

# Jameson Road Landfill Site Community Update.

We have received an increased number of reports of odour regarding the Jameson Road Landfill Site over the last month.

Month	Number of reports	Types of report
January	15	Mainly Odour
February	47	Mainly Odour
March (to date)	240	Mainly Odour

Jameson Road Landfill Site is now operated by Transwaste Recycling and Aggregates Limited (TRAL). The site was formerly owned by SUEZ who had reduced activity on the site in recent years. Over the last 2 months the new operator has increased their waste acceptance activity and started to increase the landfilling activity.

The Environment Agency made a visit to the site on 5 February and identified some concerns. Following that visit, we wrote to and met with the senior managers of TRAL expressing our concerns and to also seek assurance that their activity would be better controlled and not impact on the environment and specifically the local community.

We would like to thank the members of the local community who have taken the time to report the odours to us. Whilst operating a landfill by its nature can involve some odorous waste, the impact should not be prolonged and should be managed.

We have been on site since 5 February and gathered complete images of the operations at the site. We will also be on site this week to look at the odour controls and the infrastructure and engineering in place.

TRAL are required to and must implement measures needed to minimise the risk of odour and emissions. This includes but is not limited to:

- covering the waste fully at the end of the day,
- maximising landfill gas capture,
- using odour control equipment.

If TRAL are not able to bring the site into compliance quickly we will consider regulatory enforcement to deliver steps needed to prevent further impact on the community. We will look to focus the operator on better management of the site and not simply accepting waste to generate income.

## **Why is this happening?**

When a landfill site has been covered for some time, the waste starts to breakdown and generate landfill gas. When a site re-opens there is increased risk of odour and emissions due to older waste still being present. There is still infrastructure in place to control emissions, but this needs to be managed effectively in order to prevent impact on the community.

## **What are the Environment Agency doing?**

- We have increased our compliance activity both on and around the landfill site.
- We have had officers out in the community on Sunday and Monday this week checking on levels of odour. We are looking to increase our presence over the coming weeks, following a preplanned route around the site.
- We will look to investigate the source of odours, ensuring that TRAL focus all efforts into fixing the problem as soon as possible. We will use regulatory enforcement powers if they do not focus all attention to reduce the overall risk to people and the environment.
- We will hold TRAL to account. We also expect them to engage with the community and tell them what activity is taking place to reduce and prevent impact on local residents.

## **Who else is involved?**

The Environment Agency is the primary regulator of the waste activities under the Environmental Permitting (England & Wales) Regulations.

We are keeping the Wyre Borough Council updated on the situation, particularly the Wyre Environmental Health Team. We will work closely with Lancashire County Council (LCC) on any planning aspects where needed.

We will also update LCC Public Health and the UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA). We are aware that impacts from odour can affect people both physically and mentally.

## **How are you keeping the community updated?**

At this point we will provide a regular summary to all partner organisations, Local MPs and Councillors.

This will include a summary of Environment Agency activity, the reports received and any summary information of locations of those reports.

We will make the results of our compliance checks and monitoring public as soon as we can.

We will continue to provide these updates as the situation changes. If you would like to be added to the mailing list to receive them directly then please send an email to:

[engagement.cmlnc@environment-agency.gov.uk](mailto:engagement.cmlnc@environment-agency.gov.uk)

Members of the community should contact NHS 111 or their GP if they have concerns about their individual circumstances and require health advice.

We encourage people to report odour to us at our 24-hour incident hotline on 0800 807060, as this helps us to build up a picture of the extent and impact of the issue.