

TABLE 1 - BREACHES OF PLANNING CONTROL PREVIOUSLY INVESTIGATED AND RESOLVED BETWEEN 1 OCTOBER 2025 AND 31 MARCH 2026

	DATE LPA BECAME AWARE OF BREACH	SITE ADDRESS	NATURE OF CASE	CURRENT POSITION
1/1	July 2022	The Plantation, Ersham Road, Stone Cross	Importation, processing and deposit of waste.	<p>A complaint was received regarding a significant number of lorries entering the site and depositing waste materials. A joint inspection with an officer from the Environment Agency was undertaken. The drivers of lorries entering the site were spoken to and a chance meeting with the landowner held. It was noted that a substantial volume of waste materials, including trommel fines, hardcore, subsoil and timber, had been imported to the site and deposited. Processing plant was also noted to be on the site.</p> <p>The landowner stated he was carrying out works associated with a Prior Notification approval he had in relation to raising the levels of land to return it to productive agricultural use. However, the scale of the works went well beyond this and the nature of the considerable quantities of material being imported and stockpiled (trommel fines) was wholly unsuitable for that purpose. Work was halted whilst further investigations were carried out.</p> <p>Due to the scale and nature of the works, a Planning Contravention Notice was served on the landowner and a “Time and Place” meeting held, which was attended by the landowner, his solicitor, and other representatives. Following that meeting, a further, extensive site inspection was undertaken with the landowner, in addition to a later joint site meeting with officers from Wealden District Council and the landowner.</p> <p>Correspondence was issued to the landowner further to the various site meetings clearly setting out the Council’s position regarding remedying what was a very significant breach and the repercussions of not doing so. No further waste materials were imported to the site. Soil testing was carried out on the imported materials in order to assess their make-up. The results identified that the materials were not suitable for use on the land. Extensive further testing was then carried out and arrangements made for the waste materials to be removed from the site to authorised places of disposal.</p>

				<p>Significant quantities of materials, much of it trommel fines, have been removed from the site. A final site inspection has been undertaken which confirmed that the required works have been carried out and the identified waste materials removed from the site.</p> <p>The breach of planning control has been resolved and no further enforcement action is required.</p>
1/2	November 2022	FM Conway Ltd, North Quay Road, Newhaven	Breach of conditions and excessive emissions.	<p>During a site monitoring visit, it was noted that the site layout was not in full accordance with the planning permission for the site (LW/840/CM) and also that details pursuant to several conditions were outstanding. Contact was made with Environmental Health Officers at Lewes District Council concerning potential breaches of the Environmental Permit in relation to emissions.</p> <p>The operator subsequently submitted details pursuant to the outstanding conditions and undertook works regarding emissions and breaches of the Environmental Permit. Noise attenuation fencing was also installed and improvements to operating practices implemented. A planning application (LW/886/CM) was then submitted in relation to increasing the height of the stack and this was approved by the Planning Committee at its meeting on 14 August 2024. The planning permission was implemented, and the stack extension was installed in early March 2025.</p> <p>A further planning application (LW/894/CM) to regularise the layout of the site and add a new covered bay was submitted and this was approved by the Planning Committee at its meeting on 12 November 2025.</p> <p>The breach of planning control has been resolved and the site will be monitored in accordance with the Council's Site Monitoring Policy.</p>
1/3	March 2024	Land adjacent to Star House, Down Street, Pitldown	Deposition of soil and storage of scrap cars.	<p>A complaint was received that waste soil was being imported to the site, scrap vehicles stored and vegetation was being allowed to encroach onto the highway. An inspection was carried out, and whilst it was not possible to gain access to the site, from the adjoining road it was possible to see piles of soil within the site as well as several vehicles. There was no evidence of vegetation encroaching onto the highway.</p>

				<p>Further site visits have been carried out and access to the site was gained. There was evidence of waste soil being stored and also burning of waste taking place, together with several scrap cars stored in the woodland.</p> <p>A warning letter was sent to the landowner and discussions held. The burning of waste has stopped, and the piles of soil were site derived. Several of the vehicles on the site were used by the landowner on his land and evidence was provided to demonstrate that they were in working order and not scrap. The remaining scrap vehicles have been removed.</p> <p>The breach of planning control has been resolved and no further enforcement action is required.</p>
1/4	October 2024	South Hartfield House, Colemans Hatch, Hartfield	Excavation and deposit of soils.	<p>A complaint was received that excavations were taking place and the excavated soil was being deposited on the boundary of the property.</p> <p>Investigations have been carried out and discussions held with the landowner. Some materials (MOT Type 1 (sub base)) had been imported in connection with works to the drive to the property and soil imported for drainage purposes.</p> <p>Further information and points of clarification were received from the landowner and it is not considered that there is a breach of planning control. No further enforcement action is required.</p>
1/5	January 2025	Cuckoo Cottage, Newick Lane, Mayfield	Importation and deposit of waste.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials, comprising soil and hardcore, were being imported to the site and tipped into an old railway cutting. A joint site visit with the Environment Agency was undertaken and a meeting held with the landowners.</p> <p>The landowners explained that there were stability issues with the railway cutting due to its steepness and a landslip had occurred. This was jeopardising their access. Sheet piling had been installed and then the waste soils and hardcore tipped in order to shore-up the embankments. However, slippage of the deposited materials occurred. The landowner stated that they wished to import further materials. The planning and Environmental Permitting requirements were clearly set out. Advice was given to instruct a suitably qualified structural engineer and that planning permission should be sought for the works.</p>

