



**NORTH YORKSHIRE
FIRE & RESCUE SERVICE**



**Public Health
England**

Phase 3 Edition 1- Keeping you informed

22 January 2016

Great Heck Waste Site

Here's the latest update summarising the work on the former Wagstaff's waste site at Great Heck. You can find out more online too:

www.emergencynorthyorks.gov.uk/greatcheck



How the site looked after completion of Phases 1 and 2

What we have achieved

As you can see from the photograph above, we cleared the site of the waste that was causing the most problems to residents before Christmas. Thank you for your patience during the clearance works: it was a significant job and we tried to complete it with as little impact as possible on local residents and businesses.

What next?

Work resumed on site on 4 January 2016 to re-profile the remaining waste into smaller, more manageable piles with fire breaks to remove the risk of a serious fire and pollution. This means that you can expect the site to look very different than it did before – but with the risk of fire and odour being greatly reduced. So, whilst there will still be waste on the site, there is a greatly reduced risk of any deep seated fires occurring within these smaller waste piles providing they are properly managed. Should a fire happen to occur, the layout of the site, would make access to and handling of the problem, simpler and easier for the Fire and Rescue Service.

In order for this waste to meet the original planning conditions on site, no pile will be higher than 3m.

Selby District Council has arranged for an additional amount of waste c800 tonnes to be removed to meet this condition.

Once the removal of the waste mentioned above is complete, the site will return to the control of the landowner. The landowner will be responsible for ensuring the safety of the remaining waste until the site is finally cleared by the landowner.

Monitoring

The monitors in the village to the SSW and at the farm to the NE have been showing good air quality over the past weeks. We are no longer issuing the forecast as the main works on site are now complete and impacts from the current re-profiling work are not expected. The Environment Agency and Local Authority monitoring equipment will be removed in late January. Public Health England will analyse the data gathered from the site over the course of the works and report back as soon as this is complete.

There has been no need for the Fire Service to attend at site over recent weeks. However, they would respond as required.

The multi agency partnership

The multi agency partnership is committed to the site being cleared however, we need to ensure that those responsible are held to account for the substantial costs incurred and full site clearance could take time.

We are working with the landowner to secure an acceptable proposal to manage and clear the site. We have requested and are now awaiting the submission of the proposal.

We will update you again when the contractor, Acumen, has completed the re-profiling works. This should be in around a fortnight's time.

You can get the very latest information about the impact of the clearance works via
www.emergencynorthyorks.gov.uk/greatcheck