

To whom it may concern,

Sustainable Carlisle are writing to raise concerns over a planning application surrounding the Esk Quarry development.

It has come to our attention from local residents there may be some potential issues within this development. I would like to pose these to you, seeking reassurance and answers, to know with confidence that all measures will be taken to ensure the aims of this site are indeed sustainable for not just the local area but the wider issue of the climate crisis.

As the development does intend on moving the management of waste in Cumbria up the waste hierarchy by reducing the amount of waste being sent to landfill, this is not a simple opposition. We acknowledge we should remain objective when discussing these concerns and are aiming for scrutiny in ensuring the environmental objectives of this plan are solid.

There is unease about the possibility about the land and water becoming contaminated. This is in particular reference to the beck running through the quarry that feeds agricultural lands near by and the aquifer underneath the ground of the site. There must be strict and consistent regulation that there is no harmful burying of waste materials that can not be processed as well ensuring no contaminated run-off will enter the beck.

Residents also have concerns about the HGV movements causing noise and dust pollution in the surrounding area. Within the plan it is stated that no HGV vehicles would be passing through the village, but locals in the area have already reported a great number of disturbances, to the extremes of houses “rumbling” with motion. There have also been observations of damage to the wooded area at Cairn Bridge. The financial contribution from Mr Wannop in rebuilding sections of the damaged road does not however take into consideration the effect of the HGVs on those wanting to use the country lanes for walking and cycling.

Sustainable Carlisle supports endeavours that work towards a cleaner and greener community, and hope that by bringing up these residential concerns this particular development will be the best it can be.

Regards

The Secretary
Fiona Prior

Sustainable Carlisle