

Walleys Quarry Landfill Site

12 August 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

- **New online reporting form available**

Many of you asked for an online form to make it easier to report landfill gas odour from Walleys Quarry Landfill. An [online reporting form](#) is now available (see also the 'Contact us' part of this website). Like phoning us, you will receive a reference number, but as this is a new process, it may take a few days for the reference number to come through. We piloted this with representatives from your community, and the process will change over time. Our aim is to make it much easier for you to report issues.
- **Complaints via 'Fix My Street'**

We are aware that members of the public used 'Fix My Street' to report odour to us in recent weeks. Unfortunately, due to the way in which 'Fix My Street' works it does not capture all of the information we require to make an accurate record of incidents reported to us. We want to ensure that all reports are captured correctly and have emailed all residents who have used the app to report landfill gas odour to us asking them to use our new online tool via the link above.
- **July's air quality reports available**

The air quality monitoring report and data for July from the Environment Agency is now available on the Latest Update webpage. The PHE health risk assessment will be added soon. [Section 5 on air quality monitoring](#).
- **Revised Gas Management Plan**

On 31st July Walleys Quarry Ltd submitted their revised Gas Management Plan. This plan details a number of actions they will carry out to continue to improve on handling the gas from the landfill. We are currently assessing this plan and the proposed actions. As soon as this is agreed we will publish what the actions are along with any associated deadlines that are set in them being completed.
- **Recording available from virtual engagement event**

A second multi-agency virtual engagement session was held on Tuesday 3 August, with representatives from the Environment Agency, Public Health England, Staffordshire County Council and Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council and the North Staffordshire Clinical Commissioning Group (who represent GPs in the area) on hand to answer your questions. The recording is available [here](#)

- **Mental wellbeing**

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.

- **Latest hydrogen sulphide levels**

For the week 2nd to 8th August, 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 1% and 10% of the week. During this week we received 1115 reports from local people.

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 2nd to 8th August, 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 1% and 10% 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 = 1%
- MMF2 - Silverdale Road = 4%
- MMF6 - Newcastle-under-Lyme Fire Station = 5%
- MMF9 - Galingale View = 10%

We are updating the information on this webpage every week. To receive notifications, email your contact details to: 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/>