



Ms. Sally Harvey
Area Director
Environment Agency

By email
Our Ref: CC006588

22nd April 2026

Dear Sally

Re: Surrey Recycling Services at Dorking West Station Yard, RH4 5

I am writing to raise my serious concern about the continued operations of the materials recycling facility (MRF) on land at Dorking West Station Yard in my constituency. Surrey Recycling Services continues to trade and further develop the site despite Surrey County Council's refusal of planning permission and the subsequent dismissal of its appeal by the Planning Inspectorate. My understanding is that the County Council has commenced enforcement action and is awaiting a final determination from the Inspectorate.

Despite this outstanding planning dispute, the site continues to operate under an EA permit issued in 2022. I note that the EA has previously raised concerns with planning authorities and that field officers have visited the site, including in response to repeated reports from local residents. However, constituents remain deeply affected by the ongoing operations and believe that the Agency has not yet taken sufficient steps to protect them from what they perceive as growing health and environmental risks.

In recent months, Surrey Fire and Rescue have been called following smoke emissions from a substantial and growing mound of waste material (photographs attached). Residents, parents, and pupils at the neighbouring primary school continue to report significant issues with odour, noise, dust, HGV congestion, and alleged intimidation by site operatives. Against that backdrop, it seems difficult to reconcile the site's current condition with full compliance under its EA permit, and I am seriously concerned for the wellbeing of local residents and the wider environment.

I would therefore be grateful if you could confirm, as a matter of urgency:

- What enforcement actions the Environment Agency has taken to date, in line with its published enforcement framework.
- When Agency officers last inspected the site and the conclusions of that visit.
- Whether the Agency will consider issuing a suspension notice, stop notice, or revoking the permit in light of evidence that operations are breaching permit conditions and posing ongoing risks to public health and the local environment.

Thank you for your attention and I would appreciate a substantive reply at your earliest opportunity.

Yours sincerely

Chris Coghlan
Liberal Democrat MP for Dorking and Horley