

Addressing the issue of referencing cumulative impacts in the Sustainability Appraisal (SA).

During the examination hearings for the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Mineral Sites Plan representations were presented that raised a concern about the absence of specific reference in the SA to cumulative impacts in relation to heritage assets. This statement sets out a proposed approach that the MPA intends to take for referencing how cumulative impacts have been considered. This will take the form of an addendum to the SA document.

It is proposed that this addendum will address the issue of cumulative impacts and how these have been assessed and reported throughout the SA report, including specific reference to heritage assets.

What is required in terms of cumulative impact assessment?

Annex 1 of the SEA Directive sets out the requirement for cumulative and other impacts:

The information to be provided under Article 5(1), subject to Article 5(2) and (3), (includes) the following:

(f) the likely significant effects¹ on the environment, including on issues such as biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors;

¹ These effects should include secondary, cumulative, synergistic, short, medium and long-term permanent and temporary, positive and negative effects.

Where have cumulative impacts been considered?

Cumulative impacts have been considered as part of the preparation of the MSP, the Sustainability Appraisal and other documents. Cumulative impacts are recorded in

- The HRA
- The body of the Sustainability Appraisal – e.g. paras 8.9 to 8.49 – focussing particularly on the clusters of sites
- Each of the site assessments of Appendices A, B and C includes a section considering cumulative impacts
- Criterion C21 (site assessment criteria, Appendix One of the Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy) of each Site Assessment

The Schedule of Modifications include modifications specifically addressing cumulative impacts for the Moreton sites – these focus on amenity but are also relevant to heritage related cumulative impacts. These have not yet been explicitly documented in the Sustainability Appraisal.

The most recent Heritage Assessments produced by Context One do include approaches intended to minimise impacts, including heritage impacts and cumulative impacts. These also need to be recorded in the Sustainability Appraisal.

Next steps:

All sites in the plan to be screened – to identify which sites raise cumulative impact issues. This will comprise:

1. Reviewing what cumulative impact assessment has already been done
2. Considering subsequent evidence (including heritage assessment for individual sites) that has been prepared in support of the plan
3. Reviewing the results of the assessment
4. Recording the screening in the SA

The MPA propose to carry out this screening exercise by 9th October 2018. Should the assessment identify any further avoidance, mitigation or compensatory measures that are required to address materially significant cumulative impacts, these will be recorded in the SA.

Should this result in recommendations for main modifications to the plan that the MPA deems necessary, these will be proposed and consulted on (alongside other modifications and the SA Addendum) subject to the agreement of the Inspector.

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