

# 1 Introduction

---

## 1.1 Introduction

- 1.1.1 This document is the Environmental Statement (ES), which has been prepared to accompany the planning application for the proposed Recycling, Recovery and Renewable Energy (3Rs) Facility at Langhurstwood Road, Horsham, West Sussex.
- 1.1.2 This ES has been produced by RPS, on behalf of Britaniacrest Recycling Ltd., and sets out the findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) process.
- 1.1.3 The proposed development is located at Site Hb, The Wealdon Brickworks Site, Langhurstwood Road, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 4QD. It is located at the former Wealden Brickworks site, situated within the wider Warnham and Wealden Brickworks site in the Parish of North Horsham, in Horsham District. The site lies approximately 11 miles south west of Gatwick and 10 miles west of Crawley in the county of West Sussex. The town of Horsham is situated approximately 900 metres to the south east of the site, whilst the village of Warnham lies approximately 1.3 kilometres (km) to the south west.
- 1.1.4 For identification purposes, the site is centred at OS Grid Reference 517122, 134331 and its general location is shown on Figure 1.1. Figure 1.2 shows the site boundary.
- 1.1.5 The proposed development would comprise a facility to sort, separate and process up to 230,000 tonnes per annum of residual commercial and industrial waste and/or residual municipal solid waste ("MSW").
- 1.1.6 The processing of waste would generate an estimated 21 megawatts (MW) of electricity per annum. Of this, approximately 18 MW would be available for export to the national grid, with the remainder used by the facility itself. The proposed development would also be capable of supplying heat to suitable external users, subject to a heating network becoming available.

## 1.2 Statutory Framework and Purpose of the Environmental Statement

### Purpose of EIA

- 1.2.1 EIA is a means of identifying and collating information to inform an assessment of the likely significant environmental effects of a project. The findings of the EIA process are reported in an ES in order to inform the relevant planning authority and interested parties as part of the decision-making process.

### The EIA Directive

- 1.2.2 The legislative framework for EIA is set by European Directive 2011/92/EU, as amended by Directive 2014/52/EU (collectively referred to as the EIA Directive). Directive 2014/52/EU entered into force on 15 May 2014.

### The EIA Regulations

- 1.2.3 The requirements of the EIA Directive have been transposed into UK legislation through the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017. These regulations are referred to in this ES as 'the EIA Regulations'.

### 1.3 Need for EIA

- 1.3.1 Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations identifies development types that always require EIA. Schedule 2 identifies development types that require EIA if they are likely to lead to significant effects on the environment by virtue of factors such as their nature, size or location.
- 1.3.2 The proposed 3Rs Facility would fall under Category 10 of Schedule 1 of the EIA Regulations. This identifies "Waste disposal installations for the incineration or chemical treatment (as defined in Annex I to Directive 2008/98/EC under heading D9) of non-hazardous waste with a capacity exceeding 100 tonnes per day" (i.e. more than 36,500 tonnes/year). The proposed development would exceed this threshold and is therefore considered to be EIA development.

### 1.4 Content of the ES

- 1.4.1 This ES has been prepared in accordance with the EIA Regulations. Although there is no statutory provision as to the form of an ES, it must contain the information specified in Regulation 18 and Schedule 4 of the EIA Regulations. For the avoidance of doubt, the specified information within Regulation 18 and Schedule 4 is provided in Appendix 1.1 of this ES.
- 1.4.2 This ES provides all information required under Regulation 18 and Schedule 4. The information supplied within this ES is considered to provide a clear understanding of the main and likely significant effects of the project upon the environment.

