Treforest Transfer Station

Pest Management Plan 2023

Permit number: **HP3795FS**

Site name: **Treforest Transfer Station**

Site address: **Main Avenue, Treforest Industrial Estate, Treforest, CF37 5YL**

Operator name: **Veolia ES UK Ltd**

Prepared by: **M. Rooke**

List of revisions

Revision number	Revision authorised by	Date submitted to NRW
PMP v1	M Rooke	March 2023
PMP v1.1	P Cockerton	June 2023

1. Introduction

This Pest Management Plan (PMP) has been developed in order to formalise the pest monitoring and management that occurs at Treforest Transfer Station. This document has been prepared in accordance with NRW 'How to comply' guidance.

The plan has been developed in order to outline how to prevent or minimise pests at Treforest Transfer Station.

1.1. Background to site and operations

Treforest Transfer Station 'the facility' accepts municipal and commercial waste materials principally for transfer alongside some small scale treatment of paper / card. Material is principally deposited at the site for bulking then onward treatment or recovery / disposal at 3rd party sites. The facility is well established and mature having been operated by the Veolia Group for approximately 20 years.

In 2023 the facility was expanded and now comprises a combination of two units now merged into one on the industrial estate (one being an existing transfer building and the other a former BBC prop store).

The facility comprises the following elements: a building for the bulking, treatment and transfer of waste materials collected from local businesses and householders with a series of internal bays for the storage of imported materials, including residual wastes, recyclates, WEEE and processed waste, and one external storage bay for wood. The site also sorts, segregates and bales recyclable materials such as OCC and SOW for onward sale.

The facility will accept and process or transfer up to 150,000 t per year of waste including the following types: cardboard, glass, general waste, food waste, paper, plastic, recyclate of Local Authority origin, commercial recyclate, WEEE including batteries. There is also allowance for some non-typical wastes including low volumes of clinical waste, metals, insulation (non asbestos), and textiles.

1.2. Operating hours

The site typically operates 05:00 - 16:00 Monday to Friday and 05:00 - 11:00 Saturday (Maintenance). There are no restrictions to the hours of operation in the facility's planning consent and these hours could be subject to change depending on business requirements. Any change would be reviewed prior to implementation.

1.3. Storage and transfer activities

The facility accepts a range of waste types for storage / bulking and onward transfer for recycling, composting (IVC), or energy recovery. Sorted / graded cardboard bales are sent for recycling, glass inputs are bulked and transferred into secondary glass industries, plastics are sent for recycling, food waste is recovered using in vessel composting (off site),

general waste is sent for energy recovery while WEEE, wood and hardcore are also sent for recycling / recovery. All waste, apart from wood, is stored and loaded internally to the transfer station building. Wood waste is stored externally in a covered bay.

1.4. Treatment activities

Small scale treatment activities will include manual sorting and baling of paper and card waste using conveyor picking lines to produce an improved output material quality for onward recycling and recovery. All treatment activities take place internally to the transfer station building.

1.5. Site setting and location

The facility is located off Main Avenue in the Treforest Industrial Estate (Grid Reference ST 11046 86055) accessed from the main A470 North East of Cardiff City Centre. The site is under the Local Authority jurisdiction of Rhondda Cynon Taf County Borough Council.

The immediate site setting is predominantly industrial and commercial with an array of adjacent activities. Amongst these there is one permitted waste management site, a HWRC. The nearest residential property is approximately 450m south from the site on Oxford Street off Main road.

The full address for the site is detailed below:

Veolia ES (UK) Limited
Main Avenue
Treforest Industrial Estate
Treforest
Nr Pontypridd
CF37 5YL

1.6. High level overview

The facility is designed and operated in such a way that the attraction of animals including birds, vermin and insects is minimised. Measures are in place for managing and monitoring scavenging birds, rats and mice, and insects at the facility during the deposit and storage of waste. Broadly at this facility primary control measures including minimisation of residence time, sanitisation, access inclusion and eliminating harborage provide effective control. The enclosed building minimises the likelihood of vermin infesting the stored waste. Typically the storage of unprocessed waste and fast turnover of waste (typically within 24 hours of receipt) disrupts pest propagation and also minimises the potential for odour generation which may also attract vermin.

