



The Coal
Authority

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For the attention of: Christopher Harrison – Case Officer

Cumberland Council (Copeland area)

[By email: Development.Control3@cumberland.gov.uk]

11 February 2026

Dear Christopher

Re: 4/26/2029/DOC

Discharge of conditions 15, 18 and 19 of planning application 4/23/2314/0f1; land at Preston Street, Preston Street, Whitehaven

Thank you for your notification of 30 January 2026 seeking the views of the Coal Authority on the above.

The Coal Authority is a non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Energy Security and Net Zero. As a statutory consultee, the Coal Authority has a duty to respond to planning applications and development plans in order to protect the public and the environment in mining areas.

The Coal Authority response:

Condition 15 of the permission states:

'Prior to the occupation of the development hereby approved a signed statement or declaration prepared by a suitably competent person confirming that the site is, or has been made, safe and stable for the approved development shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority.'

This document shall confirm the methods and findings of the intrusive site investigations and the completion of any remedial works and/or mitigation necessary to address the risks posed by past coal mining activity.'

The Coal Authority notes the statement (dated 28 January 2026) from Stantec UK Ltd, which has been submitted in support of the discharge of the aforementioned condition. On the basis that the content of the statement confirms that no shallow coalmine workings were encountered as a result of probing works and that the site is considered to be safe and stable, the Coal Authority **is able to recommend the LPA discharge Condition 15.**

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like to discuss this matter further.

Yours sincerely

Chris MacArthur

Chris MacArthur B.Sc. (Hons), DipTP, MRTPI
Planning Liaison Manager

Disclaimer

The above consultation response is provided by The Coal Authority as a Statutory Consultee and is based upon the latest available coal mining data on the date of the response, and electronic consultation records held by The Coal Authority since 1 April 2013. The comments made are also based upon only the information provided to The Coal Authority by the Local Planning Authority and/or has been published on the Council's website for consultation purposes in relation to this specific planning application. The views and conclusions contained in this response may be subject to review and amendment by The Coal Authority if additional or new data/information (such as a revised Coal Mining Risk Assessment) is provided by the Local Planning Authority or the Applicant for consultation purposes.

In formulating this response The Coal Authority has taken full account of the professional conclusions reached by the competent person who has prepared the Coal Mining Risk Assessment or other similar report. In the event that any future claim for liability arises in relation to this development The Coal Authority will take full account of the views, conclusions and mitigation previously expressed by the professional advisers for this development in relation to ground conditions and the acceptability of development.



Making a **better future** for people
and the environment **in mining areas**