### 1.5 Structure of the ES

- 1.5.1 The ES has been structured in order to allow relevant environmental information to be easily accessible. This volume of the ES (Volume 1) includes the main text of the ES. A description of the site and the proposed development is provided in Chapter 2. An outline of the main alternatives considered during the evolution of the project and the reasons for the choices made is found within Chapter 3. Chapter 4 outlines the approach and methodology adopted for the EIA. The remainder of Volume 1 contains topic by topic environmental information as shown in Table 1.1.
- 1.5.2 Figures and appendices to accompany the text of the ES are provided separately in Volumes 2 and 3. Volume 3 includes specialist reports providing relevant background and technical information. A Non-Technical Summary (NTS) of the ES is available as a separate summary document.

**Table 1.1: Contents of this ES**

<b>Structure of ES</b>	
Non-Technical Summary	Summary of the ES using non-technical terminology
<b>Volume 1: Text</b>	
	Glossary
Chapter 1	Introduction
Chapter 2	Site Description and Description of Development
Chapter 3	Need and Alternatives Considered
Chapter 4	Environmental Assessment Methodology
Chapter 5	Landscape and Visual Resources
Chapter 6	Traffic and Transport

Structure of ES	
Chapter 7	Air Quality and Odour
Chapter 8	Noise and Vibration
Chapter 9	Archaeology and Cultural Heritage
Chapter 10	Hydrology and Flood Risk
Chapter 11	Hydrogeology and Ground Conditions
Chapter 12	Ecology and Nature Conservation
Chapter 13	Population and Health
Chapter 14	Summary of Mitigation and Monitoring
<b>Volume 2: Figures</b>	
Including all figures and drawings to accompany the text.	
<b>Volume 3: Appendices</b>	
Including specialist reports forming technical appendices to the main text.	

## 1.6 The Applicant

- 1.6.1 Britaniacrest Recycling Ltd is a family business with over 40 years of experience in waste recovery, recycling and haulage providing professional skip hire and waste management services to local residents and businesses. The company currently operates a Waste Transfer Station (WTS) at the site. The facility has planning permission to handle up to 230,000 tonnes per annum of industrial and commercial waste.

## 1.7 The Assessment Team

- 1.7.1 The EIA has been managed by RPS, taking into account information provided by the Applicant and design team. RPS is a registrant of the Institute of Environmental Management and Assessment (IEMA) Quality Mark. All authors of this ES are senior members of RPS, with sufficient expertise to ensure the completeness and quality of the ES.

## 1.8 Further Information

- 1.8.1 This ES has been submitted as part of an application for the proposed 3Rs development. The application has been submitted to West Sussex Council. The application, ES and Non-Technical Summary can be viewed at:

County Hall  
West Street  
Chichester  
PO19 1EQ.

- 1.8.2 Copies of the ES and planning application documents can be viewed on the local planning authority website:  
<https://www.westsussex.gov.uk/planning/find-a-planning-application/>

- 1.8.3 Further copies of the ES can be obtained from the following address:  
RPS  
20 Western Avenue  
Milton Park, Abingdon  
Oxfordshire  
OX14 4SH
- 1.8.4 A digital copy of the full ES can be obtained on CD for a cost of £10. Printed copies are available (price on request).
- 1.8.5 All comments on the ES (and planning application) should be issued to West Sussex Council (planning department) at the address stated in paragraph 1.8.1.

## 1.9 References

### Legislation

Directive 2011/92/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 13 December 2011 on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Public and Private Projects in the Environment (codification).

Directive 2014/52/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 April 2014 amending Directive 2011/92/EU on the Assessment of the Effects of Certain Public and Private Projects in the Environment.

Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (2017 SI No. 571)

### Publications

Biffa (2017) The Reality Gap (2017) ([https://www.biffa.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/048944\\_BIFFA\\_Reality-Gap\\_2017Single-150817-2.pdf](https://www.biffa.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2015/11/048944_BIFFA_Reality-Gap_2017Single-150817-2.pdf)).

Defra (2017) Digest of Waste and Resource Statistics – 2017 Edition. March 2017.

Suez Environment (2017) Mind the Gap (www. <http://www.sita.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2017/09/MindTheGap20172030-1709-web.pdf>).