<u>News story: Asian hornet identified in</u> <u>Cornwall</u>

The National Bee Unit has confirmed a sighting of the Asian hornet in the Fowey area of south Cornwall.

This Asian hornet is smaller than our native hornet and poses no greater risk to human health than a bee. However, they do pose a risk to honey bees and work is already underway to identify any nests, which includes deploying bee inspectors to visit local beekeepers and setting up monitoring traps.

<u>Previous outbreaks of the Asian hornet have been successfully contained</u> by APHA bee inspectors who promptly tracked down and destroyed the nests. The intention is to do the same in this instance.

Nicola Spence, Defra Deputy Director for Plant and Bee Health, said:

While the Asian Hornet poses no greater risk to human health than a bee, we recognise the damage they can cause to honey bee colonies. That's why we are taking swift and robust action to locate and investigate any nests in the south Cornwall areas following this confirmed sighting.

Following the successful containment of the Asian hornet incursion in North Devon last year and Tetbury previously, we have a wellestablished protocol in place to eradicate them and control any potential spread.

We remain vigilant across the country, working closely with the National Bee Unit and their nationwide network of bee inspectors.

Bee inspectors from APHA National Bee Unit have started carrying out surveillance and monitoring in a 1-2 km radius around the initial sighting.

If you suspect you have seen an Asian hornet you can report this using the iPhone and Android app 'Asian Hornet Watch' or by emailing alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk. Identification guides and more information are available.

Background

- Members of the public can also report sightings by email to alertnonnative@ceh.ac.uk with a photo or on the Great Britain Non-native Species Secretariat website.
- The Great Britain Non-native Species Secretariat is a joint venture

between Defra, the Scottish Government and the Welsh Government to tackle the threat of invasive species. More information can be found on their <u>website</u>.

- For details on the appearance of an Asian hornet please can be found on <u>Bee Base guide</u> or the <u>non-native species identification guide</u>.
- Photographs of the Asian hornet are available on our Flickr account
- The cost of eradication on private land will be met by APHA.

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Notice: WA11 7JE, Mr George William Heyes, Mr James Heyes and Mr James Heyes: environmental permit issued

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

- Operator name: Mr George William Heyes, Mr James Heyes and Mr James Heyes
- Installation name: Mossborough Hall
- Permit number: EPR/EP3594CN/V003

Notice: TS6 8JH, Peak Technology Metals Limited: environmental permit issued

The Environment Agency publish permits that they issue under the Industrial Emissions Directive (IED).

This decision includes the permit and decision document for:

- Operator name: Peak Technology Metals Limited
- Installation name: Wilton Mineral Processing and Refining Facility
- Permit number: EPR/YP3938JL/A001

<u>Press release: Charity Commission</u> <u>orders military charity to wind up</u>

In a <u>report</u> published today the Commission sets out its findings, conclusions and regulatory action taken following its investigation into <u>lst Knight</u> <u>Military Charity</u>. The charity, which had objects to assist members of the armed forces and their dependents or carers, was ordered to and has now been wound up.

The Commission's <u>inquiry was opened on 8 November 2016</u> after undercover reporting for a BBC Scotland programme exposed anti-Islamic comments made at the charity's shop by a trustee and volunteer, as well as the sale of merchandise displaying anti-Islamic and derogatory comments and imagery.

"Wholly offensive and inappropriate" materials and comments

The inquiry concluded that there was misconduct in relation to offensive material available for sale at the charity's premises and comments recorded as part of the programme. The Commission's report highlights:

- A second trustee present at the time of the undercover recording failed to intervene or challenge the comments made.
- The offensive merchandise was ordered on more than one occasion, and the trustees did not seek to later return or dispose of the stock.
- Further highly offensive and inappropriate t-shirts depicting Nazi symbolism was advertised for sale on the charity's online store.
- An unannounced visit to the charity's premises later confirmed that the

relevant materials had been removed from sale, however offensive and inappropriate merchandise was still displayed on the charity's online store in February 2017.

Michelle Russell, Director of Investigations, Monitoring and Enforcement at the Charity Commission said:

The public rightly expect charities to demonstrate the highest standards of integrity and conduct. What we saw in this case fell short of that: not only was this charity mismanaged, we also saw evidence of behaviours and attitudes that have no place in charity. The organisation has now wound up, and I am pleased that we have ensured its assets are redistributed by another charity.

The inquiry also found wider concerns about the charity's management and governance.

The Commission issued an order under section 84B of the Charities Act 2011 to direct the trustees to wind up and dissolve the charity, in the public interest and because it was unlikely that the charity could continue to operate beyond the end of the inquiry. The trustees complied with this order on 22 March 2018 and the charity was dissolved and removed from the Register of Charities on 23 March 2018.

The charity's remaining funds were transferred to another charity, identified by the Commission, with similar objects to the charity. They will be used to provide support to wounded veterans and their loved ones.

The full report of the inquiry is available on GOV.UK.

Ends.

Notes to Editors

- 1. Under new powers granted to it under section 84B of the Charities Act 2016, the Commission has the power to direct charity trustees to wind up and dissolve a charity. On 22 December 2017 the Commission published a public notice of its intention to issue the order under section 84B (2) of the Act. This was published on the Commission's website for a period of 60 days. The Commission did not receive any representations following the issuing of public notice. After the period for representations expired the trustees were directed to take specified action to wind up and dissolve the Charity and have its remaining property transferred to a charity with the same or similar purposes.
- 2. The programme <u>'The Great Military Charity Scandal'</u> was broadcast on BBC One Scotland at 19:00, Tuesday 8 November 2016.
- 3. The Charity Commission is the independent regulator of charities in England and Wales. To find out more about our work, see the <u>about us</u> page on GOV.UK.
- 4. Search for charities on our <u>online register</u>.