SUMMARY
This report covers the period from 1 February 2017 to 28 February 2018

MONITORING OF AUTHORISED MINERAL & WASTE SITES

1. Site monitoring of consented sites remains on target with 100% of scheduled visits undertaken, with officers maintaining a proactive and helpful approach in advising operators of their options as and when planning breaches are identified.

2. The chargeable visits to mineral sites bring positive benefits in identifying breaches and encouraging retrospective applications as appropriate. Whilst a similar approach is used with waste site operators, there is no requirement to supply copies of site visit reports and communications with those operators, whilst varying widely across the spectrum of those we deal with is generally less productive as a result.

ACTION AT AUTHORISED SITES

3. Moorhouse Sandpits, Westerham Road, Westerham – A Certificate of Lawful or Proposed Use of Development (CLOPUD) and a Certificate of Lawful Established Use or Development (CLEUD) for a new mortar plant was refused by SCC in February 2014. While the mortar plant has been removed, an Enforcement Notice (EN) was issued on 30 September 2014 that required the removal of a concrete surface, fencing, storage bays and other infrastructure formerly associated with a mortar plant. Appeals were lodged by the landowners against the EN, and the refusals of both the CLEUD and CLOPUD, and the cases were heard at a Public Inquiry at County Hall in November 2015, but both appeals were dismissed in February 2016.

4. Appeals to the High Court were submitted in March and April 2016, but in late January 2017 the Court of Appeal did not grant leave to appeal and as such the enforcement notices were upheld, so the date for compliance was simply re-set and compliance has now been achieved.

5. Alton Road Sandpit, Alton Road, Alton – Planning permission WA/2014/0005 for sand and clay extraction and for landfill with household and inert waste contained a number of pre-commencement conditions. These addressed groundwater protection, drainage scheme, contamination, gas monitoring, protected species, maintaining
highway cleanliness and footpath improvement. Whilst all of the pre-commencement schemes have been submitted, some are yet to be determined, but development has commenced. Officers have considered these technical breaches and currently none of them are considered to be causing significant harm and as such enforcement action was considered unreasonable. The site is progressing well with extraction in the western cell and infill in the base of the central cell.

6. **First Place Skips, Epsom Chalk Pit, College Road, Epsom** - A retrospective application for a Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) has now been submitted to retrospectively address a material change of use on the area of lawful use, from waste transfer to materials recycling facility.

7. **Stanwell Quarry, Southern Perimeter Road, Stanwell** – The submission of a retrospective application is awaited, which will seek to regularise an extension to the permitted MRF.

8. **Brockham Oilfield, Felton’s Farm, Brockham** – In September 2016, Angus Energy sought CPA agreement for them to undertake maintenance using a 15m work-over rig on one of the three wells located within the site compound. They were subsequently advised that the proposed work would be covered under existing maintenance agreements, but that the drilling of any new wells, including sidetracks, plus the testing or production from wells not already authorised, would not be permitted.

9. Having been advised by Angus Energy that the presence of hydrocarbons within the X4 well construed it as being ‘live’ and led to them working overnight, officers relayed this information to the Health & Safety Executive, and on the basis of good practice it was considered reasonable to allow the night working for a period of one week to provide a safe environment for those working on site whilst the work-over was completed.

10. It subsequently transpired that a sidetrack had in fact been drilled. Angus Energy later claimed they already had permission for this. Officers did not believe that to be correct and sought Counsel’s opinion, which once received, reinforced officers views. However, the operator also obtained Counsel view, which apparently upheld their belief that the drilling of the sidetrack was authorised. We have encouraged the submission of a retrospective planning application to regularise the unauthorised drilling of the sidetrack as well as the required testing of oil from the sidetrack, which Angus Energy’s planning consultant has agreed would be done.

11. This unauthorised development has highlighted discrepancies between the legislators of the oil and gas industry, as permits for the drilling of a new sidetrack were issued by both the Environment Agency and the Oil & Gas Authority, and their legislative requirements do not require planning permission to be in place before they are issued. Whilst perfectly understandable in terms of legislation, it makes it somewhat confusing and at times misleading for both those involved and those monitoring such development.

