



HOUSE OF COMMONS  
LONDON SW1A 0AA

**FAO: The Planning Inspectorate**

**Planning ref: LCC/2023/0030**

17<sup>th</sup> April 2026

As the Member of Parliament for the Knott-End and Preesall area, I am speaking today to once again lodge my sustained opposition to the quarrying application for the ***Land off Bourbles Lane, Preesall***.

When the quarry application was first proposed, at my public meeting there was a massive outcry from residents fearing for their health, their livelihoods, and the stability of their properties.

Along with joining a cross-party All Party Parliamentary Group supporting clean quarrying, in 2022 I presented a Parliamentary Petition against the proposal on behalf of residents.

That same year Parliament debated the issue of locating sand quarries close to residential housing, concluding that there were huge air-quality concerns for any residents living with 1.5km of a sand quarry.

The facts have not changed, and nor has my opposition to this application:

- There are two schools within 2km of the proposed site, with Fleetwood's Charity Primary School within 1km.
- There are nursing homes, and a higher than average population of older people in the local area, due to many people choosing to retire to this beautiful coastal area – which is home to a huge diversity of wildlife, flora and fauna.

At the time of my original objection 1,361 Over Wyre Medical Centre patients used bronchio-dilators or inhaled corticosteroids – 12% of patients.

815 patients were on the Asthma Register, and around 5% had chronic obstructive pulmonary disease.

A proportion of the properties around the periphery of the site are also home to people with pre-existing long term conditions.

No mitigation measures or restoration by the applicant will help to improve or support local health outcomes. Instead, the health conditions of local residents **will worsen** as a result of this application, many of whom are already vulnerable and susceptible to long-term breathing conditions.

On transport concerns, the A588 was once dubbed "*one of England's most dangerous roads*" owing to the number of accidents, particularly on the unsafe Burned House Lane junction which I campaigned for years to get speeding restrictions on.

Alongside the narrow B5270 (Lancaster Road) which is just 5.5m wide, regular HGV journeys in both directions entering and exiting the area would pose a huge risk from a road safety perspective.

Aside from the serious and disqualifying health grounds, and the dangerous road navigation, residents have continued to share with me their concerns on the destruction of natural habitats.

Quarrying will adversely affect local wildlife, with guaranteed environmental disruption to ecosystems caused by significant, constant heavy vehicle traffic on the fragile, narrow roads.

The health risks are all too real for residents of all ages, and the voices of local objection are significant, and so I once again put on record my objection to quarrying in Preesall, and urge the Planning Inspectorate to reject the application.

Thank you.

**Cat Smith MP**

**Member of Parliament for Lancaster and Wyre**