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Air Quality

Neither existing residents, nor residents of the New Community, will be subject to poor air quality. There will be no breaches of national air quality standards. A revised assessment has been undertaken on the amended planning application which does not result in any change to the original assessment.

The construction works for the New Community could potentially increase the amount of dust and small particulates (known as PM10) in the air around the site. Dust is not able to travel far: the majority of dust (up to 80%) will be deposited within 200 metres of the site; with the remaining portion typically being deposited within a total of 400 metres from the site. However, there are scattered residential properties within 200 metres of the site. Small particulates are lighter and able to travel further. Therefore, a programme of best practice construction measures will be implemented and monitored, including watering of site roads, sheeting of vehicles, dampening or covering of stockpiles, and maintaining equipment in good working order. These measures will reduce substantially the potential for dust and small particulates from the construction works and will ensure that neighbouring residents are not affected.

The New Community will increase the volume of motorised traffic in and around the site, although this is being minimised through the pedestrian, cycle and public transport-friendly design. A detailed and complete air quality assessment at 11 locations has been validated and, as the levels of traffic within and around the New Community site will still be relatively low, there is no risk of air quality standards being breached.