				<p>In addition to the stability of the embankments, officers had also been in contact with the Historical Railways Estate (HRE) due to concerns regarding the structural integrity of the bridge over the former railway, which provides access to the site. Initially HRE had deemed the bridge unsafe but reassessed it and were satisfied that the bridge can take lorries over it. Separate to the potential infilling of the railway cutting, HRE will be submitting a planning application to Wealden District Council to fill around the piers of the bridge to protect them from any future landslips.</p> <p>A further site inspection has been carried out and it was noted that further materials had been imported to assist with the stabilisation of the cutting. Following a review of the case, it is considered that the works are engineering works to stabilise the land and are not purely a means of waste disposal. Therefore this is not a matter for this Authority, in its capacity as Waste Planning Authority, and the matter has therefore been passed to Wealden District Council for any action they consider appropriate.</p>
1/6	January 2025	Sussex Waste Management Site, Whitworth Road, St Leonards-on-sea	Breach of Condition - Site Layout.	<p>During a monitoring visit, it was noted that the site was not in accordance with the approved layout under planning permission HS/884/CM.</p> <p>Remedial steps were set out for the operator to return the site to compliance with the planning permission. Numerous inspections noted that progress had been made with the site, but there remained some breaches. Further steps to be taken were specified.</p> <p>A final site inspection has now been carried out which confirmed that the site is no longer in breach of its planning permission. No further enforcement action is required and the site will be monitored as part of the Council's Site Monitoring Policy.</p>
1/7	March 2025	Land opposite Little Exceat Farm (Hurst Barns Farm, Chiltington Lane, East Chiltington	Importation and deposit of waste.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials, comprising hardcore/bricks, had been imported to and deposited at the site. A site visit was carried out which confirmed the substance of the complaint, although the materials deposited appeared to have been processed and akin to MOT Type 1.</p> <p>Following further investigations and a site visit, the materials have been used on the agricultural tracks on the land and the stockpile removed. There is no breach of planning control and no further action required.</p>

1/8	April 2025	Land adjacent to and to the rear of 172 Battle Road, Hailsham	Use of container for storage and transfer of waste materials	<p>During investigations by officers, it was noted that an operator from another site was using a shipping container at this site for the storage of waste materials. Following further investigations, it transpired the items being stored were not waste materials.</p> <p>No breach of planning control was identified, and no further enforcement action required.</p>
1/9	April 2025	Rideout Agricultural Ltd, Dunly Wood, Mayfield Road, Cross in Hand, Heathfield	Tipping from road sweepers and processing (potential breach of extant Enforcement Notice).	<p>A complaint was received that waste from road sweepings was being imported and deposited at the site. A joint site inspection with officers from Wealden District Council and the Environment Agency was carried out. This confirmed that significant quantities of road sweeping waste had indeed been deposited at the site and that the main area of the deposits was within the area covered by the extant Enforcement Notice served by this Authority in 2021. This was clearly in breach of the extant Enforcement Notice.</p> <p>A timescale for the removal of the waste materials and full compliance with the Enforcement Notice was given. Following the expiry of the deadline, a meeting was held with the operator and an interview under Caution conducted. During this, the operator stated that all the waste materials had been removed as required. A site inspection was then undertaken, which confirmed this to be the case.</p> <p>The breach of the Enforcement Notice has been resolved, and no further enforcement action is required. Notwithstanding this, the operator has been reminded that the Enforcement Notice remains extant and that the site will be periodically monitored by officers.</p>
1/10	July 2025	Stonehill Farm, Stonehill, Horam	Importation and deposit of waste	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials, comprising soils, were being imported to the site and spread across the land. A joint site inspection with an officer from the Environment Agency was carried out, which confirmed the substance of the complaint. Warnings were issued to the landowner with discussions subsequently being held with the operator at the site. He explained that the works were being carried out to improve drainage and prevent flooding of other areas on the site, which appeared to be genuine.</p> <p>Remedial works were agreed with the contractor. A further site inspection was undertaken which confirmed that the agreed works had been carried out satisfactorily. The breach of planning control has been remedied and no further enforcement action is required.</p>

1/11	July 2025	Land at East Quay adjacent to Brett Aggregates Limited, Fishers Wharf, East Quay, Newhaven Port, Newhaven	Dust arising from aggregate storage and processing on land outside area approved by Planning Permission LW/799/CM/EIA	<p>A complaint was received that dust from aggregate storage piles to the south of the Brett Aggregates site was being blown further afield and causing a nuisance. A site inspection was carried out and discussions held with the site manager. The site manager advised that the height of the stockpiles had been reduced but there had been a problem with the dust suppression (water sprinkler) system, which was due to be replaced.</p> <p>The storage of aggregates in this area is Permitted Development and not covered by the planning permissions relating to the Brett Aggregate's site to the north. However, following the initial site visit and discussions with the site manager, a further site inspection was carried out. This noted that a new dust suppression system had been installed and was fully operational. No breach of planning control and no further action is required.</p>
1/12	September 2025	Plot 324, 6 Valley Road, Peacehaven	Importation and burning of waste.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported, deposited and burnt at the site. Allegations regarding other breaches of planning control in respect of the unauthorised siting of residential caravans and other operational development were also made.</p> <p>A site visit was carried out which identified a number of planning breaches. However, these related to matters pertaining to Lewes District Council. The District Council subsequently took formal enforcement action and served an Enforcement Notice in relation to all activities at the site.</p> <p>No breach of planning control for this Authority, as Waste Planning Authority, and no and further action is required.</p>

TABLE 2 - NEW BREACHES OF PLANNING CONTROL INVESTIGATED AND RESOLVED BETWEEN 1 OCTOBER 2025 AND 31 MARCH 2026

	DATE LPA BECAME AWARE OF BREACH	SITE ADDRESS	NATURE OF CASE	CURRENT POSITION
2/1	October 2025	Brett Aggregates Limited, Fishers Wharf, East Quay, Newhaven Port, Newhaven	Operating outside approved operation hours and excessive noise.	<p>A complaint was received that operations were taking place beyond 8pm and that a large number of vehicles were being used.</p> <p>A site inspection was carried out and discussions held with the site manager. The attendance of a ship had been delayed due to HM Customs issues, which resulted in the discharge of materials late into the night. The ship in this instance was not one that could make use of the conveyor system and therefore lorries were used to move the off-loaded materials, hence the use of lorries.</p> <p>The discharge of materials from ships within the operational port area is permitted development and no breach of planning control occurred. The site will be monitored as part of the Council's Site Monitoring Policy. No further enforcement action is required.</p>
2/2	October 2025	16 The Belfry, Hailsham	Use of residential property for the importation and storage of waste materials	<p>A complaint was received that trade waste was being imported and stored at the site. Several site inspections were undertaken but no evidence of any waste related use was identified. No breach of planning control and no further action required.</p>
2/3	October 2025	Wadhurst Primary School, Sparrows Green Road, Wadhurst	Erection of a fence	<p>A complaint was received that a fence had been erected on the boundary of the school and that neighbours hadn't been notified.</p> <p>A site visit was carried out which confirmed that the works were considered to be permitted development. No breach of planning control and no further action required. The School was advised to liaise with the neighbours regarding the works, which they subsequently did.</p>

TABLE 3 - NEW BREACHES OF PLANNING CONTROL INVESTIGATED BETWEEN 1 OCTOBER 2025 AND 31 MARCH 2026 AND AS YET UNRESOLVED.

