

Non-Technical Summary

Planning application to vary condition 6 (timescales) of
planning permission 2006/0411 to allow an extension
of time for landfilling and restoration

at

Roxby Landfill Site, Winterton Road, Roxby

on behalf of



April 2026

by

H e a t o n s
Planning Environment Design

Introduction

This planning application is accompanied by an Environmental Statement (ES) Addendum which has considered the potential for significant or unacceptable effects on the environment and local amenity resulting from the proposed development. This document comprises a non-technical summary (NTS) of the ES Addendum.

The ES Addendum provides an update to the 2002 ES, which was produced to support an application for a revision to the restoration contours and approved restoration scheme.

Site Location and Description

Roxby Landfill Site is located approximately 6km north of Scunthorpe, as shown on Drawing Number R01 'Site Location Plan'.

The nearest villages to the site are Roxby located approximately 600m to the east, Winterton located approximately 600m to the north east and Thealby located approximately 1.25km to the west of the northern site boundary. The site is generally remote from residential properties, the nearest of which being Bagmoor Farm located 250m to the south west, Fourwinds located 300m to the east of the site and Old Cliff Farm located 500m to the north. There is a poultry farm at Sheffield Farm, located approximately 350m to the west of the site.

The site is bounded to the north, east, south and west by agricultural land. To the immediate north and east, the site is bordered by farmland and to the south the site is bordered by the site access road. The western site boundary is formed by a single track branch railway freight line, which leaves the main Doncaster – Scunthorpe – Grimsby railway line at Scunthorpe Yard, approximately 1.5km east of Scunthorpe Station.

The landfill site is currently operational and is located within a former ironstone gullet, approximately 1500m in length, 500m in width and 50m in depth.

The southern and western parts of the site have been filled up to final levels and an interim restoration has been completed on these areas. The north eastern part of the site is currently being infilled.

The site offices and associated car parking areas are located to the south west of the landfill. Access onto the landfill via a weighbridge lies on the southern site boundary, to the east of the site offices. The rail sidings form the western site boundary and are separated from the landfill by a fence.

Summary of Proposed Development

This planning application seeks an extension of time to allow the completion of landfilling and restoration work at Roxby Landfill Site. Planning permission was originally granted for landfilling at the site in 1992 and a planning application was subsequently submitted in 2002 for revisions to the approved restoration contours.

The existing permission for the site, which was granted in 2006, requires that the landfilling operations cease and the site is fully restored within 20 years after the development at the site started. Development at the site started on 10th May 2006 and therefore, as worded, the landfilling operations are currently required to have been completed by 10th May 2026.

Whilst the site has been progressively infilled, the landfilling and restoration operations have not yet been completed and additional time is therefore required in order to achieve the approved restoration contours and for the site to be fully restored. In September 2025, the Applicant applied for planning permission to extend the landfilling operations by an additional 11 years with a further 5 years to complete restoration (i.e. 16 years in total). The application was refused in March 2026. Following concerns from local residents relating to the proposed timeframe for landfilling, a revised application has been prepared which proposes to restore parts of the site with soils instead of waste. This would result in a shorter period of time for infilling the site.

The Applicant is therefore seeking permission to allow an additional period of 8 years to complete the landfilling operations (i.e. until 10th May 2034) with a further 7 years to complete the restoration of the site in accordance with the approved scheme (i.e. until 10th May 2041). It should be noted that in estimating the remaining time needed to complete landfilling at Roxby, and restoring the site, Biffa have tried to give a worst-case scenario to avoid the need to seek a further extension of time. It is possible, as other sites shut, that Roxby may be restored more quickly than the timescales stated in this application.

In addition to an extension of time, permission is being sought (partially retrospectively) for changes to the approved landfill phasing, to take account of changes which have been necessary due to operational reasons.

No other changes are proposed as part of this planning application, including changes to vehicle numbers, operating hours, drainage arrangements or methods of working.

Site Access

Roxby Landfill Site is accessed from the A1077 Winterton Road to the east of the landfill via a surfaced access road approximately 850m in length.

Pollution Control

Protection of the environment is given the highest priority during the operation of the landfill site.

Surface Water

During the operation of the landfill site, temporary ditches are provided as necessary to ensure there is no run-off from operational areas into surface water ditches and streams close to the site.

When the landfill operations are completed, a series of surface water features will control surface water run-off and protect the quality of the Winterton Beck to the west of the site.

Groundwater

Groundwater protection measures are in place by means of an engineered landfill liner and a Leachate Management Plan in accordance with site's Environmental Permit. Leachate is carefully managed and is not allowed to exceed 1 metre above the base of each landfill cell. Leachate abstraction wells are constructed within each phase of the landfill in order to allow leachate to be removed and monitored. In the event that elevated leachate levels are recorded, the procedures set out in the Leachate Management Plan are carefully followed to minimise the risk to groundwater and the environment.