12. **South Holmwood Brickworks, Beare Green** – An Enforcement Notice that was issued in August 2015 to prevent a lawful use developing was not contested. The notice was not complied with, but a planning application to address the retention of two extensions and a 22m chimney on the brickworks building together with a large hardstand for brick storage was submitted and subsequently approved.
13. **Elm Nursery, Sutton Green** – In October 2017 the unauthorised operation of a wood-splitter prior to a noise assessment having been undertaken was investigated and found to have taken place. As a result it was decided that a Breach of Conditions Notice would be expedient and this was duly instructed, prepared and issued.

**ACTION AT UNAUTHORISED SITES**

14. Complaints and the investigation of unauthorised waste development and breaches of planning control are given priority and continue to be dealt with in accordance with the Division’s performance targets.

15. **Land east of Swift Lane, Bagshot** – Land east of Swift Lane, Bagshot – A County Court Injunction from 2007 bought an aforementioned deposit of waste to a close but the removal of some 26,000m³ of imported inert waste could not be secured as the operator was declared bankrupt. The same person has more recently purchased the land, felled a large number of mature trees, levelled the previously imported waste soils, created a hard surface and pitched a number of mobile homes on the land for private rental. In addition to this re-engineering of the land, a skip company used the site as its operational base and was undertaking some recovery of metals as well as burning wood waste. Furthermore, a timber building, brick walls with metal gates and a large metal open ended barn structure were erected.

16. Officers have advised and worked with both Surrey Heath Borough Council Officers, and Ivy Legal, their appointed consultant, who is co-ordinating the taking of enforcement action. This resulted in three ENs with Stop Notices being issued, all of which were appealed. Further to officers supplying statements to Ivy Legal, a High Court Injunction was obtained in June 2017 that reinforced the extant notices, meaning that a penal notice was possible if a breach was proven. Surrey Estates Department are also involved as a number of pitches at the traveller site have unauthorised extensions that need to be addressed. A Public Inquiry is set to take place at Surrey Heath Borough Council’s offices between 10-13 April 2018.

17. **Land adjacent to Stubpond Fisheries, off Stubpond Lane, Newchapel** – The unauthorised and illegal import, deposit, storage, crushing and export of waste concrete on land where such is precluded by an extant EN issued in 1989 was found to be taking place in 2008 and more recently in 2014. A CLEUD was submitted to Tandridge District Council (Ta DC), seeking to demonstrate that the concrete crushing activities had a lawful use, but whilst Ta DC agreed with the CPA that the use was not lawful, a decision was not issued. As a result, the landowner’s solicitors have advised us that an appeal against non-determination was to be made in January 2016, but this was eventually made in June 2016 and awaits determination.

18. The CPA would have submitted representations in support of Ta DC that the use was illegal as it fell under the extant EN issued by the CPA in 1989. If PINS did not determine in the landowner’s favour then a subsequent planning application to the CPA was possible.

19. The Appeal was dismissed and no planning application has been submitted to date. The concrete crusher has been removed and importation of waste concrete has ceased. Occasional monitoring of the site will continue in case any further waste uses resume.

20. **Ellerton, Peeks Brook Lane, Horley** – A CLEUD was issued by Ta DC in 1997 which allows the storage of waste and other non-waste uses, but the CLEUD does
not cover the processing of waste. Further to extensive site discussions with the landowner and operator at the site, to address the unauthorised processing of waste soils and erection of site infrastructure, a PCN was issued in October 2015.

21. The Environment Agency issued a Permit for the site in 2016 that allowed waste processing from an EA perspective. Whilst separate from the planning issues, the Permit complicates matters for the CPA in dealing with planning, especially since the operator has installed unauthorised infrastructure to mitigate the impact of noise and dust. Whilst welcome in terms of reducing the impact of the unauthorised development, it simply adds to the planning breaches.

22. The issue of an EN in 2016 was considered as the CPA did not agree with the landowner’s planning consultant that the processing is ancillary to the uses that are covered by the CLEUD, however they subsequently agreed to the preparation of a planning application to regularise the unauthorised uses at the site and the installation of additional infrastructure that had been installed to mitigate the impact of noise and dust in the locality. The application was submitted at the end of February 2018.

UPDATES ON SITES WHERE ENFORCEMENT ACTION WAS PREVIOUSLY TAKEN

23. **Land at Stoney Castle Ranges, Grange Road, Pirbright** – An EN was issued on 1 April 2015 requiring the cessation of waste import, deposit, storage and disposal by spreading or burning of inert and non-inert waste respectively and the removal of all imported waste from the land. The landowner lives under bail conditions in the Philippines. Despite his adult son having met officers several times on site and asking many times, he has failed to supply an address for him. As a result only the son was served with a copy of the EN.

