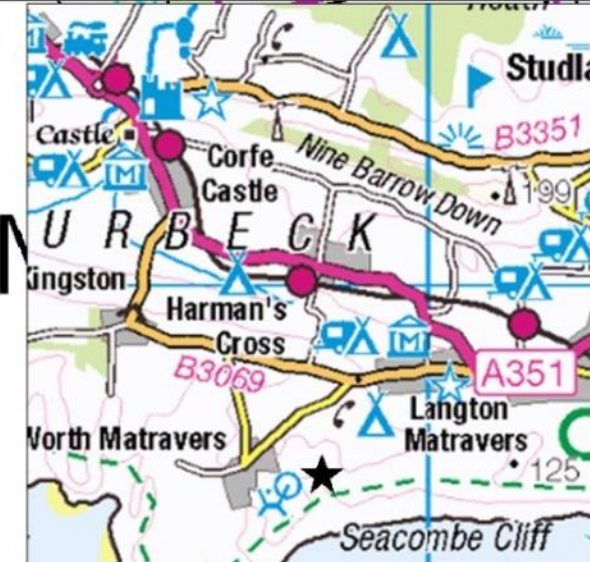
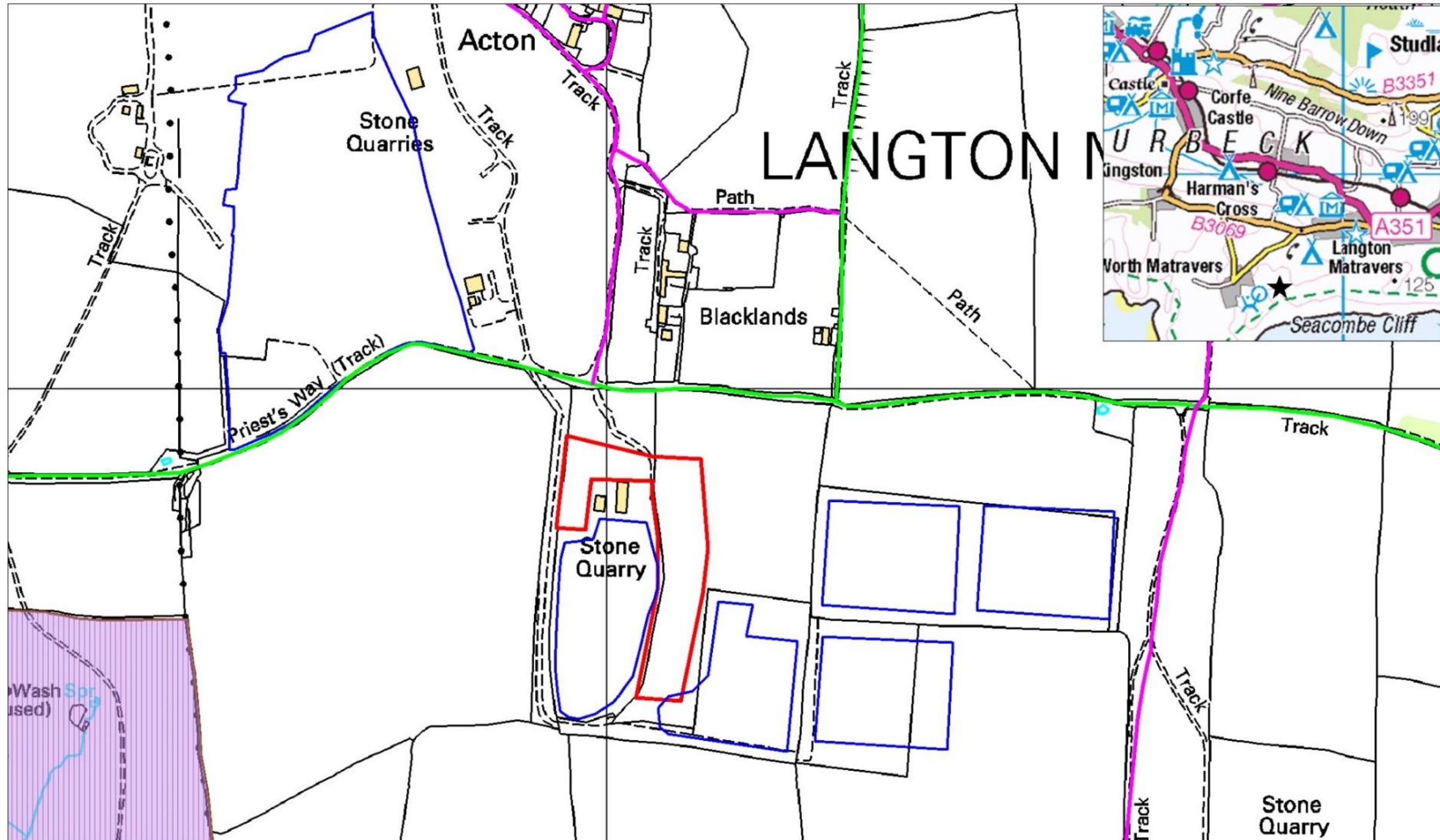


Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of PK02 – Blacklands Quarry Extension



PK02 - Blacklands Quarry extension


- Nominated site
- Permitted mineral site
- Public Right of Way - Footpath
- Public Right of Way - Bridleway

- Listed building
- Scheduled monument
- The entire plan area above falls within the Dorset AONB

- SSSI
- SPA
- SNCI
- SAC
- Ramsar

Ref:
 Date: 24/06/2016
 Scale 1:10000
 Drawn By:
 Cent X: 396529
 Cent Y: 93351

GEOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION SYSTEMS



Dorset County Council

© Crown copyright and database rights 2016 Ordnance Survey 100019790. You are permitted to use this data solely to enable you to respond to, or interact with, the organisation that provided you with the data. You are not permitted to copy, sub-licence, distribute or sell any of this data to third parties in any form. Aerial Photography © UK Perspectives 2002 © Getmapping 2005, 2009 & 2014

Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of PK02 – Blacklands Quarry Extension

Site Information

Site Location	Blacklands Quarry, Acton, south of Langton Matravers village Grid Reference SY 990 778
District/Borough	Purbeck District Council
Parish/Town Council	Langton Matravers CP
Site Nominee/Owner Landownership issues? Any Mineral Operator interest	National Trust No known issues
Agent	Land & Mineral Management Ltd
Mineral Planning History Is the site an extension to existing site? Has it been considered for minerals development in the past? Partly worked?	Extension to existing quarry
Legal or time-related constraints	None known.
Access to markets?	As for current quarry
Is there geological evidence of the presence and viability of the mineral?	Adjacent to existing workings.
Development proposed	<p>Extraction of Purbeck stone as extension of existing quarry.</p> <p>It is expected that soil stripping and stone excavation would be carried out during the spring and summer. The extracted stone would be processed and stockpiled in the existing Service Area.</p> <p>The proposed extension area would be accessed from the existing quarry workings. Initially, it is proposed that soils, overburden and quarry waste would be cast back to progressively restore the existing void, following which material will be cast back to restore the extension area. In each phase after removal of the upper layers, excavations will work from the quarry floor into the exposed stone. As a consequence of working on the quarry floor it is considered that the visual impact would be minimal.</p> <p>The stone would be wholly extracted using a single excavator, the use of drilling and blasting techniques will not be necessary. Extraction would not exceed 20m in depth.</p> <p>Estimated annual output (tpa) 2000 tonnes Estimated reserve 52,000 tonnes Expected life of operation 26 years</p> <p>Approximately 50% of the extracted stone will be unsuitable for use and will be returned to the void to enable the site to be restored close to original ground levels. It is proposed to restore the site back to pasture for grazing by natural regeneration to low input grassland. Once restored the land will be handed back to the landowners, the National Trust, and managed accordingly.</p> <p>Restoration expected to be tocd herb-rich semi-natural grassland with quarrying features and exposed faces in places.</p>
Description of Site	The site is currently grassland, used for grazing/agricultural purposes. It is approximately 1.34 ha in area.
Summary of Site Designations/Constraints	Site is within Dorset Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty and Purbeck Heritage Coast.
Relevant Local Planning Policy	Planning Purbeck's Future – Purbeck Local Plan Part 1 – Adopted November 2012 Policy LHH – Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Policy LHH - Purbeck Heritage Coast
Residential properties and other land uses in the vicinity of the site	Properties approximately 100m to the north of the site, north of Priest's Way. Acton approximately 350m to the north of the site. Existing and proposed Purbeck stone quarries to the west, north and east of the proposed extension.
Traffic Generation & Access Considerations	Via existing access through Acton Quarries Service Centre 4 lorry movements per week (2 in and 2 out)

Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of PK02 – Blacklands Quarry Extension

Appraisal of Site – Using Site Assessment Criteria as set out in The Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Minerals Strategy 2014

In Appendix 1 (p. 242) of the Minerals Strategy a methodology for assessing sites nominated or identified for consideration as future quarry sites is set out. Each site is assessed against 25 criteria, C1 to C25, reflecting the potential environmental, economic and social impacts/benefits of its development. Assessment is qualitative, and each criterion is given a score as a colour, representing its expected impact, with or without mitigation. These criteria and their responses are set out below, along with further comments from relevant consultees.

Topic: Biodiversity.

SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance biodiversity.

Criterion C1 - Impact on European/international designations.	D
No comment Dorset County Council 6Nov13	
Criterion C2 - Impact on areas used by Annex 1 bird species.	D
No comment Dorset County Council 6Nov13	
Criterion C3 - Impact on national designations.	D
No comment Dorset County Council 6Nov13	
Criterion C4 - Impact on protected species.	C
Great Crested Newt is known to breed in a pond within 500m of the proposed site. However, the current land use of improved agricultural grazing land is unlikely to provide any habitat of importance to the species, and the likely effect of mineral extraction on GCN is probably insignificant. Dorset County Council 6Nov13	
Criterion C5 - Impact on local recognitions/designations, including ancient woodland and veteran trees.	D
No comment Dorset County Council 6Nov13	
Possible Mitigation: An Environmental Impact Assessment will be carried out as part of any planning application, including detailed assessment of potential biodiversity impacts and appropriate responses and mitigation. Appropriate mitigation of any impacts will be required as part of any planning permission granted. No further action considered necessary at this stage.	

Topic: Geodiversity

SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance geodiversity.

Criterion C6 - Impact on geodiversity.	D
The Purbeck limestone group has an important association with the geology of the Jurassic Coast World Heritage Site. Working quarries in Purbeck have been known to yield important fossils, including dinosaur footprints. They are also of ongoing interest for the study of early Cretaceous stratigraphy. These interests should be acknowledged with the assumption that geologists and the Jurassic Coast Team hosted by DCC will respond positively to any opportunities to recover fossils or record and study unusual features if they are discovered. In terms of geodiversity there is a presumption in favour of an appropriate level of quarrying activity continuing in order to sustain the ongoing interests. Dorset County Council 24.10.2013	
Possible Mitigation: None specifically required.	

Topic: Landscape

SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance the landscape, including townscape, seascape and the coast.

Criterion C7 – Impact on designated landscapes.	C
Less significant adverse impact Dorset County Council 23 October 2013	

Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of PK02 – Blacklands Quarry Extension

Criterion C8 – What is landscape capacity to accommodate proposed development.	C
<p>Potential cumulative adverse impacts on the amenity of users of Priests Way the major issue. Restoration of adjacent quarries recommended to help avoid any cumulative landscape and visual impact.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 23 October 2013</p>	
Criterion C9 – Impact on historic landscapes.	D
<p>The local landscape bears the imprint of previous quarrying dating from the Roman period onwards. It could be argued that the present site would be a continuation of the process, and if the site is to be restored afterwards the impact would be limited in time anyway.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 4/11/2013</p>	
<p>Possible Mitigation:</p> <p>An Environmental Impact Assessment will be carried out as part of any planning application, including detailed assessment on the landscape impacts resulting from extracting mineral from this site, and identifying appropriate mitigation. No further action considered necessary at this stage.</p>	

Topic: Cultural Heritage

SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance the historic environment (including conservation areas, historic parks and gardens and other locally distinctive features and their settings).

