Alan Marsh
Chairman, Planning Applications
Committee
Kent County Council
By email

HW/AE 8 November 2017

Planning Application: KCC/SW/0247/2017 - East Kent Recycling

I am writing as the Member of Parliament for Faversham and Mid Kent, to object to the above application.

The East Kent Recycling plant is located at the western edge of my constituency on the outskirts of the village of Oare. I have received many letters and emails from constituents raising concerns about the current negative impact of the business on the surrounding communities. I am concerned that by increasing the footprint of the site, these problems will be exacerbated. In particular I would like to highlight the following concerns:

- Impact on local residents - lorry traffic is affecting my constituents in Ospringe and Davington. This includes dust, vibrations, noise and light pollution. Whilst the number of lorries entering the site at the moment should be restricted to 40 trucks per day, local residents have measured the actual number to been in excess of 100 lorry movements per day.

- Impact on air quality - lorries use the Western Link Road and the A2 to reach the East Kent Recycling site. Ospringe is already an Air Quality Management Area (AQMA) due to high levels of pollution. It cannot be right to increase the number of lorries going through Ospringe, adding to that pollution. This is a public health concern.

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- Impact on the landscape - the proposals are detrimental to the environment and landscape around Oare Creek. The route taken by lorries to the site is along the Saxon Shore Way, a historic footpath and part of the proposed National Coastal Path. Walkers report feeling unsafe using a path shared with heavy lorry traffic, and it's clearly not the experience intended for the National Coastal Path. This will only get worse with even more lorries. There is also the risk of polluting the nearby Site of Special Scientific Interest.

- Consultation on the expansion - I am concerned that residents in the wider surrounding villages, particularly Davington and Ospringe, have not been formally consulted on the plans to expand the site.

For these reasons, I believe enlargement of the site and increased activity on it as proposed is unacceptable and I would be grateful if your committee would take into account the comments above when considering the application.



Helen Whately MP
Member of Parliament for Faversham and Mid Kent