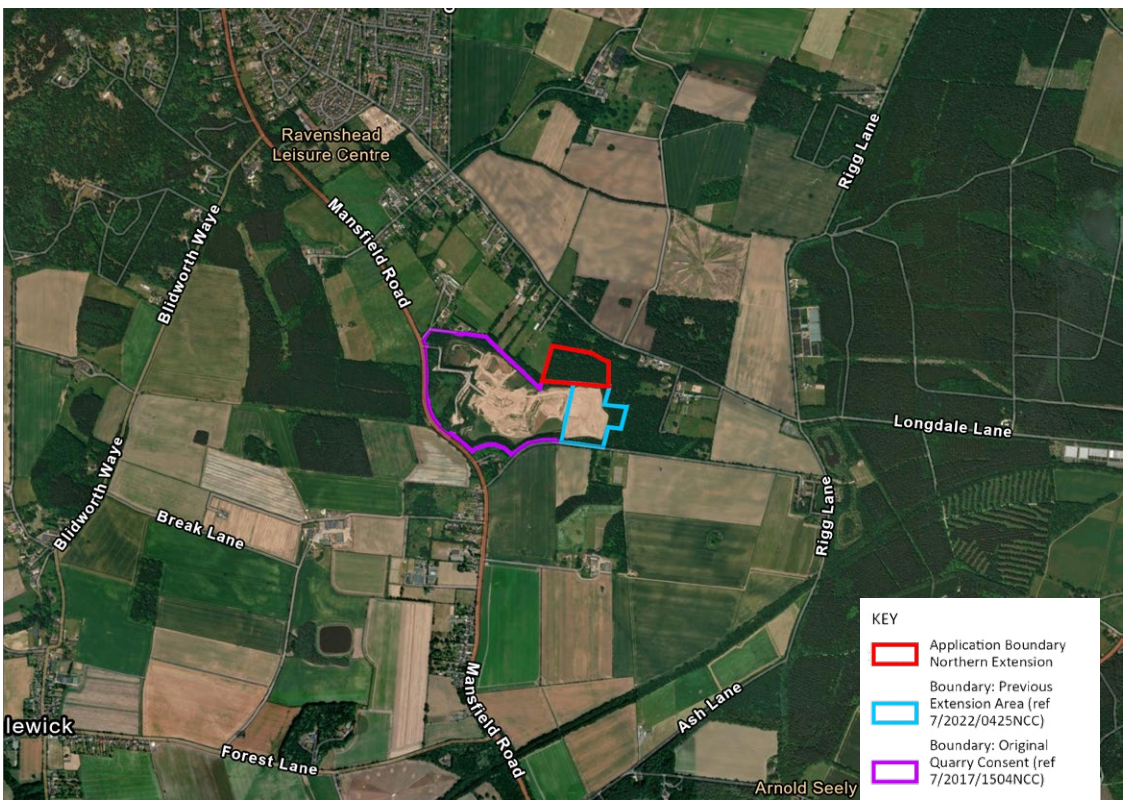
Welcome



A location plan showing the current working quarry and proposed extension

Welcome, and thank you for attending today's exhibition. This event is part of Tarmac's consultation on a proposed northern extension to Bestwood II Quarry.

We are here to:

- Introduce our proposals and explain why this extension is needed.
- Explain how the quarry operates and how we manage its impacts.
- Set out our long-term plans for restoration and biodiversity.
- Give you the opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback.

About Bestwood II Quarry

Bestwood II Quarry is a sandstone quarry located 2km south of Ravenshead on the A60. The site has been operating since 1947, following the closure of the original Bestwood Quarry (now Bestwood Country Park). The quarry:

- Works unconsolidated Sherwood Sandstone, to produce sand used in mortar, concrete, asphalt and sports pitches.
- Supplies construction materials essential to the delivery of housing and infrastructure projects in Nottinghamshire and the East Midlands.
- Employs five full-time and one part-time staff, most living within 10 miles, alongside contractors and hauliers.
- Plays a key role in ensuring Nottinghamshire and the wider East Midlands have access to sustainable local building materials.

About Tarmac

Tarmac is the UK's leading supplier of construction materials, with over 150 years' worth of experience providing materials such as stone, gravel, concrete, asphalt and mortar, that are used in the building and maintenance of homes, roads and critical national infrastructure.

Tarmac is part of CRH group, the leading producers of aggregates, asphalt, cement and concrete blocks in the UK. We are a major UK employer, with around 7,000 people across more than 350 sites.

