

Subject: Objection to Planning Application for Sand and Gravel Quarry at Lea Castle Farm

Dear Sir/Madam,

I am writing to strongly oppose the planning application for a sand and gravel quarry at Lea Castle Farm. As a brand new homeowner in Lea Castle Village and the parent of a child now attending Cookley school, I am deeply concerned about the impact this quarry would have on our family and community's health, safety, and quality of life. We have just moved to the area to improve our children's lives, and this proposal seriously damages this objective. The risk of Silicosis from a Quarry is hugely concerning, when we will live so close to the site and my child's school mere meters away.

With the new housing estate bringing hundreds of families to the area, increased traffic from quarry-related heavy goods vehicles (HGVs) on already congested roads, these roads are a serious safety risk. This is especially concerning for children, who must cross busy roads to reach school, and for motorcyclists, who are particularly vulnerable to accidents with larger vehicles (my husband rides a motorbike). The lack of pedestrian crossings on the A449 further heightens these dangers, which simply cannot handle the extra HGV traffic a Quarry would generate. Building a Quarry so close to a brand new housing estate, Lea Castle Village, is absolutely absurd, nevermind the existing small village of Cookley and beyond. Many new families with young children are moving to the area - it makes no sense to endanger them with Quarry dust and immense pressure on the roads with the vehicles needed to run a Quarry.

Additionally, dust and noise from quarry operations would negatively affect air quality for miles and disrupt the peace in our new community. This is especially troubling given the health risks associated with particulate matter, particularly for children, of which there are many! The new estate has worked hard to support wildlife with bat corridors etc - we need to protect our local area, and landing a Quarry opposite is counterintuitive.

We moved to the area for the beautiful country walks to enjoy with our family - the Quarry would remove such a huge section of this. I can see no benefit at all.

I urge the planning authority to reject this application to protect the health and safety of Cookley and Lea Castle Village residents and safeguard the community environment we are striving to build.

Sincerely,

Mrs Samantha Mucklow

84 Lea Castle Drive