

**Town and Country Planning Act 1990 – Section 78 Town and County
Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order
2015 Town and Country Planning (Inquiries Procedure) (England) Rules 2002**

**Summary Proof of Evidence of Laurence McCue
for Stop The Quarry Campaign – Rule 6 Party
Impact on Local Amenities**

Land at Lea Castle Farm, Wolverley Road, Broadwaters, Kidderminster, Worcestershire

**Proposed sand and gravel quarry with progressive restoration using site derived and imported
inert material to agricultural parkland, public access and nature enhancement**

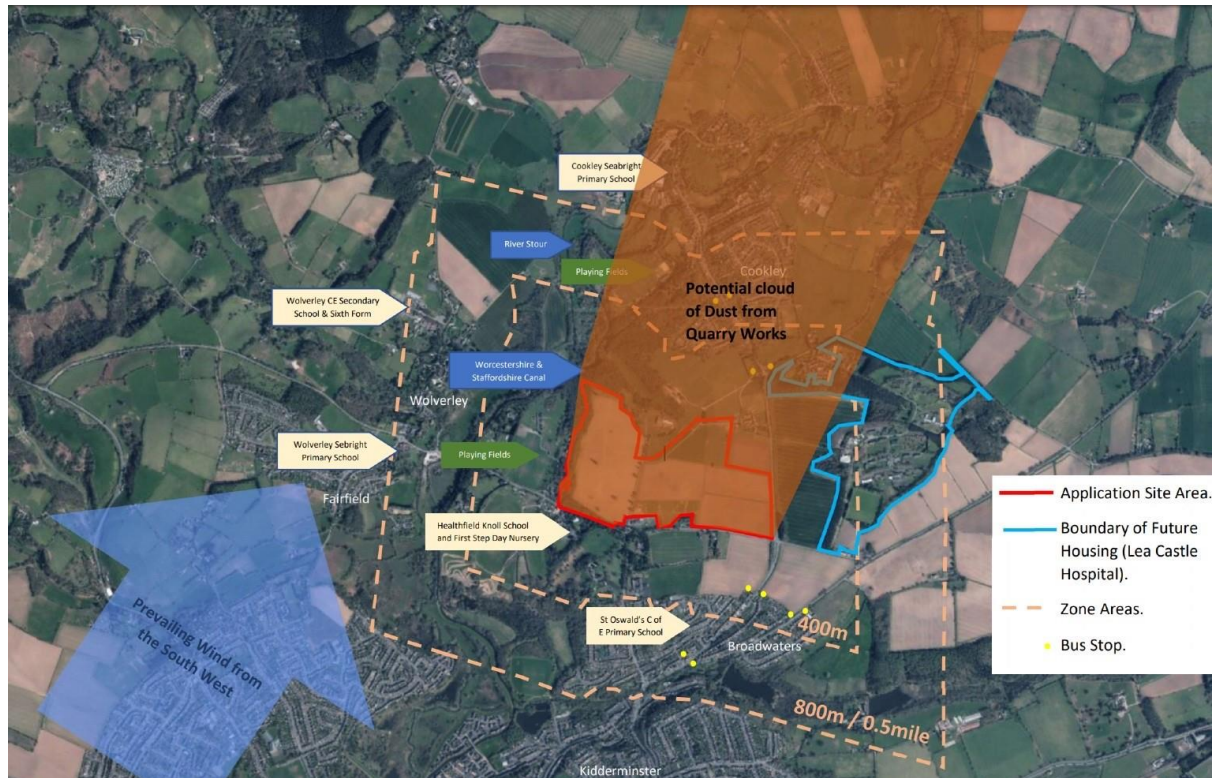
Application reference: 19/000053/CM

Appellant's name: NRS Aggregates Ltd

Appeal reference: APP/E1855/W/22/331009

31 January 2023

1. My name is Laurence McCue
2. I am a member of Stop The Quarry Campaign Group.
3. I have been a resident of Wolverley for the last 10 years. I live within Castle Barns which will be within 100m of the quarry site. I am familiar with the site passing it on an almost daily basis and regularly walking my dog along the public footpath network crossing the site.
4. Introduction.