Landfill Gas

Landfill gas emissions from the site are controlled in accordance with the site's Environmental Permit and Gas Management Plan. Gas control measures at the site currently comprise an active gas extraction system connecting a series of gas extraction wells installed across the waste mass and a network of pipework connecting the wells to the environmental management compound in the south of the site. The network of wells will be extended as infilling progresses.

Within the environmental management compound, landfill gas is used to generate up to 4MW of electricity in four separate generating engines. The electricity is exported direct to the national grid. Any excess gas is flared within the compound.

In accordance with the requirements of the Environmental Permit, landfill gas monitoring is regularly undertaken in a network of perimeter boreholes to demonstrate that landfill gas is not migrating beyond the site boundary. The monitoring results are provided to the Environment Agency.

Timescales

The current planning permission requires landfilling to be completed by 10th May 2026.

Whilst the site is being progressively infilled and restored, there has been a significant reduction in the volumes of non-recyclable waste being sent to landfill in recent years, partly due to increased recycling rates and the effects of Landfill Tax (which results in higher costs for landfilling waste), but also as a result of other influences, such as the Covid-19 pandemic and the subsequent economic downturn. Additional time is therefore required in order for the site to be completed and restored in accordance with the approved restoration scheme.

This planning application seeks an extension of time to allow landfilling to continue for an additional 8 years beyond the currently permitted end date, until 10th May 2034, with restoration to be completed within a further 7 years until 10th May 2041.

Employment

The site currently employs 9 staff. The proposed extension of time would not affect staff numbers.

Hours of Operation

No changes are proposed to the approved operational hours, which are as follows:

- 06.00hrs to 18.00hrs Monday to Friday
- 06.00hrs to 14.00hrs Saturdays

No working is permitted on Sundays or Public Holidays. The servicing, maintenance and testing of plant and work of an emergency nature are allowed outside of these times.

Restoration

No changes are proposed to the approved restoration scheme which would provide areas of woodland, grassland, waterbodies and a network of paths throughout the restored site.

Surface water along the steeper eastern boundary would be captured by a shallow ditch, which would channel water towards balancing ponds within the south western and north western corners of the restored site, ultimately flowing into Winterton Beck to the west.

Environmental Considerations

The ES Addendum provides an assessment of the potential for environmental effects resulting from the proposed extension of time and minor revisions to the approved landfill phasing.

The ES Addendum reviewed the information which was produced to support the previous planning application in 2002 and the results and conclusions of the supporting assessments. The ES Addendum summarises the findings of these reviews but also includes additional topics, as required by legislation which came into force after the 2002 ES was produced. The ES Addendum addresses the following environmental issues:

- Landscape and visual;
- Noise;
- Traffic and transport;
- Flood risk and drainage;
- Environmental nuisance (odour, landfill gas, dust and litter);
- Ecology;
- Soils, contamination and waste management;
- Archaeology and cultural heritage;
- Climate change;
- Socio-economic effects;
- Cumulative effects (combined effects).

An Addendum to the 2002 Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment has been undertaken to update the baseline environment and to take account of changes to phasing and a delay to the final restoration of the site. This assessment concluded that the proposed development would not give rise to any unacceptable effects on landscape character or visual amenity.

A Transport Statement has also been prepared to assess the potential for environmental effects associated with traffic and transport. The proposed development would not lead to any changes in vehicle movements associated with the operation of the landfill, or any intensification in rail movements, and no unacceptable impacts are therefore predicted.

A Preliminary Ecological Appraisal has been undertaken to update the ecological baseline and to assess the potential for effects on ecology and biodiversity. The assessment concluded that the

proposed extension of time, and minor revisions to the approved phasing, would not have any unacceptable effects on ecology or biodiversity.

The site currently operates under the conditions of an Environmental Permit which would continue to be regulated by the Environment Agency. The site also operates under a number of operational management plans, which detail the management measures required to control dust, odour, pests/vermin, mud/debris and litter, as well as providing guidance on general good housekeeping measures. It is considered that these management plans provide appropriate controls over the day-to-day operation of the landfill and no unacceptable amenity effects are anticipated.

Conclusions

The ES has considered the potential environmental and local amenity effects of the proposal and has concluded that, subject to the continued imposition of established mitigation measures that can be secured via planning condition, no unacceptable adverse impacts would arise.

In conclusion, it is considered that the proposals are environmentally acceptable and no significant effects would result from the proposed extension of time for the completion of landfilling and restoration works.