Criterion C10 – Impact on historic buildings.	D
<p>This is a quarry set in a quarrying landscape and the nearest listed buildings are too far away to be affected.</p> <p>Assessment Grade D – no significant impact</p> <p>Dorset County Council 22/10/2013</p>	
Criterion C11 – Impact on archaeology.	A → D
<p>The discovery of Iron Age and Roman period remains at the Blacklands site to the west and north of the proposal site indicates the present site's high potential for below-ground archaeology. There is also potential for industrial archaeological evidence of early quarrying. Archaeological assessment and evaluation would be required before an informed planning decision could be made. Only when these have been undertaken would the archaeological impact be understood – at present it could be anywhere from category A to category D.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 4/11/2013</p>	
<p>Possible Mitigation:</p> <p>The archaeological potential on this site is noted.</p> <p>Full assessment, including Environmental Impact Assessment, will be carried out as part of any planning application. This will include assessment of heritage impacts and identification of appropriate mitigation.</p> <p>It is considered that the Development Management policies of the Minerals Strategy, especially Policy DM 7, together with the policy stance of the National Planning Policy Framework, provide adequate protection to any archaeology that may be found during development.</p>	

Topic: Water

SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance the quality of ground, surface and sea waters and manage the consumption of water in a sustainable way.

Criterion C12 - Impact on hydrogeology or groundwater.	C
<p>C. Site is within a Secondary Aquifer. Site is not within any Source Protection Zone and no licensed water supplies.</p> <p>Environment Agency 27 February 2013</p>	
Criterion C13 – Impact on surface waters.	D
<p>D. There do not appear to be any significant water interests within 500m of the site.</p> <p>Environment Agency 27 February 2013</p>	
Criterion C14 - Impact on flooding or coastal stability.	D
<p>Site is entirely in Flood Risk Zone 1.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 24 October 2013</p>	

Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of PK02 – Blacklands Quarry Extension

Possible Mitigation:

Hydrological assessment is normally required as part of any planning application, with measures to protect groundwater and surface water flows to be identified and implemented.

No further action considered necessary at this stage.

Topic: Soil

SA Objective: To maintain, conserve and enhance soil quality

Criterion C15 - Impact on existing soils or land type (including BMV land).

C

Site is Good to Moderate agricultural land. Soils will be protected during working and restoration could bring BMV land back into agricultural production.

Dorset County Council 24 October 2013

Possible Mitigation:

Soils will be protected during working, according to guidance and best practice.

Topic: Air Quality

SA Objective: To protect and improve air quality and reduce the impacts of noise

Criterion C16 – Impact on AQMAs.

D

No direct impact on any AQMAs.

Dorset County Council 24 October 2013

Possible Mitigation:

Noise mitigation will be addressed at the planning application stage, with appropriate mitigation to be included in the development of the site.

Topic: Material Assets (Economic development)

SA Objectives: To conserve and safeguard mineral resources.

To promote the use of alternative materials

To encourage sustainable economic growth

To provide an adequate supply of minerals to meet society's needs.

Criterion C17 - Impact on economic development.

D

The site is expected to have a positive impact on the provision of mineral and can therefore be expected to benefit the local and wider economy, in addition to creating direct employment during the working of the site.

Mineral working has the potential to negatively affect businesses in the locality, e.g. through contributing to traffic congestion, noise, visual and perception related issues. Impacts will be identified as part of any planning application and mitigation during working will be applied where necessary – e.g. further screening.

Restoration to agriculture will maintain an on-going positive benefit.

Dorset County Council 24 October 2013

Possible Mitigation:

An Environmental Impact Assessment will be carried out as part of any planning application, identifying potential impacts and appropriate responses and mitigation. Appropriate mitigation will be required as part of any planning permission granted. No further action considered necessary at this stage.