5. There are 5 educational premises within 1km of the proposed quarry site. Approximately 1800 young people, from the ages of 3 to 18, attend these schools. Some of these young people already have medical, including, respiratory conditions.
6. The prevailing wind is from the south west but any shift towards the south east would mean the dust cloud heading towards Wolverley C of E Secondary and Wolverley Seabright Primary are on more regular basis.



7. Heathfield Knoll School would be the closest. It would be just over 100m away from what would be a working quarry where, employees are protected by HSE laws and rules but the most vulnerable attending school nearby are not. Heathfield Knoll has a nursery for children as young as 3yrs old. The building for this nursery is adjacent to Wolverley Road which forms the boundary of the quarry. The nursery is shown above with a fence around the building. The other side of the Wolverley Road would be a working quarry.
8. Heathfield Knoll (275) is a fee paying school that may be financially negatively affected by this quarry and may result in the loss of many more jobs than the proposed 11 the quarry would create. It may also mean the loss of an educational institute that began in the 1600's and from 1970 in its current guise.
9. The loss of this local amenity would put further unnecessary pressure on local primary and secondary schools having to absorb the children displaced by such a closure.
10. Wolverley Sebright Primary (210 pupils) and Wolverley C of E Secondary (871 pupils) are within 800m of the quarry and already see pupils walking to the school along Wolverley Road and what will be the entrance/ exit of the quarry. The numbers of pupils using this road will increase as more houses are sold on the new Lee Castle village site (Lee Castle Hospital on map above).
11. This is busy road with narrow footpaths and a bottle neck at The Lock Public house.
12. The potential for serious traffic accidents involving young people will increase if this quarry goes ahead. The traffic survey was carried out far too long ago and does not take into account the new Lea Castle Village and the number of children walking to school along Wolverley Rd from that new development.
13. St Oswald's C of E Primary school (206 pupils) has a range of pupils from age 3 to 11. Cookley Sebright Primary (232 pupils) although the furthest away of the 5 schools would be

the **most affected** by any dust fallout as it sits within the prevailing wind path. It takes children from the age of 3 to 11. Which means 8 years of developing lungs being affected 5 days a week by this proposed quarry. The head teacher, Mrs Crisp, has submitted a statement stating that a number of her pupils are already suffering from respiratory illnesses.

14. The heads of each local school have expressed severe concern about the proposed development. We attach letters (see Appendix) from the Heads of St Oswald's, Seabright Wolverley and Seabright Cookley. The head of Heathfield Knoll School will make representations directly to the inquiry. All 4 Heads are gravely concerned about the effects on the effectiveness of education at their schools as well as the increased risk of serious health concerns.
15. It is pertinent to remember that in December 1991 the **UK Government** ratified the **UN Rights of The Child**. (Appendix 1) We believe that the human rights of children at these schools and living locally may be affected by the proposed development. These rights are stated in the act as follows;

Life survival and development (Article 6)

