

# Walley's Quarry Landfill Site, Silverdale- Community Update February 2020

## Introduction

This is the second in a series of updates, which will provide residents with the latest information about our regulation of Walley's Quarry Landfill site, Silverdale.

We understand residents are concerned about odour in the local area we would like to assure all residents that we take these concerns seriously.

Keeping you up to date on our regulation is very important to us and we hope our updates will answer many of your questions. We have also produced a landfill frequently asked questions (FAQ) document, which can viewed on the link below:

[https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/west-midlands/walleys-quarry-landfill-silverdale/user\\_uploads/generic-landfill-faqs-1.pdf](https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/west-midlands/walleys-quarry-landfill-silverdale/user_uploads/generic-landfill-faqs-1.pdf)

## What we do?

We regulate two environmental permits held by the Red Industries RM Limited (the operator) for Walley's Quarry. Further details on the permits can be found on our website which can be found at the link below

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/psc/st5-6dh-red-industries-limited/>

## Latest News:

We attended the Walleys Quarry landfill liaison meeting on the 20<sup>th</sup> February 2020. Further information and notes from the meeting can be found at the link below. Briefings from the operator can also be found at this link.

<https://www.redindustries.co.uk/walleys-landfill-community/>

The operator has installed 11 shallow and 5 deep additional gas wells during. These are collected to the landfill gas collection system.

## What you have told us?

Residents have raised concerns about the number of lorry movements and operating hours of the landfill site. Traffic movements and operating hours are considered by the County Council (Stafford County Council) as part of the planning permissions for the sites. Please email any concerns to:

[regulation@staffordshire.gov.uk](mailto:regulation@staffordshire.gov.uk). They do not form part of our Environmental Permit conditions.

The Landfill operator should use measures, to ensure the local highway is kept suitably clean. The Walleys Quarry landfill has a wheel wash on site which all vehicles are required to use and a road sweeper.

Concerns have also been raised about waste falling from vehicles going into the site. Waste hauliers have a duty of care to ensure their loads are secure. If residents observe waste falling from a vehicle on the public highway please report this to us. Details of the waste company and vehicle registration number will assist in our investigations.

We want to continue to hear from you. If you have an environmental incident or concern to report, including any odour concerns. To do this, call our free 24 hour incident hotline on: **0800 80 70 60**.

We have continued to undertake odour checks in the area and visit the site regularly to assess compliance with the permit conditions. The operator is informed about complaints (although we never release personal data so they cannot identify complainants) and in accordance with their Odour Management Plan investigate and advise of the outcome of their investigations.

## What is the health impact on local residents?

In response to concerns raised about health impacts, the advice of Public Health England [PHE] has been sought and they were provided a copy of the Air Quality Monitoring report. Part of their response is below, the full response can also be found on the website:

*“PHE has assessed the environmental air quality data provided by the Environment Agency (EA) (July 2017-February 2018, and January 2019-June 2019) and compared hydrogen sulphide data with the World Health Organisation (WHO) air quality health-based guideline value of 107 ppb as a 24-hour average. We note that these levels are low and would not expect there to be any long-term health consequences. However, due to the low odour threshold of hydrogen sulphide, the EA monitoring data shows a small percentage of periods of exceedance of the WHO short-term odour value of 5 ppb as a 30-minute average; therefore there will have been the potential for significant odour complaints to occur. The unpleasant odour may cause discomfort leading to transient nausea, headaches and dizziness. Odour can be a cause of stress and anxiety, even when the substances causing the odours are not harmful to health at the levels detected at these locations. In addition PHE has not received any analysis regarding site-related odour complaints related to either local meteorological conditions or on-site practices. Please also note the PHE position that living close to a well-managed landfill site does not pose a significant risk to human health (<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/landfill-sites-impact-on-health-from-emissions>)”.*

If residents have health concerns, they are advised to contact their local GP, or contact NHS Direct on 111 or <https://www.nhs.uk/>

## Our commitment

As part of our regulation of the site we are continuing to carry out odour assessments and undertake routine visits to the site, which will be both announced and unannounced.

Red Industries RM Limited has confirmed that they are committed to the long term future of the site and compliance with their Environmental Permit. Community updates produced by the site operator can be found on their website at the following link: <https://www.redindustries.co.uk/walleys-landfill-community/>

## Keeping local residents updated

We will continue to provide updates via our newsletter and online information page. The link to our information page is

<https://consult.environment-agency.gov.uk/west-midlands/walleys-quarry-landfill-sliverdale/>

If you would like to receive our newsletter, please email [Engagement\\_WestMids@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:Engagement_WestMids@environment-agency.gov.uk) and we will add you to our mailing list.

Our next update will be provided by the end of March 2020.

**Thank you for taking the time to read this update**