1.7. Maintenance and review of the PMP

Training, document access and key review intervals

Training / review aspect	Details
Post holder responsible for PMP related training	Katrina Harper (operations manager)
PMP storage location (physical copy)	Site management system folder (hard copy)
Review interval criteria	Annually (entire document)
	Following an incident which resulted in actual or potential increase in pest populations (relevant sections)
	Following instruction by Natural Resources Wales under the relevant condition of the environmental permit (as agreed with the regulator)
Training overview	The Veolia Management System 'VMS' includes a procedure that defines the process and responsibilities of personnel involved in the identification and evaluation of learning and development needs as well as the subsequent implementation of essential training to enable all employees to perform effectively and proficiently in their individual jobs Site personnel are aware of the parts of the permit relevant to their role and a copy of the permit is available A training matrix for all site personnel is in place and updated with all personnel trained according to the requirements of their role, including refreshers Monitoring is in place to demonstrate competency All weighbridge personnel have completed weighbridge training including WIMS Veolia operatives will receive hands-on training on managing malodorous wastes from the process supplier and through Veolia's web-based training package, SABA.
Training interval	Management will maintain a statement of training requirements for each operational post and keep a record of the training received by each person whose actions may have an impact on the environment.

1.8. Relevant sector guidance

Reference documents

Guidance title	Source	Publication date / date accessed
NRW Guidance How to Comply with your environmental permit.	https://cdn.cyfoethnaturiol.cymru/media/2110/how-to-comply-with-your-environmen	October 2014 [accessedJune

	tal-permit.pdf?mode=pad&rnd=131467604540000000	2023]

2. Target Pests

The following target pests are identified for control within this Pests Management Plan (PMP).

- Flies
- Rats
- Scavenging birds

All these types are attracted primarily by the waste being deposited; and can cause considerable nuisance to people in the locality. These pests can cause a number of problems for those affected. In all cases, there is also the risk of transmission of disease.

2.1. Flies

Flies can be a common pest at waste sites, particularly during warm weather. Fly infestations typically start at the point of waste generation, when eggs are laid in domestic or trade waste bins. The longer the period of time before the waste reaches its final disposal point (e.g. landfill) the greater the opportunity for fly problems to develop. Most flies stay close to their breeding sites (i.e. putrescent waste), however they can also disperse and result in problems at receptors.

Increased fly populations may cause issues within the operational transfer area as well as within waste vehicles entering the site, site offices and site neighbours.

2.2. Rats and mice

Rats tend to dig burrows around foundations, in earthen banks and in planting beds. They are attracted to debris and food in unsecured waste storage containers. Rat problems originate outside buildings. Rodents usually stay at ground level and below but, if they gain access to wall voids, may climb to upper floors. Rats and mice are most likely to be attracted to the putrescible waste within the transfer station, although they may also be an issue at site offices and other buildings.

2.3. Scavenging birds

Scavenging birds can become pests when they are attracted by available food sources typically represented by waste food (or black bag waste) and can create health hazards, roost in large numbers on buildings, contaminate food, or create a nuisance. No particular species can be flatly categorised as good or bad. Whether birds are beneficial or harmful depends on time, location, and activity.

