

Iken Waste Investigation - Community Update

March 2021

Purpose of this briefing

This is the first of our bi-monthly Community Updates for the waste investigation that we are currently undertaking in Iken, Suffolk.

Our aim is to keep you as informed as possible but, because it is a live investigation, there may sometimes be details that we cannot share. Our first priority is to protect the integrity of the investigation and we are unable to release any detail that may prejudice that.

What we are doing

We continue to gather evidence, and have undertaken several interviews under caution in the last few weeks, as well as inviting others to interview. These interviews are a crucial element of our investigations, and it is important that anyone invited for interview under caution is given time to prepare for the interview, and time to seek legal advice. This process must not be rushed. Interviews may produce further lines of enquiry for which we need to gather evidence and which we must follow up. We are bound by law to follow up any new lines of enquiry which come to light.

We have been asked for a deadline for completion of the investigation, but we are unable to provide that. As explained, the interviews under caution could leave us with further lines of enquiry. It would be wrong for us to pre-judge what might be said in those interviews, and impossible to speculate on the time involved in following up on matters that have not yet arisen. We can assure you that we are working as quickly and efficiently as possible, continually re-prioritising our workload to ensure that the investigation is given the priority it deserves. We are undertaking regular operational review meetings to track the progress of the investigation.

Keeping you updated

To help share information in the most efficient way, from now on we will address any individual queries received via this regular update. This will help ensure that our resource is focussed on progressing the investigative work.

Please do share this update with others in your community.

If this has been forwarded to you, and you would like your email addresses added to our send list, please let us know via AreaManagerCorrespondence.EastAnglia@environment-agency.gov.uk

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03708 506 506

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0800 80 70 60

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