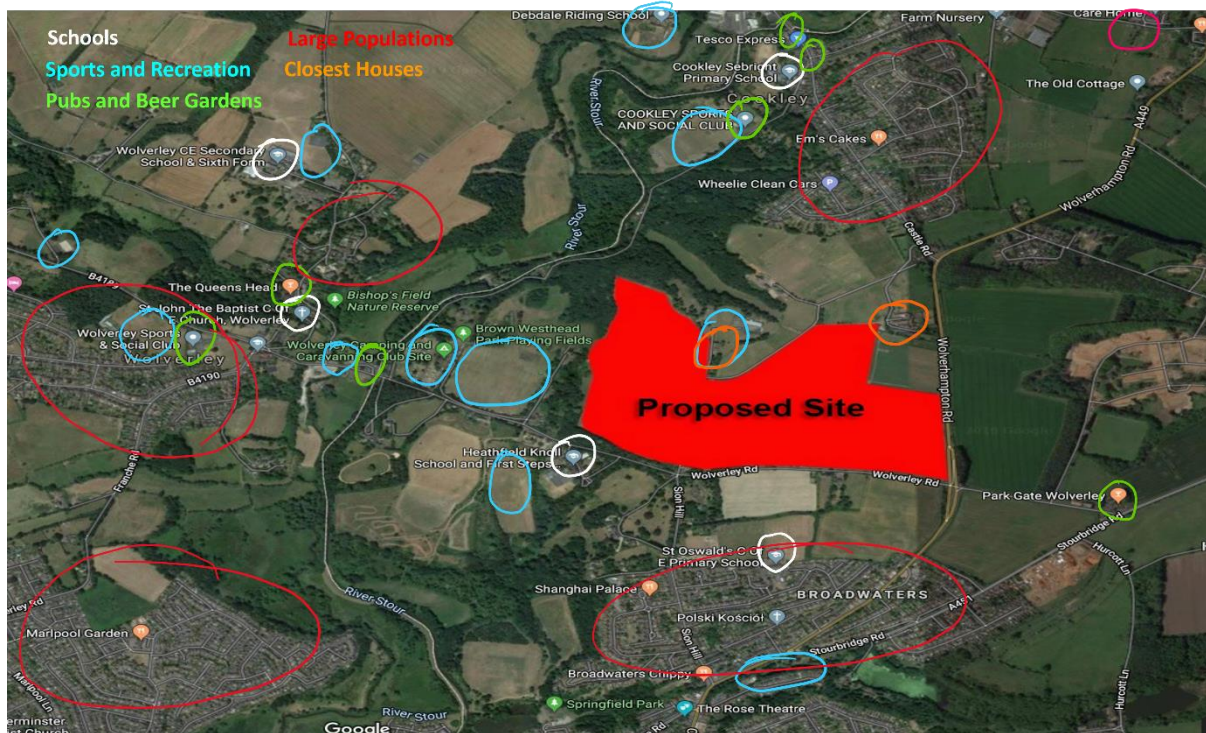
16. Every child has the right to be alive. Governments must make sure that children survive and develop in the best possible way.

Health, water, food, environment (Article 24)

17. Children have the right to the best health care possible, clean water to drink, healthy food and a clean and safe environment to live in. All adults and children should have information about how to stay safe and healthy.
18. In addition in December 2020, a coroners court in London ruled that air pollution contributed to the death of an 8 year old asthmatic girl. This is the first time a person in the UK has had air pollution listed as a cause of death. (Appendix 2)

(20/04/21 Coroner's report. Ref 2021-0113) (judiciary.uk)

19. In addition to local schools the map below also includes other local amenities.



20. There is a clear density of other local amenities on which the local population depends upon for both jobs and everyday life experiences.
21. You will note the significant amount of sports and recreation facilities in close proximity to the site. I have particular concern that these facilities may be abandoned or used significantly less as a result of the local quarry, the noise impact, air quality impact and transport impacts of the proposed development.
22. This area is a tourism destination and has a camping and caravan park within 400m of the proposed site. It seems unlikely people will be as keen to spend their holidays so close to a quarry. This could cause a knock on effect for the pubs and cafes that depend upon this tourism.
23. Impacts on local amenities could be significant and widespread.

Conclusion.

24. Currently these schools exist in a village setting with access to clean outdoor spaces allowing for many outdoor activities and access to green belt land. Should this appeal be successful it would lead to the potential for fine sand dust and particles to cover these schools curtailing these activities.

25. It would exacerbate any current respiratory condition in young people attending these schools or living in the general area and may lead to more young people developing respiratory conditions.
26. The sand and gravel quarry will cause unacceptable harm to some of the most vulnerable living and attending school in the local area. It is too close to existing schools and residencies for it to be allowed.
27. I am exceptionally concerned that the local schools and the increased risk caused by additional air particulates to pupils causes a serious risk to children's health.
28. I am concerned that the knock on impacts to other lifestyle related local amenities will also be significant.

A SUMMARY OF THE UN CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD



ARTICLE 1 (definition of the child)
Everyone under the age of 18 has all the rights in the Convention.

ARTICLE 2 (non-discrimination)
The Convention applies to every child without discrimination, whatever their ethnicity, sex, religion, language, abilities or any other status, whatever they think or say, whatever their family background.