Since 1996, Tarmac's Landfill Communities Fund has provided more than £20 million to community and environmental projects across the UK, including support for local initiatives such as Ravenshead Village Hall, Papplewick Village Fayre and Ravenshead Primary School.

Bestwood II Quarry today

An aerial view of Bestwood II Quarry

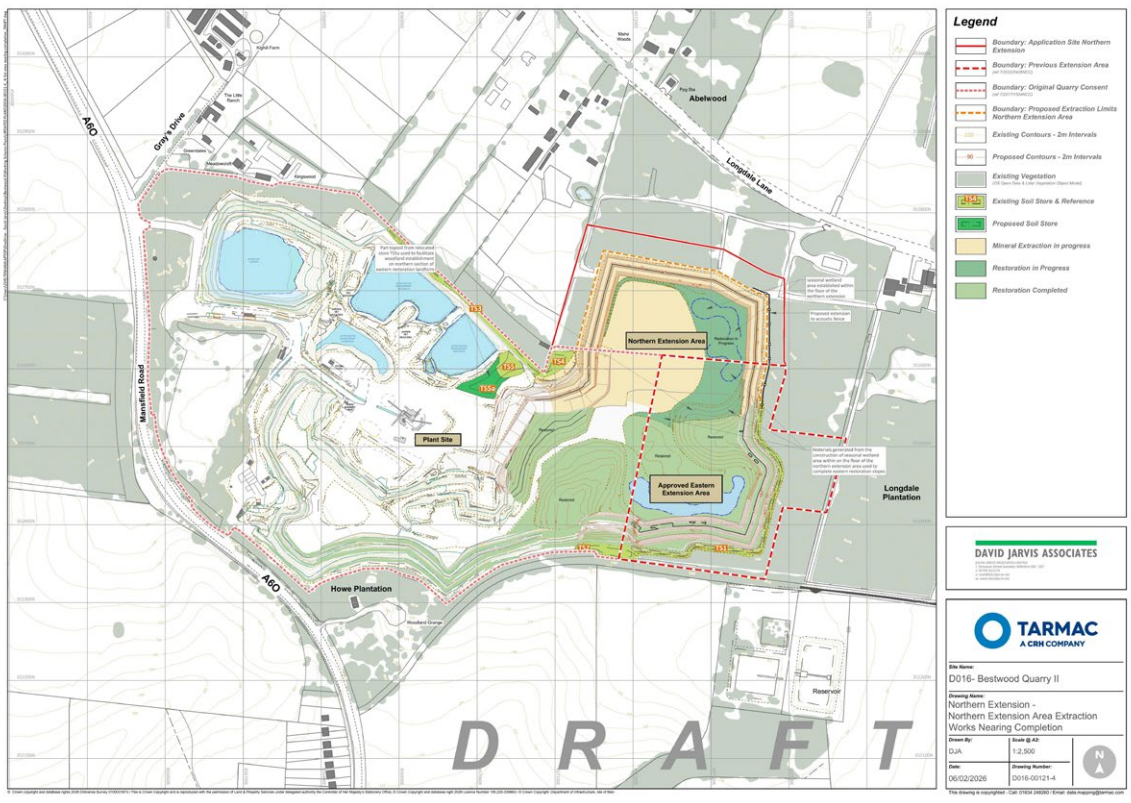
Bestwood II Quarry has been part of the local landscape for more than 75 years, with extraction taking place here since 1947. Prior to this, the original Bestwood Quarry was located on the edge of what now is Bestwood Country Park.

The quarry is well hidden from the road by mature trees and bushes but behind this screening the quarry is a carefully managed operation encompassing mineral extraction, processing facilities and progressive restoration.

- At the centre of the site is the processing plant, where sandstone is washed, screened and sorted into different grades before being stockpiled and prepared for loadout and delivery.
- The quarry extraction areas are connected to the plant by internal haul roads, with dump trucks transporting material safely across the site.
- A dedicated access road links directly to the A60, keeping quarry traffic separate from village centres.
- Water is an important part of the process. A series of lagoons and settlement ponds are used to recycle and manage water on site, ensuring efficient sustainable operations and helping to prepare land for restoration once extraction has finished.

Alongside daily operations, restoration is already under way. Worked out areas are progressively restored, with new habitats being created to attract species such as peregrine falcons, ravens, sand martins, great crested newts and various species of butterflies. This approach ensures that the land is gradually returned to nature rather than left unused once quarrying is complete.

