

Further to your recent request for information concerning the above premises, I enclose a copy of the report 'An assessment of the odour impact of the emissions from the chimney at the Euro Print Dyers Ltd factory in Leicester' December 2011. This information is being provided in accordance with the Council's duty under the Environmental Information Regulations 2004. The delay in releasing this information has been due to it being necessary to check the legal position on releasing the information that we hold, and in liaising with the company prior to releasing it to you.

I thought it would be helpful to provide you with some background to the report, which comes in two parts. The report was commissioned by the company to consider the impact of a proposal to extend the chimney height, and how this would affect dispersion of the emission and odour nuisance. This was done by modeling the discharge from the chimney at the current height and the proposed new height, taking account of weather conditions and wind directions. Alongside this, a sample of the emission from the chimney was taken and analysed to identify the individual components and their relative concentrations in the chimney prior to discharge, and if any components were at concentrations likely to be significant contributors to the odour being experienced.

Measurement of odour from the chimney: Silsoe Report

The remit of this part of the study was to identify and measure the concentration of the components within the chimney, prior to discharge and to identify any that were likely to be contributing to the odour.

The emission is a complex mixture of volatile organic compounds, and the levels reported are very low within the chimney; measurements are in nanograms per litre (ng/l) which is very small as 1 gram = 1 000,000,000ng. When you consider that the emission is then released into the air and subject to dispersion and dilution, the levels likely to be experienced at ground level will be significantly much lower.

The combination of components and their relative concentrations will also be subject to significant variation, depending on the material being processed at the time and the abatement equipment in use. This study is based on a single set of samples, which shows the emission in the chimney at that moment in time. In addition, since this study was undertaken abatement equipment has been upgraded and this will improve the emissions being discharged from the chimney. The report does not therefore reflect the current position at the factory, and is only indicative as a snapshot of the process on that day.

We have however considered the analysis undertaken and have compared levels with air quality assessment levels and standards where available: and none of the concentrations reported in the chimney exceed those standards. There is therefore no indication from this report, that the levels reported are likely to present a risk to health. It would of course be interesting to see the difference in emissions since the new abatement equipment has been put in place.

Odour impact of emissions from chimney: ADAS report

This part of the study used computer modeling to look at how the emission from the chimney was being dispersed in the area. A further scenario was then considered with an increased height to the chimney, and the model was then re-run to see what effect this had. The modeling took account of weather conditions. The report concludes that the emission is unlikely to cause an odour problem with the existing chimney height, and that an increase in the chimney height would further improve the situation by reducing the odour experienced at all the receptor points below the odour threshold.

In summary the report outlines the position at the factory some time ago, prior to the alterations to the chimney and replacement and upgrade of the abatement equipment which

has shown some improvement to emissions. It is not representative of the position today, and the measurements made are within the chimney rather than at ground level. In any case, the levels are very low in the chimney and more dilute still at ground level, we are not concerned that these levels represent a risk to your health.