

From: Environmental Health
Sent: 27 August 2025 14:27
To: Development Control
Cc: Christopher Harrison
Subject: PLANNING APP 4/25/2272/0F1 - LAND BETWEEN ASDA AND VETERINARY SURGERY (KNOWN AS CHURCH CAR SALES), PRESTON STREET, WHITEHAVEN

Proposed car wash and valeting facility including retention of existing cabin building on existing garage and car sales site

Thank you for the above planning consultation.

In principle, there are no objections to this proposed development from Environmental Health though there are several matters to raise.

It is understood that there is no mains water supply to the site at present.

This, in itself, would not necessarily prevent the development from proceeding but it does mean that sufficient portable water supplies would have to be brought on to site to serve both the car wash business and for staff welfare use.

Alternatively the mains water may be reinstated if the applicant were to contact United Utilities.

Effluent from the car wash would contain detergents, vehicle oils, grease and fluids, and is not ordinarily suitable to discharge to a surface water sewer.

The effluent should be discharged to a foul or combined sewer and may require a trade effluent consent from United Utilities.

There may be exceptions to this rule where discharge to surface water is required, though in such a case, an environmental permit may be required from the Environment Agency, see

<https://www.gov.uk/guidance/check-if-you-need-an-environmental-permit>

There should be hard surfaces to the car wash facility that will allow for run-off drainage.

In terms of staff welfare, staff should have access to adequate toilet and hand washing facilities, which includes a toilet, washbasin with running hot and cold water, soap and hand-drying options (paper towels or hand dryers). At least one such toilet is required for the proposed 5 x number of staff, and while a flushing toilet with mains connection is preferable, an alternative like a portable chemical toilet with built-in water and drainage tank is acceptable if mains connection is unavailable.

Staff welfare facilities should also include the provision of a secure area to store clothing and to dry wet clothing, and a rest area where workers can eat, drink and rest. Further information is available from the HSE website.

The proposed hours of opening are seen as reasonable.

It would be helpful if the applicant could confirm the noise rating of the car wash compressor unit.

It is also noted that the proposed car wash area is quite close to the public footpath alongside.

Environmental Health would like to see a Perspex screen provided on the boundary of the premises so that water spray from the car washing does not affect pedestrians passing close by. The LHA may have a further view on this.

In conclusion, Environmental Health would not object to this development but offers the following conditions to any approval granted:

- Drainage

Prior to the commencement of works details for the separate foul and surface water drainage systems shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The approved scheme shall be fully implemented prior to the occupation of any premises hereby approved.

Reason: To ensure a satisfactory standard of surface water and foul drainage.

- Car Wash Management Plan

No building or use hereby permitted shall be occupied or use commenced until a car wash management plan setting out how the facility will be managed, including the avoidance of loss of amenity to pedestrians from water spray and to neighbours from excessive noise disturbance and the provision of staff welfare facilities, has been submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The measures shall thereafter be implemented in accordance with the approved car wash management plan for the lifetime of the development.

Reason: To ensure the safe operation of the approved car wash facility.

Regards

Environmental Health

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