ARTICLE 3 (best interests of the child)
The best interests of the child must be a top priority in all decisions and actions that affect children.

ARTICLE 4 (implementation of the Convention)
Governments must do all they can to make sure every child can enjoy their rights by creating systems and passing laws that promote and protect children's rights.

ARTICLE 5 (parental guidance and a child's evolving capacities)
Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents and carers to provide guidance and direction to their child as they grow up, so that they fully enjoy their rights. This must be done in a way that recognises the child's increasing capacity to make their own choices.

ARTICLE 6 (life, survival and development)
Every child has the right to life. Governments must do all they can to ensure that children survive and develop to their full potential.

ARTICLE 7 (birth registration, name, nationality, care)
Every child has the right to be registered at birth, to have a name and nationality, and, as far as possible, to know and be cared for by their parents.

ARTICLE 8 (protection and preservation of identity)
Every child has the right to an identity. Governments must respect and protect that right, and prevent the child's name, nationality or family relationships from being changed unlawfully.

ARTICLE 9 (separation from parents)
Children must not be separated from their parents against their will unless it is in their best interests for example, if a parent is hurting or neglecting a child. Children whose parents have separated have the right to stay in contact with both parents, unless this could cause them harm.

ARTICLE 10 (family reunification)
Governments must respond quickly and sympathetically if a child or their parents apply to live together in the same country. If a child's parents live apart in different countries, the child has the right to visit and keep in contact with both of them.

ARTICLE 11 (abduction and non-return of children)
Governments must do everything they can to stop children being taken out of their own country illegally by their parents or other relatives, or being prevented from returning home.

ARTICLE 12 (respect for the views of the child)
Every child has the right to express their views, feelings and wishes in all matters affecting them, and to have their views considered and taken seriously. This right applies at all times, for example during immigration proceedings, housing decisions or the child's day-to-day home life.

ARTICLE 13 (freedom of expression)
Every child must be free to express their thoughts and opinions and to access all kinds of information, as long as it is within the law.

ARTICLE 14 (freedom of thought, belief and religion)
Every child has the right to think and believe what they choose and also to practise their religion, as long as they are not stopping other people from enjoying their rights. Governments must respect the rights and responsibilities of parents to guide their child as they grow up.

ARTICLE 15 (freedom of association)
Every child has the right to meet with other children and to join groups and organisations, as long as this does not stop other people from enjoying their rights.

ARTICLE 16 (right to privacy)
Every child has the right to privacy. The law should protect the child's private, family and home life, including protecting children from unlawful attacks that harm their reputation.

ARTICLE 17 (access to information from the media)
Every child has the right to reliable information from a variety of sources, and governments should encourage the media to provide information that children can understand. Governments must help protect children from materials that could harm them.

ARTICLE 18 (parental responsibilities and state assistance)
Both parents share responsibility for bringing up their child and should always consider what is best for the child. Governments must support parents by creating support services for children and giving parents the help they need to raise their children.

ARTICLE 19 (protection from violence, abuse and neglect)
Governments must do all they can to ensure that children are protected from all forms of violence, abuse, neglect and bad treatment by their parents or anyone else who looks after them.

ARTICLE 20 (children unable to live with their family)
If a child cannot be looked after by their immediate family, the government must give them special protection and assistance. This includes making sure the child is provided with alternative care that is continuous and respects the child's culture, language and religion.

ARTICLE 21 (adoption)
Governments must oversee the process of adoption to make sure it is safe, lawful and that it prioritises children's best interests. Children should only be adopted outside of their country if they cannot be placed with a family in their own country.

ARTICLE 22 (refugee children)
If a child is seeking refuge or has refugee status, governments must provide them with appropriate protection and assistance to help them enjoy all the rights in the Convention. Governments must help refugee children who are separated from their parents to be reunited with them.

ARTICLE 23 (children with a disability)
A child with a disability has the right to live a full and decent life with dignity and, as far as possible, independence and to play an active part in the community. Governments must do all they can to support disabled children and their families.

