

## AIR MONITORING STUDY 2016 – STELLA

The Environment Agency carried out an air monitoring study using a fixed air monitoring station between July and December 2016. The station was located at a primary school in Stella.



The purpose of the study was to continuously measure levels of methane and hydrogen sulphide in a suitable location downwind of the Path Head landfill site at Stargate. The study followed concerns raised by residents regarding 'gassy' smells coming from the landfill site. Methane and hydrogen sulphide were the gases analysed as these are two common constituents of landfill gas and had been recorded in the area using our hand held equipment.

The study is now complete and a detailed report has been written up. The report is publically available via our website.

<https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/path-head-landfill-gateshead>

In summary the report concludes that methane and hydrogen sulphide were recorded on occasion above 'background' levels. The recorded weather data indicates that this was most common in periods of 'poor atmospheric dispersion' (little or no wind). The peak recorded levels were compared with World Health Organisation (WHO) guidelines and found to be well below safe limits. However, during 4% of the monitoring period, hydrogen sulphide was recorded at a level likely to cause odour annoyance.

We have shared a copy of the full report with Public Health England and other partners.

If you have any queries or concerns with the report please contact:

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