



**Llantrisant Recycling Centre,  
Pontyclun**

Environmental Statement  
Non Technical Summary

**DRAFT FOR CONSULTATION**

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## 1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 Mango Planning & Development Limited (“Mango”) is instructed by Llantrisant Recycling Centre Limited to prepare an Environmental Statement in support of a full planning application at Llantrisant Recycling centre for a:

*“Partially retrospective application for the retention of extension and changes to recycling centre; including changes to layout and surfacing, the provision of a weigh bridge, additional buildings, and attenuation pond and drainage amendments, change to the type and quality of materials being processed to include green waste, timber and glass, drying of material, operation of Biomass Boilers, DMR processing, Glass processing, composting & Green Waste, Wood Shredding, nappies Bulking, and operation of the Recycling Shop, plus a change to approved working hours.”*

- 1.2 An Environmental Statement (ES) has been prepared to accompany the application. It provides information about the likely effects of the proposal as required by the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 and Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations (Wales) 2017 (as amended).
- 1.3 Regulation 17 (3) (e) states that an ES is required to be accompanied by a non-technical summary of all the information included within the ES.
- 1.4 Copies of these documents are available to purchase in PDF format for £50 from the authors, contact details of whom can be found on the covering paper to this ES.

## 2.0 Site Context

- 2.1 The application site extends to an area of land covering approximately 2.75 hectares and operates as a community recycling facility for use by members of the public, as well as an open yard used for the storage, sorting and processing of recycling waste.
- 2.2 The site comprises the use of two distinct areas of land that are grade separated. The

first area sits at the western end of the site and comprises an open yard with a ramp structure that provides an elevated platform for the filling of recycling skips by visiting members of the public. Public parking is also provided, and small kiosk provides for the sale of recycled goods.

- 2.3 The proposal involves the reception, sorting and repackaging of up to 350,000 tonnes of recyclable material a year. This comprises aggregates, kerbside recycling materials, timber and green waste, road sweepings, glass fines and nappies. No material is disposed of at the site. As a recycling operation, there is very little waste from the site. Unrecyclable materials comprise less than 10% of materials received and sorted on site. The environmental permit for the site issued by NRW allows 350,000 tonnes of material to pass through the site.

### **3.0 The application proposal**

- 3.1 The Llantrisant Recycling Centre was granted planning permission by the LPA on 24th March 2014 under reference 12/0037/10 (“the 2014 planning permission”).
- 3.2 Since that approval the level of recycling within the LPA area has increased and consequently the facility has been extended and reconfigured. A planning application (Reference 18/1347/10) has been submitted to retrospectively secure planning consent for the changes that have occurred at the site. However, following further discussions with officers it has been agreed that a new application is to be made that takes account fully of matters raised by officers and consultees in response to application 18/1347/10 (“the 2018 planning application”).
- 3.3 The majority of the subject site benefits from existing and historic planning permission for the uses that take place. As outlined above, the proposed application is necessitated however by the extension of the recycling yard and the reconfiguration of the site, including regrading works to land adjoining Nant Muchudd. These works have been undertaken without the necessary planning consent and this application seeks retrospective approval for these.

## 4.0 Planning Policy Context

- 4.1 The proposal has been assessed against the relevant planning policies of Planning Policy Wales and The Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council Local Plan.

## 5.0 Technical Assessments

### Ecology and Biodiversity

- 5.1 The ES Chapter was produced by Soltys Brewster and considers the development proposals in terms of impacts on ecology and biodiversity.
- 5.2 This chapter concerns the potential ecological effects of the proposed development. It includes a summary of the current conditions found within the surveyed area, a valuation of the ecological features and an indication of impacts/mitigation associated with the construction and operation of the proposed development.
- 5.3 Soltys Brewster considered the development effect in terms of biodiversity during both the construction and operational phases and with regard to committed developments nearby to the application site. A standalone Phase 1 survey and ecological surveys have been produced in support of the planning application and are submitted as appendices.

### Water Quality

- 5.4 The impacts on water quality have been assessed by CD Gray engineers, and the drainage strategy and design has been configured to minimise these impacts.
- 5.5 Significant improvements are proposed to the performance of the existing surface water drainage systems and the current scenario, including:

- Betterment in terms of reduced flood risk as a result of the introduction of hydraulic flow controls to reduce peak flow rates conveyed off-site
- Introduction of attenuation to cater for extreme rainfall events
- Reduced pollution risk / human error given processes and ordinary operation will not rely on manual intervention / input
- Removal of hillside runoff from development drainage system to provide an independent conveyance route
- Improved water quality measures via introduction of reed bed system which is also considered more sustainable than current arrangement where leachate is collected and disposed off site by licensed carrier.
- Improved biodiversity and amenity value through enhanced landscaping proposals.
- The drainage strategy demonstrates that the site can be effectively drained and surface water run-off appropriately managed but proposals should be considered indicative of design intent only and remain subject to detailed design, ongoing consultation with approving bodies and formal approval process.

5.6 Overall, the construction and operational water quality effects of the proposed development are judged to be 'not significant'.

## 6.0 Conclusions

6.1 This statement has been prepared in accordance with the EIA Regulations and Screening Opinion provided by Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council, with specific consideration of Water Quality and Biodiversity.

6.2 The technical chapters have considered the likely effects of the proposed development

on the site, surroundings and wider community. Where impacts are likely to arise, either on a solus or cumulative basis, it has identified measures by which they will be mitigated.