**From:** [redacted]
**To:** Joanna Vincent
**Subject:** RE: Quarry objection [GATELEY-CONSULTANCY.FID139926]
**Date:** 05 March 2026 09:29:23

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Hi Apologies,

It's Mrs Isobel Reynolds

Sent with Proton Mail secure email.

On Thursday, March 5th, 2026 at 8:58 AM, Joanna Vincent <Joanna.Vincent@gateleyhamer.com> wrote:

> Dear Sir/Madam
>
> In order to register your objection, please can you provide me with your name.
>
> Kind regards
>
> **Joanna Vincent**
> **Public Inquiry Manager**
> for Gateley Hamer
>
> t: 0148 323 0164
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> joanna.vincent@gateleyhamer.com
>
> Gateley Hamer
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>
> **From:** [redacted]
> **Sent:** 04 March 2026 15:17
> **To:** Joanna Vincent <Joanna.Vincent@gateleyhamer.com>
> **Subject:** Quarry objection

I am writing to register my formal objection to the proposed strategy for access across the park and the integration of the restored phases. Having reviewed the plans in detail, I am deeply concerned that the strategy fails to deliver the level of connectivity, safety, and amenity that users currently enjoy, and that it falls significantly short of the standards set out during the earlier Inquiry.

## 1. Failure to Provide Attractive and Unfettered Routes

The Inspector at the first Inquiry emphasised that routes across the park must be *attractive and unfettered*. The current proposals do not meet this requirement. Many of the new paths are routed alongside active quarry workings and substantial earth bunds of 3–5 metres in height. Such surroundings are neither pleasant nor free from obstruction, fundamentally undermining the quality of the user experience.

## 2. Loss of the Existing Accessible, Safe, and Well-Used Taxiway Route

One of the most popular and effective cross-park routes is the old concrete taxiway. It is valued because:

- it lies close to Ellenbrook,
- its hard surface is accessible for wheelchairs, mobility users, cyclists, and families, and remains usable in poor weather,
- it provides long, clear sight lines that ensure safety.

Under the proposals, only around 40% of the taxiway will remain up to the sports pitches. Users will be diverted onto narrower gravel or grass paths—some running alongside busy roads—representing a significant downgrade in accessibility, safety, and comfort.

## 3. Poor Path Surfaces and Seasonal Inaccessibility

Much of the proposed path network comprises gravel or grass surfaces. Regularly used grass routes are already known to deteriorate into mud during winter months on Ellenbrook Fields, and these new routes will inevitably suffer the same fate. This makes the park effectively inaccessible for many users for significant parts of the year.

## 4. Inadequate Route Between the Lagoons

The plan for a 3-metre-wide grass path between the two lagoons is particularly concerning. This narrow strip will quickly become waterlogged and unusable in winter, forcing lengthy and inconvenient diversions around the lagoons, thereby fragmenting access across the

park.

## 5. Visual and Environmental Quality of Footpaths

The proposed footpaths will be bordered by fencing and bunds, resulting in a visually unappealing and enclosed environment. This contrasts sharply with the open, natural character the park currently provides and which visitors value.

## 6. Proximity to Quarry Operations and Heavy Vehicles

Many of the proposed routes sit uncomfortably close to:

- active quarry workings,
- access roads used by lorries,
- internal haul roads used by dumper trucks,
- the operational plant site.

This poses clear risks and greatly diminishes the recreational quality of the park. Users—especially children, families, and dog walkers—will be forced to navigate crossings and remain constantly alert to vehicle movements. This is entirely at odds with the concept of a safe, welcoming public space.

## 7. Loss of Wildlife Access

The proposals will also progressively destroy access to diverse wildlife habitats as quarrying advances, reducing both ecological value and public enjoyment. This runs counter to the principles of environmental protection and community benefit.

## 8. Lengthy and Inefficient Diversions

As quarrying phases progress, park users will be subject to increasingly long diversions around active areas. This disrupts connectivity, discourages use, and fails to provide a coherent or integrated park experience.

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## Conclusion

For the reasons outlined above, I strongly object to the proposed access strategy. It does not meet the standards promised at earlier stages, nor does it provide a safe, inclusive, or attractive route network. The plans fail to integrate restored phases successfully and instead impose significant barriers to public enjoyment and accessibility.

I urge the planning authority to reject the current proposals and require a revised strategy that genuinely protects and enhances cross-park

access for all users.

Yours faithfully,
**[Your Name]**

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