



# Blackwood and Kirkmuirhill Villages Co-ordination Group

## ***QUARRY LORRIES - IMPORTANT NOTICE***

Blackwood & Kirkmuirhill Co-ordination Group and Boghead Community Group support Patersons' plans to re-route the quarry lorries away from the villages of Blackwood, Kirkmuirhill and Boghead. We are sure that, after many years of suffering the effects of these lorries, you will agree with us and support Paterson's plans to re-route them.

However, there is a campaign underway in Lesmahagow trying to stop Paterson's plans from proceeding. The number of houses which would be affected in the north end of Lesmahagow is small in comparison to those presently affected in our three villages; not to mention the three primary schools which stand on the current route.

The Lesmahagow campaigners claim that they want the lorries to bypass 'all residential areas' (including Lesmahagow), which sounds wonderful, but this simply isn't going to happen. They are using this argument to try to stop Patersons plans and, if their campaign is successful, we would be condemned to suffer these massive lorries for **many more years**.

You may have received a letter and questionnaire from Aileen Campbell MSP, which has been issued following representations made to her by some constituents in Lesmahagow. We would urge you to be cautious about answering the 2<sup>nd</sup> question on that questionnaire, which we think is misleading, ie. "*Would you support efforts to divert traffic from Dunduff Quarry away from all residential areas?*" (please note: this includes Lesmahagow)

Most people in our villages reading Aileen Campbell's letter would take "all residential areas" to mean Kirkmuirhill, Blackwood & Boghead as that is the heading of her letter. But if you tick the YES box, your answer would be taken to mean that you support efforts to divert traffic away from ANY residential area, including Lesmahagow. Don't be misled. Such answers would give the Lesmahagow campaign what it wants and Aileen Campbell would be able to report to the Planning Department, Councillors, and newspapers that "A survey of residents in Kirkmuirhill, Blackwood & Boghead has shown that they are opposed to Patersons current plans"!!!

***We believe that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Question (shown above) should be LEFT BLANK with a comment, "I support Patersons Plans to re-route the lorries".***

***If you have already returned the form with a YES to question 2 and now wish to change it, contact Aileen Campbell via [aileen.campbell.msp@scottish.parliament.uk](mailto:aileen.campbell.msp@scottish.parliament.uk) or write to her at The Scottish Parliament, Edinburgh EH99 1SP asking her to record your change and pointing out that the question was misleading.***

Aileen Campbell's letter states that 'other potential routes have not been properly considered'. This is not the case, as Patersons have tried several times in recent years to purchase land from local farmers who did not want to sell their land, and the Scottish Executive would not allow more ramps to be added to the M74. There is no reason to believe that this situation will change and, even if it did, it would take years to bring about.

If the current Paterson plans don't go ahead, then our villages and schools would be condemned to suffer the **danger, noise, pollution and road-damage caused by hundreds of lorries a week, for many more years to come.**

We will be in touch again shortly about how we can all support Paterson's planning application.

**THANK YOU FOR TAKING THE TIME TO READ THIS LETTER.**