

UPDATE NEWSLETTER

The Future of the Somersby Sand Quarry

The Somersby Sand Quarry is one of the oldest working quarries in the area, having operated on its current site since the early 1960's. The quarry provides high quality construction materials to local and national markets as well as ensuring valuable local employment.

Hanson is currently investigating options for the continued operation of the quarry. This includes options for minor extensions to the

quarry onto adjoining land. This adjoining land currently contains poultry sheds and other agricultural uses.

The support of the community is paramount in ensuring that Hanson's operations are in keeping with the expectations of neighbours. For this reason, a series of newsletters will be sent to neighbours to ensure that they are kept informed of proposals for expansion of the quarry.



Existing Quarry

- The existing quarry occupies an area of approximately 33 hectares and has an annual production of approximately 300,000 tonnes.

Expansion Details

- The expansion of the quarry would add approximately 8 hectares of land to the quarry area;
- The area that would be used for the expansion is currently used for the purposes of a poultry farm and other agricultural purposes. The poultry farm would be relocated;
- The proposal would not see any additional plant or equipment used on the site and would rely on the existing administration buildings, plant, equipment, loading facilities etc which are located on the existing quarry site;
- The additional land area would not result in any alteration to traffic haulage routes and would not increase the number of vehicles; and
- The quarry expansion would not increase the operating hours or the annual production rates for the quarry, but rather, will extend the life of the quarry operation.

Investigations so far

Hanson is at the very preliminary stages of planning for expansion to the quarry. Letters have been sent to the Department of Planning to confirm whether the project will be a 'major project' as defined under the Environmental Planning & Assessment Act. The Department of Planning is likely to be the approval authority for any application for quarry expansion.

Once the Department of Planning confirms that the proposal is a 'major project' a preliminary report will be prepared to determine any major issues with expansion of the quarry.

Hanson has engaged Insite Planning Engineering Environmental to assist in the preparation of relevant documents and to facilitate the preparation of the preliminary report.



How will we keep the public informed?

We will, over the coming months, issue a series of newsletters keeping our neighbours up to date with any plans for expansion and the process involved.

In due course, the Department of Planning will undertake formal consultation processes as required by planning law.



Our neighbours are important to us

Hanson prides itself on maintaining excellent relationships with our neighbours. The fact that the existing quarry has operated for more than 4 decades without complaint or incident is testament to the excellent relationships that have been established. Hanson now aims to maintain these relationships throughout the planning for this minor quarry expansion.

If you have any questions or comments, please feel free to make a submission, in writing, to either of the addresses below.

Hanson looks forward to working with you in making continuing improvements to the Somersby Quarry and surrounding environment.



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