24. An appeal was submitted by the landowner’s son who had confirmed his interest in the land to both officers of the CPA & EA, but further to his submission of an additional letter, PINS subsequently deemed he did not have an interest in the land and the appeal was therefore rejected.

25. In the absence of an appeal, compliance with the extant EN was required by 9 January 2016, but compliance was not forthcoming. Despite difficulties faced with the registered landowner living abroad, it remains the CPA’s intention to pursue a prosecution of his son who we have evidence of as being responsible for managing the site. An application to the Magistrates Court was made in December 2017 and an initial hearing at Guildford Magistrates Court was set for 7 February 2018 at which the defendant surprisingly opted for Crown Court. A case review took place at Guildford Crown Court on 6 March and a one hour hearing has been set for 24 May 2018, to adjudicate as to whether or not the defendant is in fact ‘responsible’ for the site. Depending on the outcome, the case could be dismissed, a guilty plea could be offered or it could proceed to trial.

26. **Garth Farm, Newchapel Road, Lingfield** – An Enforcement Notice was issued on 1 April 2015 requiring the unauthorised use of the land for the import, deposit and disposal of mixed waste disposal and green waste disposal cease, with all imported waste to be removed. An appeal was lodged and a Local Inquiry was anticipated, but PINS advised that a Public Inquiry was to be arranged for July 2016 due to the need for evidence on oath by the principal appellant.
27. The appellant failed to turn up for the Public Inquiry in July 2016, with the subsequent excuse being that she had to attend hospital, but had failed to advise PINS and the CPA. In her absence, the Inspector decided that there were inconsistencies within the EN and accompanying plan that she could not correct and as such the CPA have unfortunately had to withdraw the EN and re-issue the documents. Difficulties with mixed uses at the site, comprising both District and County planning matters, have resulted in delays to the notice being re-issued and we are currently awaiting a response from Officers at Tandridge District Council. The land is now being purchased by a developer, which should result in the site being cleared of unauthorised tenants and tidied up.

28. **Land at New Pond Farm at the junction of Furze Lane & New Pond Road, Compton** – An extant County Court Injunction that was secured on 16 April 2014 against the longstanding tenant (who claims to be the landowner) and uncle to one of the trustees, has been breached through the continued importation of waste, and was not complied with through the removal of all imported waste from the land.

29. The continuing actions of the tenant left the CPA with little choice but to seek a prosecution for both contempt of Court and non-compliance with the requirements of the injunction, which if successful could result in a short penal sentence.

30. On 22 October 2015, Mr Percy Podger of Pond Farm, Furze Lane, Compton was given a 6-month suspended prison sentence at the Royal Courts of Justice made after Her Honour Judge May found Mr Podger guilty of being in contempt of injunctions prohibiting importation of waste onto Green Belt land. Judge May advised Mr Podger that unauthorised waste disposal activity must cease and the waste materials must be removed by 31 January 2016 to a licensed waste facility and that he had to pay the CPA’s application costs.

31. Officers checked the site on 1 February 2016 and sought a prosecution at the Royal Courts of Justice as full compliance with the extant EN had not been achieved, demonstrating Mr Percy Podger’s continuing contempt of the injunctions.

32. A hearing for committal of Mr Percy Podger for breaching the High Court Injunction on 1 April 2016 was unable to be heard as a result of cases over running. Both parties agreed that a further period of time would be given for Mr Podger to discuss the case with his legal representative who was only appointed shortly before the hearing. As such, the case was set to be heard in late August 2016 at the High Court.

33. Mr Percy Podger failed to attend the High Court hearing in August 2016, claiming ill health. The Judge requested the CPA to initiate a social services check on Mr Podger, requiring Mr Podger’s solicitors to provide copy of their quotes for waste clearance to achieve compliance and the hearing was rescheduled for mid-November 2016 at Guildford County Court to make it easier for Mr Podger to attend.

34. At Guildford County Court on 17 November 2016, Judge Raeside considered our evidence with Mr Percy Podger in attendance. Mr Podger’s counsel conceded that he had breached the Court order on more than one occasion, but no penal sentence was imposed. Following slight amendments to the Court Order, we were again successful in obtaining a date for full compliance which was set for 1 July 2017 and the Judge stated that any further proven breaches would result in imprisonment for Mr Podger.

