

6 May 2015

Mr Kevin Dicks
Chief Executive
Bromsgrove District Council
The Council House
Burcot Lane
Bromsgrove
Worcestershire
B60 1AA

Dear Mr Dicks

I refer to your letter dated 14 April 2015 and your previous letter seemingly sent in November 2014, but with a date of 14 September 2014 on its face.

We have reviewed our engagement documents with Liberty Construction Limited and the relevant planning conditions granted to Link Property Limited.

We were engaged contractually by Liberty Construction Limited to monitor the following items in relation to the Marlbrook tip:

1. Landfill gas/leachate monitoring wells. Faber Maunsell supervised the drilling of additional monitoring boreholes.
2. Faber Maunsell fitted the gas monitoring taps on the original gas monitoring boreholes.
3. Faber Maunsell undertook water quality, landfill gas, leachate and groundwater level and quality monitoring and produced a monthly report of the monitoring for submission to Bromsgrove District Council and the Environment Agency. We also produced a summary quarterly report of the results of such monitoring for the planning department at Bromsgrove District Council.
4. Faber Maunsell recommended one of the bidders for undertaking the topographical survey in direct contract with Liberty Construction Limited

We have fulfilled the above monitoring and reporting tasks. Whilst we were not contractually engaged to do so, Liberty Construction Limited requested that AECOM collate the monthly figures provided to AECOM by Liberty Construction relating to their own measurements of materials tipped into the quarterly reports. We are given to understand that those figures were provided on a weekly basis by Liberty Construction Limited directly to the Council. To be clear, AECOM did not undertake any monitoring or measuring role of the volume of material brought on site as we were not engaged to do so. AECOM was not engaged to verify the information. We simply collated and entered the information into our quarterly reports and compared the volumes to the volume of materials permitted under the planning permission.

We understand that our quarterly reports were provided by Liberty Construction Limited to the Council. The volume of materials aspects of reports were based solely on records provided to AECOM on a monthly basis by Liberty Construction Limited. This is clearly stated on the quarterly reports. The waste input records were apparently provided on a weekly basis to Bromsgrove District Council directly. In other words, Bromsgrove District Council appears to have had those records in some instances three weeks prior to AECOM receiving them.

There is a clear misunderstanding on the part of either Bromsgrove Council or the interested citizens group as to AECOM's role. This is reflected in the minutes of the Marlbrook Tip Working Group of 12 August 2014, wherein it is recorded that AECOM was monitoring the amount of fill being brought onto the site. That is simply incorrect.

Please do confirm in writing that you will bring to the attention of the Working Group the fact that AECOM was never responsible for monitoring or measuring the amount of fill tipped onto the Marlbrook Tip in Bromsgrove.

Please retract your statement that there was a failure of monitoring for which AECOM was responsible. AECOM denies any responsibility for any over-tipping which may have occurred with respect to Marlbrook Tip.

In the circumstances, AECOM cannot consider making a voluntary payment for the benefit of the local community. AECOM does contribute to charitable organisations through the United Kingdom with both monetary donations and the pro bono services of our generous employees.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'P. Flaherty', with a large, sweeping flourish extending to the right.

Patrick Flaherty
Chief Executive, UK & Ireland