

Town and Country Planning Act 1990
Section 78 Appeal

Ref: APP / E1885 / W / 22 / 3310099

**Land at Lea Castle Farm, Wolverley Road, Broadwaters, Kidderminster,
Worcestershire**

**Appeal by NRS Aggregates Limited against the refusal of planning permission by
Worcestershire County Council**

Summary of Proof of Evidence of Rachel Canham with regard to Noise

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Revision	Summary
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2.4 In both the Statement of Common Ground and their Statement of Case, WCC raised concerns about the cumulative impact of the quarry development, in conjunction with adjacent permitted and allocated development in particular due to the development at Lea Castle Village. Concern was also raised about the cumulative impact relating to Heathfield Knoll School and First Steps Nursery.

2.5

4 Response to Worcestershire County Council

- 4.1 In response to the comments raised by WCC, I have undertaken calculations for additional permitted or allocated residential receptors, all of which are located no nearer the quarry than the receptors already assessed by WBM. The calculations were undertaken using the same noise model as used for the quarry in 2019. All of the calculated site noise levels comply with the site noise limits for normal and temporary operations for these additional receptors, demonstrating that the proposed quarry at Lea Castle Farm would not cause any significant impact at existing, permitted or proposed residential developments.
- 4.2 With regard to cumulative impact from mineral sites, there are no other mineral sites or operations in the vicinity of the proposed quarry at Lea Castle Farm, so no cumulative assessment of such operations is necessary.
- 4.3 With regard to road traffic, the additional traffic generated by the allocated developments at the time were presented in the transport assessment prepared for the quarry application. The forecast traffic flow from the proposed quarry at Lea Castle Farm was included within the assessment of road traffic noise for Lea Castle Village as set out in the noise assessment report submitted with the application. Therefore the cumulative impact of additional traffic from the proposed quarry has already been considered in the noise assessment for the Lea Castle Farm site.
- 4.4 There are areas of employment use within the proposed development at the Former Lea Castle Centre and Lea Castle Village, however the noise levels from these are likely to be restricted in order not to cause impact on the immediately adjacent residential properties within the same development. As such the cumulative impact on other receptors from the employment use within these sites is expected to be negligible.
- 4.5 The noise from construction, in particular of the Lea Castle Village site, is likely to be the most significant noise source associated with other developments that may have an impact on the noise sensitive receptors. I have considered the cumulative impact with regard to construction activities on the permitted and proposed housing developments in general terms.

4.6 Construction noise is highly variable depending on the particular activity, location of the works, the plant items used, the duration of the works at each location and the mode of

- 4.11 Heathfield Knoll School and the Nursery are located approximately 1 kilometre from the Lea Castle Village site. At this distance, any construction noise from the Lea Castle site is highly unlikely to be significant at the school and nursery, and as such would not change the impact assessment of quarry noise affecting this receptor.
- 4.12 The guidance documents relating to noise generally require noise not to have unacceptable adverse impacts and to avoid significant adverse impact. The fact that sound may occasionally be heard does not result in significant adverse impact; occasional identifiable noise could occur for both “N”

6 Summary and Conclusions

- 6.1 This proof of evidence has addressed the reasons for the refusal relating to noise of the planning application for

6.8 In summary, I have responded to the various comments on noise including the consideration of cumulative impact and shown that this does not affect the outcome of the original noise assessment.

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