

Consultation

From Department For Infrastructure

Committee Meeting Date: 15th August 2017

Application ID: LA04/2016/0421/F

Proposal:

Construction of a new multi-purpose facility at D3 for berthing of cruise ships, and for lay-by and transient storage of project cargo, break bulk and dry bulk during cruise ship off season. Development comprises the construction of 340m long solid quay with mooring dolphins, dredging of the berthing pocket and infilling behind the new quay wall using imported clean fill materials, construction of a 25m wide piled relieving slab along the quay length, with heavy duty paving surfacing on the quay/slab hinterland, access road, security gates, access barrier and kiosk at Airport Road West, modular terminal building, shore side facilities, lighting, fencing, and landscaping. (Amended Description)

Location:

Land at D3, adjacent to the RSPB Reserve, Airport Road West, Belfast, BT3 9DY

Applicant Name

Belfast Harbour Commissioners
Harbour Office
Corporation Street

Agent Name and Address:

RPS
Elmwood House
74 Boucher Rd
Belfast

Belfast City Council has been notified of the above planning application. This application is being dealt with by the Department for Infrastructure as a result of it being classified as 'Regionally Significant' under Section 26 of the Planning Act (NI) 2011

Site Location Map



Background:

Committee will be aware that a previous notification from DFi was received and reported on at Committee in June 2016. The original application was received on 1st March 2016 and is accompanied by an Environmental Statement. This report is attached at Appendix 1.

A further consultation has been received from DFi following the receipt of further environmental information resulting in updates to the Environmental Statement and an addendum.

Four of the seventeen chapters within **Volume I** of the Environmental Statement have been superseded and are;

Chapter 1.0 – Introduction and Project Description

Chapter 6.0 – Marine Ecology

Chapter 10.0 – Flood Risk and Water Quality

Chapter 11. – Coastal Processes and Hydrodynamic Modelling.

Within **Volume II – Appendices** Appendix 1.1 has been updated, and is now replaced. It is split into: Appendix 1.1A Estimated Construction Programme Rev B 1,000m³ - To reflect 1000m³ of contaminated dredge) Appendix 1.1B Estimated Construction Programme Rev B 25,000m³ - To reflect 25,000m³ of contaminated dredge - *This was the same appendix as was contained in the original ES*) The appendices linked to **Chapter 10 Flood Risk & Water Quality** have changed and these original appendices (Appendix 10.1 & Appendix 10.2) and additional appendices (Appendix 10.3, Appendix 10.4 & Appendix 10.5) are absorbed into this Addendum for completion and convenience. All other Appendices remain unchanged from the original ES. Please refer to The Environmental Statement - Quay Development at D3, February 2016, Volume II for Appendices.

The **ES addendum** provides updated assessments, which reflect on further sediment testing, as summarised below: Following a review of the initial testing results with DoE Marine Division, a further sampling and testing regime was agreed with DoE Marine to provide further information on the actual extent of the TBT contaminated material focusing on the area surrounding MBH15 where the TBT had been encountered during the initial testing. Vibrocores were carried out at 10nr locations in the vicinity of MBH15. The locations and sampling depths were agreed with DoE Marine Division prior to the works commencing onsite. The vibrocore samples were tested for both DBT and TBT. All samples tested were below Action Level 1 for DBT and well below Action Level 2 for TBT.

The full details of the planning application (drawings, reports and the Environmental Statement) can be accessed of the planning portal at <http://epicpublic.planningni.gov.uk>.

Recommendation:

1. Members are requested to note the above; and
2. To advise if they wish to make any further comment on this planning application to DFi at this stage.

Appendix I

NOTIFICATION FROM DEPARTMENT FOR INFRASTRUCTURE

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Location:

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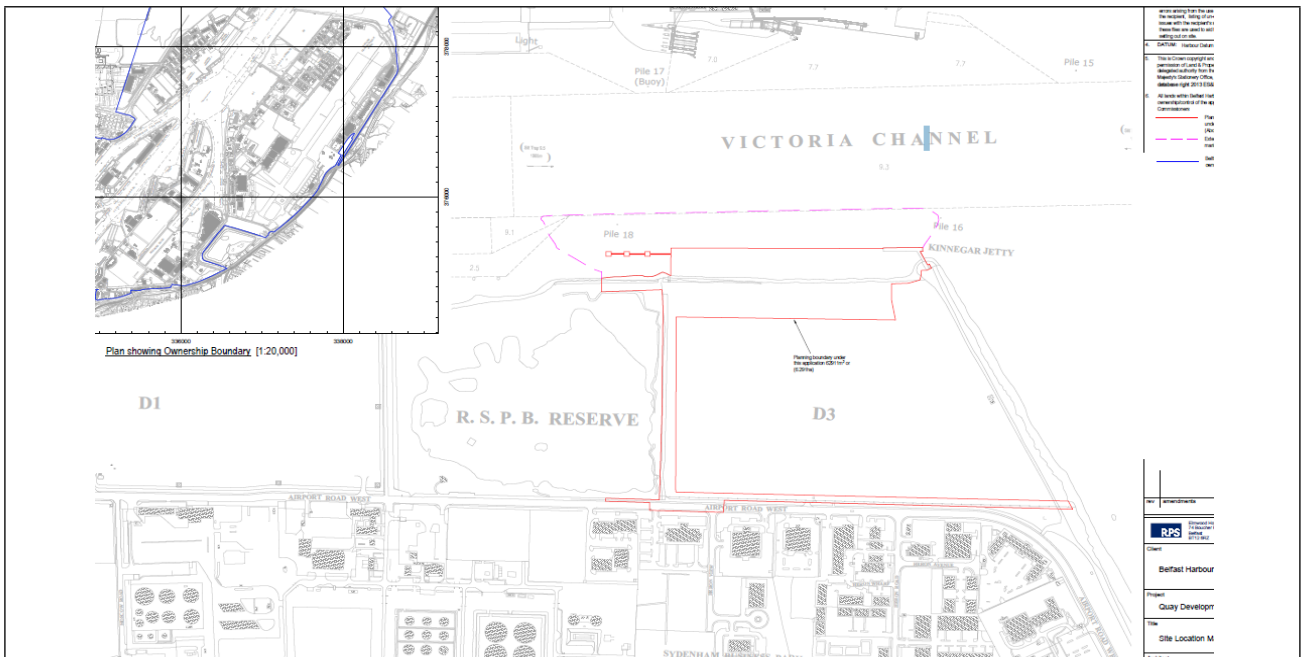
Applicant Name

Belfast Harbour Commissioners
Harbour Office
Corporation Street

Agent Name and Address:

RPS
Elmwood House
74 Boucher Rd
Belfast

Site Location Map



Background

The application was received on 1st March 2016 and is accompanied by an Environmental Statement.

The primary proposed end use of the completed infrastructure is for the berthing of cruise ships during the cruise season, generally from March through to September, to accommodate the steady growth in this sector.

During the off-season for the cruise industry, generally from October through to March, it is proposed to use the berthing facilities for lay-by, and general cargo handling such as break bulk cargo, project cargo and dry bulk.

There are no proposals for long term storage at D3, rather the proposed development is for primarily transient storage which has no requirement for silos or storage buildings. The short term storage of bulk materials will be restricted to c.4m in height with mobile bunker wall units employed as required to facilitate storage of loose cargo. It is proposed to utilise material handlers or road going mobile cranes for offloading vessels. There will be no requirement for fixed cranes or hoppers.

Environmental Context

Three internationally designated sites are present in Belfast Lough (Belfast Lough Special Protection Area (SPA), Belfast Lough Open Water SPA and Belfast Lough Ramsar Site.

Belfast Lough also provides a nursery and spawning ground for a number of pelagic and demersal fish species as well as supporting a number of migratory fish species including Atlantic Salmon, Sea Trout and European eel. Marine Mammals found in Belfast Lough include Grey and Common seals, porpoises and bottlenose dolphins.

The Environmental Statement Covers chapters the following:

- Marine Ecology
- Air Quality and Climate
- Noise and Vibration
- Terrestrial Ecology and Ornithology
- Flood Risk and Water Quality
- Coastal Processes and Hydrodynamic Modelling
- Contaminated Land
- Artificial Lighting
- Traffic and Transport
- Marine Archaeology and Cultural Heritage; and
- Socio-Economic

The full details of the planning application (drawings, reports and the Environmental Statement) can be accessed of the planning portal at <http://epicpublic.planningni.gov.uk>.

Recommendation:

3. Members are requested to note the above
4. To advise if they wish to make any comment on this planning application to DFI at this stage.