	DATE LPA BECAME AWARE OF BREACH	SITE ADDRESS	NATURE OF CASE	CURRENT POSITION
3/1	October 2025	Land off Mill Lane, Ripe, (South of electricity sub station)	Importation, deposit and storage of waste	A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported, deposited and stored at the site. A site visit confirmed the substance of the complaint and a letter was sent to the landowner. No response was received and a further warning letter was sent. Again, no response has been received and officers are intending to visit the property of the registered landowner to progress matters.
3/2	December 2025	Lower Barn Farm, Junction Road, Bodiam	Importation and deposit of waste	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported and deposited at the site. A site visit was carried out but it was not possible to gain entry. A further inspection was carried out with officers from Rother District Council, the Environment Agency and the Police where it was identified that a significant amount of waste activity was taking place.</p> <p>Following the site visit, contact was made with the landowner who claims that he was away at the time and others were responsible for the tipping of materials/activities.</p> <p>A timescale for the removal of the waste materials has been set and officers are currently working with the landowner.</p>
3/3	January 2026	Allsworthy, Hailsham Road, Stone Cross	Burning of waste	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being burnt at the site, along with other issues relating to animal welfare. A site visit was carried out and discussions held with the landowner. A small amount of site derived waste was being burnt and words of advice were given to the landowner. Other regulatory bodies are dealing with other issues at the site.</p> <p>Whilst a breach of planning control was not identified, the site will be monitored to ensure waste related issues do not arise.</p>

3/4	January 2026	Bunkers Hill Farm, Swing Gate Hill, Burwash Common	Importation and deposit of waste	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported to the site and deposited. An initial site visit was carried out but it was not possible to gain access. Following contact with the landowner a site meeting was held which confirmed that site derived materials were being processed and also that some materials appeared to have been imported.</p> <p>The landowner was advised to stop importing and processing waste and a further site inspection is due to be undertaken.</p>
3/5	February 2026	Greenmeadow, Holtye Road, Hammerwood	Importation and deposit of waste materials	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported and deposited at the site. A site inspection was undertaken, which confirmed the substance of the complaint. Due to there being an extant Enforcement Notice relating to the importation of waste materials, the landowner was formally cautioned due to a potential criminal offence being committed.</p> <p>The landowner asserted that the works were in connection with planning permissions granted by Wealden District Council. Subsequent enquiries with Wealden District Council have confirmed that this is not the case. A joint site meeting with Wealden District Council is being arranged.</p>
3/6	February 2026	Hill Farm, Barnhorn Road, Bexhill-on-Sea	Importation and deposit of waste	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials (soils) were being imported and deposited at the site. A meeting was held with Rother District Council (RDC) due to various planning permissions granted by them at the site. It transpired that extensive ground works involving the importation of soils was being carried out in breach of a permission granted by RDC for a barn, and RDC are pursuing that matter.</p> <p>Separate to the matters being dealt with by RDC, a site visit was carried out which identified that waste wood was being burnt and scrap metal was being stored at the site. Discussions were held with the landowner and the planning situation explained. A timescale for the removal of the waste and cessation of the burning was agreed and a further site inspection is required to ensure compliance.</p>

3/7	February 2026	Hole Farm, Westfield	Failure to comply with the requirements of the planning permission.	Following a site monitoring inspection, it was apparent that the site was not operating in accordance with its planning permission or the recently granted permission (RR/899/CM). The operator has been advised of the breaches and what steps are required to remedy the breach of planning control. The site is being monitored, and formal enforcement action will be considered if matters are not satisfactorily addressed.
3/8	March 2026	Christmas Tree Farm, Coach and Horses Lane, Danehill	Importation and deposit of waste, including skip waste.	A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported to the site and spread across the land. A site visit was carried out and a meeting held with the operator/landowner. It appeared that activity was taking place at the site and waste uses evident. Due to circumstances, it was not possible for an in-depth inspection to be carried out and a further inspection is to be arranged.
3/9	March 2026	Kloofs Caravan Park, Sandhurst Lane, Whydown Road, Bexhill	Unauthorised disposal and burying or waste	A complaint was received that new owners of the caravan park had, amongst other things, begun digging pits and burying waste. A joint site inspection with an officer from Rother District Council confirmed works taking place. The owner has been warned and remedial measures agreed. A further inspection will be required shortly.

TABLE 4 - OUTSTANDING CASES SUBJECT TO ONGOING ACTION

	DATE LPA BECAME AWARE OF BREACH	SITE ADDRESS	NATURE OF CASE	CURRENT POSITION
4/1	January 2020	Meadow Farm, Road Hill, Isfield	Importation and deposit of waste (soils and hardcore)	In 2018 a complaint was received alleging that lorry loads of waste materials, comprising soils and hardcore, had been imported into the site and deposited. Joint site visits were undertaken with officers from the Environment Agency and Wealden District Council, and meetings were also held with the landowner and operators. Wealden District Council (WDC) invited an application, which sought to retain the deposited materials on site to be used in several engineering operations. WDC eventually decided that they could not entertain such an application and returned the application and fee to the landowner.