ARTICLE 24 (health and health services)
Every child has the right to the best possible health. Governments must provide good quality health care, clean water, nutritious food, and a clean environment and education on health and well-being so that children can stay healthy. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

ARTICLE 25 (review of treatment in care)
If a child has been placed away from home for the purpose of care or protection (for example, with a foster family or in hospital), they have the right to a regular review of their treatment, the way they are cared for and their wider circumstances.

ARTICLE 26 (social security)
Every child has the right to benefit from social security. Governments must provide social security, including financial support and other benefits, to families in need of assistance.

ARTICLE 27 (adequate standard of living)
Every child has the right to a standard of living that is good enough to meet their physical and social needs and support their development. Governments must help families who cannot afford to provide this.

ARTICLE 28 (right to education)
Every child has the right to an education. Primary education must be free and different forms of secondary education must be available to every child. Discipline in schools must respect children's dignity and their rights. Richer countries must help poorer countries achieve this.

ARTICLE 29 (goals of education)
Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full. It must encourage the child's respect for human rights, as well as respect for their parents, their own and other cultures, and the environment.

ARTICLE 30 (children from minority or indigenous groups)
Every child has the right to learn and use the language, customs and religion of their family, whether or not these are shared by the majority of the people in the country where they live.

ARTICLE 31 (leisure, play and culture)
Every child has the right to relax, play and take part in a wide range of cultural and artistic activities.

ARTICLE 32 (child labour)
Governments must protect children from economic exploitation and work that is dangerous or might harm their health, development or education. Governments must set a minimum age for children to work and ensure that work conditions are safe and appropriate.

ARTICLE 33 (drug abuse)
Governments must protect children from the illegal use of drugs and from being involved in the production or distribution of drugs.

ARTICLE 34 (sexual exploitation)
Governments must protect children from all forms of sexual abuse and exploitation.

ARTICLE 35 (abduction, sale and trafficking)
Governments must protect children from being abducted, sold or moved illegally to a different place in or outside their country for the purpose of exploitation.

ARTICLE 36 (other forms of exploitation)
Governments must protect children from all other forms of exploitation, for example the exploitation of children for political activities, by the media or for medical research.

ARTICLE 37 (inhumane treatment and detention)
Children must not be tortured, sentenced to the death penalty or suffer other cruel or degrading treatment or punishment. Children should be arrested, detained or imprisoned only as a last resort and for the shortest time possible. They must be treated with respect and care, and be able to keep in contact with their family. Children must not be put in prison with adults.

ARTICLE 38 (war and armed conflicts)
Governments must not allow children under the age of 15 to take part in war or join the armed forces. Governments must do everything they can to protect and care for children affected by war and armed conflicts.

ARTICLE 39 (recovery from trauma and reintegration)
Children who have experienced neglect, abuse, exploitation, torture or who are victims of war must receive special support to help them recover their health, dignity, self-respect and social life.

ARTICLE 40 (juvenile justice)
A child accused or guilty of breaking the law must be treated with dignity and respect. They have the right to legal assistance and a fair trial that takes account of their age. Governments must set a minimum age for children to be tried in a criminal court and manage a justice system that enables children who have been in conflict with the law to reintegrate into society.

ARTICLE 41 (respect for higher national standards)
If a country has laws and standards that go further than the present Convention, then the country must keep these laws.

ARTICLE 42 (knowledge of rights)
Governments must actively work to make sure children and adults know about the Convention.

The Convention has 54 articles in total. Articles 43–54 are about how adults and governments must work together to make sure all children can enjoy all their rights, including:

ARTICLE 45
Unicef can provide expert advice and assistance on children's rights.

OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS

There are three agreements, called Optional Protocols, that strengthen the Convention and add further unique rights for children. They are optional because governments that ratify the Convention can decide whether or not to sign up to these Optional Protocols. They are: the Optional Protocol on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography, the Optional Protocol on the involvement of children in armed conflict and the Optional Protocol on a complaints mechanism for children (called Communications Procedure).