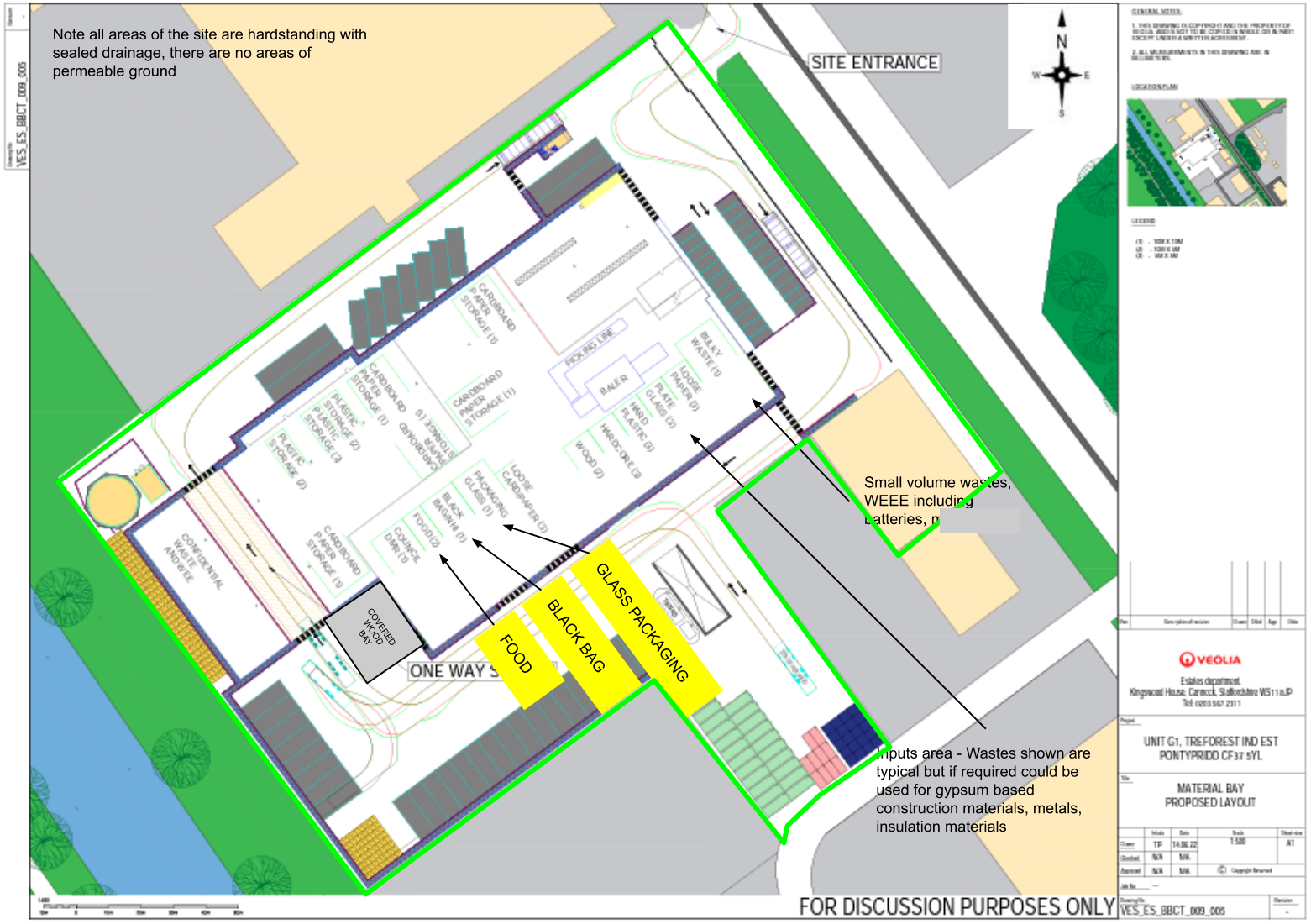
2.4. Wastes stored with a potential to attract pests

The site is designed to operate as a waste transfer station and paper / card treatment facility. The majority of the waste inputs are non vermin / pest attracting materials such as dry recyclates. The site does however accept some wastes that have the potential to attract pests. The materials and storage times are detailed in the table below.

Wastes on site that may attract pests

Material	**Pest attraction/generation potential** High Risk / Medium Risk / Low Risk	**Maximum quantity on site at any given day** (m^3 unless otherwise stated)	**Maximum time held on site** (hours or days)	**Location of materials on site**	**Additional comments**
Food waste	Medium / high	200	48 hours	Internal - Transfer Hall	All food material is stored and handled within the transfer building. The waste has a low residence time typically being held for 24 hours but 48 covers the weekend (Saturday in and Monday out). Any liquid generated while the waste is in storage drains to a dedicated sealed underground tank. The food area is cleaned and disinfected daily, all wash waters are also directed to the sealed tank.
Black bag and general waste	Medium / high	500	48 hours	Internal - Transfer Hall	All black bag waste is stored and handled within the transfer building. The waste has a low residence time typically being held for 24 hours but 48 covers the weekend (Saturday in and Monday out)
Glass packaging principally bottles / jars	Low	200	72 hours	Internal - Transfer Hall	All glass packaging waste is stored within the transfer building. The waste has a low residence time typically being held for less than 72 hours.

Typical location of wastes that may attract pests



3. Site Management and Control Measures

3.1. Flies

Fly infestation has not historically been a problem at the facility due to the cross cutting measures in place principally for odour control as outlined below.