				<p>The matter was then referred back to the County Council to deal with as a County Matter. Officers held an initial site meeting with the landowner (February 2020). At that time the whole area was so waterlogged as to be impassable, and the removal of the materials was not feasible. Since the initial meeting, the Coronavirus Pandemic prevented further progress in this matter. However, contact was maintained with the landowner in order to progress matters.</p> <p>A further meeting was then held with the landowner and an initial course of action was agreed, which was the moving of the bunds of material to outside of the crown spread of the trees. Initially there had been no progress made because of the waterlogged ground conditions and the site needed a considerable period of dry weather to improve the ground conditions to allow work to start. However, works were then commenced to remove the bunds and a subsequent site inspection noted that the landowner had moved the imported materials away from the crown spread of the affected trees.</p> <p>Numerous inspections have been carried out and a meeting held with the landowner. Further works to resolve the breach of planning control were identified and agreed with the landowner, together with a timetable for their completion. A further site meeting with the landowner and other officers is to be arranged to check progress with the remedial works.</p>
4/2	April 2021	Crockstead Farm Hotel, Halland	Importation and deposit of waste – soils.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials, comprising soils, were being imported into the site and deposited. A site visit was undertaken, during which a meeting was held with the operator undertaking the works, who admitted that materials had been imported into the site to improve an existing access track and to improve the land.</p> <p>At the time of the site visit, the landowner was away. A letter was sent to the landowner and a meeting was subsequently held with the site manager who explained that the materials were imported to improve the land for equestrian grazing.</p> <p>The materials imported included soils, which contained a significant quantity of hardcore, metal and plastics, which would eventually work through to the finished surface of the site. This material was not considered to be suitable for its intended purpose and, after considering the situation, the County Council required the materials to be removed and the original landform to be restored. The operator/landowner was given an initial timescale for these remedial works to be undertaken.</p>

				<p>A planning application (WD/891/CM) to regularise the breach of planning control has been submitted and is currently under consideration.</p>
4/3	June 2021	Former HT Drinks Site, Endeavour Works, Beach Road, Newhaven	Importation and bulking up of waste tyres.	<p>A complaint was received that waste tyres were being imported into this site and were being bulked up. A joint site visit was undertaken with an officer from the Environment Agency, which confirmed the substance of the complaint.</p> <p>A meeting and subsequent correspondence were had with the site operator and agent, and the requirement for planning permission and an environmental permit explained. The operator stated his intention to apply for planning permission and an environmental permit, and a timescale was agreed for him to submit the necessary applications.</p> <p>Further contact was made with the operator, who stated that the planning application was being prepared and would be submitted in the next few days. No planning application was forthcoming, and the unauthorised activity continued. A Temporary Stop Notice was therefore served on the landowner, operator and interested parties on 12 November 2021, which ceased the waste activity on the site.</p> <p>Following the service of the Temporary Stop Notice, the operator submitted a planning application (LW/860/CM) relating to the waste tyre processing on the site, including by pyrolysis. However, due to proposed changes to the planning application, it was withdrawn in January 2024. The operator engaged a new agent and indicated that a revised planning application would be submitted.</p> <p>In the meantime, the site is continuing to be monitored and only the storage and baling of tyres is taking place which, whilst unauthorised, is not presently causing any apparent harm. The operator has recently been contacted regarding the outstanding matter and a response is awaited pending further action being taken.</p>
4/4	June 2022	Skilton's Skips, AS Farm, The Warren Crowborough	Importation and deposit of waste.	<p>A complaint was received regarding a potential skip business being operated from the site. An initial inspection was carried out which confirmed the nature of the complaint. Further inspections were then undertaken and discussions held with the operator.</p> <p>There are adjoining sites which have also been investigated; matters have been complicated by landownership issues and boundary disputes. Correspondence was issued to the person understood to be the overarching landowner regarding the various</p>

				<p>issues. A further site meeting was held with the landowner in January 2024, which identified various options to regularise matters. Further correspondence was then issued to the landowner following that meeting, since when there has been no contact or progress. The case is being reviewed to consider what action now needs to be taken to remedy matters and address any harm being caused. It is highly likely that a Planning Contravention Notice will be served. The site is continuing to be monitored by officers.</p>
4/5	June 2022	AM Skips & Plant Hire, Hazelbank, London Road, Maresfield,	Breach of conditions – noise and site layout.	<p>During a site monitoring visit, it was noted that the layout of the site was not in accordance with the approved plans. Subsequent complaints were also received regarding excessive noise emanating from the site and its operations.</p> <p>Numerous site visits were carried out and meetings held with the operator and also the Environmental Health Officer (EHO) from Wealden District Council (WDC). In respect of noise, WDC have previously served a Noise Abatement Notice on the operator and the EHO identified certain measures which could be implemented to address the noise issues, such as acoustic fencing. However, such measures require planning permission due to their scale.</p> <p>The operator submitted a planning application (WD/876/CM) for the erection of three metres high boundary treatment (acoustic fencing) to the north-western boundary of the site. The application was approved under delegated powers (August 2023) and the fencing had to be installed within six months of the date of the decision (February 2024). A site inspection was carried out, which confirmed that the acoustic fencing had been installed. Despite the installation of the fencing, complaints have continued to be received and the overall site layout remains in breach of the approved plans for the site.</p> <p>Further site monitoring is to be carried out, including noise surveys, to ascertain whether the site is breaching its noise controls and any other conditions attached to the planning permission for the site.</p>

