

**Councillor Chris Read – Leader of the Council**

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11<sup>th</sup> March 2021

Cllr P Hague

By email [paul.hague@rotherham.gov.uk](mailto:paul.hague@rotherham.gov.uk)

Dear Councillor Hague

Thank you for the question which you submitted for the council meeting held on 3<sup>rd</sup> March and reconvened on 10<sup>th</sup> March. As you were unable to attend this week's meeting, I am providing a written response:

**“In response to a letter to my constituent, Mr. Peter Cowen, dated 24<sup>th</sup> Feb this year, the Leader stated that the Council has no regulatory powers within the boundary of the Watson's tip site. Could he advise on what consultation/ information this statement was made?”**

What we said in that letter is; “The Council has no regulatory powers in relation to operations within the site boundary, or any issues caused by operations on the site.” The operation of the tip is a regulatory matter for the Environment Agency.

Since Councillors voted to ask the Environment Agency to revoke the permit to tip on the site in 2017, the Council has explored numerous avenues to prevent operations from taking place on the site. This has included taking legal advice around the regulatory powers that are open to the Council.

The site is regulated by the Environment Agency through an Environmental Permit that is issued by them. The Council has no regulatory powers in relation to that Permit. Health and Safety on the site and on the access road, as at any industrial site of this nature, is regulated by the Health and Safety Executive.

Yours sincerely,



**Councillor Chris Read**  
**Leader of Rotherham Council**