Primary controls:

- **Minimisation of waste residence times** - The residence time of putrescible waste is typically less than 24 hours which disrupts insect life cycle. Carrying putrescible waste repository during non operational periods (Saturday afternoon and Sunday) is routinely avoided where possible.
- **Sanitisation / housekeeping -** The transfer station building and surrounding areas are cleaned to ensure waste does not accumulate in inaccessible areas such as behind push walls, pipework, within drains or corners within the building.
- **Reactive / proactive refusal of waste** - any waste which is deemed by site staff to have the potential to lead to a fly infestation will either be prioritised for transfer or refused. In the case of the former investigation will be carried out to identify the root cause and subsequent loads may be proactively refused.

Additional controls

Should fly infestation become problematic due to a change in operations or a change in character of input streams outside of Veolia's control, additional measures would be considered. These would include monitoring of adult and larval flies e.g. using scudder grid / larval counts, use of insecticide baits and if necessary ultra-low volume (UVL) spraying. In accordance with the standard hierarchy of control and environmental best practice, non chemical methods should always be prioritised and in the case of Treforest as these measures are effective and therefore the use of chemical measures is not indicated. In the event additional control measures are required these could be readily procured through the existing standing pest management control contract.

3.2. Rats and mice

There is evidence of rat and mice activities at the site typical of a waste transfer facility and therefore both primary and secondary controls are indicated.

Primary controls:

- **Minimisation of waste residence times** - The residence time of putrescible waste is typically less than 24 hours which disrupts insect life cycle. Carrying putrescible waste repository during non operational periods (Saturday afternoon and Sunday) is routinely avoided where possible.
- **Sanitisation / housekeeping -** The transfer station building and surrounding areas are cleaned to ensure waste does not accumulate in inaccessible areas such as behind push walls, pipework, within drains or corners within the building. Food residue is scraped out at the end of the day.
- **Access exclusion -** In the long term, the most successful and sustainable form of rat control is exclusion / rat-proofing making it impossible for rats to get into a building or an area of a building. Rat-proofing prevents new rats from re-infesting a building once it has been cleared. The following exclusion measures are typically undertaken on site both internally and externally.
    - Pipes with open ends and drains uncovered are sealed if identified
    - Gaps evident around pipe exits are sealed where identified.
    - The canteen / staff room area door is closed when not in use to prevent rodent attraction.
    - Bin lids are closed to deny pests access.
- **Eliminating harbourage -** Preventing the establishment of a rat population can be effective by eliminating areas suitable as a habitat for burrows and rat movements. Use of a FIFO system and regular turnover of waste, particularly bales disturbs target rodents nesting opportunities within the transfer station building. Where identified, burrows around the building are blocked.
- **Specialist contractors -** Veolia has a standing contract with a pest control contractor who visits the site once per month to make observations, carry out maintenance e.g. replenishment of bait boxes and make recommendations. The pest control contractor issues a report following every visit and the contents are reviewed. Using specialist contractors means pest populations are under regular surveillance and the preventative measures remain dynamic.

Secondary controls

- **Bait Boxes** - There are 30 - 40 bait boxes located across the facility which are inspected monthly to make sure that rats are taking the bait and triggered traps are replenished.

Additional controls

Currently primary and secondary controls are proving effective at controlling rodent populations and they are being maintained at a level which is typical for a transfer station environment. There have been no complaints of rodent populations causing a problem externally to the site. If populations increase this would be identified by site staff and the dedicated pest control contractor and the root cause would be investigated with additional measures implemented as appropriate. Additional measures could include increasing the numbers of bait boxes but could extend to employing a rat controller.

3.3. Scavenging birds

Scavenging bird populations have not historically been a problem at the site due to the cross cutting primary control measures in place.

Primary measures:

- **Minimisation of waste residence times** - The residence time of putrescible waste is typically less than 24 hours which disrupts insect lifecycle. Carrying putrescible waste repository during non operational periods (Saturday afternoon and Sunday) is routinely avoided where possible.
- **Enclosure of the building with roller shutter doors -** The enclosure of the building discourages large flocks of birds to migrate towards the waste as they are likely to be attracted to more readily accessible food sources
- **Sanitisation / housekeeping -** The transfer station building and surrounding areas are cleaned to ensure waste does not accumulate in inaccessible areas such as behind push walls, pipework, within drains or corners within the building.

Additional controls

Given the effectiveness of primary control measures further controls are not currently indicated. Should site staff identify an increase in bird numbers the root cause will be investigated with additional measures implemented as appropriate. This could include installation of a bird scaring unit extending to contracting a falconer.

4. Maintenance and review of the Pest Management Plan

The Site Manager or nominated deputy are responsible for the PMP and for ensuring pest management and control procedures are adhered to at the site.