4/6	February 2023	Land adjacent to reservoir, Cottage Hill, Rotherfield	Use of land by skip business.	<p>A complaint was received that the land was being used by a skip business and waste was being brought back to the site. A site visit was carried out and an area of land with two skips on it was found. The ownership of the land is not registered at the Land Registry and attempts to identify the landowner were initially unsuccessful. Further site visits have been carried out and contact was finally made with the operator.</p> <p>During discussions, the operator was advised of the planning requirements for the use of the site and he is currently considering options going forward. Matters are ongoing and officers remain in contact with the operator and are monitoring the site.</p>
4/7	February 2023	Land north-west of Eridge Road, Crowborough	Importation and deposit of waste: Landraising.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported and deposited, resulting in a change to the landform. A site visit was carried out which confirmed the substance of the complaint and noted that significant quantities of materials had been imported, raising the levels of the land.</p> <p>Investigations and liaison with Wealden District Council identified a complex planning history for the site, including two planning permissions - one for a timber storage barn and storage container on the southern part; and one for the erection of a building to store wood and manufacture timber fencing products on the northern part of the site. It is, however, unclear whether these permissions allow for the alterations of the levels of the land, which would account for the imported materials, or whether the materials have been imported solely as a means of disposal.</p> <p>Further investigations were carried out and a site inspection undertaken with Wealden District Council. Since then, an extensive site inspection has been carried out with the Environment Agency and matters are ongoing.</p>
4/8	March 2023	Timber Yard, Limekiln Forest Road, Eridge Green, Crowborough	Importation, deposit and burning of waste.	<p>During a visit to another site in the locality, officers noticed what appeared to be the storage and burning of waste materials. The primary use of the site appears to be a timber yard, but some of the items noted on site were not consistent with that use. There is no relevant planning history for the site.</p> <p>A further inspection has been carried out and contact made with the landowner, who has recently purchased the site. The new landowner is in the process of clearing the site and has been made aware of the restrictions in terms of any waste use/activity at the site. A final site inspection is due to be undertaken to ensure the waste has been legally removed as required.</p>

4/9	March 2023	Greenacres, London Road, Battle	Importation and deposit of waste.	<p>A complaint was received regarding waste materials (soils and hardcore) being imported to the site. A site visit was carried out which confirmed the substance of the complaint; however, no one was present. Officers liaised with the Environment Agency, who also had an interest in the site. Significant quantities of material have been deposited adversely affecting Ancient Woodland and the High Weald National Landscape.</p> <p>Contact was subsequently made with the landowner and a site meeting held. The landowner confirmed that some materials had been imported, but also that a large amount of the material had originated from within the site following various building projects. The landowner stated it was their intention to improve the area of land and create a wildflower meadow.</p> <p>Two further site meetings were held with the landowner, their representatives and various officers from this Authority, including an Ecologist and Landscape officer. Various options to resolve the matter were discussed and a programme of works agreed, which included the removal of material, restoration of the landform, replacement planting and ecological enhancements.</p> <p>These works were due to be secured through the submission of a planning application. However, no application was forthcoming, and the landowner stopped responding to correspondence. Therefore, an Enforcement Notice was served on the landowner and interested parties on 25 November 2025. No appeal was made against the Enforcement Notice, and it took effect on 29 December 2025. The Notice requires the (i) cessation of the importation of waste materials; (ii) removal of all deposited waste materials to expose the original ground levels; and (iii) seeding of the area affected by the removal of the waste materials with a High Weald Meadow seed mix or equivalent.</p> <p>The time for compliance for the removal of the waste is 29 April 2026, and officers will be inspecting the site after this date. The seeding must then be carried out in the first available planting season following the removal of the waste materials .</p>
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4/10	March 2023	Tanyard Farm, Hooe Road, Ninfield, Battle	Importation and deposit of waste: soils and scrap vehicles:	<p>A complaint was received regarding the importation of waste materials to the site, including lorries entering at night. A site visit was carried out which confirmed the substance of the complaint. Following the site visit a letter was sent to the landowner, however no response was received and a chaser was sent. Officers also liaised with officers from other agencies as well as gathering further information from other sources.</p> <p>During a further site inspection, it was noted that burning was taking place and officers observed an unattended bonfire at the site. As the landowners failed to respond to correspondence, they were issued with a warning letter and a Planning Contravention Notice (PCN) was subsequently served on them. No response to the PCN was received.</p> <p>Officers have visited the site on two further occasions and noted that the waste use is continuing, along with other activities including potential residential uses. It is proposed to issue a new Planning Contravention Notice, which will be served in person. Other regulatory bodies are also being contacted in respect of the various activities at the site.</p>
4/11	June 2023	Giffords Farm, Battle Road, Dallington	Importation and deposit of waste, creation of haul road and infilling of a pond.	<p>A complaint was received regarding the importation of waste to the site. An initial site visit was undertaken but officers were unable to gain access. A joint inspection with the Environment Agency was subsequently undertaken and discussions held with the landowner. Some of the works related to a planning permission for the infilling of a lagoon and pond, and the erection of a barn, granted by Rother District Council (RDC) and the matter has been referred to RDC to check compliance.</p> <p>Notwithstanding this, there was clear evidence of the importation of significant quantities of assorted waste materials elsewhere on the site as well as the creation of a large pond. The site is within the High Weald National Landscape. Of particular concern was the deposit of waste in areas of Ancient Woodland given its likely adverse impact on both trees and ecology. A letter was sent to the landowner following the inspection but no response was received. A warning letter regarding the lack of any reply was sent to the landowner, but still no response was received.</p> <p>A Planning Contravention Notice (PCN) was therefore served on the landowner in January 2024. The landowner failed, despite numerous reminders, to respond to the Planning Contravention Notice, which is an offence.</p>

				<p>As a result of the landowner's failure to respond to the PCN, a prosecution was brought against him. The case was heard at Hastings Magistrates' Court on 18 July 2024, where the landowner pleaded guilty to the offence of failing to respond to the PCN. He was ordered to pay a total of £1,291.50, consisting of £700 fine; £311.50 costs and £280 Victim Surcharge.</p> <p>Following the successful prosecution, a further letter was sent to the landowner advising him that a response to the PCN was still required and it was an ongoing offence to fail to do so. Despite this, the landowner chose still to not respond to the PCN. He was therefore subsequently summonsed to appear before Hastings Magistrates' Court in October 2024. He once again pleaded guilty and was ordered to pay a total of £1,229.34; consisting of £576 fine; £423.34 Victim Surcharge and £423.34 costs.</p> <p>Following the second successful prosecution, the landowner's agent contacted officers, indicating that he was keen to work with the Council to resolve matters. Regrettably, nothing happened in this regard and there was no attempt to meet deadlines set for the removal of the waste materials, particularly from within the Ancient Woodland.</p> <p>Therefore, an Enforcement Notice was served on 25 November 2025. No appeal was made against the Notice and it took effect on 29 December 2025. The Notice requires the (i) cessation of the importation of waste materials and (ii) removal of all deposited waste materials from three identified areas. The time for compliance for the removal of the waste is 29 April 2026 and officers will be inspecting the site after this date.</p>
4/12	September 2023	Land off Hempstead Lane, Hailsham.	Use of land as a waste site.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials (soils and hardcore) were being imported to and stored at the site. A site visit was carried out which confirmed the substance of the complaint. Contact was made with the operator and a site meeting held. The site in question is brownfield, formerly being part of a scrap yard, the main body of which is on land directly opposite.</p> <p>Further to officers maintaining contact with the operator and undertaking additional monitoring visits, the operator indicated that a planning application would be submitted to regularise the use of the site. The operator subsequently requested formal pre-application advice, which was provided.</p>

