

and landscape and visual chapters of the PEIR and therefore the limitations of those assessments also apply to the information as used in this chapter. As most of these assessments are incomplete, the conclusions drawn in the health assessment cannot be relied upon.

Noise and Vibration

- 3.18 Again, the noise assessment is based on design information available at the time of writing the PEIR. It is not clear, at what point in the design evolution of the scheme, the assessment was completed and therefore precisely what has been assessed.
- 3.19 It is somewhat surprising that baseline noise surveys have not even been completed to inform the PEIR. Similarly, it is noted that baseline traffic flow along the surrounding road network was also unavailable at the time of writing the report.
- 3.20 In addition to the lack of baseline data, no information was available to inform the assessment on the proposed plant installations and internal noisy activities or associated sound level data and no topography data was available for land outside the site boundary towards the identified sensitive receptors.
- 3.21 Given the stated limitations of the noise and vibration assessment, what appears to have been provided is a very generic assessment of an incinerator rather than an assessment of the proposals on the Harewood site. The conclusions of the assessment cannot therefore be relied upon and suggest that the applicant was premature in undertaking the Stage 2 consultation.

Biodiversity

- 3.22 Given that traffic and air quality surveys are yet to be completed, the PEIR acknowledges that it is not possible to undertake a full assessment of the likely air quality changes during construction and operation of the proposed development.
- 3.23 A number of important areas of survey have not been completed including analysis of bat activity survey data (the site could provide forage value to this group of bats in particular the Barbastelle which has internationally important populations in the Test Valley) and the dormouse survey, the results of which are incomplete.
- 3.24 The breeding bird survey under play its value, with good populations of Red and Amber listed farmyard birds being dismissed as 'common and widespread'. The PEIR is silent on the presence of Stone Curlew in the vicinity of the site which is a significant omission given that it is a rare breeding bird in the mid-Hampshire chalk and highly sensitive to disturbance.
- 3.25 Construction impacts are then assessed as temporary (5-10 years) and therefore not significant. This is questionable and based on inadequate information.
- 3.26 A major omission is an assessment of the value of the site for wintering birds. Further survey is required to assess the value of the site for them.
- 3.27 There is no assessment of air quality impacts on protected habitats and sites, which is a very significant omission. The PEIR acknowledges that the proposal could impact on sites