Topic: Social Considerations - Human Health and Amenity, Airport Safety and Cumulative Impacts

SA Objectives: To sustain the health and quality of life of the population

Criterion C18 - Impact on Sensitive Human Receptors.

C

D

Number of residential properties within 350m and within 500m. Row of cottages just north of Priest's Way. Site is an extension of existing quarry in an area with a long history of quarrying. Rating could be C, decreasing to D given the scale and context of the proposal.

Dorset County Council 24 October 2013

Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of PK02 – Blacklands Quarry Extension

Criterion C19 - Impact on existing settlements.	D
<p>Nearest settlement is Acton, some 300m north of the proposed extension. Site extension not visible from Acton. Long history of stone quarrying in the area.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 24 October 2013</p>	
<p>Possible Mitigation:</p> <p>An Environmental Impact Assessment, including a Transport Assessment, will be carried out as part of any planning application, identifying potential impacts and appropriate responses and mitigation.</p> <p>Appropriate mitigation (e.g. visual and noise attenuation bunds and reducing noise at source where possible and appropriate) will be identified and required as part of any development of the site. No further action considered necessary at this stage.</p>	

Criterion C20 - Impact on airport safety	E
<p>Site is approximately 23 km from airport, with no wet working or restoration.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 24 October 2013</p>	

Criterion C21 - Effects on cumulative impacts.	B/C
<p>Site is proposed extension of existing site, in an area of both existing and proposed mineral development. It is inevitable that there will be other mineral working in the vicinity as this is the area of Dorset where the Purbeck Stone is sourced.</p> <p>It is potentially within 5Km from a town (Swanage) where allocations for the development of 200 dwellings, employment and retail facilities have been made in the Purbeck Local Plan Part 1 (adopted Nov 2012) (Policy SE) and the Swanage Local Plan (Policy SS). Traffic arising from the new residential development will add to general traffic levels in / around Swanage and on the A351.</p> <p>This is within a popular tourist area, leading to higher levels of traffic on the roads in summer. The fact that the site is an extension, with no proposed intensification, reduces potential for cumulative impacts.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 24 October 2013. 11.11 2013.</p>	
<p>Possible Mitigation:</p> <p>The proposal will include assessment of and mitigation for visual and noise impacts, following guidance and best practice, to limit cumulative effects. This may include advance tree planting, depending on findings of the Environmental Impact Assessment.</p> <p>To minimise traffic impacts, following a Transport Assessment at the planning application stage, measures such as holding back lorry traffic during peak traffic times could be used if necessary.</p>	

Topic: Social Considerations – Carbon Emissions

SA Objectives: To adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change

Criterion C22 - Impact on carbon emissions	B
<p>Site will rely on lorry and other vehicular transport.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 24 October 2013</p>	
<p>Possible Mitigation:</p> <p>Guidance and best practice will be followed, to minimise carbon emissions as far as is practicable.</p>	

Topic: Social Considerations

SA Objectives: To enable safe access to countryside and open spaces

Criterion C23 – Impact on recreational land	D/E
<p>Site is agricultural land, with no formal/informal recreation use. Possible opportunity to provide improved access following working.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 24 October 2013</p>	
Criterion C24- Impact on public rights of way	D
<p>No rights of way cross the site, Priests Way runs close to the northern boundary. Screening unlikely to be required, impacts should be minimal.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 24 October 2013</p>	

Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of PK02 – Blacklands Quarry Extension

Possible Mitigation:

No significant impacts on access identified – further assessment will be undertaken at planning application stage with appropriate mitigation identified if necessary/appropriate. No further action required.

Criterion C25 - Are the access proposals acceptable

C

Access proposed is onto the B3069 via the existing Acton quarry access and a short section of the C135. The access and the junctions in the immediate vicinity are suitable for the small number of proposed movements to this site (c. 4 trips per week). Onward movements to the strategic network would be via the B3069 to the A351, either through Kingston or Langton Matravers.