				<p>A planning application (WD/906/CM) has been submitted but further details are awaited before the application can be processed and determined. In the meantime, officers are monitoring the situation closely.</p>
4/13	September 2023	Land at Lunsford Cross Farm (now known as Church Stand Farm), Peartree Lane, Ninfield.	Importation/deposit of waste, plus other issues.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported to and deposited at the site, as well as the unauthorised use of the land for residential purposes and other matters. An initial site visit was carried out, which supported the nature of the complaint, but it was not possible to gain full access to the site.</p> <p>A multi-agency site visit was subsequently undertaken which identified a number of issues for the various regulatory bodies to deal with. Following the site visit, the landowner made contact with officers and a further inspection and meeting was arranged.</p> <p>At that meeting, various matters were identified, including the residential use of a caravan and the importation of waste materials. The owner has been told what remedial measures are expected. The matter remains ongoing and a further joint site inspection will be arranged.</p>
4/14	January 2024	Bowen Farm, Park Lane, Laughton,	Importation and deposit of waste.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported to the site. A joint inspection with officers from Wealden District Council was carried out, which confirmed the substance of the complaint. During the course of that inspection, discussions were held with the landowner who stated that the materials had been imported in connection with landscaping works related to the conversion of farm buildings, which had the benefit of planning permission. The officer from Wealden District Council advised that the extent of the land covered by the planning permission for the conversion did not extend to the area where the materials had been deposited.</p> <p>Following the initial inspection, a letter was sent to the landowner, who subsequently appointed an agent. Several site meetings were held and correspondence exchanged with the agent and their ecological consultants.</p> <p>A planning application to regularise certain matters, including landscape and ecological works, has now been submitted (WD/903/CM) and is currently under consideration.</p> <p>The Environment Agency are also investigating matters relevant to them.</p>

4/15	February 2024	Oaklands Farm, Newick Lane, Heathfield	Importation and deposit of waste.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported and spread on the land. A joint site visit with an officer from Wealden District Council was carried out and a meeting held with the landowner and their planning agent. There was evidence of imported materials and the landowner stated these were for works around the farm.</p> <p>There is an extant Enforcement Notice on the site (served by Wealden District Council) which relates to the unauthorised use as a ground workers commercial storage yard and depot. The Enforcement Notice requires this use to cease and also for plant, machinery, vehicles to be removed. It also requires rubbish, rubble and debris to be removed.</p> <p>As the Enforcement Notice requires the removal of waste materials, it is considered that this Authority should wait for compliance with the District Council's Notice and then assess if there are further steps that need to be taken to resolve any other breaches of planning control relevant to this Authority.</p>
4/16	February 2024	Magreed Farm, Magreed Lane, Broad Oak, Heathfield	Importation and deposit of waste. General site condition.	<p>A complaint was received about waste materials being imported to the site and deposited. Due to the history of the site, a joint site visit with officers from Wealden District Council was carried out. A warning letter to the landowners was sent and a subsequent further joint site meeting held both with them and an officer from Wealden District Council. A significant quantity of farm detritus was present on site and the landowners advised that much of this had either come from their previous farm or had been inherited from the previous landowner. Scrap metal from the site is being taken to a local scrap yard. Specific works to remove items from the site were agreed.</p> <p>Further inspections to monitor progress regarding the clearance of items from the site have been carried out and it was noted that some progress has been made. There remains further waste to be removed, and the matter is being monitored. Officers are working with the landowners to clear the site, rather than resort to formal enforcement action, although that remains an option if matters do not progress satisfactorily.</p>
4/17	April 2024	8 Grovelands, Hailsham	Importation, storage, bulking up and sorting of waste.	<p>Following previous alleged breaches of planning control at this property, periodic monitoring had been taking place with advice being issued to the occupant on several occasions. Matters seemed to have been remedied but after a period of time further complaints were received that the owner of the property was again bringing waste back, sorting, bulking up and storing it, before disposing of it elsewhere.</p>

				<p>Further monitoring of the site and activities took place, as well as investigations of various sources of information pertaining to activities at the site. Several other lines of inquiry were also followed. Discussions were held with the landowner and the planning situation set out to him. It was made clear, both during discussions and in correspondence, that waste should not be brought back, sorted and stored at the property.</p> <p>Despite the warning of enforcement action, the landowner continued to use the property for unauthorised waste related uses. Accordingly, an Enforcement Notice was served on him (February 2025), which required the cessation of the importation, sorting and storage of waste and the clearance of the site. No appeal was made against the Enforcement Notice.</p> <p>Unfortunately, complaints continue to be received alleging that the waste use at the property is continuing and officers are continuing to closely monitor the site to ascertain whether the Enforcement Notice is being breached. Should a breach of the Notice be detected the Council will likely initiate legal proceedings.</p>
4/18	April 2024	Messens Farm, Potmans Lane, Bexhill on Sea	Importation and deposit of waste.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials (soil and hardcore) were being imported and deposited at the site. A site visit was carried out and discussions held with the landowner, who stated that the materials had been imported to level some undulating land.</p> <p>Discussions took place with officers from Wealden District Council as to whether the works were in connection with a planning permission granted by them for an equestrian sand school. Their view is that the works are outside that permission.</p> <p>The landowner was advised to undertake some immediate remedial works and also that planning permission is likely to be required if the materials are to be retained. The matter is ongoing, and officers will be undertaking a further site inspection to ascertain whether remedial works have been carried out or the materials removed.</p>
4/19	August 2024	187 London Road, Hailsham	Alleged importation of waste and scrap metal - breach of extant Enforcement Notice.	<p>There is an extant Enforcement Notice for this site prohibiting scrap metal and other waste related activities. Complaints were received that waste related activities were again taking place at the property.</p>

