

**CUMBRIA MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK
SITE ALLOCATIONS AND PROPOSALS MAP
EXAMINATION HEARING SESSION 4: ADDITIONAL NON-INERT LANDFILL CAPACITY**

**RESPONSE TO THE INSPECTOR'S ISSUES AND QUESTIONS
HOLKER ESTATES
(REPRESENTATION REFERENCE 27)**

Following the Report on the Examination into the previous Site Allocations and their adoption by the County Council, a planning application was submitted for an 'integrated inert waste recycling and disposal facility' at Goldmire Quarry in February of last year. This has yet to be determined but it is understood a report recommending the granting of planning permission is to be considered at the County Council's Development Control and Regulation Committee on 8 May.

The legal challenge by Barrow Borough Council to quash the Site Allocations was made on 3 March. Although the grounds for this related to the allocation of Site M12, the Borough Council had previously objected to the allocation of Site BA10 as it was considered to be premature in the absence of technical and feasibility studies. The judgement made on 22 June quashed the Site Allocations leading to this repeated Examination.

Both Holker Estates and Neil Price Limited, the operators of Goldmire Quarry, are understandably reluctant to commit the further resources necessary to progress a scheme for the disposal of non-inert wastes until both the inert waste recycling and disposal facility has been approved and the outcome of the repeated Site Allocations Examination is known.

The scheme design also requires more details of the residues from the household waste treatment facility that is currently under construction in Barrow in Furness and the other waste risings from commerce and industry that will still need to be landfilled. It is anticipated that separate cells will be provided for different types of waste with the choice of lining systems being dependent on their engineering properties and polluting potential.

The hydrological and geological information for Goldmire Quarry that was given in the Regulation 28 statement of 5 February 2010 confirms that there are no technical reasons why Site BA10 should not be considered for the disposal of non-inert wastes. Using the low permeability clay that is found at the quarry and imported inert construction wastes can provide a geological barrier and cell containment to the same specification as has been approved for Phases 6 and 7 of the Bennett Bank site. Consequently the risk of groundwater pollution is no greater at Goldmire than it is at Bennett Bank where the underlying geology is similar.

Although the planning permission for the extended Bennett Bank Landfill Site expires in 2017, it is understood that Phase 6 may be amended, reducing the available void space and therefore its operational life. This confirms that without the allocation of Site BA10 there will be an overall quantitative shortfall in landfill provision with no site in the south of the County for a significant part of the period covered by the CMWDF. No alternative to Site BA10 has been identified and there is little prospect of a more suitable site being found in the Furness area.