

CABINET SUPPORT OFFICE

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Date: 06/02/2024

Cllr Owen Jones
Chair, Environmental Scrutiny Committee
County Hall
Cardiff
CF10 4UW

Dear Owen,

Environmental Scrutiny - Chair's Letter 04 December 2023 - Recycling & Waste Management

Thank you for your letter dated 4th December 2024 requesting an update as to the actions that have or will now be taken to ensure that the issues that led to the recent prosecution of staff at Lamby Way become more difficult to carry out in the future.

There has been targeted assurance activity that has taken place over the years since the offence. The focus of that assurance activity has been on core systems and has been undertaken by internal audit.

Now that the trial has ended, a post-trial review can commence which is being led by the Corporate Director Resources (Section 151 Officer), and will be reported to the Governance and Audit Committee. The objectives of the review are to seek assurance on the:

- Effectiveness of the Corporate response, to the concerns of criminal activity relating to the operation of weighbridge facilities (investigation and assurance).
- Counter-fraud control environment within the waste management service, represented by the management approach, activities and assurances, and the deployment and independent assurances of the internal audit service.
- Level of fraud awareness across the waste management service, and the extent to which key vulnerabilities are known and mitigated.
- Effectiveness of systems in place to prevent, detect and address fraud across the waste management service.
- Effectiveness of arrangements to investigate concerns of potential fraud.
- Lessons learned from cases of fraud within waste management.

Where it is considered that improvements can be made in respect of any of the objectives of this review, observations and recommendations will be reported so that controls can be enhanced.

The terms of reference for this review were considered and agreed by the Governance and Audit Committee in its meeting on 23rd January 2024.

The review is due to commence in February 2024 and the report and management response will be considered by the Governance and Audit Committee in its meeting in July 2024.

I trust this is of assistance.

Yours sincerely,

Cllr Caro Wild
Cabinet Member for Climate Change