

Report to: Executive Cabinet Member
Environmental Services

Date: 15th August 2016

Report of: Assistant Director of Place

Report No: ECMES/19/16b

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Report Title: **Petition received regarding S.C. Chadwicks & Sons Waste Transfer Site.**

**Confidential /
Non Confidential:**

(Non-Confidential)
This report does not contain information which warrants its consideration in the absence of the press or members of the public. However, personal data will be redacted prior to the report being made available publicly.

Purpose:

To inform the Executive Member of the petitions received and to provide the Executive Member with an update on the works taking place on site.

Recommendations:

The Executive Cabinet Member is asked to :

- note the petition received
- note the update on works currently taking place

Decision:

Background Doc(s):

Previous informal updates have been provided.

(for use on Exec Rep)

Signed:

Leader / Executive
Cabinet Member

Monitoring Officer

Date:

Summary:

An executive summary is set out within the report below which gives an overview of the work taking place and details of the petition from local residents can be found in section three.

1.0 Executive Summary

- 1.1 In February 2016 the Environment Agency issued a suspension notice on the licence held by S.C. Chadwick & Sons Ltd. This was due to the site taking on too much waste and insufficient fire safety measures. This together with other factors meant that the company ceased to trade.
- 1.2 The site was closed with seven stock piles of waste remaining on site, all at various stages of the waste disposal process. There were also stock piles of tires, two 18 yard skips containing asbestos and sundry machinery.
- 1.3 As no other party were able to resolve the issues on site and as the site presented risks in terms of fire, odour nuisance, pollution and personal safety which needed addressing immediately, the site was vested to the Council on 10th June 2016 and work began on site on 13th June.
- 1.4 A petition has been received by the Council from local residents regarding the waste abandoned there, requesting the council remove it due to the reasons listed above and that no further waste licence is issued.

2.0 Background

- 2.1 S.C. Chadwicks & Sons Ltd had two Waste transfer sites, one in Bolton and one in Wigan.
- 2.2 The location of the Bolton site is Oakenbottom Road, Brightmet, Bolton, Greater Manchester, BL2 6DW. It comprises an area of 1.07 hectares / 2.65 acres. The site is a Waste Management Facility including admin accommodation, workshops, reception, processing units and yard.
- 2.3 After the business ceased trading, Leonard Curtis Business Solutions Group was appointed as Liquidators of the Bolton site on the 30th March 2016.
- 2.4 The Liquidator investigated the availability of funds to clear the site on the basis that the Company had none but unfortunately where unable to secure funding. They issued a notice to disclaim the site and the waste within days of their appointment.
- 2.5 The effect of the notice to disclaim was that the land became vested in the Duchy of Lancaster (Crown Estate). Therefore, it was subsequently vested to the Council on the 10th June 2016 so emergency clean up could commence as soon as possible.

3.0 Petition

- 3.1 On the 15th April 2016 the authority received a petition requesting the following action is taken:
 - *'The removal of waste left at Chadwicks recycling site in Brightmet'.*
- 3.2 It requested that the waste be removed using the Councils reserves and to ensure that no further waste permit is issued for the site.
- 3.3 The petition had 28 signatures.

4.0 Progression of Works

- 4.1 The Council had began working on ways forward for the site early April 2016 and developed a list of options.
- 4.3 As the site presented risks in terms of fire, odour nuisance, pollution and personal safety it was apparent very early on that the Council needed to act quickly in order to begin works to make the site safe.
- 4.4 The Environment Agency developed an emergency plan in conjunction with the Fire Service and the Greater Manchester Civil Contingencies and Resilience Unit had a Greater Manchester Multi Agency Response Plan.
- 4.6 Site security measures have been put in place to monitor activity at the site, this includes regular visits from security and response and mobile CCTV cameras.
- 4.9 Once ownership of the land had been legally signed over to the Council on the 10th June, works began on site on the 13th June 2016.
- 4.10 Initially these were enabling works such as installing the weighbridge, taking delivery of necessary plant, ensuring welfare facilities were adequate and completing risk assessments.
- 4.11 Clearance of the piles began on 20th June and they are currently continuing to work through these.
- 4.12 At the time of writing this report, x loads and x tonnes have been removed from the site.

5.0 Timetable

- 5.1 Works are expected to continue until October 2016.
- 5.2 Once clearance works are completed, valuations and removal of the waste processing machinery will take place along with assessments of the remaining buildings.

6.0 Recommendations

- 6.1 Note the petition received.
- 6.2 Note the update on works currently taking place.