

Hi Tom

Further to the attached consultee observations please see responses (red text) below against the points raised:

Details of the restoration programme are required. To include:

- Revised plant schedule – the current one does not include a species rich grassland mix

*FCC: Our experience of landfill restoration across many sites is that standard wildflower grasses do not colonise very well on the initial bare soil conditions encountered on landfill sites and it is essential that the landfill cap and final restoration soils are quickly protected through an established greensward to prevent erosion and damage to the capping layer. Our ecological advice confirms that it is more beneficial to quickly establish a good greensward rather than focus primarily on species mixes as the invertebrates living within these habitats are looking for adequate cover and not specific grass species. FCC proposes to use the standard reclamation mix as set out in Table 3.1 of the ES. We have found this type of mix to be better at colonising and therefore more deliverable and more likely to deliver biodiversity gains. An alternative is to use meadowmax which we have also found to be effective – see table below*

- Planting schedule, maintenance and how failures will be rectified

*FCC: The planting schedule is provided in Table 3.1 of the ES. Para 7.7.8 of the ES identified that there will be a 5 year aftercare period and that this would be dealt with under a planning condition. The details being requested above are typically dealt with as part of a landscape and aftercare management plan which, if considered necessary, can be required under a planning condition.*

- Details of the 'long term, low intensity management' regime proposed in the Environmental Statement section 8.6.18
- *FCC: as stated above Para 7.7.8 of the ES identified that there will be a 5 year aftercare period and that this would be dealt with under a planning condition. Details on management regime could, if considered necessary, be dealt with under a planning condition requiring submission of a Landscape and aftercare management plan.*

If there are any further queries please do not hesitate to contact me.

Kind regards

Mat

