

Dear Planning inspectorate,

I am writing to strongly oppose the proposed quarry development in Cookley, as it poses a serious and lasting threat to the health of our children and families.

Quarries like this one have caused documented harm in other towns, where residents, especially children, have suffered from respiratory illnesses, chronic coughs, and even asthma due to the dust and emissions from HGV traffic. This proposal, with its daily influx of 150 heavy goods vehicles, would blanket our community in diesel exhaust and particulate pollution—right next to our homes, schools, and playgrounds. It is deeply distressing to imagine our children breathing in harmful dust and pollutants every single day. Their developing lungs and immune systems are simply not built to endure these toxic conditions.

We've heard horror stories from other communities impacted by similar developments—children unable to play outside, schools forced to keep windows shut, and local workers reporting respiratory issues and worsening health. This is not the life we want for Cookley, where we have worked so hard to build a safe, family-friendly community.

The destruction of over 100 acres of greenbelt land is equally alarming. These green spaces are our natural defence against pollution; they provide fresh air, reduce noise, and offer children a safe place to play and grow. The proposed quarry would strip this resource from our children and replace it with dust, noise, and industrial traffic. Cookley's unique character—its openness, greenery, and fresh air—would be lost, forever scarring the childhoods of our young ones.

It's concerning too that this development is so close to our residential areas, schools, and recreational spaces. We are asking the council to recognise that quarries belong far from family-centred communities like Cookley. Children here deserve safe, clean spaces—not roads crowded with HGVs and air filled with hazardous dust.

Lastly, we are outraged by the continued appeal process of this proposal. These continuous amendments appear to have been added to 'appease' us, but do not actually solve any of the issues we are raising. They're simply adding a veil over the larger problems which lie at our communities' hearts.

Please, for the sake of our children and community, reject this quarry proposal. Our families and future generations depend on your decision. And please also bear in mind that whilst this is your job to oversee this proposal, this is our lives you have control over in making this decision.

Thank you for considering this critical issue.

Yours sincerely,

Adam Seagrave  
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