About our proposed extension



Northern extension extraction proposals

The existing unconstrained reserves at Bestwood II Quarry are expected to be fully exhausted by 2031. Without new reserves, the quarry infrastructure would need to be decommissioned and demolished to excavate the remaining permitted reserves beneath the plant site. Following the exhaustion of these reserves, the quarry would then have to close, ending local employment and increasing the need to transport materials from further afield.

By extending Bestwood II, we can:

- Maintain a steady and sustainable local materials supply.
- Secure local jobs for the life of the extension.
- Support additional work for hauliers, contractors and suppliers.
- Continue providing essential sand products for local construction and infrastructure projects.
- Make best use of existing site infrastructure, including the plant, haul roads and safe access onto the A60.
- Avoid opening new greenfield sites elsewhere.

The extension is allocated in the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan (2021), meaning it has been identified by the County Council as an appropriate site for future mineral supply subject to planning permission being granted.

About the proposed northern extension

- Located immediately north of the current quarry.
- Total area: 4.08 hectares, of which 2.63 hectares would be worked.
- Extraction would last for around five to six years, and would be undertaken prior to extracting the remaining permitted mineral underneath the plant site.
- Output would be similar to current levels, with no increase in operating intensity or vehicle movements.
- The site would continue to use the existing access, plant site and welfare facilities.
- Existing planning and environmental controls would remain in place.

Section 73 applications – varying existing conditions

We will be submitting four Section 73 applications alongside the full extension application. These will allow the use of the existing plant site, access and ancillary facilities – as well as integrate the restoration requirements for the existing permitted quarry with the proposals for the extension.

Extracting and processing the minerals

Quarry equipment depositing sand into the stockpile

At Bestwood II Quarry, Sherwood Sandstone is extracted using straightforward but carefully managed methods. Unlike sand and gravel quarries along the River Trent, at Bestwood we do not work below the water table, allowing us to restore land "dry" as soon as areas are finished.

How we extract sandstone

- Sandstone is excavated bench by bench using a 360 excavator.
- At the plant, the sand is screened and washed, before being separated into different sand grades for use in mortar, concrete, asphalt and other uses.
- Stockpiles are created before products are loaded onto lorries for delivery.

The washing and screening process removes unwanted fines material, ensuring high quality products for construction projects.

By taking a phased approach to extraction we can use the soils, overburden and other unwanted materials to progressively restore the exhausted areas of the quarry as soon as possible. At Bestwood II, where the deposit is deep, this can take time but you can see the impact this is having in the restored areas of the quarry today.

What is Sherwood Sandstone?

The sandstone at Bestwood II is part of the wider Sherwood Sandstone Group, which extends across much of the East Midlands. It is an important geological resource for the local area. Sherwood Sandstone is a natural sandstone formed around 250 million years ago when this part of the UK was covered by desert environments. Over time, wind-blown sands were compacted and cemented together to form the rock that is quarried today.

Sherwood Sandstone is well suited for construction use, and is widely used in mortar, concrete, asphalt and sports and leisure surfaces, helping to support the delivery of homes, roads and infrastructure across Nottinghamshire and the wider region. By sourcing this material locally, we reduce the need to transport minerals over long distances and make best use of a well-established natural resource.

Quarry equipment extracting the sandstone at the face

Transporting the minerals to market

A loading cab loading materials into a tipper ahead of delivery offsite

Once processed, the sand from Bestwood II Quarry is delivered for use in local and regional construction.

We are committed to safe and responsible transport operations. The northern extension would continue to use the site's established access and haulage arrangements.

Key facts about transport at Bestwood II

- All HGVs will continue to only use the existing safe access road onto the A60 (Mansfield Road), west of the quarry.
- There is no anticipated increase in daily vehicle numbers as part of the proposed extension.
- All existing planning controls associated with vehicle movements will remain in place.
- The permitted hours of operation will also remain in place, with heavy goods vehicles only allowed to enter and leave site 7am-7pm on weekdays and 7am-1pm on Saturdays, with no movements permitted on Sundays or Bank Holidays.

The quarry already operates under strict planning conditions to control vehicle cleanliness and prevent debris on the highway. The measures we adopt include:

- All HGVs are sheeted before leaving site.
- All vehicles leaving site pass through a wheel wash to ensure no debris is carried onto the road network.
- We also utilise road sweepers on the quarry haul road when weather conditions require it.

These controls have been in place for many years and will continue unchanged.

If any issues are observed in association with lorry activities, please contact the site as soon as possible regarding the issue, ideally with the date, time and vehicle registration to enable us to investigate the matter and take appropriate action.

