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Public Health
Wales

Environmental Information request to Public Health Wales

FOI Reference:	EIR 406
Date request received	14 August 2020
Date information is due to be sent	14 September 2020

Information Requested:

1. Advice given to RCT in respect of application 15/0666/10
2. Evidence found following the meeting held on 18 August 2010
3. Levels of COPD as well as cancer related cases in Glyncoch compared with other areas of RCT County Borough

Information provided for the answer:

Thank you for your recent request.

Public Health Wales has not seen the planning report referred to in this letter, but has worked with the local authority and community over a number of years to assess risks associated with local concerns of air pollution.

Noting some general comments made about the health effects of air pollution, this fact sheet produced by Public Health Wales may be of interest to you

<https://phw.nhs.wales/services-and-teams/environmental-public-health/air-quality/air-pollution-and-health-fact-sheet/>

While the meeting of 2010, as attended by Public Health Wales and local Health Board is mentioned, some more recent correspondence is more relevant in the context of this application:

- In 2017, the local Health Board (supported by Public Health Wales) responded to the Council's Planning Department raising some key points about potential nuisance issues and local air pollution concentrations in the context of statutory Air Quality Objectives. It should be noted that data shared with Public Health Wales (following a local authority-led air quality monitoring exercise) showed that local air quality was "good" in that no breaches of health-based Air Quality Objectives were observed. See attachment Letter 2017.
- In 2019, Public Health Wales was asked by the local authority for more advice to inform planning decision-making. Through discussions with Council colleagues, it was noted there were no proposals to increase throughput or output at the site (though we recognised there appeared to be no restrictions on production levels at the site), which averages 400,000 tonnes per annum. With regards local air quality impacts, Public Health Wales referred to the Council's Air Quality Progress Report of 2019. This showed that the latest PM₁₀ monitoring data (from Upper Garth Avenue, Gyncoch (site no 130), for the period January to September 2018) confirmed that local air quality was good in that PM₁₀ concentrations showed no breach of both long and short term health-based national Air Quality Objectives. As such, and providing there is no increase in activity at the quarry site, we commented that adverse air quality impacts – and consequently human health impacts – are unlikely. In our response, we referenced the 2017 Health Board letter (attached) and concluded that its content remained valid; the information submitted by the applicant did not change the position outlined. Comment was also made to fully support intentions to carry out air quality monitoring in the community and that Public Health Wales is happy to review and interpret air quality (and any other) monitoring data to inform public health risk assessments in the future.

The following documents that you have requested are attached, and there are some further documents that may help:

- Notes of initial meeting 18 August 2010 between PHW, RCTCBC, Health Protection Agency, Community Leaders and local Assembly Member
- Letter to JO'hara, Glyncoch Community Partnership, March 2011
- Notes of meeting with community leaders and Director Public Health Cwm Taf 17 May 2011 to present population profile
 - Population health profile produced to inform the meeting with Glyncoch residents
 - Presentation to meeting with community leaders summarising the findings of the profile
- Update of the Population health profile produced in 2016

In your 3rd question, you ask for: Levels of COPD as well as cancer related cases in Glyncoch compared with other areas of RCT County Borough. The updated profile 2016 provides this information.



Glyncoch Health
profile brief Oct 201



Health profile
brief.pdf



Letter to JOhara
March2011v0e.pdf



Notes of meeting
17May2011v0a.pdf



Notes of meeting
18August2010v0b.p



Presentation17May
2011Slides.pdf

If you are unhappy with the service you have received in relation to your request and wish to make a complaint or request a review of the decision, you should write to the Corporate Complaints Manager, Public Health Wales NHS Trust, 3, Number 2, Capital Quarter, Tyndall Street, Cardiff, CF10 4BZ.

If you are not content with the outcome of your complaint or review, you may apply directly to the Information Commissioner for a decision. Generally, the ICO cannot make a decision unless you have exhausted the complaints procedure provided by the Trust. The Information Commissioner can be contacted at:

Information Commissioner for Wales

2nd Floor
Churchill House
Churchill Way
Cardiff
CF10 2HH

Telephone: 029 2067 8400

Email: wales@ico.org.uk