

For Denbighshire County Council

Colomendy Waste Transfer Station Pest Management Plan

Report for Denbighshire County Council

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1.0 Introduction

This pest management plan (PMP) has been compiled for Denbighshire County Council's (DCC) Colomendy waste transfer station (WTS) 'the site'. This document, which will form part of the site's management system, has been produced in accordance with Natural Resources Wales' (NRW) guidance of 'How to Comply with your Environment Permit'¹ and to supplement the site's Environment Risk Assessment.

Scavenging animals, birds and other pests, including flies, can introduce substances into the environment that may spread disease. Similarly, emissions from waste or other materials stored on site can attract pests.

The objective of this plan is to identify and minimise the risks of pests for the site activities and to describe the appropriate measures that are in place to prevent or, where that is not practicable, to minimise the presence of pests which are likely to cause pollution, hazard or annoyance outside the boundary of the site.

Other aspects that this PMP will cover include:

- Monitoring;
- Actions plans in the event of pests;
- Allocation of responsibilities; and
- Review schedule for assessing effectiveness of the measures within this plan.

2.0 Site Background

2.1 Introduction

The site is operated by DCC, who are the permit holder. The site operates as a waste transfer station and depot, accepting a range of material streams from local residents and from small commercial waste operators for processing (sorting and baling), as well as highways material. The site is permitted to accept up to 55,000 tonnes of material per year.

2.2 Site Setting

The WTS is situated on Colomendy industrial estate located off the Ffordd Y Graig Road in Denbigh. The site is on an industrial estate situated between farmland to the north and east, commercial premises to the south-east and south, and an aggregate quarry to the west. Beyond the commercial premise to the south and southeast, there are residential properties within 1km, whilst to the west (and within 1km), woodland surrounds the quarry, including two Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) within 2km.

2.3 Site Layout

The layout of the site is shown in Figure 2-1.

2.4 Operating Times

The site operating times are:

- Monday - Saturday 06:00 - 19:00
- Sunday 09:00 - 16:00

No operations take place on Christmas and New Year's Day.

¹ <https://naturalresources.wales/permits-and-permissions/environmental-permits/guidance-to-help-you-comply-with-your-environmental-permit/?lang=en> (last accessed 23/06/2022)

The working area of the site has impermeable surfacing and is accessed via a gate to the south west of site, from Graig Road. The site comprises of:

- The main waste transfer building, containing:
 - Bays for residual waste, paper, absorbent hygiene products (AHP), cardboard, mixed metals and plastics and sorted metals and plastics;
 - A sorting line;
 - Two balers; and
 - Office and welfare facilities.
- External sheds containing:
 - Gully waste, recyclable highways waste and green waste bays;
 - Food waste sealed skip area;
 - Vehicle wash; and
 - Bale storage.
- In addition to the waste mentioned above, there are external bays for glass, spare materials, fly-tipped waste, topsoil, non-recyclable highways waste, road sweepings, containers for textiles, Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE), batteries and aerosols and a dedicated quarantine bay.
- The site has two weighbridges.
- The main building and external sheds contain a dust and odour suppression system.
- There is parking for waste fleet vehicles and separate staff parking.
- To the north of the site is a firewater supply tank.

2.5 Waste Activities

Activities that take place on site include:

- Unloading and unloading of waste material;
- Sorting;
- Baling; and
- Storage.

Waste operation name	Description of the waste operation	Annex I or Annex II (disposal and recovery) codes
Colomendy Waste Transfer Station	Transfer of waste: household commercial and industrial Transfer of waste: hazardous	R3: Recycling/reclamation of organic substances which are not used as solvents R4: Recycling/reclamation of metals and metal compounds R5: Recycling/reclamation of other inorganic materials R13: Storage of wastes pending any of the operations numbered R1 to R12 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced) D9: Physico-chemical treatment not specified elsewhere in Annex II which results in final compounds or mixtures which are discarded by means of any of the operations numbered D1 to D8 and D10 to D12 D14: Repackaging prior to submission to any of the operations D1 to 13 D15: Storage pending any of the operations numbered D1 to D14 (excluding temporary storage, pending collection, on the site where it is produced)

3.0 Potential Pest Sources

Due to the composition of some of the wastes accepted at site, there is a risk of pests, as identified in the site's Environment Risk Assessment. This section details the procedure to be carried out at site to mitigate or minimise infestation or nuisance caused by pests.

