

The TRA made the following recommendations to the Task and finish Group at the recent Zoom meeting:

1. Given the intensity of the odour on some days, and at one time the persistence, it was suggested (and had been suggested on several occasions at the Liaison meetings) that the EA monitor the site more closely and respond more quickly to the reports of odour. The TRA was informed by the EA that the time between an issue of odour being reported and an EA officer visiting the site to investigate its source, was 48 hours. Given that the odour might last minutes or hours this meant that it was unlikely that the source would be found.

It was also suggested that a thicker covering was needed over the waste.

2. That no more houses be built next to the landfill site (even though permission has recently been granted by the NBC planning committee for 133 houses to be built less than 100 meters, on the former scrap yard site and adjacent field. Although The TRA opposed this development, permission was granted.

3. The TRA supported the Company's application to increase the amount of waste to be deposited in the site. This would mean that the site would fill up faster (in 4 rather than 7 years) so that it could be capped, which would end the odour issue. The waste is now at the surface and the dome formation has begun. Given the type of waste being deposited it might be increasingly difficult to control the incidents of odour. Thus the TRA suggested a change of waste type. An increase in waste will not mean more waste than has been permitted will be deposited ie the capacity of the site will remain the same. What the TRA did suggest was that an increased monitoring by the EA would be necessary to ensure that no violations occurred. It would also mean better data and more frequent data collection by both the Company and the EA, with testing equipment being placed in optimum testing positions. And that this data be available for public scrutiny.

4. If permission is granted for an increase to the volume of waste being deposited and given that the infill is now above the surface, attention should be drawn to the issue of dust. The size of the dust particles will be crucial. And again it is for the EA to monitor the air quality.

5. The TRA would object to, and would not support, any calls for the site to be closed. At this stage it is the TRA view that it would be both dangerous and irresponsible for the site to be closed at this time. It is understood that the NBC Task Group will meet several more times before any recommendations are made to the EA.

A Drakakis-Smith

Chair TRA 17 August 2020