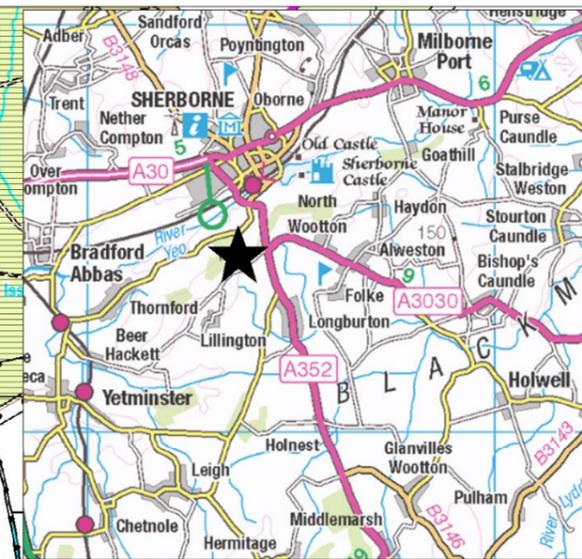
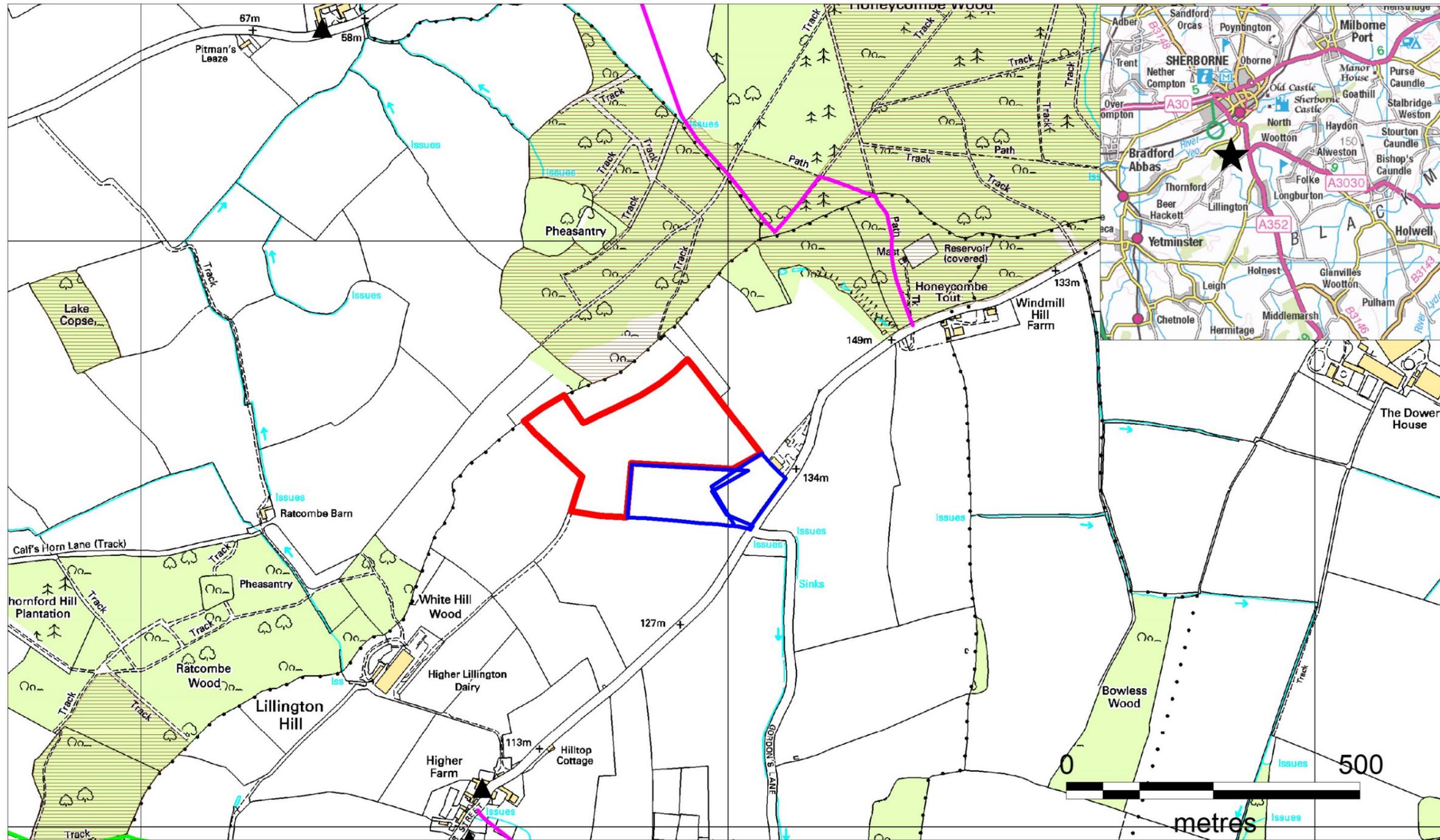


# Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

## Site Assessment of BS05 – Whithill Quarry Extension



### BS05 - Whithill Quarry extension

- Nominated site
- Permitted mineral site
- Public Right of Way - Footpath
- Public Right of Way - Bridleway
- Scheduled monument
- Listed building

- SSSI
- SPA
- SNCI
- SAC
- Ramsar

★ Site location on Inset Map

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS



**Dorset County Council**

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## Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of BS05 – Whithill Quarry Extension

### Site Information

<b>Site Location</b>	Whithill Quarry, Lillington, Sherborne, Dorset Grid Reference: ST 628 136
<b>District/Borough</b>	West Dorset District Council
<b>Parish/Town Council</b>	Lillington CP
<b>Site Nominee/Owner Landownership issues? Any Mineral Operator interest</b>	Sherborne Castle Estates No known issues – site is extension of active quarry.
<b>Agent</b>	Land & Mineral Management Ltd
<b>Mineral Planning History Is the site an extension to existing site? Has it been considered for minerals development in the past? Partly worked?</b>	Extension to existing quarry. Not previously worked.
<b>Legal or time-related constraints</b>	None known.
<b>Access to markets?</b>	As for current quarry
<b>Is there geological evidence of the presence and viability of the mineral?</b>	Adjacent to existing quarry.
<b>Development proposed</b>	Extension to existing Whithill Quarry for continued extraction of Forest Marble limestone. Estimated reserve in proposed extension is approximately 140,000 tonnes. Estimated annual output is c. 1,000 tonnes of building stone. The site also produces agricultural aggregate. Following working, it is proposed that the site will be restored back to agriculture.
<b>Description of Site</b>	The site is approximately 5 ha in area and is a north-easterly extension of the existing quarry. The site is currently used for agriculture. Land slopes upwards towards the north-west.
<b>Summary of Site Designations/Constraints</b>	The north-western boundary of the proposed extension is adjacent to the Honeycombe Wood Site of Nature Conservation Interest.
<b>Relevant Local Planning Policy</b>	<b>West Dorset Weymouth &amp; Portland Local Plan 2011 – 2031. Adopted October 2015</b> Site not covered by any specific policies.
<b>Residential properties and other land uses in the vicinity of the site</b>	Properties within 400m (Hilltop Cottage to south, Windmill Farm, north/east) to south; other within 500+ m. Lillington 500+ m to the south.
<b>Traffic Generation &amp; Access Considerations</b>	Site will be accessed by existing access, off D20518, to/from the A352. Extension will not be worked until existing site is completed, no intensification is proposed. Vehicle movements will be as for current permission – not more than 1,000 tonnes of stone to be removed from the site per year, average of 3 tractor-trailers per day over a calendar year. This may at times increase

## Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of BS05 – Whithill Quarry Extension

### **Appraisal of Site – Using Site Assessment Criteria as set out in The Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy 2014**

In Appendix 1 (p. 242) of the Minerals Strategy a methodology for assessing sites nominated or identified for consideration as future quarry sites is set out. Each site is assessed against 25 criteria, C1 to C25, reflecting the potential environmental, economic and social impacts/benefits of its development. Assessment is qualitative, and each criterion is given a score as a colour, representing its expected impact, with or without mitigation. These criteria and their responses are set out below, along with further comments from relevant consultees.

