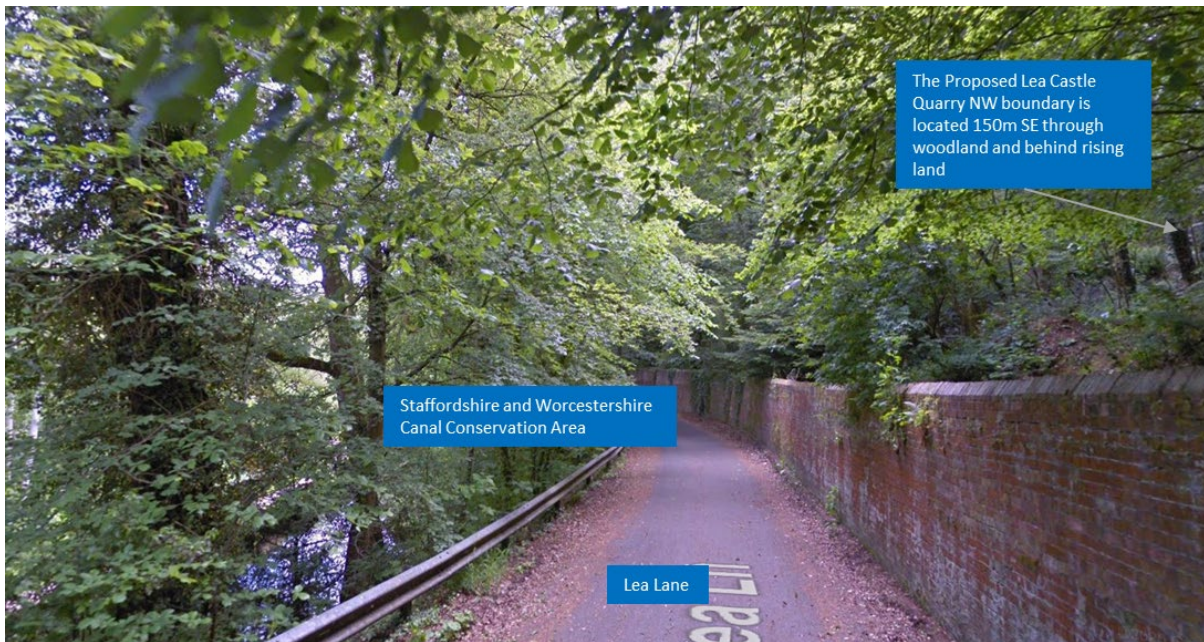


Appendix I - Historic Environment

It is noted and confirmed that there are two Conservation Areas to the west of the Site. These being a) Wolverley Conservation area; and b) The Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Conservation Area, and they have both been considered within Worcestershire Archaeology Consultancies baseline and assessment works.

This note addresses the request for further assessment of the potential impacts of noise and dust emissions on the intrinsic character of the Canal Conservation Area.

The character of Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal Conservation Area in respect of its geographical location in proximity to the western application boundary of the proposed Lea Castle Farm mineral extraction and progressive restoration scheme at distances of ~80 to 500m being “set down and contained” by both higher ground and a strong vegetation corridor. See Photograph A below.



Photograph A

A Noise Assessment has been carried out by WBA Acoustic Consultants (Technical Appendix D within the submitted Environmental Statement).

Baseline noise levels were recorded, and the potential impacts associated with the proposed development plant site and mineral and restoration activities assessed. A noise receptors location point was identified and assessed between the proposed development and the Canal Conservation Area (Location 4 – Brown Westhead Park), the receptor location covering both local residents and users of local sports pitches.

The noise assessment concluded that calculated noise levels to noise receptors were in accordance and respected the objectives of the NPPF, complying with suggested noise limits and protecting the amenity of the nearest residents. The Canal Conservation Area is located further away from this receptor and the proposed development, and is also set at a lower elevation further reducing and dispersing potential effects from noise.

In respect of potential Air Quality / Dust, Vibrock Limited, a specialist consultant were commissioned to assess the proposed development's effects on local receptors / amenities. They considered receptors located within / adjacent to the Canal Conservation Area including the Staffordshire and Worcestershire Canal and Wolverley Conservation Areas (LWS) and the Stour. They concluded that any dust occurrence event will be limited and of short duration and will be minimised by implementation of dust control mitigation means. The immediate site's western boundary is also heavily vegetated with trees and shrubs. Overall, the effect on air quality of the proposed development will not be significant.

Based on the above and from previous desktop and site survey investigation we consider that there will be no physical change to the Canal Conservation Area and the historic setting, the intrinsic character and the general amenity experience of being within the Conservation Area will not visually change because of its enclosed wooded nature nor be harmed by either noise or dust from the proposed application.