For more information go to [unicef.org/uk/crc/optional](https://www.unicef.org/uk/crc/optional)

Appendix 2

ANNEX A

REGULATION 28: REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS (1)

	<p>REGULATION 28 REPORT TO PREVENT FUTURE DEATHS</p> <p>THIS REPORT IS BEING SENT TO:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, Defra2. Department for Transport3. Department of Health and Social Care4. Mayor of London5. Transport for London6. London Borough of Lewisham7. General Medical Council8. Health Education England9. Nursing and Midwifery Council10. Royal College of Physicians11. Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health12. Royal College of General Practitioners13. NICE14. British Thoracic Society
1	<p>CORONER</p> <p>I am Philip Barlow, assistant coroner for the coroner area of Inner South London</p>
2	<p>CORONER'S LEGAL POWERS</p> <p>I make this report under paragraph 7, Schedule 5, of the Coroners and Justice Act 2009 and Regulations 28 and 29 of the Coroners (Investigations) Regulations 2013.</p>
3	<p>INVESTIGATION and INQUEST</p> <p>On 17 December 2019 I re-opened an investigation into the death of Ella Adoo Kissi-Debrah. The investigation concluded at the end of the inquest on 16 December 2020. The conclusion of the inquest was:</p> <p>Medical cause of death:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none">1a) Acute respiratory failure1b) Severe asthma1c) Air pollution exposure <p>Narrative conclusion:</p> <p>Died of asthma contributed to by exposure to excessive air pollution.</p>
4	<p>CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DEATH</p> <p>Ella died at the age of 9. She had severe, hypersecretory asthma causing episodes of respiratory and cardiac arrest and requiring frequent emergency hospital admissions. On 15 February 2013 she had a further asthmatic episode at home and was taken to hospital where she suffered a cardiac arrest from which she could not be resuscitated.</p> <p>Air pollution was a significant contributory factor to both the induction and exacerbations of her asthma. During the course of her illness between 2010 and 2013 she was exposed to levels of nitrogen dioxide and particulate matter in excess of World Health</p>

	<p>Organization Guidelines. The principal source of her exposure was traffic emissions.</p> <p>During this period there was a recognized failure to reduce the level of nitrogen dioxide to within the limits set by EU and domestic law which possibly contributed to her death.</p> <p>Ella's mother was not given information by health professionals about the health risks of air pollution and its potential to exacerbate asthma. If she had been given this information she would have taken steps which might have prevented Ella's death.</p> <p>There was no dispute at the inquest that atmospheric air pollution is the cause of many thousand premature deaths every year in the UK. Delay in reducing the levels of atmospheric air pollution is the cause of avoidable deaths.</p>
5	<p><u>CORONER'S CONCERNS</u></p> <p>During the course of the inquest the evidence revealed matters giving rise to concern. In my opinion there is a risk that future deaths could occur unless action is taken. In the circumstances it is my statutory duty to report to you.</p> <p>The MATTERS OF CONCERN are as follows. –</p> <p>(1) The national limits for Particulate Matter are set at a level far higher than the WHO guidelines. The evidence at the inquest was that there is no safe level for Particulate Matter and that the WHO guidelines should be seen as minimum requirements. Legally binding targets based on WHO guidelines would reduce the number of deaths from air pollution in the UK.</p> <p>(2) There is a low public awareness of the sources of information (such as UK-Air website) about national and local pollution levels. Greater awareness would help individuals reduce their personal exposure to air pollution. It was clear from the evidence at the inquest that publicising this information is an issue that needs to be addressed by national as well as local government. The information must be sufficiently detailed and this is likely to require enlargement of the capacity to monitor air quality, for example by increasing the number of air quality sensors.</p> <p>(3) The adverse effects of air pollution on health are not being sufficiently communicated to patients and their carers by medical and nursing professionals. The evidence at the inquest was that this needs to be addressed at three levels:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a. Undergraduate. I am informed that undergraduate teaching is the responsibility of the GMC, Health Education England and the NMC. b. Postgraduate. I am informed that postgraduate education is the responsibility of the Royal Colleges, in this case the Royal College of Physicians, the Royal College of Paediatrics and Child Health, the Royal College of General Practitioners, and the NMC. c. Professional guidance. In this case relevant organisations are NICE and the British Thoracic Society.
6	<p>ACTION SHOULD BE TAKEN</p> <p>In my opinion action should be taken to prevent future deaths and I believe you and your organisation have the power to take such action.</p> <p>Concern 1 above should be addressed by the Central Government Departments (Defra, DfT and DHSC).</p> <p>Concern 2 above should be addressed by the Central Government Departments, the Mayor of London and the London Borough of Lewisham.</p>