3.1 Identification of Pest Sources

General sources of pests at site include:

- Acceptance and storage of waste streams that attract pests, including
 - Food waste
 - Absorbent Hygiene Products (AHPs)
 - Garden waste
 - Residual waste
- Access to nesting/roosting areas; and
- Inadequate housekeeping.

3.2 Preventative and Control Measures - Normal Conditions

3.2.1 Acceptance and Storage of Pest-Attracting Waste Streams

A full waste acceptance procedure is in place as part of the site's EMS. All vehicles bringing waste material to the site will be purpose-built vehicles that are regularly cleaned and maintained. The majority of waste accepted at the site will be from household kerbside collections via the Local Authority's regular waste collection service, therefore is unlikely to be infested with pests. Waste collection crews receive ongoing supervision and training to identify waste streams at the kerbside that have evidence of pests. These waste streams will not be collected and the householder will be notified.

Some of the wastes accepted at sites are likely to attract pests, including food waste, residual waste and AHPs which can attract birds, flies, rodents and scavengers. These wastes will be inspected upon unloading to check for signs of pests. If pests are identified on site the procedure in Section 3.3 will be followed. Under normal circumstances, the waste acceptance and storage procedures for these waste types are as follows:

- **Food waste** will be delivered to the site in RCVs and stored within sealed containers. These containers prevent access to pests. The food waste containers will be closed when they are not in use. Food waste will be stored on site for 24 hours under normal circumstances. Tipping areas will be swept and washed down once cleared to minimise the waste residues that could attract pests.
- **AHP waste** is comprised of nappies and sanitary products and attracts pests such as flies. This waste will be collected in bags which provides a level of protection against pests. The waste is deposited into the designated bay before being transferred into a sealed skip container within the waste transfer building, where it is stored for up to 3 days under normal circumstances, before being removed for further treatment. AHP waste is not treated on site and the bags are not opened. Tipping areas will be swept and washed down once cleared to minimise the waste residues that could attract pests.
- **Garden waste** will be deposited in an external covered bay. Under normal circumstances, garden waste is stored on site for up to 3 days. The high turnover reduces the likelihood of pest infestation.
- **Residual waste** is general household black bag waste and due to the mixed nature of the contents can attract a variety of pests. This waste will be stored within the waste transfer building for no more than 2 days under normal circumstances.

Residual waste will not be treated on-site and will remain within the bags, reducing the potential for pests. Tipping areas will be swept and washed down once cleared to minimise the waste residues that could attract pests.

All wastes likely to attract pests are promptly stored within the designated containers or bays and the time these wastes are kept on site is kept to a minimum to reduce an infestation of pests. The bays and containers will be cleaned when empty to reduce residues that may attract pests.

3.2.2 Nesting Areas

Pests, especially birds, may nest on the site and cause a nuisance. To help prevent this, pest control measures such as netting, fencing or bird deterrent spikes will be in place in areas where birds are likely to nest, e.g. roof eaves. These deterrents will be routinely checked, maintained and upgraded as required.

3.2.3 Housekeeping

Good housekeeping on site can reduce the risk of infestation of pests. Bays and skips used to store pest-attracting wastes will be thoroughly washed down daily after use to remove residue that may attract pests. Welfare facilities will be regularly cleaned and tidied to prevent infestation by insects or rodents. Site operatives will check the site daily for litter and signs of pests. If pests are identified on site the procedure in Section 3.3 will be followed.

The site will be visited and inspected by a pest controller on a monthly basis. Records of these inspections will be kept in the site office.

3.3 Preventative and Control Measures - Abnormal Conditions

In the event that pests are observed on site, or in the event that pests are observed to be leaving the site boundary, immediate action will be taken. Depending on the type and location of the pests and the severity of the infestation, the following action may be taken:

- If possible, the affected waste will either be rejected from site, or be moved into sealed containers in the quarantine area to be treated and removed from site;
- The affected areas will be cleaned;
- If safe and appropriate to do so, pest control methods will be employed, as listed in Section 3.4;
- To prevent re-infestation, additional control methods from Section 3.4 may also be put in place;
- Should the infestation be severe or should specialist services be required, professional pest control advice will be sought by the site manager.

Additional methods that may be used to control pests are given below, based on the most common pests observed on waste sites.

3.4 Specific Pest Control Methods

3.4.1 Birds

Birds pose a health risk to humans through the spread of illness and disease transmitted in their droppings, as well as creating mess and causing damage to roofing and guttering. Nesting birds can attract insects and larger birds, such as seagulls, can represent a health and safety hazard as they may attack other birds and site users.