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Bestwood II Quarry

Controlling noise and dust

Frisbee-type dust deposit gauge used to monitor dust

We understand that noise and dust are key concerns for local communities. Bestwood II Quarry already operates under strict planning controls, and the extension would be managed in the same way.

Controlling dust

A Dust Mitigation and Management Plan will be prepared that also includes the extension, which will set out daily controls and a robust monitoring programme consistent with existing arrangements.

The existing plan has proven successful in minimising dust, with very few complaints received to date.

- Measures include:
  - Water bowsers to dampen haul roads and stockpiles.
  - Sweeping of access roads.
  - Sheeting of lorries and speed limits within the site.
- Independent specialists carry out regular monitoring at nearby properties to measure the level of dust deposited over time and ensure operations remain within accepted limits.
- Recent monitoring between October 2024 and May 2025 recorded dust levels well below recognised nuisance criteria.
- If monitoring ever identified an issue, planning conditions allow additional measures to be introduced.

Managing noise

As with dust, we would develop a Noise Mitigation and Management Plan for the extension setting out our monitoring programme and daily controls similar to the plan the existing quarry operates under.

- Existing measures include use of modern, quieter equipment and the use of bunds and acoustic screens. New acoustic screens will be installed to the east of the extension area to protect our nearest neighbours.
- Noise levels at the quarry are controlled through planning conditions, which set maximum limits at nearby homes.
- Independent monitoring was undertaken in September 2025 at properties surrounding the site. The results confirmed that the quarry was operating within its permitted limits.
- All plant and machinery on site is required to incorporate appropriate noise controls, and working practices are designed to minimise disturbance to neighbouring properties.

Should we receive planning consent, we will continue to report the results of our air quality and noise monitoring to the environmental health authority and regularly review our Noise and Dust Management Plans.

Landscape, archaeology, heritage and arboriculture

Example of tree screening at another Tarmac site

As part of the planning process, we have carefully assessed how the proposed northern extension would relate to the surrounding landscape, local heritage and public rights of way. Specialist studies have been undertaken to understand the existing setting and to ensure that important features are protected.

Landscape impacts

Bestwood II Quarry sits within a working rural landscape, shaped over time by agriculture, forestry and mineral extraction. This is reflected in local landscape character assessments, which identify the area as one where managed land uses are already well established.

The proposed northern extension is modest in scale and located directly alongside the existing quarry. As a result, the wider landscape is assessed as having low sensitivity to the proposals.

Archaeology and heritage

Detailed archaeological and historical assessments have been carried out. These have confirmed that there are no heritage assets or listed buildings within the extension area, and that the potential for buried archaeological remains is low.

If planning permission is granted, we would expect that archaeological monitoring would take place.

Known heritage assets in the wider area, such as Papplewick Pumping Station and historic boundary stones, are not physically affected by the proposals.

Arboriculture

The site forms part of the Longdale Lane Plantation, a woodland plantation designated as a Local Wildlife Site.

An Arboricultural Impact Assessment has been completed in support of the proposed extension. The assessment identifies a large number of trees, predominantly silver birch and common birch, that need to be removed as part of the proposals. However, arboricultural impacts can be appropriately mitigated through replacing high-quality habitat and replanting trees, with a combination of quarry restoration and off-site opportunities in the local area.

Public Rights of Way

There are no public rights of way within or adjacent to the extension area.

Restoration

Restoration proposals

We have a strong track record of delivering large-scale restoration schemes across the Midlands that bring environmental benefits to the community and beyond. For example, wildlife reserves have been created in Nottinghamshire at sites such as Langford Lowfields and Besthorpe Nature Reserve.

The original Bestwood Quarry worked the same Sherwood Sandstone as the current quarry until the site was exhausted. This former quarry has been transformed into a rich and varied landscape, which is home to a wide range of wildlife and is also visited by walkers, cyclists, and nature enthusiasts.

Restoration is central to our proposals at Bestwood II. We will continue to progressively restore land as extraction moves forward, ensuring the site is gradually returned to diverse habitats such as:

- Woodland and shrub planting with a variety of native species.
- Heathland and acid grassland for specialist plants and invertebrates.
- Sandstone faces cut to encourage vegetation and nesting.
- Boundary woodland maintained and enhanced, creating wildlife corridors and visual screening.
- A managed aftercare programme to ensure habitats establish successfully.

The delivery of the restoration scheme would not require the importation of any materials, meaning the restoration of the site would not be subject to any delays nor would the restoration activities generate additional lorry movements.

