



Response to Request for Information

Reference FOI 091592
Date 22 September 2015

Licenses

Request:

1. How many licenses (part B permits) for the running of SWOBs are currently operating in your area?

Two.

2. Are you aware of any SWOBs that are currently unregistered or have you faced issues with failures to register in the past? What actions have been taken, in general, to deal with unlicensed SWOBs in the past?

No we are not aware of any unpermitted SWOBs. We have had one occasion where we identified an unpermitted SWOB, however once contacted and advised about the need for a permit the operator chose to discontinue using the SWOB rather than apply for a permit.

3. Are sites operating SWOBs usually visited before granting a licence?

All new permit applications are visited as part of the application process, this would be the same for a SWOB application.

4. Are licences regularly renewed and are sites revisited upon renewal of a licence?

There is no requirement to renew a permit as it does not expire.

5. Are the majority of SWOBs recorded and assisted or is this information not recorded/requested when applying for a licence?

Following reasonable enquiries, it has been established that the Council does not hold the above information. Consequently, we are unable to provide any information relating to the above, as per Section 1(1)(a) of the Act:

"Any person making a request for information to a public authority is entitled to be informed in writing by the public authority whether it holds information of the description specified in the request".

6. Does the local authority promote the permitting of SWOBs to encourage operators to apply or does the authority simply leave the matter to an operator's discretion to apply?

The onus is on an operator to comply with the law and apply for a permit if required.

7. When operators state on their permit application they intend to only burn their own waste oils, are they required to vary their permit before burning waste oil from third parties?

Permits do not normally specify the source of the waste oil so there would be no requirement to vary it.

8. How often if at all are checks performed on emissions from SWOBs to ensure they meet requirements or are operators required to monitor emissions themselves?

There is no requirement for emission testing of SWOBs.

9. Does the authority carry out any environmental impacts assessments to study the contribution of SWOB emissions to the local air quality, particularly PM₁₀ and NO_x concentrations?

No.