

Odour Management Plan (OMP)



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Site: CWR MRF Canalside

Operator: Cheshire West Recycling Ltd

Document Purpose: This Odour Management Plan (OMP) sets out the measures in place at the Cheshire West Recycling Ltd Canalside site to prevent, minimise, and manage odour emissions arising from site activities. The plan demonstrates how odour risks are identified, controlled, monitored, and reviewed to protect local amenity and comply with relevant environmental permitting requirements.

1. Site Description

Cheshire West Recycling Ltd Canalside is a waste management and recycling facility handling permitted hazardous and non-hazardous waste streams.

The Site receives, inspects, bulks, stores and transfers permitted hazardous and non-hazardous waste streams in accordance with the Environmental Permit.

The Site is located on an established industrial estate. Surrounding land uses comprise industrial and commercial premises, the Shropshire Union Canal and the M53 motorway corridor. There are no residential properties immediately adjoining the Site. Key activities with potential odour impact include:

- Receipt and storage of putrescible wastes
- Waste handling and processing
- Vehicle movements and waste loading/unloading

2. Regulatory Context and Guidance Alignment

This Odour Management Plan has been prepared in accordance with Environment Agency guidance:

Best Available Techniques (BAT)

The OMP follows the risk-based approach required and Identifies sources, pathways, and receptors by

- Assessing the risk of odour impact beyond the site boundary
- Implementing proportionate and preventative control measures
- Setting out monitoring, complaints handling, and review mechanisms

3. Odour Risk Assessment

All activities shall, so far as reasonably practicable, be managed to prevent odour pollution and minimise the risk of odour nuisance beyond the Site boundary.

The principal wastes with the potential to generate odour are food waste received from Household Waste Recycling Centres and residual municipal wastes awaiting transfer. The quantities handled are limited by the Environmental Permit and operational storage controls described within this OMP.

Food waste will be tipped into a covered bay, then transferred into a sealed container or specially designed trailer and removed off-site within 72 hours.

The food waste bay will be cleaned and disinfected at least once per week. Cleaning activities will be scheduled and recorded within the Company's Evotix Assure system.

Any spillage of food waste will be cleaned up as soon as it is reported.

Food waste shall be received in accordance with the site's Waste Acceptance Procedures.

The MRF Supervisor will undertake daily checks around site, any odours will be identified, and investigation will be carried out with additional control measures put in place where deemed necessary.

3.1 Potential Sources of Odour

- Putrescible or organic waste materials
- Residual waste in skips, bays, or containers
- Leachate generation and drainage systems
- Waste vehicles and containers

3.2 Sensitive Receptors

- Industrial and commercial premises
- Users of the Shropshire Union Canal
- Nearby highway users
- Residential properties located beyond the industrial estate

3.3 Risk Factors

- High ambient temperatures
- Extended waste storage time
- Poor housekeeping
- Equipment failure or operational changes

Table 3.1

Source	Initial Risk	Principal Controls	Residual Risk
Food Waste	High	Covered bay, sealed trailer, removal within 72 hours	Low
Residual Waste	Medium	Rapid transfer	Low
Leachate	Low	Drainage maintenance	Low
Containers	Low	Cleaning regime	Low
Vehicles	Low	Sheeted vehicles	Low

4. Odour Control Measures (Best Available Techniques – BAT)

In accordance with Environment Agency guidance, Cheshire West Recycling Ltd applies Best Available Techniques (BAT) to prevent, or where that is not practicable, minimise odour emissions from the Site. BAT has been selected considering the nature and scale of operations, the waste types handled, the Site location and the proximity of sensitive receptors.

The Site implements the appropriate measures set out in Environment Agency guidance through the engineering, operational and management controls detailed within this Odour Management Plan.

4.1 BAT Justification Table		
BAT Technique	Application at CWR Canalside	Justification (Why BAT is Appropriate)
Waste acceptance controls	Pre-acceptance checks and on-arrival inspection of loads	Prevents introduction of highly odorous or unsuitable waste; aligns with BAT prevention hierarchy and low-risk waste profile of site
Limited storage times	Defined maximum storage durations for putrescible wastes	Minimises biological degradation and odour formation; proportionate given throughput and transfer nature of operations
Sealed / covered storage	Use of enclosed containers, sealed skips, and covered bays	Prevents odour release at source without need for

		enclosed buildings or abatement plant
Good housekeeping regime	Daily cleaning, immediate spill response	BAT management technique reducing secondary odour sources at minimal environmental and operational cost
Impermeable surfacing & drainage	Hardstanding and maintained drainage infrastructure	Prevents odour generation from contaminated ground or standing liquids; standard BAT for waste facilities
Vehicle sheeting & enclosure	All waste vehicles sheeted or enclosed	Controls odour during transport and loading; proportionate to waste types handled
Operational timing controls	Rapid handling and prioritised removal of odorous wastes	Minimises exposure time and odour release; avoids need for complex abatement systems
Increased controls in warm weather	Enhanced monitoring and control during high-risk conditions	Reflects risk-based BAT approach required by EA
Odour-neutralising sprays (where required)	Deployed as supplementary control only	Mitigation tool used only, when necessary, consistent with BAT preference for prevention