#### **Topic: Biodiversity.**

**SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance biodiversity.**

<b>Criterion C1 - Impact on European/international designations.</b>	<b>D</b>
No comment. Phil Sterling 6Nov13	
<b>Criterion C2 - Impact on areas used by Annex 1 bird species.</b>	<b>D</b>
No comment. Phil Sterling 6Nov13	
<b>Criterion C3 - Impact on national designations.</b>	<b>D</b>
No comment. Phil Sterling 6Nov13	
<b>Criterion C4 - Impact on protected species.</b>	<b>D</b>
No comment. Phil Sterling 6Nov13	
<b>Criterion C5 - Impact on local recognitions/designations, including ancient woodland and veteran trees.</b>	<b>D</b>
No comment. Phil Sterling 6Nov13	
<b>Possible Mitigation:</b> An Environmental Impact Assessment will be carried out as part of any planning application, including detailed assessment of potential biodiversity impacts and appropriate responses and mitigation. Appropriate mitigation of any impacts will be required as part of any planning permission granted. No further action considered necessary at this stage.	

#### **Topic: Geodiversity**

**SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance geodiversity.**

<b>Criterion C6 - Impact on geodiversity.</b>	<b>D</b>
The Forest Marble Formation was traditionally quarried extensively in Dorset. There are several old workings that have been designated as Local Geological Sites but new and fresh exposures retain a level of interest for study and potential retention of better exposures. Recommend a watching brief for geologists and that this is flagged up with the applicants. Sam Scriven 25.10.2013	
<b>Possible Mitigation:</b> None specifically required. Recommendation of watching brief for geologists noted.	

#### **Topic: Landscape**

**SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance the landscape, including townscape, seascape and the coast.**

<b>Criterion C7 – Impact on designated landscapes.</b>	<b>D</b>
No significant impact/negligible Tony Harris 23 October 2013	

## Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of BS05 – Whithill Quarry Extension

<b>Criterion C8 – What is landscape capacity to accommodate proposed development.</b>	<b>C</b>
<p>May be open to expansive views in this rural landscape so mitigation measures will be critical to its integration. Small scale campaigns, progressive restoration and extraction of small amounts will be recommended.</p> <p>Tony Harris 23 October 2013</p>	
<b>Criterion C9 – Impact on historic landscapes.</b>	<b>C</b>
<p>The site is on the north-eastern end of Lillington Hill, which is also known at Knighton Hill at the opposite end by Knighton village, on the western side of the Blackmore Vale. Seemingly much of the Vale remained wooded until the Middle Ages, and so the field system on and around the site may well be Medieval in origin. I am not aware of anything particularly significant about these fields, hence category C seems appropriate.</p> <p>Steve Wallis 30/10/2013</p>	
<p><b>Possible Mitigation:</b></p> <p>An Environmental Impact Assessment will be carried out as part of any planning application, including detailed assessment on the landscape resulting from extracting mineral from this site. No further action considered necessary at this stage.</p>	

### Topic: Cultural Heritage

**SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance the historic environment (including conservation areas, historic parks and gardens and other locally distinctive features and their settings).**

<b>Criterion C10 – Impact on historic buildings.</b>	<b>D</b>
<p>Listed buildings too far away to be affected.</p> <p>Assessment grade D: no significant impact.</p> <p>John Lowe 22/10/2013</p>	
<b>Criterion C11 – Impact on archaeology.</b>	<b>A</b> → <b>D</b>
<p>Human burials were found in the adjacent existing quarry a few years ago, and the quarry owner employed Bournemouth Archaeology to record them. This exercise will indicate the likely archaeological impact of quarrying of this site – which potentially could be anything between category A and category D – and what the appropriate mitigation should be.</p> <p>Steve Wallis 30/10/2013</p>	
<p><b>Possible Mitigation:</b></p> <p>It is noted that there have been archaeological finds at this site, including human burials. Full assessment, including Environmental Impact Assessment, will be carried out as part of any planning application. This will include assessment of heritage impacts and identification of appropriate mitigation.</p> <p>It is considered that the Development Management policies of the Minerals Strategy, especially Policy DM 7, together with the policy stance of the National Planning Policy Framework, provide adequate protection to any archaeology that may be found during development.</p> <p>No further action considered necessary at this stage.</p>	

### Topic: Water

**SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance the quality of ground, surface and sea waters and manage the consumption of water in a sustainable way.**