35. After Mr Percy Podger came into significant funds from housing development being granted planning permission on an adjacent piece of land, compliance with the
requirements of the extant Enforcement Notices, backed by the County Court Order, were largely achieved albeit late in summer of 2017. All of the non-inert waste comprising mixed builders waste, green waste and recycled soils were removed from the site. The only thing not removed was a soil bund around three sides of the field containing the site’s access on Furze Lane. That bund was formed from 200+ loads of inert soils that were the subject of our original EN in late 2006 which was not appealed, but not complied with. Mr Podger subsequently shaped and seeded the soils to form a 1m high bund. Pursuing a breach of the 2006 EN was not considered expedient at the time, but when further breaches led to the 2012 EN and subsequent injunctive action, the requirements of the original 2006 EN were wrapped up with it.

36. Before being no longer instructed, Mr Podger’s solicitors indicated that they did not believe the soil bunds were required to be removed by the County Court judgement, which was incorrect and Mr Podger’s contractor had actually soil tested them in preparation for removal. The CPA sought Counsel’s informal opinion as to whether continued action in pursuit of non-compliance with the Court Order was likely to be successful. They advised that despite the fact that the terms of the Court Order had clearly not been fully met, the planning ‘harm’ would again be considered by the Court, and that harm would be difficult to demonstrate as they low bunds did not impede openness within the Green Belt. As a result, officers have concluded that there was a limited chance of success at Court, and as such it was not in the public interest to continue pursuing non-compliance.

37. Apart from pursuing our costs, this concludes a dogged and hard fought major success in terms of maintaining the principles of planning enforcement through the TCPA in accord with our adopted Enforcement Protocol over a period of 11 years, the latter 5 involving a considerable amount of time and effort from Enforcement Officers, Planning Officers and Planning Solicitors. That said, although this will conclude our involvement with the site, unless any new waste development occurs, there remains a considerable amount of unauthorised planning issues at the site which we understand Guildford BC will now be pursuing.

38. **Ridgeways Farm, Lonesome Lane, Reigate** – Following the issue of a PCN in December 2008 regarding unauthorised import, deposit, storage, processing and disposal of waste materials, a Certificate of Lawful Existing Use Development (CLEUD) application was subsequently submitted in October 2010, but refused in May 2011.

39. An Enforcement Notice was to be issued in February 2013, however the question of unauthorised ‘mixed uses’ arose which we believed undermined the CPA’s ability to enforce, due to the establishment of racking for storage of materials in relation to an authorised pre-existing use and the use of steel containers, scaffold and roofing sheets to create an additional covered storage area, screening of soils and partial infill of a pond. Following a meeting between Legal and Enforcement Officers from both SCC and Reigate & Banstead Borough Council (R&B BC), it was initially agreed that R&B BC would address the unauthorised development due to the unauthorised uses being mixed. Unbeknown to the CPA, R&B BC had received an application to regularise the unauthorised racking which appeared to address that which caused the mixed use concerns. As a result it was intended that the CPA would issue an EN to address the remaining unauthorised waste related development in spring 2016.

40. The landowner had moved abroad and indicated he was having the land cleared of the unauthorised waste development, which continued to be monitored as clearance was anticipated by mid September 2016. However, clearance was not completed and the landowner appeared to have returned to the UK and allowed occupancy of the
yard by a tenant who was undertaking waste recycling on the site. The landowner was advised by our solicitors that unless all waste operations ceased and the waste removed from site by 19 December 2016, an EN would be issued after consultation with R&B BC due to other non-waste related breaches. The landowners planning consultant advised that an appeal would be made in respect of any such enforcement action. Due to ongoing concerns about mixed uses at the site, which would have undermined the service of an Enforcement Notice, considerable delays arose for a number of reasons. Having reviewed the matter with Officers from R&B BC, it was agreed that since R&B BC officers had confirmed their view that there are no breaches of district planning matters taking place, Surrey County Council would issue the Enforcement Notice and deal with the subsequent appeal. An Enforcement Notice was issued on 3 January 2018 on both the landowner at his registered UK address and his planning consultant, as the landowner now lives in Thailand. An appeal has been made and is likely to be dealt with by Public Inquiry.