4.2 Waste Acceptance and Storage (BAT)

- Acceptance limited to waste types permitted for the site, in line with BAT prevention principles
- Pre-acceptance and on-arrival checks to identify odorous or unsuitable loads
- Maximum storage times defined and enforced, with putrescible wastes prioritised for rapid removal
- Odorous wastes stored in sealed containers, enclosed skips, or covered bays
- Waste segregation to prevent cross-contamination and unnecessary odour generation

4.3 Operational Controls (BAT)

- Handling of odorous waste kept to the minimum time reasonably practicable

- Waste processing scheduled to avoid prolonged exposure, particularly during high-risk weather conditions
- Strict housekeeping regime, including daily cleaning of operational areas
- Immediate clean-up of spillages to prevent secondary odour sources

4.4 Infrastructure and Engineering Controls (BAT)

- Impermeable surfacing across operational areas to prevent odour-generating contamination
- Effective drainage systems designed to prevent standing liquids and leachate build-up
- Routine inspection, cleaning, and maintenance of drainage infrastructure
- Use of odour-neutralising sprays or misting systems where risk assessment identifies a need
- Containers, skips, and plant maintained in a clean condition and replaced or repaired as necessary

4.5 Vehicle and Logistics Management (BAT)

- All waste vehicles sheeted, enclosed, or sealed prior to movement
- Vehicle loading and unloading undertaken efficiently to minimise odour release
- Engines switched off when vehicles are stationary
- Wheel and vehicle washing undertaken where necessary before leaving site with a minimum of twice a month and more where required.

4.6 Management Techniques (BAT)

- Site-specific Odour Risk Assessment reviewed regularly and updated as required
- Increased controls and monitoring during warm weather or adverse meteorological conditions
- Clear lines of responsibility for odour management embedded in site management structure

5. Monitoring and Inspection

Monitoring arrangements align with EA requirements for ongoing assessment of odour risk and effectiveness of controls.

5.1 Routine Odour Monitoring

- Daily site inspections carried out by trained staff
- Boundary sniff tests conducted during operations
- Inspections logged in site records

Monitoring includes observations of waste reception areas, food waste storage, drainage infrastructure, vehicle loading areas and the Site boundary.

5.2 Weather Considerations

- Increased monitoring during warm or still weather conditions
- Additional controls implemented during high-risk periods

6. Complaints Management

Complaints handling is undertaken in line with requirements to demonstrate prompt response, investigation, and continuous improvement, complaints are logged on the Evotix Assure system.

6.1 Complaints Procedure

- All odour complaints logged and investigated promptly
- Records include date, time, weather conditions, and site activities
- Root cause analysis carried out for each complaint

6.2 Corrective Actions

- Immediate actions taken to eliminate odour source
- Review of procedures and controls following complaints
- Communication with complainant where appropriate

7. Incident Management

Incident management procedures reflect EA expectations for escalation, containment, and regulator notification.

- Odour incidents escalated to site management immediately and logged within the Company's Evotix Assure management system
- Operations adjusted or suspended if required to prevent off-site impact
- Relevant regulators notified in line with permit conditions

Where odour is observed beyond the Site boundary or a substantiated complaint is received, the relevant activity will be investigated immediately. Operations may be modified or temporarily suspended until appropriate control measures have been implemented and their effectiveness confirmed.

8. Staff Training and Awareness

Training ensures staff competence as required by EA guidance, enabling early identification and control of odour risks.

- All site staff trained in odour awareness and control measures
- Toolbox talks provided on seasonal odour risks
- Clear responsibility assigned for odour management
- Training records are maintained as part of the Company's competency management system.

9. Roles and Responsibilities

- **Steve Irwin – Operations Manager:** Overall responsibility for implementation of the OMP.
- **Louise Burns – COTC Holder:** Oversight of implementation of the OMP
- **Supervisors:** Daily monitoring and control of odour risks
- **All Staff:** Compliance with procedures and prompt reporting of issues

10. Review and Continuous Improvement

In line with BAT requirements, CMS and EA guidance, the Odour Management Plan is reviewed to ensure techniques remain the best available and proportionate to site risk.

- Annual formal review of the OMP
- Review following complaints, incidents, or changes in waste types, throughput, or site layout
- Consideration of new or improved techniques as they become available
- Implementation of improvements where they provide a clear environmental benefit