

# Walleys Quarry Landfill Site

29 July 2021

We have developed this weekly update to help keep the community of Newcastle under Lyme and wider area up to date with developments around our regulation of Walleys Quarry landfill.

We don't want the community to continue to live with the distress caused by landfill gas being released from the operations at Walleys Quarry landfill. We are challenging Walleys Quarry Ltd (formerly Red Industries RM Ltd) every step of the way to act to address this and to operate in line with their permits.

## News in brief

- A multi-agency virtual engagement session is being held for the community on Tuesday, 3 August, between 5.30 and 7pm. Senior officers from the Environment Agency, Public Health England, Staffordshire County Council and Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council will be available for 90 minutes, as well as a representative from the North Staffordshire CCG, which represents GPs in the area. Residents will be able to submit questions in advance, or on the night.

The virtual session is being hosted on the Zoom platform. People can access it by PC, laptop, tablet or smart phone. [Click here to join Walleys Quarry community event automatically](#), or join the event manually by [opening up Zoom \(click here\)](#) in the device browser and entering the following details: Meeting ID: 996 6909 8093 and Passcode: 940976.

Please send all questions (directed at any of the host organisations) for the 3 August Walleys Quarry engagement event through to the following email address. Please include the following text within the email title, which will flag it for the event team: **Walleys Quarry engagement event.** [Enquiries\\_Westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Enquiries_Westmids@environment-agency.gov.uk).

- Walleys Quarry Ltd were due to start work on covering the steep flanks of the landfill in mid July with new technology not yet used in the UK called Posi-Shell. They have informed us this material has not yet arrived from the USA. They anticipate it will arrive early August and we have asked the operator to deliver a revised plan for these crucial works and timeframes in getting the flanks covered.
- Over the last few months we have been saddened to be on the receiving end of social media abuse. This has been particularly serious recently and has resulted in us reporting some accounts to Twitter. Those posts containing threats of violence or sexual violence will be reported to the Police. Please stick to the principles of our [social media policy](#) when engaging with us. Everyone deserves respect.
- An application for a judicial review has been lodged with the High Court involving the regulatory decisions of the Environment Agency in relation to the operational activities of Walleys Quarry Limited. The Environment Agency is currently following the relevant litigation process in relation to this application and is unable to comment on matters that may appear in court. A hearing is scheduled for 18/19 August.

- If you would like to talk to someone about any mental wellbeing issues, there are several sources of help on [Staffordshire Council's website](#). Anyone experiencing significant mental health issues should see their GP for a referral to primary care mental health services.
- For the week 19 July to 25 July, hydrogen sulphide levels were below the World Health Organisation's (WHO) 24-hour average health guideline level to protect against short-term health effects but were above the WHO 30-minute average odour annoyance guideline level between 0% and 16% of the week. During this week we received 645 odour reports from local people.
- Where possible, we ask residents to report odours in the local area surrounding Walleys Quarry via email. To report an odour issue related to Walleys Quarry, please [Click Here](#). This will open a template email for you to complete and send to our Incident Communications Service (ICS).
- If you are not able to email us, please report your odour issues via 0800 807060. We have reduced the number of questions we need to ask you, but your complaint will still be logged and you will be provided with an incident number.

### **Air Quality in the last week**

We are committed to sharing with you the outcome of our monthly monitoring. However, we realise local people want to see more frequent information about recorded hydrogen sulphide levels. We will seek to bring you indicative information every week in this update.

This data will be compared against the World Health Organisation's 24-hour average health guideline level. Should the World Health Organisation's 24-hour average health guideline level be exceeded, Public Health England will be immediately informed as short-term health effects may be experienced by the public such as irritation to the eyes, nose and throat. Individuals with pre-existing respiratory conditions may be more susceptible to these effects.

The data will also be compared to the World Health Organisation's 30-minute average odour annoyance guideline level, i.e. above which there are likely to be complaints about odour annoyance.

The Environment Agency conducts its monitoring and data handling using approved standards and methodologies. As a result, this weekly data is based on raw data that has not yet been subjected to quality assurance checking or calibration. As a result, this data may change significantly once the quality assurance check and calibration has been carried out.

For the week 19 to 25 July, hydrogen sulphide levels were below the WHO 24-hour average health guideline level to protect against short-term health effects but were above the World Health Organisation's 30-minute average odour annoyance guideline level for between less than 0% and 16% of the week (although final information is still being collated).

Data from our monitoring stations for the percentage of the week hydrogen sulphide levels were above the World Health Organisation's 30-minute average odour annoyance guideline level:

- MMF1 - Silverdale Cemetery = less than 3.6%
- MMF2 - Silverdale Road = 0%
- MMF6 - Newcastle-under-Lyme Fire Station = 3.6%
- MMF9 - Galingale View = 16%

We are updating the information on this webpage every week. To receive notifications, email your contact details to: [Engagement.WestMids@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Engagement.WestMids@environment-agency.gov.uk) and we will add you to our mailing list.

See [Staffordshire County Council website](#) for information on public health impacts of odours in the Silverdale and wider Newcastle under Lyme area.

Walleys Quarry website: <https://walleysquarry.co.uk/>