

# TOM TUGENDHAT MBE MP



## HOUSE OF COMMONS

LONDON SW1A 0AA

23 June 2020

Cllr Susan Carey  
Cabinet Member for Environment  
Kent County Council  
Sessions House  
County Hall  
Maidstone  
Kent  
ME14 1XQ

Dear Susan,

You will no doubt be aware of the operations of Blaise Farm Quarry in West Malling. In recent weeks I have noticed a significant increase in the impact that blasts are having on local residents in the West Malling, Kings Hill, Mereworth and Offham area.

I have previously been in contact with the Environment Agency regarding this matter and they have advised me that the assessing the function of mining and blasting falls within Kent County Council's (KCC) remit, as the regulatory authority responsible for mineral operations and any associated blasting.

There are planning restrictions which limit the size of the blasts, and recent data which was sent to Offham Parish Council suggests that the blasts are well within that permission. However, the level of disruption which residents nearby have faced recently is now of a scale where I would appreciate a further investigation into the operations of the site.

I would be grateful if you could let me know what additional investigation KCC could do to investigate the impact of the level of blasts on nearby residents. I have numerous examples of properties affected and would be happy to share these with you.

I am copying this letter to West Malling, Kings Hill, Mereworth and Offham Parish Councils, and also the local County Councillors.

I look forward to hearing back from you.

*Best wishes,*

*Tom Tugendhat*

**TOM TUGENDHAT**

CC:

Cllr Trudy Dean, Malling Central Division, Kent County Council  
Cllr Matthew Balfour, Malling Rural East Division, Kent County Council  
Cllr Sarah Hohler, Malling North Division, Kent County Council  
West Malling Parish Council, Kings Hill Parish Council, Mereworth Parish Council, Offham Parish Council

**Member of Parliament for Tonbridge and Malling**

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