<b>Criterion C12 -Impact on hydrogeology or groundwater.</b>	<b>B</b>
<p>Criteria classification 'Significant Adverse Impact' as a minimum, rising to 'Very Significant Adverse Impact' if the impacts on the stream rising on the southern boundary of the site are significantly affected, as expected, and these comprise vulnerable or significant local water interests. Site overlies Secondary Aquifer.</p> <p>Environment Agency October 2013</p>	
<b>Criterion C13 – Impact on surface waters.</b>	<b>A</b>
<p>Criteria classification 'Very Significant Adverse Impact' because there is a watercourse within 50m from the site. This site lies uphill and immediately across the road from springs feeding tributaries of the River Wriggle. It should be confirmed whether the proposed allocation would affect the headwaters in terms of quality or quantity.</p> <p>Trevor Badley 31 October 2013</p>	
<b>Criterion C14 - Impact on flooding or coastal stability.</b>	<b>D</b>

## Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of BS05 – Whithill Quarry Extension

Site is entirely within FRZ 1, no impact on FRZs. No Environment Agency objection from a flood risk perspective, subject to satisfactory FRA. Environment Agency suggest liaising with Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) part of DCC with regard to agreeing a suitable surface water management arrangement for the site.

Trevor Badley 31 October 2013 Environment Agency October 2013

**Possible Mitigation:**

Full hydrological assessment will be required as part of any planning application, with measures to protect groundwater and surface water flows to be identified and implemented.

No further action considered necessary at this stage.

### Topic: Soil

**SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance soil quality**

<b>Criterion C15 - Impact on existing soils or land type (including BMV land).</b>	<b>C</b>
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Site is moderate to good quality agricultural land. Soils will be protected during working and restoration could bring BMV land back into agricultural production.

Trevor Badley 31 October 2013

**Possible Mitigation:**

Soils will be protected during working, according to guidance and best practice.

### Topic: Air Quality

**SA Objective: To protect and improve air quality and reduce the impacts of noise**

<b>Criterion C16 – Impact on AQMAs.</b>	<b>D</b>
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No direct impact on any AQMAs.

Trevor Badley 31 October 2013

**Possible Mitigation:**

Noise mitigation will be addressed at the planning application stage, with appropriate mitigation to be included in the development of the site.

### Topic: Material Assets (Economic development)

**SA Objectives: To conserve and safeguard mineral resources.**

**To promote the use of alternative materials**

**To encourage sustainable economic growth**

**To provide an adequate supply of minerals to meet society's needs.**

<b>Criterion C17 - Impact on economic development.</b>	<b>D</b>
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The site is expected to have a positive impact on the provision of mineral and can therefore be expected to benefit the local economy, in addition to creating direct employment during the working of the site.

Mineral working has the potential to negatively affect businesses in the locality, e.g. through contributing to traffic congestion, noise, visual and perception related issues. Impacts will be identified as part of any planning application and mitigation during working will be applied where necessary – e.g. holding back quarry traffic during peak travel times, further screening.

Restoration to agriculture will maintain an on-going positive benefit.

Dorset County Council 24 October 2013

**Possible Mitigation:**

An Environmental Impact Assessment will be carried out as part of any planning application, identifying potential impacts and appropriate responses and mitigation. Appropriate mitigation will be required as part of any planning permission granted. No further action considered necessary at this stage.

## Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of BS05 – Whithill Quarry Extension

### Topic: Social Considerations - Human Health and Amenity, Airport Safety and Cumulative Impacts

**SA Objectives: To sustain the health and quality of life of the population**

<b>Criterion C18 - Impact on Sensitive Human Receptors.</b>	D
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Residential properties within 500m. School approximately 1km away. Site is screened by hedges and by the topography, no inter-visibility. Traffic levels expected to be as at present.  
Trevor Badley 31 October 2013

<b>Criterion C19 - Impact on existing settlements.</b>	D
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Lillington approximately 500m to south, Longburton approximately 1.5 km south east, Thornford approximately 2km to south west. No visible impacts. Longburton likely to get traffic impacts, if mineral is taken to A352 for distribution. Traffic levels expected to be as at present.  
Trevor Badley 31 October 2013

**Possible Mitigation:**  
An Environmental Impact Assessment, including a Transport Assessment, will be carried out as part of any planning application, identifying potential impacts and appropriate responses and mitigation.  
Appropriate mitigation (e.g. visual and noise attenuation bunds and reducing noise at source where possible and appropriate) will be identified and required as part of any development of the site. No further action considered necessary at this stage.

