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The Coal Authority  
200 Lichfield Lane  
Mansfield  
Nottinghamshire NG18 4RG

Date: 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

Dear Coryn Reynolds,

Reference: FOI 73-2023 26 January 2024

Thank you for the information you supplied under the Freedom of information Act 2000. I have just one or two more questions:

[Environment](#) Woodland sealed off after a '200ft deep' sinkhole was found near Birley Wood Golf Course in Sheffield.

By [David Kessen](#) Senior reporter Sheffield Star Published 3rd Apr 2024, 05:00 BST Coal Authority notified over concerns '200 ft' sinkhole may lead to old Sheffield colliery shaft Officials have issued a warning after a feared 200ft deep [sinkhole](#) appeared near a popular [Sheffield golf](#) course and [beauty](#) spot. Staff at Sheffield City Trust, which runs the city's municipal golf courses, have sealed the hole off.

Sheffield City Council Planning department have re-introduced plot F in Owlthorpe back into the housing plan. As the Birley Wood Golf Cause is situated just across Moor Valley Road adjacent to plot F. This brings up several questions.

**Question 1:** Has the coal authority inspected the 200ft deep sinkHole?

**Question 2:** Why has the old colliery shaft collapsed?

**Question 3:** Is the land on plot F safe to build on?

**Question 4:** Although you do not have any information regarding pit props, I have investigated and found that many old mines have collapsed and sinkholes have appeared. This is usually because the old mine workings have become flooded and the pit props have rotted away. When in operation, water had to be pumped out of the mines in Owlthorpe to stop the miners from drowning. Do you have any comments to make regarding this?

**Question 5:** How is the depth of a mine measured? Is it measured from the pit head? Or other means?

Thank you for your assistance,

Kind Regards

Michael Meredith

