Council complicit with sewage plans

CARDIFF council has not decided against environmental impact assessment of the violation to Hailey Park via Welsh Water's sewage scheme.

The delegated decision by an officer is that the development comes under EIA thresholds for size.

So he hasn't bothered with screening for the serious environmental effects of the huge underground tunelling works, noise and disturbance to the park and thousands of tonnes of waste.

It is not a "screening" decision as stated, but a decision to avoid screening, apparently in cahoots with Welsh Water, whose application document is withheld.

They have ignored the function of the development being to pump sewage through to Cardiff Sewage Works – sewage from an extra 6,000 homes.

This significant change to the sewage works needs EIA screening, and cannot be avoided by the area of works being below threshold, based on pipes and pumps being largely below ground.

Cardiff (East Moors) sewage works is hugely overloaded, as shown by its frequent discharge of untreated sewage – for 710 hours on 71 occasions in 2021.

The obvious alternative to comply with urban wastewater treatment regulations is a new sewage works on the Plasdwr site.

Cardiff council should not be complicit with plans to evade the legal requirement and worsen sewage discharges to the Severn Estuary.

Max Wallis

Friends of the Earth Barry & Vale