				<p>Several inspections were carried out and breaches of the Enforcement Notice identified. Warning notices were issued and a letter sent to the landowner setting out a timescale for the clearance of the site and compliance with the Enforcement Notice.</p> <p>The landowner failed to comply and continued to breach the Enforcement Notice. Consequently, he was summonsed to appear before Hastings Magistrates' Court on 19 December 2024. The landowner failed to attend and the case was heard in his absence. The Magistrates were satisfied that the case had been proven and ordered the landowner to pay a total of £7,827.63; consisting of a £5,000 fine, £2,000 Victim Surcharge and £827.63 in costs. This was the third time the owner had been prosecuted by the Waste Planning Authority for breaching the requirements of the extant Enforcement Notice.</p> <p>Since the last prosecution, the site was monitored and the breaches continued, with complaints continuing to be received. In light of this and the continued breach of the Enforcement Notice, Injunctive relief was sought and a hearing held on 17 December 2025 at Hastings County Court. The Defendant failed to turn up and the Judge was satisfied that he was aware of the hearing and had chosen not to attend. The matter was therefore heard in his absence.</p> <p>Following the hearing, the Court was satisfied that it was necessary and expedient to grant the Injunction to restrain the breaches of planning control. A Final Injunction was issued that requires the Enforcement Notice to be complied with but also prohibits the activities from taking place over a wider geographical area than that covered by the Enforcement Notice. The Injunction was granted for a period of two years.</p> <p>Despite the Injunction and subsequent warning letters being sent to the landowner, evidence suggests that the terms of the Injunction are not being complied with. Further investigations are ongoing with a view to the next steps to be taken regarding the breach of the Injunction, which is contempt of Court.</p>
4/20	January 2025	Upper Wilting Farm, Crowhurst Road, St Leonards on Sea	Importation and deposit of waste.	A complaint was received via Rother District Council that waste materials were being imported to the site. A site visit was carried out but it was not possible to gain entry. Contact is being made with the operator/landowner to arrange access to the site and a site meeting.

4/21	January 2025	Land east of Lower Wilting Farm, Crowhurst Road, St Leonards on Sea	Importation and deposit of waste.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials, comprising soil and hardcore, were being imported, deposited and spread across the site. A joint site visit with officers from Rother District Council was undertaken which confirmed the substance of the complaint. During the site visit, it was noted that significant quantities of waste had been imported to the site and deposited over a large area, with no apparent reason.</p> <p>A letter was sent to the landowner and a response received advising that the tenant of the site was responsible. Contact was made with the tenant and a programme of works to remove the imported waste materials agreed.</p> <p>Officers undertook further visits to the site and works were progressing to clear the imported materials and restore the land. However, due to wet weather and poor ground conditions, which were in turn creating a hazard with mud on the road from lorries leaving the site, works were paused.</p> <p>More recently, it has come to light that the importation and tipping of waste materials has resumed at the site and officers are liaising closely with the landowner in order to address the breach of planning control.</p>
4/22	March 2025	Land North West of Eridge Road, (ESX229476) Lower Ashwood Farm, Crowborough	Importation and burning of waste - recontouring of land.	<p>Whilst undertaking a joint site inspection with the Environment Agency to an existing site, several other sites were noted to appear to be being used for waste related activities. Details of all the owners have been obtained and further investigations are currently underway with a view to remedying waste related breaches of planning control at these additional sites.</p>
4/23	March 2025	Land North West of Eridge Road, (ESX392714) Lower Ashwood Farm, Crowborough	Importation and burning of waste - recontouring of land.	<p>Whilst undertaking a joint site inspection with the Environment Agency to an existing site, several other sites were noted to appear to be being used for waste related activities. Details of all the owners have been obtained and further investigations are underway with a view to remedying waste related breaches of planning control at these additional sites.</p>
4/24	March 2025	Land North West of Eridge Road, (ESX97819) Lower Ashwood Farm, Crowborough	Importation of waste and recontouring of land.	<p>Whilst undertaking a joint site inspection with the Environment Agency to an existing site, several other sites were noted to appear to be being used for waste related activities. Details of all the owners have been obtained and further investigations are currently underway with a view to remedying waste related breaches of planning control at these additional sites.</p>

4/25	March 2025	Land North West of Eridge Road, (ESX248144) Lower Ashwood Farm, Crowborough	Importation and storage of waste paper and burning of waste.	Whilst undertaking a joint site inspection with the Environment Agency to an existing site, several other sites were noted to appear to be being used for waste related activities. Details of all the owners have been obtained and further investigations are currently underway with a view to remedying waste related breaches of planning control at these additional sites.
4/26	March 2025 [Note: this is a different operator to the entry below.]	Stanbridge Grab Services Limited, The Woodyard, A267 Tunbridge Wells Road, Frant	Importation, storage and processing of waste.	A report was received from the Environment Agency that the site was being used for the tipping and processing of waste soils and then the bulking up and bagging of the processed materials. Research into the site has not found any relevant planning permission that would allow this activity. An inspection is to be arranged.
4/27	March 2025 [Note: this is a different operator to the entry above.]	Stanbridge Surfacing Limited, The Woodyard, A267 Tunbridge Wells Road, Frant	Importation, storage and processing of waste.	A report was received from the Environment Agency that the site was being used for the storage of unprocessed waste soil, tarmac, concrete and bricks, and potential processing using a crusher. Research into the site has not found any relevant planning permission that would allow this activity. An inspection is to be arranged.
4/28	March 2025	Land at Corseley Road, Groombridge	Importation, deposit and burning of waste.	A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported to the site and burnt. Unfortunately, specific details of the location were not provided, but officers attended the area and identified the site in question, where it was noted that waste materials had been imported and there was also evidence of burning. A letter was sent to the landowner, who contacted officers to state that the waste had been imported by persons unknown whilst he was away. He confirmed he intended to clear the site and secure it. A further site inspection is required to ensure the site has been cleared.
4/29	April 2025	Land at container storage facility to the rear of 172 Battle Road, Hailsham	Unauthorised deposit of mixed waste.	Following investigations by officers, it was identified that a significant quantity of mixed waste had been imported to, and deposited at, the site. Contact was made with the landowner who stated that some of the waste was site derived and some was historical builder's waste. A timeframe for the clearance of the site has been agreed and the site is being monitored to ensure compliance.

