

TGPC Meeting 23 Sept 2022

Report from the Quarry Working Party

Background

- No formal environmental measurements of dust, noise and vibration have been made to assess the impact of increasing numbers of HGV movements on the B4077.
- GCC MPA is aware of the numerous concerns that have been raised by local residents but to date has not requested an EIA despite numerous comments made by TGPC, CNLB, CPRE and, recently, CDC.
- A limited noise survey was carried out in 2019 as part of the Oathill application but was incomplete.
- GCC Highways have been conducting traffic counts across the area to understand the total HGV movements associated with the quarry cluster (at TGPC's request and funded by local residents and parish councils).

Proposed scope

- The proposal is to take measurements at two potentially sensitive locations (Upper Coscombe and Ford). The proposed scope of work was reviewed by the EHOs from CDC, who also suggested companies capable of the work

Proposal evaluations

- Proposals were invited at end of Aug 2022 and were received in early Sept. Of seven companies contacted four declined to respond due to availability or conflict of interest. Costs ranged from approx. £10,000 to £22,000.
- Assessment criteria used included:
 - Conflict of interest
 - Experience
 - Availability of personnel and equipment
 - Cost
 - Willingness to challenge and optimise solutions.
- Clarifications of scope were invited from three companies relating to the scope, technical requirements and budget.
- Of these proposals, Hydrock provided the best technical and commercial response. The CDC EHOs also suggested that company. Of the other two companies one declined to progress further due to an undeclared conflict of interest and the second company, whilst they met the cost constraint, did this by cutting the scope without explanation or challenge.

Phasing

- Based on the comments received and on availability of funding, the recommended approach is to carry out the work in two phases. Dust measurement needs to be done over a period of 90 days to be able to fully evaluate effects on health.
 - **Phase 1** : Noise and vibration at Ford and Upper Coscombe (7 days) with static dust measurement over 30 days
 - **Phase 2** : Continuous dust measurement at one location for 90 days

Recommendation

- Scope of work is supported by TGPC, with funding from multiple sources.
- Work is awarded to Hydrock and will be carried out over two phases:

During the meeting the following question was asked:*What will happen to the results?*

- The Environmental Health Officers (EHOs) at CDC will review the results. The results will also be shared with the EHOs in TBC.
 - If the results show no adverse impact, we will all need to move on.
 - If the results show areas of concern a wider area of study may be required. and the
 - Adverse impact(s) will need to be addressed by the cluster of quarries, as no one quarry is responsible for all the impact(s).