



By email

Our ref: 30/10/wz/368

12 October 2016

Dear

Re: Wagstaff Total Waste Management site at Great Heck

Thank you for your email of 30 October 2015 requesting information about the Wagstaff Total Waste Management site at Great Heck.

Your request has been considered under the Environmental Information Regulation (EIR).

I have responded to your questions in the order you raised them below.

1. The events that led to the development of this situation.

This site was an Environment Agency regulated waste recycling site. We understand that the operators did not comply with the conditions of the permit and the Environment Agency had served notices on the site. The fires at this site have attracted local and national media. Please see www.emergencynorthyorks.gov.uk/greatheck and https://www.northyorksfire.gov.uk/useruploads/files/news_and_events/keeping_you_informed_-_waste_site_at_great_heck_14oct15.pdf for further information.

2. The arrangements that have been made to render the current situation at the site safe to members of the public and to the local environment. This would include copies of any risk assessments that have been undertaken.

Under the EIR exception 12(5)(b) a public authority may refuse to disclose information to the extent that its disclosure will adversely affect the course of justice, the ability to conduct an inquiry of a criminal or disciplinary nature. The Environment Agency is investigating alleged waste offences at the site. Therefore, PHE will not disclose this information because the information you have requested forms part of the legal investigation and disclosure could prejudice the legal proceedings.

Publically available information which includes a multiagency plan to remove the burning waste and provides newsletters can be found at:
www.emergencynorthyorks.gov.uk/greatheck

3. *The existing planning and proposals for the proper removal of the rubbish from this site.*

See the plan at www.emergencynorthyorks.gov.uk/greatheck

If you have any queries regarding the information that has been supplied to you, please refer your query to me in writing in the first instance. If you remain dissatisfied and would like to request an internal review, then please contact us at the address above or by emailing foi@phe.gov.uk

Please note that you have the right to an independent review by the Information Commissioner's Office if a complaint cannot be resolved through the PHE complaints procedure. The Information Commissioner's Office can be contacted by writing to Information Commissioner's Office, Wycliffe House, Water Lane, Wilmslow, Cheshire SK9 5AF.

Yours sincerely

Freedom of Information Officer