Examples of successful negotiation and ongoing challenges include:

41. **Highlands Farm, Portsmouth Road, Ripley** - This agricultural land holding was reported as having been used by a former tenant for the importation and deposit of mixed inert waste materials (comprising soils, brick and hardcore) over areas of the site coupled with the periodic burning of imported mixed waste. The breach of planning control was addressed with the landowner and following protracted discussion and negotiations, the clearance of all deposited waste materials together with the tidying of the site was achieved without the need for formal action. The land has now been sold and it is understood the new landowner is in the processes of improving the general overall appearance of the land.

42. **Former Chalk Pit off Wanborough Hill, Wanborough** - A local waste contractor was found to be using this former small chalk quarry for the importation, deposit, stockpiling and processing of hard-core and chalk based materials with the permission of the landowner. It was subsequently documented by the contractor that the importation and processing activity was to screen out suitable materials for use in the repair of internal road and trackways around the land holding with the unusable material taken back off site. Officers advised that the land could not be used for this activity and that only materials fit for purpose (not requiring any treatment on site), could be used for such engineering repair works: subject to agreement with the local Planning Authority. Following discussions with the contractor this unauthorised activity ceased with all imported waste materials and machinery removed from the former chalk quarry.

43. **Land rear of 299 Connaught Road, Brookwood** - Complaints to the Local Environmental Health Department concerning regular fires on the land led to officers visiting the site to establish what was being burnt. It was found that the land was owned and in use by a building contracting company. Their main business was outlined as relating to emergency call out works to dwellings passed to them by insurance companies. This works occasionally generated varying waste materials that were brought back to the site. Such waste was either burnt on the land or bulked up and taken away by a local waste operator. Officers afforded the landowner a small window of time to clear and tidy the land without further recourse on the understanding that no repeat of the unauthorised waste development reoccurred. Subsequent site visits have not revealed any further unauthorised waste development.
TRAVELLER INCURSION AND WASTE DISPOSAL WITHIN SURREY

44. Local Authorities, Police forces and Environmental Crime Teams at the Environment Agency across the country have, and continue to, experience traveller incursion on an unprecedented scale as unauthorised occupation of sites is accompanied by the disposal of controlled waste arising from their work. The problems experienced led to a debate on 10 October 2017 in the House of Commons, which led to a call upon the Government to review the existing legal powers and procedures already in place to deal with unauthorised encampments and take all necessary action to prevent the recurring problem so that the interests of local residents, who have a right to enjoy the public amenities and facilities that they pay for through their taxes, are effectively protected by proposing a series of motions:

   a) Improve prevention of traveller access on public land
   b) Seeking a consistent approach toward illegal encampments and anti-social behaviour by the Police
   c) Maintaining consideration of the Human Rights of Traveller groups
   d) Recognising the financial burden on Local Authorities that are born through having to repeatedly issue eviction notices and clear waste from publicly owned land.

45. As a result Planning Enforcement Officers are advising the EA of each site that we become aware of, through the Borough and District councils, as soon as possible in order that they may obtain evidence where possible to gain intelligence on the travellers in question and the environmental crimes that they are committing.

46. From a planning perspective, we are of course left to deal with the landowners, as the modus operandi of the ‘operators’ is to access the land and dispose of commercial waste generated through their work over the course of a few days and then to vacate before searching for or head toward their next site. The tracking of some of the known vehicles has been undertaken by Police and EA staff and other agencies, but with limited success. I have listed a few of the sites below at which traveller incursion and waste disposal has taken place over the last six months and which will involve landowners in large scale clean up operations.

47. **Leg of Mutton Playing Field, Cobham** – The site was occupied for 19 days in July 2017 and the waste subsequently removed by Elmbridge BC’s Leisure Services at a cost of around £8K.

48. **Land at Slyfield Industrial Estate, Guildford** – A plot on Guildford Borough Council’s Slyfield Industrial Estate was occupied between 18-26/27 October 2017 and the waste was subsequently removed by Guildford BC’s Estates Department at a cost of around £65K.

49. **Farnham Quarry, BVR, Farnham** – The unauthorised incursion and accompanying import, deposit and disposal of a considerable quantity of mixed waste took place over a week in mid-November 2017 by a group of travellers. Hanson UK, the landowners, obtained an eviction order and will remove the waste which has been estimated to cost around £40K in due course and reinstate the site to its restored status as a nature reserve.

