



Minutes of CLG Meeting.

Meeting title	Community Liaison Group – November Meeting	
Location	Wyre Council, Civic Centre, Breck Rd, Poulton-le-Fylde FY6 7PU	
Date/ time	Friday 29 November 2024, 10:00-12:30	
Originator	Transwaste	
Attendees	Andrew Acum – Mercury – AA Helen Ashworth – Lancashire County Council - LA Mark Billington – Wyre Council – MB Cllr Roger Berry – Wyre Council – RB Pam Diamond – Resident – PD David Graham – Independent Chair - DG Alex Hornshaw – Transwaste – AH Sam Juggins – Transwaste – SJ Barbara Kneale – Resident – BK Corinne Mason – Wyre Council – CM Graham Millar – Environment Agency – GM John Neville – Environment Agency - JN Cllr Cheryl Raynor – Wyre Council - CR Cllr Richard Rendell – Wyre Council – RR Jill Scriven – Wyre Council - JS Angela Thomas – Resident - AT	
Apologies	Jess Brown – Resident Cllr Lorraine Beavers – Fleetwood Town Council / Wyre Council / Lancashire County Council	
Purpose of meeting	Discuss future plans and ongoing operations at the Transwaste Jameson Road facility.	
Minute of last meeting	<u>Approved</u>	
	1.	Chair’s welcome and introductions DG opened the meeting, asked for declarations of interest and invited everyone to introduce themselves.
	2.	Minutes of Last Meeting The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

	<p>3.</p> <p>Matters Arising</p> <p>LCC LCC to send representative – Helen Ashworth from the planning department was in attendance.</p> <p>Site structure document AA to circulate with the next set of minutes.</p> <p>BSE Carcasses JN said that he had seen references to carcasses being deposited in the old part of the landfill in the late 1980s but there was no paperwork to confirm exactly where these would be within that section. PD said she believed that these were put into a separate section and then covered in lime. JN said that at that time they used to have mono-cells for specific types of waste. BK said she had submitted a Freedom of Information request to LCC and they had responded saying they did not know the exact locations. JN said that the Environment Agency was only formed in 1995 but records should have transferred across. There are currently hundreds of old boxes which they are working their way through.</p> <p>Due Diligence BK said she had sent the information she had to John Bunn at the Environment Agency and Lorraine Beavers MP. No further action is due.</p> <p>NHS Attendance An NHS representative from the multi-agency group be invited to attend future meetings. CM said they had asked the NHS to send someone but there was no one available for this meeting.</p> <p>PFAS BK felt that PFAS testing should be added to the minutes Action: AA to add.</p> <p>List of Tests SJ said he had a list of tests that were undertaken. This will be shared with the minutes. Action: AA to share list of tests with the minutes.</p> <p>UKHSA BK felt that the UKHSA representative was dismissive and reiterated what was on the UKHSA website. She felt</p>
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that she had raised the issue of looking at long term medical models in a bio-medical sense as opposed to looking at Bio-Psycho Social models. The UKHSA bases its information on long term studies of which there are very few on landfill sites. DG said it would be useful to have the NHS in attendance to give their local perspective on the ground. BK said there was no NHS code for landfill-related illness. CM asked if BK could submit the question in writing and she would follow it up with the multi-agency group.

Action: BK to submit query to CM

Topsoil

SJ said that testing was part of the waste audit assessment. There is compliance testing for every 500-1,000 tonnes. Initial characterisation testing includes the chemical testing that has been done on the soils. BK asked for a copy of the report. SJ said there was no single report as there was testing for each batch. The covering soils come from waste transfer stations. DG asked if a sample report could be circulated with the next minutes.

Action: SJ to supply sample report.

GM explained that as the product is considered to be waste, the operator is required to test the material to make sure it is fit for use. The EA will undertake random testing. JN reiterated that the EA would not regulate in the meeting, but they do check on materials going in, where they originate and that they are fit for purpose.

Landfill Rental Income

CM confirmed that the rental income is dependent on the amount of waste tipped. The council is currently invoicing Transwaste £200,000 per annum based on their projections of 100,000 tonnes tipped per year. Reconciliation is done at the end of the financial year. CM said this money goes towards supporting council back-office costs plus monitoring the site. Any surplus goes into balances to fund council services.

Site visits

DG thanked Transwaste for the opportunity for site visits.

