

Wyre Council

Jameson Road Landfill Audit Findings

Expert audits of Jameson Landfill have been conducted to determine the level of compliance with the Environmental Permit, planning requirements and current contractual obligations of the lease.

The site is currently operated by Transwaste Recycling and Aggregates Limited and the audits aim to assess if the operator has sufficient day to day control of site operations and whether they are employing a compliant and efficient environmental management system.

Audit Findings - September 2025

- The inspection carried out in September 2025 found the landfill site to be mostly tidy and running in line with the Environmental Permit. However, improvements could be made in relation to the open tipping area and the stockpiling of waste as this has the potential to cause unwanted odour.
- A review of the paperwork showed that while most documents in the Environmental Management System were current, the procedures for accepting waste were not always complete and sometimes missing key details.
- Monitoring data shows that although the landfill site generally meets its compliance obligations, some information was missing at the time of the visit. For example, the annual hazardous substances report for both leachate and surface water was not available because the monitoring point was dry.
- Around 70% of the waste brought into the site consists of Qualifying Fines. These are materials created through mechanical waste processing which could be contributing to reports of odour at the site.
- A review of the gas collection infrastructure at the site found the system to be adequately spaced. Complaints about smells from the site were at their highest in March 2025. This is likely to be because the installation of new gas wells meant part of the gas collection system had to be disconnected for a period of time. During the site inspection, no odours were detected and the gas collection system was being managed properly after the new wells were fitted.
- In relation to the provision of information and plans, it is considered that the tenant is not fully meeting these requirements of the lease. It is therefore recommended that the landlord increases oversight in this area to ensure the tenant complies with all these terms.

Audit Findings – December 2025

- The site inspection and desk-based review carried out in December 2025 indicates that in terms of site management, the site was generally compliant. Site observations included some concerns over the height of waste in the active tipping area on the eastern flank of Cell 5 on the day of the inspection.
- Significant odour issues were also noted, this issue will have been intensified during the site audit visit by the temporary disconnection of some gas extraction wells, infrastructure issues and the transfer of waste by dump trucks.
- The initial Landfill Audit identified that 72% of the waste input into the site is Qualifying Fines. It was considered that this is the likely source of the odour issues on site.
- Overall, odour and landfill gas management remain significant issues at the site. The Environment Agency are continuing to actively manage the situation through tight compliance monitoring and more recently, on-site waste auditing.
- The Environment Agency has detailed several actions to be undertaken as a result of fugitive methane emission surveys it carried out. These actions include sealing of gas wells/Leachate Monitoring Points, repairing holes in the temporary capping and consideration of temporary capping of Cell 6B.
- An incomplete record of Construction Quality Assurance (CQA) documentation was provided for review as part of the audit. There is also an absence of documented regulatory approval for CQA plans and verification reports. It is recommended that a management record of CQA submissions be maintained to demonstrate compliance.
- The pre-acceptance audit highlighted the same issues as identified in the initial Landfill Audit, the main concern being the lack of testing data on the composition of waste. It is acknowledged that the most recent enquiries have been accompanied by HWOL™ characterisation data and in the case of qualifying fines, a completed questionnaire/declaration by the supplier. However, other data is limited and unaccredited by the testing laboratory.
- Significant shortcomings were noted in waste acceptance procedures. As an immediate measure to identify the potential source of odour, it is recommended that the required pre-acceptance testing data for all sources is prepared, and any future on-site verification testing includes for determination of total sulphate content as a key parameter identified in the waste sampling plans.
- Issues were identified during the reconciliation of the weighbridge data against the waste transfer notes for the incoming wastes. The issues included incorrect carrier numbers or discrepancies over the source of waste between the Waste Transfer Note

(WTN) and weighbridge records and expired WTNs for waste loads received. Renewed WTNs, if present, were not supplied for the purpose of this audit. No valid WTN was recorded at the weighbridge for the carrier as delivering the waste.

- A sufficient amount of on-site verification testing data was supplied, which is an improvement from the initial Landfill Audit carried out in September. Of the 22 sample results, two returned potential non-compliances in terms of exceedances of LOI limits.
- The EA has produced two Waste Audit Reports (WAR) during the audit period which found that the wastes on site were acceptable in terms of waste classification and landfill acceptance. However, the EA made accompanying observations with regard to Transwaste providing additional detail of the process producing the qualifying fines and ensuring each waste producer has provided an appropriate waste assessment.
- Monitoring and reporting during the audit period was in good compliance with the permit conditions. No exceedances of the permit limits were reported within the environmental monitoring.

Audit Findings - May 2026

- The operator has made meaningful investments and operational improvements. These include the gas collection systems and construction of Cell 7 which is progressing positively.
- However, odour remains a serious unresolved issue generating thousands of complaints. Strong landfill gas odours were detected both on-site and off-site during the inspection, including areas up to 400m away near Fleetwood Marsh Nature Reserve.
- Successful capping works are critical to improving environmental performance, but current workmanship standards on some capping areas are inadequate and will likely require remediation.
- The Gas Management Plan was considered technically robust and compliant overall. However, improvements are still required to align with Best Available Techniques, including automatic reporting/alerts for flare and gas engines, improved data management, updated gas modelling and risk assessment.
- Since the last audit, improvements have been made to the gas collection and utilisation system and there has been revision to some of the key Environmental System Documents.
- Capping of the site is by far the most significant factor in the management of odour, the installation of 33,000m² of permanent cap and 5,000m² of temporary cap

commenced in April 2026. The initial work inspected was of poor standard and it is likely that the Environment Agency will require remediation works to correct this and an improvement in standards going forward.

- Good progress has been made on the engineering works to construct Cell 7 since work recommenced. This is being undertaken to a good standard and provided weather conditions are favourable construction should be completed to schedule.

Actions taken

Wyre Council has undertaken a thorough review of the audit findings and has implemented enhanced monitoring measures at the Jameson Road Landfill site. Through this increased oversight, the Council is proactively addressing issues highlighted by the audits.

To do this, external advisers provide ongoing expertise to identify and address any emerging issues, supporting the Council's commitment to maintaining compliance and effective site management. The Council also continues to hold regular face-to-face meetings with Transwaste.

Wyre Council served a formal Default Notice to Transwaste in February 2026 following the Environment Agency's notification of a breach of permit at the site and is continuing to monitor the situation and will act accordingly.

The Council is now seeking further legal advice in relation to the total number of permit breaches issued to Transwaste by the Environment Agency since April 2025.

In line with the Council's powers of Statutory Nuisance, an abatement notice was issued to Transwaste on April 30 in relation to unwanted odour from the site. A compliance period of 60 days has been provided in which the nuisance must be abated and future reoccurrence prevented.