

Question 1

I've been reading the report by Greater Cambridgeshire Shared Waste Services from October 25 on our recycling contract with Re-Gen in Northern Ireland. It states that in the first six months of the contract, Re-Gen separated out a total of 1,281 tonnes of non-recyclable waste that should not have been put in our blue bins. That is about 11% of the total contents.

There is an ongoing scandal over Re-Gen's long-term storage of black bin waste at Warrenpoint Harbour and the resulting strong smell of rotting which blights Warrenpoint. The waste bales are stored there for months before being exported for burning in Waste-to-Energy plants, for example in Sweden. As far as I know Re-Gen are still spraying this waste with the chemical insecticide Cypermethrin, which is highly toxic to aquatic life. They spray it only a few feet from the water's edge and the chemical smell only adds to the smell of rotting from the bales. I know; I have been there; it is disgusting. Many local NI politicians are now signing up to a petition to revoke Re-Gen's licence to store the waste there.

Please tell me what Re-Gen does with that 11% of waste which is non-recyclable? Does it go to Warrenpoint Harbour, adding to the environmental hazard there? That seems highly likely, as this would be profitable. If not, how is it disposed of and where?

Please note that in the report it is stated that 'operations at Warrenpoint are completely unrelated to the CGSWS contract'. I wonder if this is true.

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