	<p>4. Transwaste Update</p> <p>SJ said that tipping in Cell 6A has commenced and is going well. Part B is partly constructed although work may be suspended until the new year when there is more favourable weather. The waste is now at a level where the gas contractor can start installing the gas capture infrastructure to proactively capture gas from the new waste rather than waiting for the final profile. They now have approval to start work to extend the temporary capping on Cells 4 and 5 to cover the southern flank of Cell 4 and this is due to start next week. This is an internal flank that will eventually be filled up against, but the temporary capping will improve gas capture in the meantime. Additional pin wells and deep vertical wells have also been installed in this area.</p> <p>Internal odour assessments have shown a vast reduction in odour as a result of the work, but this is an ongoing process along with adherence to site permits and processes.</p> <p>BK asked if they should be warning residents about any temporary increase in odour whilst the work takes place. SJ said that they had put a notice out when they had undertaken the gas capture installation work, but this didn't really result in any increase in odour. The current works shouldn't create any odour as it is just covering and welding the cap. There will be no disturbance of waste.</p> <p>PD asked about new legislation coming out in 2025/2026 relating to the separate disposal of food relating to commercial waste and domestic waste and how this would affect Transwaste. SJ said that all waste received at the site comes from waste transfer stations where it has already been sorted and processed to remove all recyclables. The vast majority of waste is commercial. MB said that the new legislation meant that companies will have to separate their waste at source. As a waste collection authority, they will have to provide residents with a food waste collection service and residents will be encouraged to take part. Wyre will collect and deliver it to LCC who are the disposal authority. PD asked how this would affect businesses from 2025. MB said that for commercial waste, businesses can go to various different private contractors. SJ said it will then be sent to a food</p>
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	<p>waste transfer station where it will probably be used for anaerobic digestion. Landfill is mainly non-recyclable materials.</p> <p>PD asked if plasterboard caused landfill odour. SJ said it is a complex issue as there are many variables and combinations that affect the breaking down process in a landfill, so it is not always as simple as identifying one substance. An example is topsoil that is used to cover landfills. Putting soils with organic material into landfill is discouraged, but that can affect how the material performs in the landfill.</p> <p>BK asked if money from landfill could be ringfenced for a promotion campaign to local residents to encourage recycling and separating waste? RB said there would be a lot of promotion when the changes to food waste collection come in. BK asked if this could be started in advance as it takes time to change people's habits and behaviours.</p> <p>MB asked if the site was currently taking any domestic waste from LCC. SJ said no domestic waste was being taken from LCC, but commercial waste was taken from Lancashire. MB said he felt it was too early to start promotional work with residents now, but he would be happy to take on board any ideas people had to encourage more recycling. BK said that the council was making a lot of money out of Transwaste and that could be used for community programmes such as recycling.</p> <p>RB said to answer BK's point, every year the council sends out a leaflet to every home telling people what goes in each bin.</p> <p>PD asked how much of the landfill was uncovered at any one point in time. SJ said that only the working face is uncovered and this was an area approximately 30m by 30m, or smaller if it was a windy day. Cover material is added progressively throughout the day and the full area is closed at the end of the day.</p>
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	5.	EA Monitoring Update GM said that back in March they had received 1,300 complaints from the public, but this reduced to 64 in October and 58 in November.
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Officers are still undertaking odour surveys. Odours being detected now are fresh waste odours typical of a landfill site. These tend to be short duration and intermittent. There has been a little bit of landfill gas noted, but the work to cap Cell 4 and install gas capture infrastructure into Cell 6 should address this. Officer reports and resident complaints largely correlate. The air quality unit will remain in the area as part of the six-month study and they will share results once these are available.

They are continuing to inspect the site on a frequent basis and it is getting a higher level of scrutiny than a landfill would do normally due to the level of complaints earlier in the year. They were last there on Wednesday for an engineering discussion and no breaches were noted.

PD said that on social media and in the village, people are saying that there is an odour, but that it is more of a sewerage smell. They are reporting the smell to the EA, but it is being registered as Jameson Road even though it is a sewerage smell. She wanted to know if these reports were being filtered out as they know United Utilities smells, but it is different to the landfill smell. She said it was particularly noticeable during the summer when the landfill and sewerage smells combined. Now that the landfill smell has reduced, the sewerage smell is more noticeable. GM said that they had noted a sewerage odour offsite as well. Sometimes the two odours could be distinguished but other times the odours merged together. In terms of the reports, when they were receiving a high volume they didn't have time to separate them out, so they were logged as Jameson Road. Now they are receiving a lower volume, they can see that some of them clearly state a sewerage odour. SJ said that they receive this data from the EA, and in the last batch of 54 complaints, maybe 10 specifically stated sewerage and a couple stated that it was not a landfill smell, but they are all included in the Jameson Road figures. AT said maybe United Utilities should be making people aware in advance if they know there is going to be an odour issue. CR said people did know the difference between landfill and sewerage smells. GM said that SJ had a valid point and they need to separate the figures out for the public. JN said they didn't want to make out that there was no problem, but they needed



