

Open Report on behalf of Anglian Water Services

Report to:	Environmental Scrutiny Committee
Date:	02 December 2016
Subject:	Water Recycling Centres Update

Summary:

This report provides a summary of the situation regarding odours from the Ingoldmells, Spalding, Fishtoft and Boston Water Recycling Centres (previously Sewage Treatment Works). Ingoldmells was first brought to the attention of the Committee in November 2012 with further reports in 2013, 2014 and 2015. Spalding was considered by the Committee in 2014 and 2015 and Boston in 2016.

Actions Required:

Members of the Environmental Scrutiny Committee are invited to consider and comment on the report and highlight any recommendations or further actions for consideration.

1. Background

Spalding

Odour Issues

Since the last Scrutiny meeting in June there has been one further complaint relating to odours in the Spalding Water Recycling Centre region. The complaint was from a local trader, and was due to a failure of our odour suppression sprays that were quickly reinstated.

We have held site meetings with Steve Branson (Lead Environmental Protection Officer South Holland DC) who recognised the work we have done to address odours and acknowledged that the odours had noticeably reduced from previous visits.

Water Recycling Centre Update

We have continued to mix iron rich sludge from other Water Recycling Centres with the sludge produced on site at Spalding. This has led to continuing success in significantly reducing the amount of odorous sulphide gas released during sludge dewatering.

Additionally, the new iron dosing system at Spalding Water Recycling Centre has been commissioned and has been dosing ferrous chloride for the last 5 months. Onsite monitoring shows this has been successful in reducing levels of Hydrogen Sulphide.

Sewer Network Update

We continue to use nitrate dosing in the sewer network, and this has proved very successful in reducing septicity in our networks. The chemical dosing plants we have in place at various pumping stations around the Spalding area are continually optimised to allow for variations in strength of trade discharges. This ensures that levels of sulphide gases are minimised.

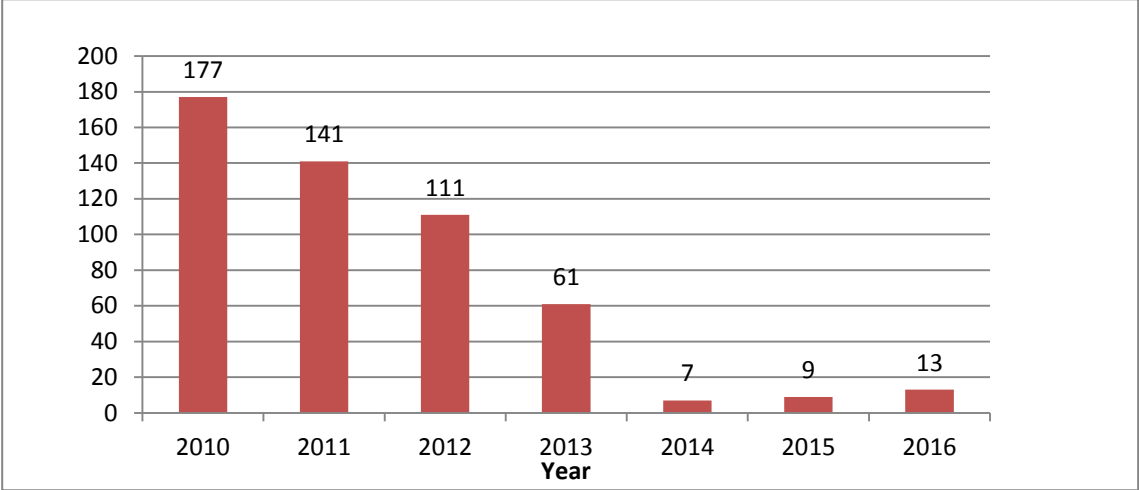
Further to this all of our dosing plants are monitored 24/7 by our telemetry systems to give visibility of any asset ‘trips’ or ‘fails’. As part of the on-going improvement of our telemetry, we are developing an enhancement to this monitoring which will enable further intelligence to be applied to daily dosage variations. This new information will give greater clarity of partial dosing issues allowing us to respond before the issue results in the release of odours.

Ingoldmells

Odour Issues

Unfortunately, since the last Scrutiny meeting in June, we have received 13 odour complaints in the Ingoldmells area. This is the first time we have seen an upward trend since 2010 but is still comparatively low compared to historical levels.

A thorough investigation showed that intermittent issues with our network dosing are causing localised odour issues, with none being related to the Water Recycling Centre in Ingoldmells. These intermittent problems have been traced to the dosed product (sodium nitrate) containing solids which is causing blockages in the dosing pumps. Our supplier is working with us to resolve these product quality issues going forward.



Community Engagement

On the 19th Sept, we hosted the local resident odour group meeting in Ingoldmells village. This meeting was attended by local residents, parish councillors and had representation from Steve Ross, Environmental Protection Officer for East Lindsey District Council. Overall, the attendees were disappointed that odour complaints had increased for the first time since 2010 but agreed that it proved our dosing, when operating correctly, does address the odour issues.

To address the intermittent dosing issues we have enhanced our dosing plant maintenance across all sites and have put further intelligence into our telemetry monitoring systems to forewarn of issues before they materialise into odour complaints.

We are also continuing, with our contracted consultancy services, to undertake odour logging and weekly sampling to optimise chemical dose rates and ensure odour is minimised. The next local resident's odour group meeting has been scheduled for May 2017.

Fishtoft

Odour Complaints

In the last 12 months we continued to receive odour complaints from 1 property located to the south of Fishtoft Water Recycling Centre. We have no records of any odour complaints from this property before the current owner moved in last year or from any of the other 30 or so properties that surround the site.

We employed an independent odour consultant to undertake an odour survey at the Water Recycling Centre (WRC) and the surrounding network, which has identified a possible intermittent source of septicity in our network which, on occasion, may cause odours at the WRC. We are installing temporary odour dosing at this location and will undertake further surveys to check its effectiveness. The customer is continuing to maintain an odour diary for us and is in regular communication with our local Customer Liaison Manager.

Boston

Water Recycling Centre Update

Fishtoft Academy is situated on the route our tankers and lorries follow to access Boston Water Recycling Centre (WRC). In recognition of the school start and finish times, there is a long standing embargo agreement between Anglian Water and Fishtoft village residents to prohibit tanker journeys during school terms at the following times:-

- From 08:40 to 09:10
- From 15:00 to 15:30

In addition to this, there is another restriction between 18:00 and 07:30 to prevent sleep disturbances to village residents. The only time any of these restrictions will be breached is for operational emergencies.

Since the last Scrutiny meeting, we have received two complaints regarding cake Lorries not having the correct sheeting on their trailers. All drivers have been re-briefed on the requirement to keep their lorries covered, there have been no further complaints since.

At the WRC we have invested in a new inlet screen which will reduce the number of blockages in the treatment process and thus prevent unwanted septicity build up.

This summer we invited Councillor Paul Skinner and four local residents to the WRC to show them the work we have completed on site to address odour issues.

2. Conclusion

This report provides a summary of the issues and the progress made to date to solve the odour problems at the Spalding, Ingoldmells, Fishtoft and Boston sites.

3. Consultation

a) Policy Proofing Actions Required

n/a

4. Background Papers

No background papers within Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972 were used in the preparation of this report.

This report was written by Brian Kane Regional Treatment Manager (Anglian Water Services).