

APPENDIX D

HOUSING & ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH SERVICE

1. Adopted recommendations of the Task and Finish Group - Dated 18th December 2008

	Recommendation	Comments
S3	That the Council's Housing and Environmental Health Service formally contact the Environment Agency with an offer to provide technical advice on local pollution matters (such as noise and dust control) regarding that regulator's deliberations concerning the revision of the current H Williams & Sons Limited Waste Management Licence.	<p>Whilst the Environment Agency did not take advantage of this offer in connection with the H Williams & Sons' Waste Management Licence, dialogue has nevertheless continued between the Council and the Agency as regards the regulation of emissions from both the Wallace Way site and Hitchin railway sidings. The Council has commissioned some dust monitoring in connection with the Wallace Way site and the Environment Agency has been made aware of this project (see below); the Agency has given a commitment to undertake its own dust analysis in this area and to share this data with the Council.</p> <p>Update 4th February 2009 – The dust monitoring has been completed and it is expected that the report will be published in the next two weeks. A meeting is taking place in early March with partnership agencies to discuss results and further information will be available after this meeting.</p> <p>Update May 2009 – Dust monitoring positive and it is expected that there will be joint enforcement action being lead by the Environment Agency. Further information will be available for the next Cadwell Lane/Hitchin Residents Alliance meeting meeting in July and the Hitchin Area Committee meeting in July.</p> <p>Update July 2009 – The Environment Agency have carried out a site audit and Williams have submitted risk Assessments in relation to environmental emissions. These are currently under review. Williams will also be making improvements to their management system.</p> <p>During three weeks in July, 2009, there was a fault on the air cyclone system within the fragmentiser and this has caused brief periods of odour. Parts have been ordered and at the same time improvements are being made to the air cyclone system. The site has a deadline of 10/8/09 to make the repairs.</p> <p>Problems with the Environment Agency's National Lab means they are unable to provide an update on the dust monitoring at this time.</p> <p>Update</p> <p>UpdateSeptember 2009 – No major breaches of the permit were identified during the audit inspection and the operator will be waking improvements to their Site Management System in the near future as a result of the audit.</p>

		<p>An explosion occurred week beginning 7th September ,2009, and as a direct result the operator has now made it their policy to open all incoming scrap metal bales to look for gas cylinders, prior to them being put through the fragmentiser. This activity should prevent further gas cylinders going through the fragmentiser.</p> <p>The Environment Agency keep a log of complaints and the log is on the appeal file.</p> <p>Update November 2009 – Under the licence agreement the Environment Agency continue to monitor the site and they are meeting with the legal team to discuss improving the conditions on the licence as the wording is not as satisfactory as it could be. Concerns are end of vehicle life regulations and dust emissions from the stack where limits could be set.</p> <p>The Agency have received the first half of the dust monitoring report and await the second half. An analysis of what is in the dust findings were similar to the Environmental Health report.</p> <p>The results are expected by the end of the year and will be available at the next meeting in January 2010.</p> <p>Update January 2010 - The results have been received and sent to the appropriate authorities and checks are being made whether hazardous. Working with those concerned to reduce dust and putting in place appropriate work practices for this.</p>
S4	<p>That the Council's Housing and Environmental Health Service investigate the ownership and, if possible, the leasing of the access road off St Michaels Road to the Hitchin railway sidings and the H Williams & Sons Ltd. Site at Wallace Way. The information gathered to be considered as part of any investigation relating to environmental protection complaints.</p>	<p>Herts Highways has declined to pursue formal enforcement action against the owners/users of the access road in respect of debris deposited on St Michaels Road.</p> <p>However, negotiations by the Council's Environmental Protection Team have resulted in a written agreement by H Williams, CEMEX, and EWS (the head lessee of this land) to surface this access track. The works will aim to significantly reduce the noise and dust liberated by heavy goods vehicles using this access road and it will also prevent soil from being left on the public highway.</p> <p>The businesses responsible for the funding of these works are currently awaiting quotes from prospective contractors before commenting on an implementation schedule. However, it is expected that the resurfacing works will be completed in the spring of 2009.</p> <p>Update 4th February 2009 – it was requested hat the date for resurfacing of the access road be notified to the group. Discussions continue with the relevant businesses to get this work done as soon as possible.</p> <p>Update May 2009 – Agreement has now been reached between all concerned</p>

