

Previous updates

Update 30 May - UKHSA Statement

Health Risk Assessment of Air Quality Monitoring Results from 9 May 2024 - 19 March 2025: Jameson Road landfill site, Fleetwood. Air Quality Monitoring Report

UKHSA have reviewed the report and compared the monitoring results reported with the relevant health-based guidelines. Based on the available monitoring data, the results for hydrogen sulphide and other air pollutants investigated, do not indicate an exceedance of the relevant health-based values. They are therefore unlikely to pose a significant risk to the nearby residents' short or long term health.

There are periods where the levels of hydrogen sulphide exceed the World Health Organization (WHO) guidance value for odour annoyance*. Consequently, people living around the site may experience transient health effect such as eye and respiratory irritation, in addition to headache, nausea, dizziness, watery eyes, stuffy nose, irritated throat, cough, sleep problems and stress.

A well-run active landfill site should not pose a health risk. However, issues of offsite odour may cause 'annoyance' and increased stress hormones, leading to mental and physical health effects.

Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust offers confidential support to people struggling with depression, anxiety, stress, low mood, worry and other mental health and emotional issues. Please see the links below:

Accessing mental health support :: Lancashire and South Cumbria NHS Foundation Trust

Update 7 May

Recently we have noted a significant reduction in the daily number of complaints and odour reports regarding the Transwaste Landfill Site at Jameson Road. Our regulatory activities and scrutiny of the site operations continue at a heightened level, reflecting the community's past and ongoing experiences.

This involves ongoing monitoring of the operator's activities to ensure Transwaste adheres to the conditions of its environmental permit and effectively manages odour risk. Our teams continue to conduct regular visits to the site and odour checks - maintaining close scrutiny of their operations. We remain committed to addressing the issues the community has faced and are focusing our resources accordingly.

We continue to work in partnership with the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) regarding potential health impacts. UKHSA provides expert advice on preventing, preparing for, and responding to environmental hazards and infectious diseases. Health advice related to this site can be found below. If residents have concerns about their health or experience any symptoms, they should contact their GP or call NHS 111.



Update 25 April

We received over three thousand odour reports from the community throughout March via the Environment Agency hotline and the online reporting service.

Since the suspension notice was withdrawn on 8 April, we have seen a significant reduction in reports throughout April. Our officers have also noted reduced odour levels during their frequent odour surveys.

We acknowledge receiving some reports of odour being noticeable during night-time hours. Landfill odours can sometimes be more apparent overnight due to changing atmospheric conditions. This is often linked to temperature inversions, which happen more frequently at night. During an inversion, a layer of cooler air near the ground can trap odorous gases, preventing them from dispersing as effectively as they might during the day.

Inspections by our landfill gas expert confirm a reduction in fugitive gas emissions (uncontrolled leaks) from the waste. They also report an increase in extraction from the gas field.

However, our officers still detect some odours during waste tipping activities, along with occasional low-level gas odours. Consequently, we have required the operator to submit updated Odour Management and Landfill Gas Management Plans detailing how they will address these ongoing issues.

Last week, we met with the Transwaste to discuss the site's future operation. We focused on the company's plans to control landfill gas emissions, including necessary upgrades to gas infrastructure and the need for improved control over the types of waste accepted. We made it clear that we expect significant improvements in these areas for operations at the site to continue. We stressed the importance of effective site management to minimise impacts on the local community and the environment.

The Environment Agency is reviewing waste inputs as part of wider discussions nationally, on whether changes to national landfill practices are needed to help prevent similar situations from occurring.

We will continue our close monitoring of the site, which includes carrying out frequent odour checks. The air quality monitoring unit remains active nearby. We have requested an updated air quality report based on its readings, which we expect to be available in the coming weeks.

Update 9 April

The Environment Agency can confirm that the suspension notice previously in place for the Jameson Road Landfill Site has now been lifted.

This decision follows notification received from the site operator, Transwaste Recycling & Aggregates Limited, late last week, indicating the completion of the necessary works to install new landfill gas infrastructure as required under the terms of the suspension. The Environment Agency has since undertaken an assessment of the construction and engineering validation of these works.

A site visit conducted by Environment Agency officers on Wednesday 2nd April noted an increase in gas extraction capacity at the site and a reduction in previously recorded

 customer service line
 03708 506 506
 floodline
 03459 88 11 88

 incident hotline
 0800 80 70 60
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emissions. This improvement is a result of the new gas wells being brought into operation and the completion of works to enhance the covering of waste through the application of clays and inert materials, providing a more effective seal to facilitate increased gas capture.

Environment Agency officers working within the local community have also reported a reduction in the intensity of landfill-type odours in recent days, indicating a decrease in emissions from the site. Investigations are also ongoing into other potential sources of odour that may be impacting the community.

We understand that Transwaste will recommence accepting waste at the Jameson Road Landfill Site today. Environment Agency officers will be present in the community and onsite today to monitor activities and assess the works undertaken. Our ongoing regulatory work includes the continued review and assessment of waste inputs to the site, and will remain under scrutiny from our landfill gas expert.

The Environment Agency remains committed to ensuring compliance with the Environmental Permit and the ongoing monitoring of the Jameson Road Landfill Site. We will continue to keep the community informed of any significant developments.

Update 27 March

We have issued a <u>suspension notice</u> to the operator of Jameson Road landfill. This means Transwaste must stop accepting landfill waste until it completes work to control the cause of odours which continue to affect the local community.

We are carrying out daily odour checks and regular site inspections and will monitor the progress of work outlined in the conditions of the notice. While serving the notice will not stop the odour immediately, we expect it will start to reduce as work progresses.

If the situation does not improve we will consider further enforcement action.