

27 June 2024

Our response to feedback received on our current operations at Tytherington quarry

It was good to receive constructive feedback on our current operations at our March 2024 drop-in event. Below we have set out how we have responded to the points raised:

Traffic and transport

- Several residents raised concerns about mud from HGVs leaving the quarry being deposited on local roads.

Our response: Since the event we instigated the installation of a water sprinkler jet on the entrance/exit way into the quarry to keep dust down. Plus, we have increased the frequency of the street cleaning services we employ from three to five days a week and a new wheel wash is planned for inclusion in the 2025 budget.

- We were also asked if anything could be done to address drivers stuck behind HGVs at the traffic lights at the junction of Tytherington road and A38. Residents complained that they often miss green lights because loaded HGVs in front take some time to get moving.

Our response: We have reached out to SGC's highways team to investigate if the phasing of the traffic lights could be adjusted to help prevent this from occurring.

- Residents raised concerns about HGVs leaving Tytherington quarry pulling out onto Tytherington road in front of oncoming vehicles.

Our response: We have ensured that the Stop sign on the exit from the quarry is clearly visible to HGV drivers. We are also accessing the white lines on the quarry side of the junction. In addition, we have also reached out to all drivers servicing Tytherington quarry, reiterating our driver protocols, which include the need to stop and give way to oncoming traffic on leaving the site.

Blasting

- Some residents expressed concern about the disruptive nature of blast noise and vibration.

Our response: As set out at the drop in event, independent research carried out by authorities around the world into vibration levels has helped

to formulate safe blasting criteria, with the UK having some of the most stringent levels in place.

At Tytherington quarry we operate within the regulations set out in our existing planning conditions and will continue to do so in the proposed quarry extension areas. These regulations have well-defined limits on ground and air vibration (air over pressure) and ensure that there is no risk of structural damage to nearby homes or buildings. The limits employed sit well within the defined limits of acceptability defined in government guidance.

The ways in which blasts may be experienced can be shaped by a number of factors, including geology and even the weather. For example, low cloud or humidity can affect air overpressure (AOP) – or the movement of air caused by a quarry blast.

In response to feedback, we have now launched a blast notification text and/or email service for Tytherington quarry so that local people can be informed about our blasting programme and receive notifications ahead of each blast. The free service includes a weekly update setting out planned blast times for the week ahead, plus a follow up notification approximately half an hour before each blast takes place. All residents have to do is email us at:

Tytheringtonquarryenquiries@uk.heidelbergmaterials.com and advise if you would like to receive a text message to your mobile phone (please provide the number) and/or via email*.

NB: Information on our privacy policy can be found at:

www.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/privacy-policy Subscribers can opt out at any time by contacting us at the email address above.

Environment and biodiversity

- There was a request to provide more information about how we approach the environmental management of the site.

Our response: Our quarterly liaison meetings include a standard agenda item covering Environmental, landscape and biodiversity update. Minutes from these meetings are available to view from this website at: www.communities.heidelbergmaterials.co.uk/en/sites/tytherington-quarry/liaison-group

At our most recent meeting in April an update on the management of trees with ash dieback disease was provided. Information was also shared on tree planting on the bank near the weighbridge, plus the planned timing for hedge laying and hedge cutting outside of bird nesting season.

Our recently updated Biodiversity Action Plan for Tytherington quarry is available on our [Tytherington community website](#):

Going forward we will continue to post news stories about our environmental approach to this website and provide full updates at future liaison meetings.

Also of interest may be the news that Heidelberg Materials has committed to allocating 15 per cent of all our active quarry sites as space for nature by 2030. Our approach at Tytherington quarry is guided by this and aim to enhance fauna and flora, including protecting and enhancing wildlife corridors as well as promoting natural woodland regeneration and natural regeneration of grassland where applicable.

The company has also been recognised for our national and international Quarry Life Awards. This scientific and educational competition takes

places every three years and aims to raise the awareness of the ecological value of extraction sites and share best practice. See www.quarrylifeaward.com

- We were asked if we could cut back the vegetation along Itchington road.

Our response: We have carried out an initial cutting back on vegetation so that high sided vehicles aren't impacted. We will carry out further work this autumn outside of nesting bird season.

Site viewing platform

- We were asked if a site viewing platform with public access could be created.

Our response: Understandably, operating Tytherington quarry safely is our primary concern. The layout of the existing quarry and its lack of proximity to Public Rights of Way (PROW) mean that we can't create a viewing platform at present, nor can it be included in our current application to extend activity within the existing quarry boundary. However, it is something we can consider as a long-term aspiration for the site.

Later this year we are holding a residents' open day for those living in Tytherington and Itchington **on Saturday, 7 September**. This will provide an opportunity to see behind the quarry gates and learn more about quarrying and our approach to environmental protection, boosting biodiversity, developing careers as well as blasting and activity at the railhead.

Lighting at night

- A resident from Shallards Lane stated that nighttime light levels had become a disturbance.

Our response: We do take steps to ensure that the lights not needed are turned off. However, there is a requirement to have lights at night to ensure the health and safety of those on site, especially at the railhead. In light of this residents' feedback, we have carried out an assessment to see if the lights can be angled to minimise impact on our neighbours.

For more information on how feedback from residents has helped shape our proposals to extend extraction from two areas within the quarry's existing boundary see the FAQ section in the Extension Proposals section on the [Tytherington quarry community website](http://www.tytheringtonquarry.com).

Fly tipping and CCTV

- We were asked if we could install CCTV along the quarry boundary with Itchington road to help mitigate illegal fly tipping.

Our response: This is not feasible; however the site team has instigated regular monitoring of the area so that any fly tipping noted can be reported to SGC.

To see our response to the topics raised and how they have impacted our final

plans see the addition to our FAQs at the bottom of the [Making best use of our mineral resources](#) section.