	<p>help with the messaging. If the EA said that not all of the smell was from the landfill, some people might be upset so they had to tread carefully. CLG members could be helpful in terms of disseminating the facts.</p>
6.	<p>Wyre Council Update</p> <p>CM said they had seen a similar picture to the EA. Complaints in September were 12, 19 in October and 6 in November. Officers were still contacting complainants and sending out diary sheets, but there had been no requests for odour visits to collect evidence. As they have lower numbers of complaints than the EA, they have been able to look through in more detail and there have been quite a few complaints about United Utilities recently as the smell has reduced from Jameson Road. They have also seen evidence on social media that people are being encouraged to report any smell as Jameson Road regardless of where it came from.</p> <p>BK asked why there was no one on the group from the Cleveleys. CM said they don't get a massive number of complaints from there – just one random complaint this month but there had been no complaints for several months.</p>
7.	<p>Lancashire County Council</p> <p>BK said that Suez used to provide an annual report to LCC, but there didn't seem to be one from Transwaste. HA said that the conditions attached to the planning consent require an annual topographical survey and an annual monitoring report. The last one received was from Suez dated April 2022. LCC did carry out a monitoring visit to the site in April 2024 and they have a letter ready to go requesting the reports. SJ said that they had been trying to contact the council for three months to agree including October, November and December into this year's report due by 31st March. As they didn't get the keys to the site until September, there isn't a lot to report for that year and it would be Suez who would be providing most of the information, so the proposal was to add those three months onto the report due at the end of March. AH said she understood the situation, but they did need the information as soon as possible, particularly the topographical survey.</p>



	<p>SJ said that once they had received the letter, they would respond to it straight away.</p> <p>BK asked if the topographical survey included the height of the site. AH said it would. The last survey was December 2021. SJ said he had all the information and the site was actually below permitted height.</p> <p>CM asked how long the information would remain on the portal. AH said she wasn't sure, but she could make the reports available.</p> <p>DG thanked AH and suggested that an invitation should be extended to AH to attend future meetings which was agreed.</p>
8.	<p>AOB</p> <p>MP Update CR said that LB had submitted a number of questions to the Secretary of State Steve Reid raising issues residents had sent to her. These can be seen on the Parliament website. She is trying to get more information on the government's ability to apply tougher regulations. She is also having regular meetings with the EA and is pleased that odour has reduced. She is also speaking to other MPs who have landfill sites in their constituencies.</p> <p>Future Meetings DG said there was an opportunity to discuss community funding and restoration post-completion, and how the local community could input to this. SJ said he could supply the original restoration plan but this was produced in 2015 by Suez. There was a desire to revisit this to take on board the views of the community.</p> <p>AH said that the approved landscape restoration plans dated from 2009 so would need dialogue and planning variation.</p> <p>DG said that there was a will to involve the community as far as possible within the limit of practicality and planning.</p>



	<p>Action: to be added to the agenda for the next meeting and look to add to the website</p> <p>BK wanted to raise the issue of Jameson Road being a coastal landfill. She said she was concerned about rubbish being dumped right up to the boundary of the landfill/river. There was a need to plan for climate change and she believed there should be a buffer zone along the boundary. SJ said there was existing waste up to the boundary wall so there would be no way of pulling this back. BK said she believed that no Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was undertaken for the reopening of the site. AH said that an EIA wasn't required under legislation. BK said again that she believed there should be a buffer. AH said that if the nature of the landfill was to change, there may be a planning implication. In the 2018 application to extend the time limit on the landfill, a screening opinion confirmed that the proposal did not constitute an EIA development. DG asked who would be responsible for reconsidering if there was a need for a further EIA. AH said that an EIA would only accompany a new development / change in the nature of the development. JN said that BK was asking a question about climate change in the future, but it was difficult because permission was already in place and all the relevant legislation had been followed. It was a relevant question to ask, but there was no legal requirement. SJ said that he couldn't speak about any of the old cell constructions against the sea wall, but the new cell design included an assessment of the sea wall and the effects of climate change and sea level rise. This was all part of the design sent to the EA this year. BK asked if this could be shared with the group.</p> <p>Action: EA designs for the cell/sea wall to be circulated (although it is embedded in a bigger document).</p> <p>DG said that the important factor was that the group had established that the processes, permissions and legislation had been followed and there was no mechanism within the legislation to instigate a further EIA.</p> <p>JN said he believed LB had raised the question about planning for future landfill sites in her written questions to the Secretary of State.</p>
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	9.	<p>Chair's closing remarks and next steps / next meeting</p> <p>DG thanked everyone for attending and their useful input. Next meeting is proposed for Friday 31 January at 10:30am.</p>
Date of next meeting	Friday 31 January at 10:30am.	

Meeting Protocol	
Distribute agenda before meeting	Fix responsibilities for each item
Start on time	Finish on time
Set out your ground rules	Publish minutes / actions
Stick to the agenda	Continuous improvement