

Amended Motion by the Conservative Group to Full Council 23rd July 2025

Council resolves:

1. To call again on the Secretary of State to grant a Public Inquiry into the role of the Environment Agency as a regulator and its failings in respect of the Walleys Quarry Landfill Site.

2. To call on the Environment Agency, Adam Jogee MP and all relevant authorities to deliver all actions required to ensure that Walleys Quarry Landfill Site is safe, the residents of Newcastle-under-Lyme are protected, and it does not present a present or future risk of pollution **or harm to public health** for local residents.

3. To ask the Leader and Chief Executive on behalf of all members to write to Adam Jogee MP, Member of Parliament for Newcastle-under-Lyme, to seek his specific assistance:

(a) in getting the relevant Government departments and agencies to engage with partners through the established coordinating group;

(b) in calling on the Government to play an active role in the safe restoration and remediation of the site;

(c) in supporting this Council's call for a Public Inquiry into the site and failures in its regulation.

4. To ask the Leader and Chief Executive on behalf of all members to write to ~~the leadership of Staffordshire County Council, (who granted planning permission for the site) and~~ the Environment Agency (EA): ~~(who issued the permit)~~

(a) to ask for their commitment to ensure real and meaningful financial support for the on-going restoration costs associated with the safe restoration and remediation of the site;

(b) to ask that continuous monitoring of the site using the MMFs remaining in place.

(c) To ask them to hold a public Stakeholders Meeting to outline their position by the end of September.

5. To ask the Leader and Chief Executive on behalf of all members to write to the Secretary of State, to grant a Public Inquiry and provide a guarantee that remediation costs will be met in full by the Government, if not by the Environment Agency, so that the expense of putting things right will not fall on local taxpayers under any circumstances.

Ask the Leader and Chief Executive to also write to the new leadership of Staffordshire County Council asking them to join with the Council in lobbying for the above outcomes.

6. To continue to use all its efforts to pursue the Directors of WQ personally, via the Liquidators of the Company (the Monitoring Officer having already written to the Liquidators in this respect) in relation to their many failures to properly manage the affairs of WQ and the resulting blight which they have left upon the local community in Newcastle-under-Lyme.

Proposed: Simon Tagg

Seconded: Mark Holland