		<p>parties about the split in costs of tarmacing the road and it is expected that the work will start very soon. The work will be phased.</p> <p>Update July 2009 – The work of tarmacing the access road was started on Thursday 9th July, 2009. Credit was given to Andy Godman for getting this issue achieved satisfactorily.</p> <p>Update September 2009 – Work completed and this will be monitored as to how it is working and if it is eliminating the issue.</p> <p>Update November 2009- It was reported that the resurfaced access road has made a difference in the area. There are still dust issues caused mostly by uncovered lorries leaving the site. Monitoring will continue.</p> <p>Update January 2010 – It has been noticed that the mud on the road is worse than it has been. Efforts will be made to establish why and ways of which this mud can be reduced</p>
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3. Further actions requested at meeting on 4th February 2009

Actions	Comments
<p>B It was agreed that the Police would put together an action plan. Building in publicity, with information about what they can do now and what can be done next.</p>	<p>An action plan has now been put in place. When operations have been carried out they will be publicised through the Corporate Communication department and results will be fed in through corporate communications with a view to having them publicised</p> <p>Update May 2009 – During March 2009 there were 30 vehicle stops with 3 seizures, April 20 stops and 1 seizure and May 19 stops 1 seizure. Speeding enforcement once a month and sometimes more. No endorsements but issued several warnings.</p> <p>Update July 2009 – During July operation gelding 12 lorries were stopped and checked with no offences. Speeding enforcement has taken place not only in Cadwell Lane but at various other locations within Hitchin with no prosecutions.</p> <p>Update September 2009 – Three lorries in total have been prosecuted for dropping metal. Speeding enforcement has resulted in a number of cautions but no prosecutions. He commended residents for their excellent information to the Police about dropping metal. In August 10 lorries stopped but no prosecutions. In September 4 lorries stopped and given a verbal warning for minor offences.</p>

	<p>October 700 ANPR (Automatic Number Plate Recognition) reads 27 stop checks 6 vehicles dipped for red diesel 2 persons dealt with by Environment Agency for not having a waste carriers licence. At the end of year (2009) Police will communicate the year's results. Update November 2009 – A press release from the Police has gone out giving details and results of the operation. 12 stop checks took place in November and 1 offence of no MOT. Update January 2010 – Operation Gelding will continue for another six months. Five vehicles stopped in January 2010 with no prosecutions.</p>
<p>D. I was requested that information and update be available for the GAF (Growth Area Fund) and Section 106 monies.</p>	<p>Information has been received on Growth Area Funding and initial discussions are taking place and Members will be informed Update May 2009 – More information is being requested for the meetings in July. Update July 2009 - Awaiting information Update September 2009- Awaiting information Update November 2009 – Growth Area Funding contributes to the Hitchin Transport Plan and also the Industrial Area access road study that is being done through the Transport Plan. The Transport Plan will go to public consultation before any further allocation of monies. Update January 2010- That a recommendation be taken to Hitchin Area Committee for a recommendation from that Committee to the Joint Member Panel that the two elements of Highways money relating to Cadwell Lane lights and the cycling path from the Industrial Estate to the Town Centre be decoupled from the Transport Plan and become an individual project.</p>
<p>G. It was said that land search is being done regarding the ownership of the triangular piece of land which has recently been fenced off and it was requested that the group get the result of this</p>	<p>The land registry shows this piece of land as not being registered and investigations are continuing. Update May 2009 Investigations continue and further information will be available at the July meetings. Update July 2009 – Investigations continuing Update September 2009 – Investigations continuing Update January 2010 – Investigations are continuing with a named contact who is doing the investigating so that progress can be checked.</p>
<p>H. A Community Action Day was suggested and it was said that this needs to be organised by the community but that the police would support.</p>	<p>Community Development Officer for Hitchin to discuss this with Cadwell Lane Residents Update May 2009 - the residents are keen on a Community Day and</p>

	<p>possible dates will be identified.</p> <p>Update July 2009 – It was agreed that with the residents having quite a bit to think about at the moment then a Community Day would be better for Spring.</p> <p>Update January 2010 – It was agreed that discussions about this take place after the Enquiry in March.</p>
<p>I. It was requested that check be made on any planned improvements to the play area.</p>	<p>There are plans to improve the Pavilion in Summer 2009. There are no plans re a play area.</p> <p>Update July 2009 – The refurbishment of the pavilion is under review as part of the Green Space Strategy which will go to Cabinet in September, 2009. Discussion will take place with Parks and Open Spaces and planners re a play area with possible Section 106 money.</p> <p>Update September 2009 – Councillor Sangha is going to look into the Green Space Strategy and also get indicative costs for playground equipment (in consultation with residents) for the Cadwell Lane site.</p> <p>Update November 2009 – The need for an improved play area at Cadwell Lane will be discussed as a result of the proposed developments in the area. Further information regarding this will be available at the next meeting.</p> <p>Update January 2010 – Work will continue with the relevant officers about this and also the reinstatement of the football pitch.</p>