4/30	April 2025	Land at Ockham House, Silverhill, Etchingham	Importation and deposit of waste materials.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials, comprising mostly soils, were being imported and deposited at the site. An inspection was carried out, which confirmed the substance of the complaint. During the course of the site visit, a chance meeting was held with one of the landowner's sons, who stated that the materials were being imported to cover an area that had historically been tipped with farm waste. Discussions were also held with the operator at the site. Both the landowner's son and the operator were advised to cease any further importation of materials and works with immediate effect which they duly did.</p> <p>Following the site visit, a letter was sent to the landowner and officers were then contacted by another of the landowner's sons, who advised that the property was for sale and there was an interested purchaser. A subsequent meeting was held with the prospective purchaser who agreed to certain measures and works being undertaken, pending the purchase of the property.</p> <p>Officers have also had meetings with the Environment Agency and the Police regarding activities at the site.</p> <p>Currently, results from testing and topographical surveys are awaited pending any further action. In the meantime, officers are maintaining contact with the landowner's representatives and the prospective purchaser.</p>
4/31	May 2025	Little Friars Farm, Otham Court Lane, Polegate	Importation, deposit and burying of waste and scrap metal.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials, comprising clinical waste and scrap metal, were being imported, deposited and buried at the site. A concern was also raised regarding the welfare of horses at the site. An initial site inspection was carried out but, despite noting an untidy site, no evidence was found to support the nature of the complaint. A further site inspection was made which, again, could not identify the alleged breach.</p> <p>A letter was sent to the landowner, but no response received. A further letter was sent and officers were contacted by a relative of the landowner. The landowner is in poor health and relatives are endeavouring to resolve matters. A site meeting was held, which did identify quantities of clinical and other waste materials.</p> <p>Steps are being taken to clear the site of all waste materials. There has been a delay due to the situation of the landowner and officers are maintaining contact with those involved and monitoring the situation.</p>

4/32	July 2025	Bardown Farm, Bardown Road, Stonegate	Importation and deposit of waste	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported to and deposited at the site. An inspection was carried out, which confirmed the substance of the complaint. It was noted that fairly significant groundworks had taken place and piles of waste were stored at the site. During the initial visit, a chance meeting was held with a relative of the landowner, who claimed not to be aware of what was taking place, but that she would ask the landowner to contact officers. No contact was made by the landowner, and a warning letter was therefore sent to the landowner.</p> <p>The Environment Agency are also involved with the case, and a subsequent inspection of the site was undertaken, which did not raise any concerns at that time. However, further information has subsequently come to light regarding the original complaint and there are further concerns to be addressed regarding waste materials being imported once again. A further inspection is to be carried out.</p>
4/33	July 2025	Oakley Farm, London Road, Mountfield, Robertsbridge	Importation and deposit of waste (soils)	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported and deposited at the site. A site visit was attempted but it was not possible to gain access. A letter was sent to the landowner and discussions subsequently held. According to the landowner, the imported materials are being used to level the land and it is proposed to install a charcoal kiln.</p> <p>Discussions are ongoing and a joint site inspection with officers from Rother District Council is being arranged.</p>
4/34	August 2025	Franchise Farm, Spring Lane, Burwash	Importation and spreading of waste materials.	<p>A complaint was received that contaminated waste materials were being imported to the site and spread on the land. An initial site visit was carried out but due to the lack of clarity regarding the location of the waste it was not possible to identify if there was a breach of planning control. A letter was sent to the landowner who stated that the waste was imported and spread on the land in his absence and without his knowledge. The landowner commissioned testing of the waste, which deemed it not to be harmful.</p> <p>However, further clarity on the nature of the materials is required and officers are liaising with the Environment Agency. Contact is being maintained with the landowner regarding the removal of the waste materials.</p>

4/35	September 2025	Adams Farm, Sandrock Hill, Crowhurst, Battle	Importation and deposit of waste	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials were being imported to the site and deposited. A site visit was carried out but it was not possible to gain access. A letter was issued to the landowner who subsequently replied suggesting that lorries attending the site were bringing in compost and topsoil.</p> <p>A site meeting was held with the landowner, who claimed the imported materials were in connection with landscaping works and a noise attenuation bund. Investigations are continuing and a further site inspection is to be carried out.</p>
4/36	September 2025	Land on south side of West End, Herstmonceux, Hailsham	Deposit of soil from adjacent development	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials (soil) from an adjacent housing development had been deposited in a field. A site visit was carried out which confirmed the substance of the complaint. A letter has been sent to the landowner and a response is awaited pending any further action.</p>
4/37	September 2025	Land to the south-east of Royal Oak Garage, London Road, Flimwell	Importation and deposit of waste materials (soil/sandstone) and burning of waste.	<p>A complaint was received that waste materials (soil/sandstone) were being deposited on the land. A site inspection was carried out, which confirmed that a significant quantity of clean site derived materials had been deposited on an area of land, including within Ancient Woodland. Those materials had arisen as a result of a Planning Permission for site works granted by Tunbridge Wells District Council.</p> <p>Instructions were issued to immediately clear and restore the Ancient Woodland. This was backed up with correspondence issued to the landowner and a subsequent site meeting held both with him and his planning agent. As required, all materials were removed from within the Ancient Woodland and original levels had been restored. No damage to trees occurred. The material removed has been temporarily stockpiled elsewhere on the site. The landowner has indicated that it is the intention to make a planning application to retain the materials elsewhere on the site and a planning application is expected. As yet, no planning application has been forthcoming and the landowner has been sent a reminder to submit a planning application to avoid formal enforcement action.</p>