	Concern 3 above should be addressed by the named professional organisations. They may wish to collaborate in issuing their response. In addition, it will be sent to the DHSC and Faculty of Public Health for information.
7	<p>YOUR RESPONSE</p> <p>You are under a duty to respond to this report within 56 days of the date of this report, namely by 17 June 2021. I, the coroner, may extend the period.</p> <p>Your response must contain details of action taken or proposed to be taken, setting out the timetable for action. Otherwise you must explain why no action is proposed.</p>
8	<p>COPIES and PUBLICATION</p> <p>I have sent a copy of my report to the Chief Coroner and to all Interested Persons and to the LOCAL SAFEGUARDING BOARD (where the deceased was under 18).</p> <p>I am also under a duty to send a copy of your response to the Chief Coroner and all interested persons who in my opinion should receive it.</p> <p>I may also send a copy of your response to any other person who I believe may find it useful or of interest.</p> <p>The Chief Coroner may publish either or both in a complete or redacted or summary form. He may send a copy of this report to any person who he believes may find it useful or of interest.</p> <p>You may make representations to me, the coroner, at the time of your response, about the release or the publication of your response.</p>
9	<p>20 April 2021</p> <p style="text-align: right;">Philip Barlow</p>

Appendix 3



17th January 2023

Statement from Mrs Vickie Crisp – Headteacher at Cookley Sebright Primary School for Planning Inquiry

As headteacher of Cookley Sebright Primary School, I have grave concerns with regard to the planned 'sand and gravel quarry with progressive restoration using site derived and imported inert material to agricultural parkland, public access and nature enhancement' currently being appealed.

Air quality/dust

1. 'The plant required to work Lea Castle Farm Sand and Gravel Quarry at Worcestershire, together with associated vehicle movements have the potential to generate dust and other airborne pollutants in the immediate vicinity of their operations.' Lea Castle Farm Planning Statement

My main concern is the potential exposure to harmful mineral dust that would be emitted into the atmosphere. Residents living near to existing quarries report the increased levels of dust that can be seen and also the worry is the long term repercussions of reducing the quality of the air that the children are breathing in every day. These small particles are often not visible to the naked eye and therefore may not be an obvious exposure risk to local communities immediately. Exposure over a number of years can lead to the development of serious health conditions. We already have a number of pupils that have respiratory issues – I predict an increase if the quarry goes ahead.

This concern was highlighted following an incident in September 2021, when a large explosion occurred on an industrial estate in Kidderminster. Even though this was significantly further away from school than the proposed quarry, debris was found on our school grounds, resulting in an enforced closure whilst we cleaned up. With the close proximity to school, this demonstrates how easily mineral dust could easily travel through the atmosphere on the south westerly prevailing winds to our school grounds and into our children's lungs.

Traffic/safety

2. The impact of the proposed development on the local highway network has been found to be acceptable. The review undertaken confirms that in the worst case, the proposed development would attract an average of 77 loads / 154 HGV movements per day plus 22 movements (11 in / 11 out) associated with staff trips by the 11 employees within the site. The assessment has been based on the 154 HGV movements per day at the specific request of the Highway Authority, on the basis that back-hauling of sand and gravel exports with a load of imported fill be ignored, in order to represent the worst case. The highest increase in traffic over any baseline flow was found to be 1.7%,

which falls well below the 5% threshold considered to represent a material increase in traffic. Lea Castle Farm Planning Statement

The other concern is with regard to the traffic. The village/junction with the A449 is very dangerous. The village already has to accommodate large trucks delivering to the factory. I fear that the increase in traffic (particularly the HGV increase) will not only lead to an increase in local pollution levels but also the potential for more accidents and threat to life.