50. **Land north of Tesco, Leatherhead** – The unauthorised occupation and accompanying import, deposit and disposal of a considerable quantity of mixed waste took place in mid-December 2017 by an identified group of travellers has left a cleanup operation of between £20 - £40K for the landowner to address. The
landowner ignored advice to improve the security of the site access and the land was subsequently subject to a second traveller incursion of two days’ duration in late February 2018, which resulted in further controlled waste being deposited (with some of it being burnt), which will simply increase the future clearance costs.

51. **Land at former Royal Oak public house, Kingston Road, Leatherhead** – The site was occupied following the demolition of the pub and approximately £6K of non-inert controlled waste has been left on the land and the landowners have now instructed a contractor to commence the waste clearance from the site.

52. **Emerald House, High Road, Byfleet** – The vacant site was illegally occupied between 12-14 December 2017 and Wonder Investments the landowners are now investigating the cost of the site clearance, which is likely to be between around £5 - £10K. Upon leaving, they apparently split up and occupied two other sites within Woking Borough Council’s jurisdiction at Walton Terrace and Britannia Wharf, the latter being owned by Woking BC who then evicted them.

53. **Land adjacent to Penton Hook Marina, Chertsey Lane, Staines** – A former landfill comprising river dredgings that had only been restored in the summer of 2017 by the Environment Agency (EA) as tenant of Marina Development Limited (MDL), was illegally occupied and tipped on by travellers between early December and 19 December 2017 when they were evicted. The EA and MDL are now in discussion to address the removal of a large volume of mixed waste which it is anticipated will cost in the region of approximately £40K, to bring about the clearance of the waste and restore the site once again.

54. **Former landfill Norlands Lane, Thorpe** – The site owners Viridor became aware of the travellers incursion. Viridor engaged bailiffs immediately and they served papers on the Friday requiring vacation of the site. Monday morning was agreed to as being acceptable, when it came to it, the travellers requested until 4pm. The travellers then started burning waste and threatened a bailiff who entered the site with a tow truck, with a machete. The Police were called and 25 officers arrived, including a helicopter & armed response unit, but the Chief Inspector would not sanction a removal of the travellers and Viridor had to go to Court to obtain a Part 55 Possession Order, which delayed removal for seven days. They left a large volume of mixed waste on site, with clearance costs plus new security fencing and moat and bund construction, the total cost of remediation will be £40K plus the £7K bailiff costs.

55. **Land at former San Domenico, Cobham A3** – The site was occupied with a large amount of mixed waste left in January/February 2017, the removal of which was addressed by the landowners. The site was again occupied on 15 January 2018 with waste again left with a fire involving waste disposal on site being addressed by Surrey Fire & Rescue on the 16 January before they vacated on the morning of the 17 January 2018. Site security fencing and personnel has since been increased and it is anticipated that the site which is the subject of a future development will be cleared of waste by Euro Garages the current landowner, though the cost of waste clearance will be less as the travelers had less time to tip and disposed of it by the fire.

56. **Land at Prestige House, High Street, Egham** – A re-development of a site to 49 flats, near Egham Library was occupied, with the Police issuing a S61 Notice, but not before they had deposited a considerable volume of controlled waste on the site which cost in the region of £20K to remove.
57. **National Grid land, Byfleet Road, Addlestone** – Travellers occupied the site from a Monday afternoon to a Wednesday morning, and still managed to dispose of £30K of waste in one full day of ‘business’.

58. **Walton Leigh Park School, Queen’s Road, Walton on Thames** – Arrived on the Thursday of half-term, following the departure of the National Grid land, same group. In occupation of their top car park as of 16 February which was vacated by 18 February 2018 with controlled waste again left.

59. **Birdseye building, Walton Court, Station Avenue, Walton** - Occupied as of Sunday 18 February with security man assaulted. Controlled waste imported and tipped and a listed bronze statue was stolen.

60. **Ian Allen Garage, 63-65 High Street, Old Woking** - Occupied as of Sunday 18 February.

61. **Lakewood car park, A307, Cobham** - Travellers occupied the public car park for several days but did not import any controlled waste onto the site.

62. The above sites are those that we are currently aware as of the end of February 2018 and there will almost certainly be many more in the future. The removal of the waste deposited by these travellers (believed to be part of a large group of Irish travellers that have split into three and are operating around the M25 orbital west-south west of London, north of London and southeast of London. The affected sites involve both private and public landowners and the cost to Local Authorities, based on the sites listed above that have arisen since August 2017, is estimated at well over £280K.

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