Dear Ms Trueman

CMWDF SITE ALLOCATIONS EXAMINATION HEARING SESSION 7
GOLDMIRE QUARRY SCHEME OF WORKING AND PROPOSED INERT LANDFILL DRAWINGS

Please find enclosed the drawings of Goldmire Quarry that were displayed at last Tuesday’s hearing session and which the Inspector asked for copies.

The first of these, reference MP-101, shows the quarry as it is now with the second drawing, reference MP-102 showing the proposed final face configuration in red. Cross and longitudinal sections showing the existing and proposed faces are shown on drawing reference QS-101.

The last of the drawings, reference P102, shows the landform now proposed for the infilling of some 850,000 cubic metres of inert wastes that will be the subject of a planning application to be submitted shortly to the County Council. Planning consent for the infilling of some 240,000 cubic metres of inert wastes up to a height of 60 metres AOD was granted for the western part of this area in 2004.

As explained in the Holker Estate’s Regulation 28 statement, the responses to the Inspector’s questions and at the hearing, engineered containment of non-inert waste cells to the same standard as has been accepted for the ‘green field’ extensions (Phases 6 and 7) to the Bennett Bank can be provided at Goldmire Quarry. The Bennett Bank extensions were considered acceptable to the Environment Agency and there is no reason why an environmental permit should not be approved for the infilling of non-inert wastes at Goldmire Quarry.

The phasing of non-inert landfill that would incorporate inert waste in the cell construction with the continued extraction of limestone has been agreed in principle with Neil Price Limited, the operators of the quarry. By 2013 sufficient limestone will have been extracted from the quarry floor to the approved depth of 22.5 metres AOD to engineer a cell or cells to take non-inert wastes that could have a capacity of up to 225,000 cubic metres if the quarry void is restored to
original ground levels. This could either be at the northern end of the quarry or, as was mentioned at the hearing, at the southern end where the quarry is wider with existing faces only on two sides. Limestone extraction would continue further along the quarry floor during the first phase of non-inert was disposal to provide additional landfill capacity.

Our clients, the Holker Estates Company Limited and Neil Price Limited, are understandably reluctant to proceed with a detailed design for the disposal of non-inert wastes at the quarry without the site being fully allocated as a Preferred Area in the CMWDF Site Allocations. Given the lead in time and the need to provide some flexibility, this should be progressed sooner rather than later if sufficient non-inert landfill capacity is to be provided for the southern part of the County throughout the period covered by the CMWDF.

Copies of this letter and the enclosed drawings have been sent to the County Council.

Yours sincerely

WM Stephens