The new housing estate near to the Park Gate means that some of our families, with very young children, are having to walk to school along the A449. This in itself is a danger and would be made worse by an increase in traffic and noise.

I also notice that the traffic surveys were carried out a while ago. With the significant housing development that has taken place in the surrounding areas since this time, I would suggest that the figures shown in the survey are out of date and an underestimate of the current flow.

Conclusion

It is my duty as head teacher of Cookley Sebright Primary School to ensure the health and safety of my pupils (and staff) at all times. I believe that this proposed quarry would put this at risk.

I would strongly urge the inquiry to support the decision made by Worcestershire County Council in May last year, in that, the proposed quarry should not go ahead.

Mrs Vickie Crisp

Headteacher



18th January 2023

Re: Proposed Quarry in Wolverley

Reflections from the children of our School

- **Health of our children:** Due to the position of our School, our concerns centre around dust pollution with the potential dust cloud from the site. With many children suffering from asthma, an increase in air pollution will further impact their breathing and health. Our children access the outdoors throughout the School day and currently enjoy the clean air.
- **Noise & Traffic Pollution:** The benefit of the position of the village school is the limited noise during the school day. It is rare to have learning interrupted by noisy lorries and trucks that pass the school grounds. It would greatly impact our children if an increase in traffic travelling to and from the site.

Our children study the local environment and feel the introduction of a sand and gravel quarry in a small village would adversely impact their health and the wider community of Wolverley. The potential impact on nature and the wildlife does, they believe, strongly outweigh the argument for a quarry to be placed in this area.

Mrs S Reeves-Walters
Headteacher BA Ed Hons, NPQH



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Friday 20th January, 2023

RE: Appeal for planning of a sand and gravel quarry at Lea Castle Farm

To whom it may concern

I am writing to you to object to the proposed appeal by NRS Aggregates to build a sand and gravel quarry at Lea Castle farm and wish for this statement of impact to be shared at the appeal hearing. The reasons and basis of my objection are as follows:

1. Negative effects on the community

We are a small primary school and nursery built closely to the site (approximately 1 mile away). We are concerned that the nature of the development would significantly increase the amount of airborne sand/ dust particles.

Our children enjoy a full, enriched curriculum where outdoor learning, forest school, outdoor play is crucial to their learning experience. We currently have children in our school that have chronic respiratory conditions and are extremely vulnerable and this would pose a significant health risk to these children.

From researching the risks and impact of being exposed to silica dust, our whole school community would also be at risk of developing respiratory conditions and fatal diseases, causing lung disease.

We are hugely concerned that this would affect our children both inside and outside of the classroom as we always try to keep our classrooms well ventilated.

The noise from the quarry would impact negatively on children's learning as continual noise throughout the day would hinder focus and concentration and the ability for some of our children to hear their teachers teach.

The traffic approaching our school from Lea Castle is currently congested and problematic for parents who drop off and collect their children. The number of vehicles needed for such a development would throw the traffic issue into utter chaos.

The above issues would impact negatively on the school as we would also be vulnerable as a school as parents would begin to look for alternative schools to send their children to if their children's health, education and the practicalities of getting the children to school were at risk.

● **Negative and adverse visual impact of the development.**

Destruction of such beautiful countryside would be devastating to our school community. Some of our school community are from deprived backgrounds and during such a difficult time that communities have faced, with the pandemic and now with the cost of living crisis, to get rid of our beautiful spaces, where people can enjoy and access fresh air and healthy walks, is scandalous. Our community needs this for their health, well being and to preserve their heritage. I hope you will consider this statement when making your final decision as I urge you to reject the appeal.

Kind regards



Mrs C Reece
Headteacher

email: office@stoswalds.worcs.sch.uk | website: www.stoswalds.worcs.sch.uk | telephone: 01562 751056

St. Oswald's CE Primary School is part of The Diocese of Worcester Multi-Academy Trust which is a charitable company limited by guarantee and registered in England and Wales with registered number: 11038487. Its registered office is at The Old Palace, Deansway, Worcester, Worcestershire, WR1 2JL.