Birds, such as pigeons and seagulls, are attracted to wastes that may provide a food source, for example, food, garden and residual wastes.

Wastes likely to attract birds will be kept indoors or in sealed containers, where possible. Turnover will be high to minimise the risk of bird nuisance. Garden waste, which is stored in an external bay, will be frequently turned and monitored for nuisance bird activity. However, should further mitigation or management be required, the following measures may be employed as necessary:

- flying birds of prey over the site;
- erecting netting over external bays;
- bird kites mimicking birds of prey;
- scarecrows - fixed or mobile;
- sticky tape or residues on areas birds tend to perch;
- installing spikes or coils on perches; and
- bird corpses or dummies.

In severe cases, recording of bird distress calls or electronic sounds that imitate such calls may be employed, however, this would be a last resort due to the noise pollution this could cause. Scaring methods such as blasts and explosions are not appropriate for this site, due to the nature of the operations and the proximity of sensitive receptors.

3.4.2 Flies

Flies pose a health risk to humans, pets and livestock through the spread of illness and disease.

Fly infestations commonly arise from waste which has been waiting for collection for some time before delivery to the site. Acceptance of such wastes is prevented or limited to reduce this risk, and the high turnover and frequent removal from site of these wastes will minimise the risk of a fly infestation occurring. However, should further mitigation or management be required, the following methods may be employed:

- employing registered practitioners to spray infected wastes with insecticide;
- installing netting or meshing;
- installing sticky strips, fly boxes or honey traps; and
- installing light traps or LED fly control units.

3.4.3 Rodents

Rodents, such as mice and rats, pose a risk to property and can cause gnawing damage to cables, pipes and furniture. Rats can also transmit disease via their urine and droppings, posing a health risk to humans.

Rodents are attracted to wastes that may provide a food source, such as food and residual wastes, litter and food storage areas in canteens or welfare facilities.

The high turnover of waste, as well as maintaining a good standard of housekeeping around the site and in the welfare facilities, will minimise the risk of a rodent infestation occurring. However, should further mitigation or management be required, the following methods may be employed:

- using rodenticide or bait boxes;
- installing netting or meshing to prevent rodent access;
- repairing or reinforcing entry points to the food source; and
- increasing the frequency of cleaning or housekeeping.

3.4.4 Other Pests

The semi-rural location of the site may increase the risk of other pests and wildlife appearing at site. The methods outlined in the previous sections should be sufficient to minimise the risk of other pests causing a nuisance at site or beyond the site boundary. However, should

any nuisance be observed from other pests, such as foxes, badgers or rabbits, professional pest control advice will be sought.

4.0 Monitoring and Responsibilities

Site operatives will carry out visual daily inspections of the site and site boundary to check for any infestation by insects, rodents, birds or scavengers. A record of these daily inspections and remedial action taken will be made in the site diary. Any remedial action required will be reported to the site manager.

All site operatives are responsible for carrying out the procedure in Section 3.0.

The site manager is responsible for annually reviewing the PMP and updating this procedure with any changes required or following a significant pest incident.

To maintain continuous improvement, as part of the annual review of the PMP - or sooner, if a review is prompted by an incident - all complaints and incidents will be reviewed and operations, infrastructure and training needs will be revised in line with these, with the aim of improving operations on site.

5.0 Complaints

In the event of a complaint regarding pests, investigations will commence immediately to identify the source of the pests. These investigations will be carried out by the site manager and will:

- ensure pest management procedures are in place;
- check if pest management procedures have failed; and
- note the impact of the pests.

Should the investigation identify that remedial action be taken, the procedure in Section 3.3 will be followed.

A record of the complaint and investigation will also be made in DCCs corporate customer service software, that demands a response and follow up to complaints. Complaints are to be responded to within 10 working days. Investigations are carried out and appropriate measures put in place to prevent reoccurrence, and reviewed with the aim of improving operations on site.

Details of complaints, investigations and actions will be made available to NRW on request.

Information will be provided to the local neighbours regarding the point and method of contact for the site in the event of a complaint or if they want to discuss any activities at the site.

- The neighbours can be advised that any complaints or concerns will be addressed immediately following identification and notification, and contingency action implemented;
- The neighbours can be advised of any corrective action and a follow up call carried out if required.

The primary point of contact at the site for complaints and liaison with the neighbours is the site manager who will ensure that the recording, investigation and close out of complaints is undertaken as described above and in accordance with company management procedures.

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