RSPB Langford Lowfields

One of Tarmac's proudest local achievements is the creation of the RSPB Langford Lowfields Nature Reserve, a nationally recognised wetland restoration site born from a 37-year partnership between Tarmac and the RSPB.

In March 2025, the site received national recognition when Tarmac and the RSPB were awarded the Mineral Products Association's Cooper-Heyman Cup, the industry's most prestigious award for quarry restoration, celebrating the outstanding quality of our long-term partnership and environmental delivery.

Ongoing restoration work at Bestwood II Quarry

Award winning restoration at Langford Lowfields

Ecology and biodiversity

Plan showing habitats within the site area

The quarry is home to a whole host of different wildlife. The site team manage our operations in a way that supports local wildlife to thrive, including:

- Ravens and peregrine falcons nesting on quarry cliff faces.
- Sand martins burrowing into sandy banks.
- Butterflies and insects feeding on wildflowers and deadwood.
- Deer roaming across restored areas.

We are committed to responsible land management and environmental stewardship. An Ecological Impact Assessment (EcIA) will accompany the planning application to identify the current ecological value of the site and the potential effects of the extension.

The scope of our habitat surveys was agreed in advance with the Council's ecology officer, which includes:

- Badger surveys
- Breeding and winter bird surveys
- Reptile surveys

The full EcIA will be available as part of the planning application.

The extension area forms a small part of the Longdale Plantation Local Wildlife Site (LWS), which covers approximately 365 hectares of plantation woodland in the locality. As such, the extension would result in the loss of some habitat, predominantly woodland.

We will determine the extent of this habitat loss and, through our restoration plan, we will ensure that this land is replaced with high-quality habitats. We will also work with local and national environmental groups to mitigate any impacts. This directly accords with policy provisions of the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan.

Biodiversity Net Gain

Our restoration proposals are designed to deliver a Biodiversity Net Gain (BNG) – meaning we seek to leave habitats in a measurably better state than they were before we were there. Whilst the proposed restoration plan would provide a mosaic of high-quality habitats to benefit biodiversity and nature conservation, due to specific requirements of BNG trading rules, we are currently not able to secure the full BNG necessary onsite. We are exploring options to provide new planting and habitats in the local area.

Ravens at Bestwood II Quarry

Supporting the local community

The Tarmac team at Pappfest

Bestwood II Quarry is part of the local community. We are proud of the role we play as a local employer and supporter of community projects.

Employment and skills

By extending the quarry, we will:

- Secure around six local jobs directly on site, plus many more in the supply chain.
- Offer apprenticeships and training in quarrying, engineering and site management.
- Support the local economy, with most employees living within ten miles of the site.

Volunteering

Our employees also donate their time through Tarmac's volunteering programme. Across the UK, staff have helped plant trees, decorate community centres, restore play parks and clear green spaces – and we're keen to support similar projects around Bestwood.

Community projects

Supporting local groups and projects is very important to us, and we have recently provided the following support in the local area:

- Ravenshead Village Hall – supported through funding.
- Papplewick Village Fayre (Pappfest) – contributions towards generators, signage and running costs.
- Ravenshead Primary School – provision of sand for play and learning and delivery of school lessons.

Being part of the local community is very important to us, and we are always looking for local groups and projects to support. There are two ways in which people can apply to us for funding: either directly through the quarry or through the Tarmac Landfill Communities Fund.

To apply for small-scale projects please contact the site directly at bestwoodquarry@tarmac.com.

To apply for larger funding please email community@tarmac.com. Projects can only be considered if they are within four miles of a Tarmac site.

Liaison committee

As part of our commitment to being a good neighbour, we have a quarry liaison committee. It includes representatives from local parish councils, the local authority and members of the site team. This acts as a regular mechanism through which to communicate effectively with the community. In addition, we're always happy to speak with residents directly – whether by phone or by email.

The Tarmac team teaching local school children at Ravenshead Primary School

Next steps

Thank you for taking the time to attend our public exhibition. We are still at an early stage and want to hear your views on our proposals. Please share your feedback by Sunday 8 March, when this consultation will close.

What happens next

- Ongoing environmental surveys and technical assessments.
- Submission of a planning application in spring 2026 to Nottinghamshire County Council.
- If approved, extension works would begin in 2031, when current reserves are exhausted.

How to get involved

- Fill out a feedback form today.
- Visit our website: bestwood.tarmac.com
- Email us: bestwoodquarry@eqcommunications.co.uk
- Speak to a member of the team here today.

We will continue to keep the community updated through the Bestwood II Quarry Liaison Committee and regular communications.