<b>Criterion C20 - Impact on airport safety</b>	E
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Site is approximately 50km distant from Bournemouth airport, no wet working/restoration proposed.  
Trevor Badley 31 October 2013

<b>Criterion C21 - Effects on cumulative impacts.</b>	D
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Proposed site is an extension to existing site. There is another existing and proposed site, just over 5km away. Both sites would have relatively low traffic levels, impacts expected to be low.  
The proposal is within 5Km of land allocated for major residential (279dwellings) and associated development at Barton Farm, Sherborne (Policy SHER1) and for employment development (2.2Ha) at Sherborne Hotel, Sherborne (Policy SHER3) in the Pre -Submission draft West Dorset, Weymouth and Portland Local Plan (June 2012) as amended by Proposed Modifications (June 2013). Traffic arising from the new development will add to general traffic levels on the A30 and through the town. (NB The Barton Farm site does now have planning permission but is retained as an allocation in the Plan.)  
Trevor Badley 31 October 2013 Gill Smith 11.11.2013

**Possible Mitigation:**  
The proposal will include assessment of and mitigation for visual and noise impacts, following guidance and best practice, to limit cumulative effects. This may include advance tree planting, depending on findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment.  
To minimise traffic impacts, following a Transport Assessment at the planning application stage, measures such as holding back lorry traffic during peak traffic times could be used if necessary.

### Topic: Social Considerations – Carbon Emissions

**SA Objectives: To adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change**

<b>Criterion C22 - Impact on carbon emissions</b>	B
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Material will be transported by road.  
Trevor Badley 31 October 2013

**Possible Mitigation:**  
Guidance and best practice will be followed, to minimise carbon emissions as far as is practicable.

# Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of BS05 – Whithill Quarry Extension

## Topic: Social Considerations

SA Objectives: To enable safe access to countryside and open spaces

<b>Criterion C23 – Impact on recreational land</b>	<b>D</b>
Site is agricultural land, no formal or informal recreational use. Trevor Badley 31 October 2013	
<b>Criterion C24 - Impact on public rights of way</b>	<b>D</b>
No rights of way over or adjacent to the site. Trevor Badley 31 October 2013	
<b>Possible Mitigation:</b> No impacts on access identified – further assessment will be undertaken at planning application stage with appropriate mitigation identified if necessary/appropriate. No further action required.	

<b>Criterion C25 - Are the access proposals acceptable</b>	<b>D</b>
Entry will be via the existing adequate access onto the local rural network. Access to the strategic network at the A352 is approximately 1.5km north of the site access. Trip generation will be low and no greater than that currently permitted at the site. Due to the low traffic generation, the close proximity of the strategic network, and the lack of impact on local settlements between the site and the strategic network, this site has been given a D rating. Wayne Sayers 29 October 2013 ----- Provided the levels of extraction and therefore traffic generation are as detailed in the submissions and the existing access used there are no highway objections. Dorset County Council November 2016	

## Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of BS05 – Whithill Quarry Extension

### Initial Site Assessment including Input from Specialist Consultees

Traffic/Access	
<b>Highways England</b>	<p><b>22 December 2016</b></p> <p>"We note that the three proposed (building stone) sites are all extensions of small scale sites. The extensions are all proposed to be the extraction of additional material as follow-on working from the existing extraction with no consequent increase in output. As such we agree that they are unlikely to impact on the SRN."</p>

Public Rights of Way	
<b>DCC Rights of Way</b>	Comments awaited.

