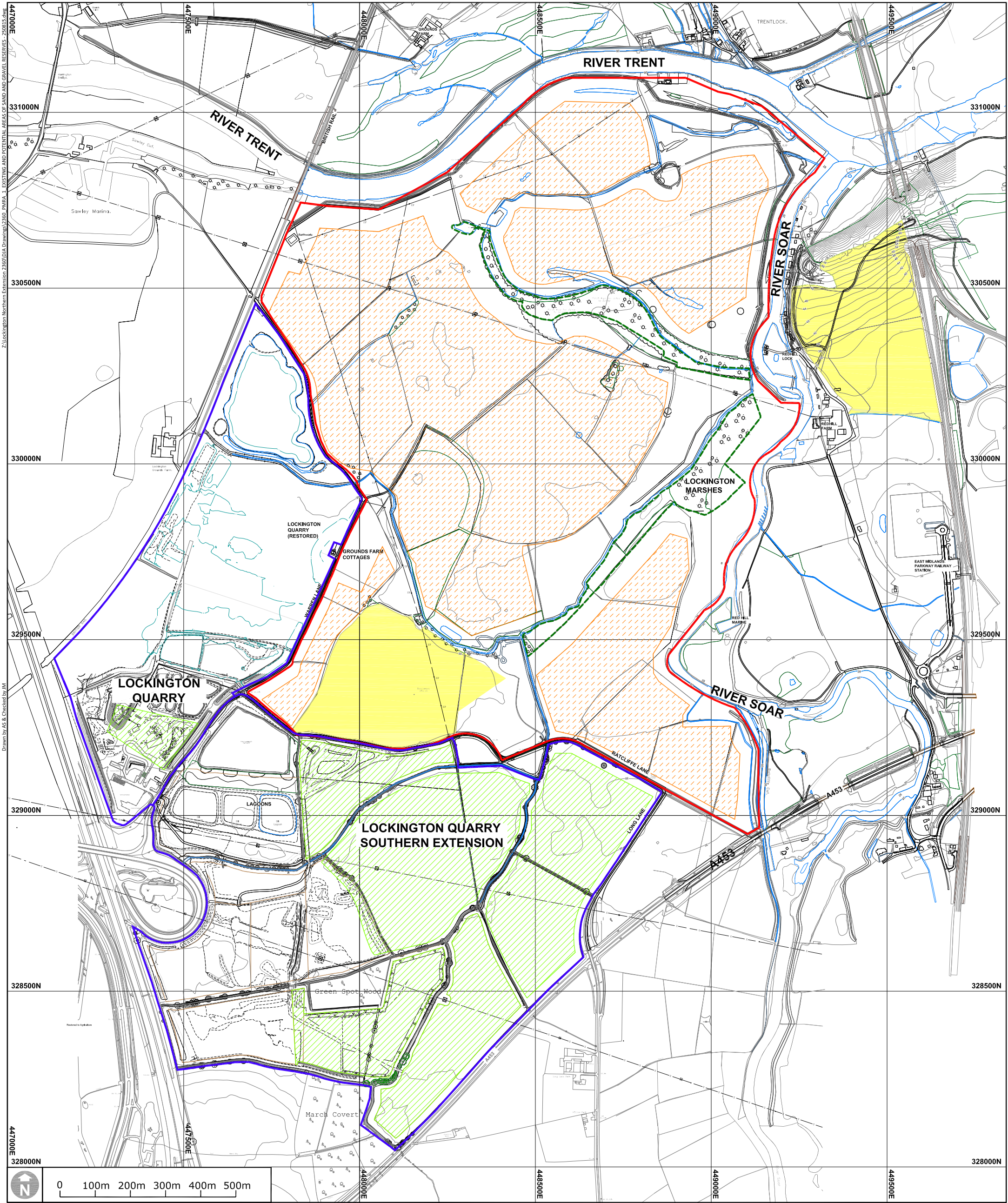
- What other measures will be implemented to act as a buffer zone to reduce impacts.

Progressive extraction and restoration assists in minimising the long term effects of mineral operations. This is reflective of current practices at Lockington. The placement of topsoil and subsoil storage bunds as an acoustic and visual screen will also be utilised. An application would provide appropriate standoffs and/or working restrictions to mitigate against impacts. Due to the lack of sensitive land uses directly affected by the extension area, no specific buffer zone is required.

Other information

- Have you undertaken any surveys or environmental impact assessments of the site? (Please provide copies where possible).
- Are there any reasons why any of the land that you have identified may not be available for sand and gravel extraction during the proposed plan period (i.e. before 2031)? Please explain briefly the reasons why.

None.



KEY

BOUNDARY:
EXISTING QUARRY SITE

BOUNDARY:
POTENTIAL QUARRY
EXTENSION SITE

REMAINING PERMITTED RESERVE
AREAS

SITE OF SPECIAL SCIENTIFIC INTEREST
(SSSI)

POTENTIAL RESERVE AREAS WITHIN
POSSIBLE FUTURE QUARRY
EXTENSION

SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT
(SAM)

Drawing Revision		Location		Drawing Title		Drawing Status			
Rev	Date	Description		LOCKINGTON QUARRY		EXISTING AND POTENTIAL AREAS OF SAND AND GRAVEL RESERVES			
Project				Drawing Title		Drawing Status			
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