An up-to-date copy of the PMP is to be kept in the Site Office at Treforest Transfer Station by the Site Manager. The PMP will be reviewed by the Site Manager or nominated deputy on an annual basis or as required.

The roles and responsibilities of pest management and control are summarised in the table below.

Roles and Responsibilities

Roles	Responsibilities	Location
Pest Management and Control Procedures	Site Manager or nominated deputy	Site Office
Pest Monitoring and Records	Site Manager	Site Office
Pest Complaints and Incident Records	Area Manager	Site Office

5. Site Inspection & maintenance

5.1. Site inspection

The building integrity will be inspected at the commencement of each working day by the site manager or nominated deputy. Any defects or damage will be made secure by temporary repair by the end of the working day, and will be repaired within 7 working days of the damage being detected. All inspections, defects, damage and repairs will be recorded in the site diary.

The Site Manager will ensure that regular Site inspection checks are undertaken and good housekeeping is employed, with the transfer station and other sensitive areas cleaned on a regular basis.

The Site Manager will ensure that the facility has a vermin and insect control contract in place with a specialist recognised independent pest control contractor at all times. The contract will include an initial examination of the facility, regular inspections and emergency visits as necessary. Generally, monthly visits will be carried out, but this will be dependent upon site conditions observed during inspections by the Site Manager or nominated deputy. Recommendations will also be provided relating to the required number of monitoring points, bait stations and frequency of visits. A report of each visit is provided by the pest control contractor and any recommendations or actions identified are reviewed, implemented as appropriate and recorded in the site diary.

When necessary, as inspections and trigger points indicate, appropriate action will be taken to control pests. 'Appropriate action' means using measures which will rectify any problems that are identified during monitoring, these are outlined in section 3.

5.2. Pest Identification

Management procedures that will be implemented particularly upon identification of vermin/insects/birds at the site are:

- Contact with the waste producers to confirm that they are aware that the load has arrived with an infestation, and to ensure that they take appropriate action to prevent recurrence.
- Frequent inspections to ensure that the infestation remains contained and isolated within the tipping area (use of quarantine if appropriate).
- The independent pest contractor will apply appropriate pesticides/insecticides and baiting of the site in response to identified issues.
- The type of treatment for pests and vermin and frequency that is implemented will be dependent upon the appropriate response to a specific issue, and will normally be implemented as advised by the specialist pest control contractor. Actions could include the use of additional bait boxes or the application of insecticides, pesticides. A pest / vermin control contractor will normally be available within 24 hours during the normal working week.

5.3. Trigger Values

- Complaint by member of the public,
- Advice and guidance from NRW,
- Evidence of pest / vermin contamination within the site offices / workshops.
- Significant and noticeable amounts of pests around the site environs (including the site office),
- An infested load which requires quarantine and pest control treatment before removal for disposal,
- As advised by the specialist pest control contractor.

6. Monitoring

6.1. Visual Monitoring

All personnel will report any potential pest nuisances observed on site to the Site Manager (or nominated deputy) who will be responsible for the investigation, remediation, and recording of details. This will be undertaken in the Site Diary or electronically.

6.2. Complaint Monitoring

The monitoring of complaints is likely to be the most reliable way to ascertain whether there is a problem with pests beyond the site boundary and if any action is required. The complaints procedure is outlined in Section 7 below.

7. Complaints Procedure

The Company will maintain a register of all complaints at the site. In all cases the Site Manager will ensure that all complaints have been suitably handled.

The purpose of this procedure is to: ensure the effective management of complaints; to instigate the investigation of complaints; and implement corrective action and preventive measures to avoid reoccurrence.

In accordance with the Company Management System, each complaint will be entered into AVA (the company's online system for communicating complaints received). The following details shall also be entered onto the form, where known:

- Details of the originator of the complaint;
- The date and time of the complaint (if the complaint is forwarded through a third party, details of the original complaint and the third party shall be entered, if available);
- The location of the complaint;
- The nature of the complaint;
- Details of the investigation into the complaint and any action taken to prevent recurrence.

The complaint shall be investigated in accordance with the procedure. Once the

investigation has been carried out, the Site Manager handling the complaint will contact the originator of the complaint and provide feedback on the findings and also the nature of any corrective action proposed.

Reporting systems for the business are laid out in the following two documents -

- SYS/2/007 - Complaints and Non Conformance Reporting
- SYS/2/037 - Event Reporting and Notification