Dorset County Council 29 October 2013

Extension to existing quarries (PK02 Blacklands Quarry extension, PK17 Home Field Quarry and PK18 Quarry 4 extension) using the existing access which is sub-standard and needs improvement for the following reasons: Although an existing access serving existing quarries, it is only a granular sub-base material with no bound surfacing course and extends right up to where it abuts the carriageway of the public highway. Due to wear/settlement it is below the carriageway level and this is resulting in longitudinal cracking to the edge of the carriageways macadam construction. Furthermore this unbound surface results in limestone dust/slurry being tracked onto the highway where it creates an obvious hazard and nuisance especially in wet weather. An agreed length (suggest 50 metres minimum) of the access from the highway should be re-levelled/compacted with any soft spots rectified and then the whole surfaced with a bound material if quarrying operations are to continue, and certainly if an increase is to be permitted.

Dorset County Council 31 January 2017

Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of PK02 – Blacklands Quarry Extension

Initial Site Assessment including Input from Specialist Consultees

Traffic/Access	
Highways England	<p>December 2016</p> <p>We note that, with the exception of Swanworth (PK16), all the (Purbeck Stone) sites are small-scale in nature, and therefore unlikely to generate significant quantities of traffic. The Swanworth site, which whilst large scale, is understood to be an extension of an existing quarry and is forecast to generate approximately 75 trips per day above that currently generated. Given the proximity of the site to the SRN, the extension is unlikely to result in a significant impact.</p>
DCC Transport development management	<p>Access proposed is onto the B3069 via the existing Acton quarry access and a short section of the C135. The access and the junctions in the immediate vicinity are suitable for the small number of proposed movements to this site (c. 4 trips per week). Onward movements to the strategic network would be via the B3069 to the A351, either through Kingston or Langton Matravers.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 29 October 2013</p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p>Extension to existing quarries (PK02 Blacklands Quarry extension, PK17 Home Field Quarry and PK18 Quarry 4 extension) using the existing access which is sub-standard and needs improvement for the following reasons: Although an existing access serving existing quarries, it is only a granular sub-base material with no bound surfacing course and extends right up to where it abuts the carriageway of the public highway. Due to wear/settlement it is below the carriageway level and this is resulting in longitudinal cracking to the edge of the carriageways macadam construction. Furthermore this unbound surface results in limestone dust/slurry being tracked onto the highway where it creates an obvious hazard and nuisance especially in wet weather. An agreed length (suggest 50 metres minimum) of the access from the highway should be re-levelled/compacted with any soft spots rectified and then the whole surfaced with a bound material if quarrying operations are to continue, and certainly if an increase is to be permitted.</p> <p>Dorset County Council 31 January 2017</p>

Public Rights of Way	
DCC Rights of Way	<i>Comments requested/awaited.</i>

Protection of Water Resources (Hydrology/groundwater/ surface water management and flooding)	
Environment Agency	<p>July/August 2015</p> <p>No objection to proposals and no further comments over and above those previously made in earlier consultations.</p> <p>Dec 2013</p> <p>We agree with the criteria classification C12, C13 and C14 for this site, which is given in the supporting documents.</p> <p>Our previous comments provided on the 12 Dec 2008 and 27 Feb 2013 are still relevant. However, we wish to make the following additional comments:</p> <p>We are aware that an SEA is being prepared but urge the applicant to ensure that the following issues are included: -</p> <p>Proposals which maximise the wetland restoration opportunities at each site</p> <p>Water Framework Assessments (WFD) as necessary and will contribute to the relevant River Basin Plan objectives</p> <p>Proposals should maximise the overall wetland gains.</p> <p>EIA/Restoration proposals should incorporate gain of wetland features which will contribute to the aspirations of the England Biodiversity Strategy</p> <p>EA estimate of assessment criteria</p> <p>C1-C4 - See note 1 at bottom of this document.</p> <p>C12 – C. Site is within a Secondary Aquifer.</p> <p>C13 – D. There do not appear to be any significant water interests within 500m of the site.</p> <p>Feb 2013</p> <p>EA 12/12/2008 response still relevant, together with the following additional comments:</p>

Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of PK02 – Blacklands Quarry Extension

Protection of Water Resources (Hydrology/groundwater/ surface water management and flooding)	
	<p>Studies required/ considerations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flood Risk Assessment • Hydrogeological Risk Assessment <p>Dec 2008</p> <p>No objection general comments</p>
Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) - DCC	<p>PK02 Blacklands Quarry extension Site Assessment - No grounds for objection, subject to detail:</p> <p>The site falls entirely within Flood Zone 1 (low risk – fluvial flooding) according to the Environment Agency's relevant flood modelling, and is not shown to be at any theoretical risk of surface water flooding, by relevant mapping. Given the prevailing geology and fall in ground levels, it is likely that surface water would be managed via infiltration. Whilst a site specific strategy of surface water management is a requirement for all development (NPPF) no off site worsening is anticipated. Prior Land Drainage Consent may be required from DCC as relevant LLFA, for any works offering an obstruction to flow within a channel with the status of Ordinary Watercourse.</p>

Landscape & Visual Impact	
Dorset AONB Team	No concerns (2014)

Nature Conservation – Biodiversity Impacts	
Natural England comments	No comments made.
Dorset Wildlife Trust	<p>Comment – as for Blacklands comments, see below:</p> <p>PK-02 Blacklands Quarry Extension – 2015</p> <p>If the MPA take this site forward, DWT would recommend the following:</p> <p>The restoration should be to species-rich grassland rather than to agriculture and grassland as it would be consistent with the restoration vision for Limestone Plateau as described on page 10 of Background Paper 16: Restoration – Landscape Management Guidelines (January 2013) and the nomination is in close proximity to designated sites, so species-rich grassland creation at this site would provide a useful ecological corridor.</p> <p>As part of the Purbeck Ponds Project, ponds across Purbeck have been surveyed by Dorset Wildlife Trust. These surveys have shown that the areas around Langton Matravers, Worth Matravers and Kingston hold the largest meta-population of Great Crested Newts in Purbeck and generally ponds in Purbeck are known to contain many nationally scarce invertebrates including beetle and dragonfly species. The creation of a new suitably sited pond within the restoration area will directly contribute to maintaining and enhancing this nationally important assemblage of freshwater wildlife. We recommend that due consideration is given to the prospect of creating a pond within the after-use area that is suitable for use by Great Crested Newts and other freshwater wildlife. DWT would be willing to comment on pond plans and proposals in order to help achieve the maximum wildlife gain.</p> <p>The sea caves of the Purbecks are known to be important hibernation sites for Lesser and Greater Horseshoe bats amongst other bat species. The possibility of creating hibernation roosts suitable for bats within the after-use of the site should therefore be considered, as the site is not far from these coastal caves, and might provide useful additional sites for these rare and protected species.</p>

Historic Environment	
Historic England Comments	<p>2014</p> <p>I note that an archaeological impact assessment is required before the effect of the proposal can be fully established and any principal determined.</p> <p>2015</p> <p>Site Assessment – “The discovery of Iron Age and Roman period remains at the Blacklands site to the west and north of the proposal site indicates the present site’s high potential for below-ground archaeology. There is also potential for industrial archaeological evidence of early quarrying. Archaeological assessment and evaluation would be required before an informed planning decision could be made. Only when these have been undertaken would the archaeological impact be understood – at present it could be anywhere from category A to category D”. (Criterion C11 – Impact on archaeology. Dorset County Council 4/11/2013).</p>

Bournemouth, Dorset and Poole Draft Mineral Sites Plan

Site Assessment of PK02 – Blacklands Quarry Extension

Historic Environment

If the impact was "A" substantial harm then this site, I assume, would be considered by the LA to be unacceptable in principle? As such, should this heritage consideration be addressed before the principle of a site is agreed and an allocation included in a development plan?

I note that the SA appears to contradict this view of the DCC (further assessment is not required at this plan making stage). The LA may wish to clarify this matter.