

Bentham Town Council

Date: 30th July 2024

Dear Mayor, Deputy Mayor and Town Councillors

Following recent communications, we write as promised to update you on our ongoing work to establish the extent and character of possible PFAS contamination in and around the factory site.

I would like to reiterate that we take this matter very seriously and are standing behind our commitment to fully understand the extent of the situation and then to remediate in agreement with the Environment Agency. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me.

- The Environment Agency visited Bentham again on Wednesday 3rd July and met with Ramboll and Angus representatives to discuss site characterisation status, and to visit the redundant foam plant.
- Ramboll have advised that they will be submitting their report to the Environment Agency and Angus in the next 2-3 weeks. This relates to groundwater samples taken on site and to the soil samples taken offsite. There has been a small delay in the report owing to the holiday period.
- Whilst we wait for the results, Ramboll are going to move forward W/C 29th July and undertake an increased number of samples both onsite and offsite, so that there will be more analytical data available at the next meeting with the Environment Agency. This should make it easier and quicker to determine any data gaps and where the Environment Agency want the next phase of PFAS testing to take place.
- Angus intends at that point to communicate quickly and directly with people and/or groups that may be impacted by the results. We will of course keep you informed about any such communications and consult with you about any near-term remedial work that may be necessary.
- There will also be a much broader update to the local community, using the new microsite www.derbs.co.uk and other channels where necessary. This will also be distributed in a timely manner, although we think it is right and proper to communicate first with any parties that are directly affected.
- We continue our investigation into filtration technologies. As previously discussed, we hope to have something in place in the next few months. At that point, we can treat the rainwater that we have been collecting onsite from the concrete surfaces at the redundant foam plant and the fire test site, in addition to the ongoing surface water run-off from those areas.

We will continue to provide regular updates to the Town Council, as we work through these challenges. We are determined to do the right thing in Bentham and to maintain our positive relationship with our neighbours in the community.

Yours faithfully

Paul Williams

Paul Williams
Managing Director