

Johnsons Saxon Pit – EA Consultation on IBA Expansion Permit (Closes 15 Oct 2025)

Update from Saxongate Residents Group

The Environment Agency (EA) has now opened a public consultation on Johnsons Aggregates and Recycling Ltd.'s application for an environmental permit at Saxon Pit (reference EPR/DP3131NM/V002). This permit would be required alongside any planning permission if the development goes ahead. **The consultation runs until 15 October 2025, and members of the public can comment via the EA's consultation hub:**

The permit consultation comes at the same time as other important updates. Johnsons' 2024 planning application to **increase** IBA throughput from 250,000 to **460,000** tonnes per year is now unlikely to be heard before 2026. Meanwhile, the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) review of cumulative public health risks linked to the site, originally due in September, is now expected to report later this year or early in the New Year.

We understand the EA will see the findings before publication, and these may inform the permit decision.

When responding to the consultation, the EA can take into account matters such as:

- Environmental standards and regulatory requirements.
- Local population and sensitive sites.
- Whether the right process and technology are being proposed.
- Site layout and land use, and the adequacy of pollution controls.
- Impacts of noise, odour and traffic.
- Any missing or incorrect information in the application, including monitoring arrangements.

This is an important opportunity for residents to ensure concerns are properly considered. We strongly encourage anyone with relevant knowledge or concerns to submit comments before 15 October 2025.

Saxongate will continue to press agencies, councillors and our MP for robust oversight, and will keep residents updated as the UKHSA report and permit process progress.