Protection of Water Resources (Hydrology/groundwater/ surface water management and flooding)	
<b>Environment Agency</b>	<p><b>July/August 2015:</b></p> <p>No objection to proposals and no further comments over and above those previously made in earlier consultations, which are provided in Appendix 1 below - Apart from stating that Whithill Quarry lies in groundwater Source Protection Zone 2 (SPZ 2), which would need to be taken into account in the proposals for this site.</p> <p><b>December 2013</b></p> <p>We agree with the criteria classification C12, C13 and C14 for this site, which is given in the supporting documents.</p> <p>Our previous comments provided on the 4 Nov 2013 are still relevant. These are summarised in the columns to the left in this table. However, we wish to make the following additional comments:</p> <p><b>Biodiversity</b></p> <p>No comments other than to highlight the Local Wildlife Site that is adjacent to the quarry extension area. This will need consideration.</p> <p><b>Flood Risk</b></p> <p>There are no further FCRM comments to make over and above those in your word template. The sites (Frogden and Whithill) both fall in FZ1, so are acceptable to us subject to a surface water management condition. However, if the SABs are enabled in April 2014, we may have no further FCRM interests at either site in future.</p> <p><b>October 2013</b></p> <p><b>New site</b></p> <p>No objection, at this stage but further assessments required.</p> <p>C12: Criteria classification 'B' as a minimum, rising to Class 'A' if the impacts on the stream issues rising on the southern boundary of the site are significantly affected, as expected, and these comprise vulnerable or significant local water interests.</p> <p>C13: Criteria classification 'A' because there is a watercourse within 50m from the site. This site lies uphill and immediately across the road from springs feeding tributaries of the River Wriggle. It should be confirmed whether the proposed allocation would affect the headwaters in terms of quality or quantity.</p> <p>C14: Criteria classification 'D'.</p> <p>No objection from a flood risk perspective, subject to satisfactory FRA. We suggest you liaise with Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) part of DCC with regard to agreeing a suitable surface water management arrangement for the site. No Flood Defence Consents required from EA.</p> <p><b>Studies required/ considerations:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flood Risk Assessment</li> <li>• Ecological study required</li> <li>• Hydrogeological assessment</li> <li>• Protect and enhance water features near site.</li> <li>• Restoration proposals should incorporate wetland features</li> <li>• Water Framework Directive Assessment may be required.</li> </ul>
<b>Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) - DCC</b>	BS05 Whithill Quarry extension Site Assessment - No grounds for objection, subject to detail:

## Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of BS05 – Whithill Quarry Extension

<b>Protection of Water Resources (Hydrology/groundwater/ surface water management and flooding)</b>	
	<p>The site falls within Flood Zone 1 (low risk – fluvial flooding) according to the Environment Agency’s relevant flood modelling. Equally the site is not shown to be at theoretical risk of surface water flooding, by relevant mapping.</p> <p>However, as an elevated site, situated above and north of Lillington, the site generates runoff which enters the watercourse flowing south along Gordon’s Lane. To this end the proposed use has the potential to alter runoff rates. Any proposal should be supported by specific strategy of surface water management to ensure that proposed activity does not create or exacerbate off site worsening. As such the proposed activity should comply with the recommendations of the NPPF.</p> <p>Prior Land Drainage Consent may be required from DCC as relevant LLFA, for any works offering an obstruction to flow within a channel or ditch with the status of Ordinary Watercourse.</p>

<b>Nature Conservation – Biodiversity Impacts</b>	
<b>Natural England comments</b>	None.
<b>Dorset Wildlife Trust</b>	<p><b><u>September 2015</u></b></p> <p>Dorset Wildlife Trust is particularly concerned about the proposed extension to BS05 Whithill Quarry, which received permission for an extension in 2014. The additional area proposed would bring the quarry nearer still to Honeycomb Wood which is an Ancient Woodland and a Site of Nature conservation Interest. (See more detailed comments under ‘Proposed Site Nominations’)</p> <p>Dorset Wildlife Trust is concerned about the potential impact this quarry extension poses for the adjacent Honeycomb Wood Ancient Woodland and Site of Nature Conservation Interest (ST61/019). The potential impacts of the quarry extension on the nature conservation interest of Honeycomb Wood need to be fully explored to ensure that there is no net loss to the biodiversity of Honeycomb Wood and surrounding area. In particular, it needs to be determined if there are important lichen species on any ancient trees in the area closest to the proposed extension, which would be adversely affected by dust from the quarry.</p>

<b>Historic Environment</b>	
<b>Historic England Comments</b>	<p><b><u>February 2014:</u></b></p> <p>I note that an archaeological impact assessment is required before the effect of the proposal can be fully established and any principal determined.</p>