**Freedom of Information Act / Environmental Information Regulations Request**

Reference: ECC13801824 11 22
Response: 28 November 2022

I can confirm that Essex County Council does hold this information.

**Question 1 -** **Essex County council own lodge farm, park farm road, Upminster, Essex, rm142xs.**

**The land has recently been advertised as for sale at auction.**

**Please confirm if there will be restrictions placed on the land, to ensure the land may not be used for the**

**Purpose of operating a sand and gravel quarry, or a landfill site, in the future. As these would impact the health**

**And safety of thousands of residents in the area.**

It should be noted that the auction by ECC of Lodge Farm has been postponed.

The auction sale contract would have imposed no legal restrictions on future use of the land (other than an overage agreement in respect of the agricultural land).

**Question 2 - Please confirm you are in negotiation with the council at London borough of havering, to ensure their Residents and visitors are being suitably protected from the potential lethal or damaging consequences of the sale of this land. If no restrictions are placed on the future use of the land.**

**In part because park farm road is not suitable for heavy commercial traffic, as witnessed by yet another road accident within metres of the farm's entrance in the last two weeks. This accident involved a commercial vehicle**

**And a car. The commercial hgv's used in distributing sand and gravel, or landfill are even larger and more dangerous on the nearby surrounding lanes. The council ward that the farm is located in has the highest fatality rate in the whole of the local council's wards, as well as being one of several connecting wards that also report many dozens of serious road traffic accidents annually. Long term health risks, such as particulate matter air pollution pm2.5 and pm10, as well as other toxins (such as asbestos already reported in the local area as a hazard at a nearby landfill site) are of serious concern and may contribute to life threatening illness. A duty of care exists to protect residents and road users. As owner of this land, which is bordered by thames chase wildlife trust land, is near the sssi at rainham marshes, as well as the wildlife reserve at hornchurch country park. As well as the local schools and residents. Essex county council is in a unique position of ensuring the wellbeing of thousands of people by restricting the use of the land into the future. Co-operation between essex county council and havering borough council is in the public interest**

To our knowledge there have been no negotiations between Havering Council and ECC regarding restrictions being imposed on sale of the land.

**Your Right to Know**

Democracy and Transparency

Essex County Council

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