

From: Environmental Health
Sent: 11 August 2026 16:15
To: Development Control
Cc: Christopher Harrison
Subject: 4/26/2253/OL1 - NORTH WALL, WHITEHAVEN HARBOUR

Listed building consent for temporary ground investigation works to the north wall of the harbour

Thank you for the above planning consultation.

The site is within land marked on Council mapping as being potentially contaminated land due to its historical industrial and ship building legacy.

Given the limited scale of the ground works, however, within a controlled environment, we would see these works as posing a low risk, though appropriate personal protective equipment and risk assessment should be made for site workers.

Planners may wish to consider if a general condition for unexpected contamination is required in the circumstances.

In terms of noise, acoustic data is provided for to the percussive drilling rig at 110 – 115 dB. Reference is also made to resultant noise transmission to a wharf building at 130 m distant. Note that there are also noise-sensitive receptors in office accommodation at Blencathra House at approximately 105 m (around 76 dB) and in residential flats at Pears House at 145 m distant (around 73 dB).

The drilling works would be readily audible for these off-site receptors and cause temporary annoyance.

It would be helpful if acoustic barriers / acoustic quilts could be placed around the immediate drilling area as this would help reduce noise transmission to off-site receptors.

It may also be prudent to temporarily close nearby public footpaths passing close to the working area during loud percussive drilling in order that pedestrians are not exposed to very high noise levels.

Site works that are audible beyond the site boundary may also be limited to certain hours during the working week in the circumstances, for instance 08.00 – 18.00 Monday to Friday, in order that residents are not disturbed in the evening and at weekends, notwithstanding any health and safety concerns.

Environmental Health have no objections to the proposed works; there is an obvious need and public benefit to finding a solution to the ochrous mine water entering the dock.

Environmental Health
Public Health & Protection | Cumberland Council
Whitehaven Commercial Park, Moresby Parks, Whitehaven, Cumbria, CA28 8YD

T. 0300 373 3730

cumberland.gov.uk



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