

To whom it may concern,

I am writing to you to object to the plans for Lea Castle Quarry.

I live locally and my child attends Heathfield Knoll Nursery. The mere thought of having a quarry opposite to my child's nursery is frightening and is actually keeping me awake at night. Not only due to the pollution that is well known to be caused by Mineral & Quarry dust, but also due to the heavy HGV vehicles that will be on that stretch of the road. I am very familiar with that road as I do nursery drop off and pick up, and sometimes use it for other journeys throughout the week. I am failing to see how high numbers of large vehicles, who will be turning off and pulling out onto the road, at all times of the day, will not cause utter chaos and pose dangerous situations.

In relation to the nursery and school, to my knowledge, nobody can say with absolute certainty that there is no risk to our children. There is constant new evidence to suggest that people have not been protected efficiently in the past when exposed to inhaling small particles of dust in other industries and people are now dealing with consequences.

I am really struggling to understand how the quarry proposal has got this far. How can a quarry be proposed within 18 meters of a nursery! I genuinely thought it had to be a mistake when I first heard about it. PPE is provided to workers on site (due to the risk posed) and yet our poor children and staff would be expected to go about their usual business, breathing in invisible particles unaware of the dangers.

How can we possibly act in such a negligent, reckless manner and not protect our innocent children?

I did attend one of the consultation sessions as I was very keen to have an open mind and to hear about how such a quarry could 'potentially' provide benefit to the local area. However, I left extremely disappointed and didn't see any evidence that it would do anything other than cause a lot of harm and upset to the local community and local economy. I found the two planners, who were representing NRS, to be very intimidating. I was also concerned with some of the statements made by them.

At the consultation, I also noticed that the nursery and school had been hidden by a key on at least one of the maps/ plans. A key normally is placed at the bottom right of a document. In this case, it was placed higher to the left and that is quite unusual on a professional documents To me, it seemed the key on the document had been used to cover up the location of the school and it made me wonder if this map/plan had been used for another purpose.

Kind regards
Sarah Louise Turner