

# Press release: “Illegal and unscrupulous waste criminals” ordered to pay £175,000

The Environment Agency successfully prosecuted 2 known criminals and their company who were sentenced on Friday 9 June 2017 for illegal waste tipping and storage at Baldwins Farm and Bush Farm in Essex.

The Environment Agency investigated PCS Recycling and the owners, Patrick James Corbally Snr and Patrick Lee Corbally Jnr, between 1 March 2012 and 8 May 2013. The men were arrested on site by police officers. They were found guilty of depositing waste, including potentially hazardous materials, in 2012 and 2013.

During the investigation, Environment Agency Officers discovered a large area, the size of 2 football pitches, where waste had been tipped and spread, accumulating to over 15 metres high in places. This area, known as Baldwins Farm, was being used as an illegal waste site, and at least 7,000 tonnes of waste was deposited there between 1 March and 31 August 2012. Both defendants pleaded guilty to operating a regulated facility without a permit at Baldwins Farm.

Patrick Corbally Snr and Patrick Corbally Jnr also pleaded guilty to being responsible for another organised illegal tip at a nearby site, known as Bush Farm (Priory Angling Club). The defendants were responsible for depositing in excess of 9,000 tonnes of waste at this second site. The estimated cost to the landowners (Cemex UK) of clearing and remediating the site of waste was up to £3 million pounds.

Patrick James Corbally Snr and Patrick Lee Corbally Jnr were each given 10-month prison sentences, which were suspended for 2 years, and along with the PCS Recycling, ordered to pay fines of £120,000 and £55,000 compensation to the land owner Cemex.

The sentence was imposed on the basis that the defendants had acted deliberately. There had been major costs of site remediation and significant interference with lawful waste operators, whose legitimate businesses had been undermined.

This fine is one of the highest ever to be imposed on individual defendants following an Environment Agency prosecution.

Sarah Mills, the Enforcement Team Leader at the Environment Agency, said:

Due to the complexity of the case, it took a lot of resources to get the right outcome from this investigation. Waste crime is a serious issue diverting as much as £1 billion per annum from legitimate business and treasury. Since April 2011 the Environment

Agency has invested £65.2 million in tackling it.

Illegal and unscrupulous waste criminals are working with total disregard for the environment, landowners, legal waste operators and any member of the public who use the land. We are determined to stop them by working with our partners in a collaborative effort. We hope this sentence serves as a message to those involved that we won't stop the fight against this blight, and that it acts as a deterrent against those who undermine legitimate businesses within the industry.

We urge any landowners, farmers, ramblers or dog walkers who find these sites to call us immediately on our 24-hour free incident hotline number 0800 80 70 60 or make an anonymous report to Crimestoppers on 0800 555 111.

For all media enquiries, please call: 0800 141 2743

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## [Passengers should not have had to go to the courts to seek accountability – McDonald](#)

Commenting on today's High Court ruling ordering the Secretary of State for Transport to produce a report into Southern Rail within 14 days, **Andy**

**McDonald MP, Labour's Shadow Transport Secretary said:**

"Passengers should not have had to go to the courts to seek accountability.

"Ultimately, the buck stops with the government. Tory ministers, who designed and awarded the franchise, have been ducking their responsibility for Southern's abysmal service and for directing this unnecessary industrial dispute.

"A Labour government would stand up for the interest of passengers rather than train companies, taking Southern back into public ownership and creating a new body to have strategic oversight for the railway to end the chaos and fragmentation that has plagued Southern."

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## [This chaotic Government is breaking its own laws by refusing to set out its timetable for the state pension age – Abrahams](#)

**Debbie Abrahams MP, Shadow Work and Pensions Secretary,**

raised a Point of Order today on the Government's failure to meet its legal deadline to set out its state pension age timetable. Debbie said:

"This chaotic Government is breaking its own laws by refusing to set out its timetable for the state pension age."

"Should they implement the recommendations of the Cridland Review, up to 34 million people will be expected to work longer."

"Given their complete failure to adequately communicate the equalisation of the state pension age for women, it is absolutely vital that this Tory Government comes clean with its plan now."

"In our manifesto Labour is committed to leaving the state pension age at 66, as part of our plans to ensure a secure and dignified retirement for the many, not just a few."

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## [Sturgeon owes Holyrood an explanation over CAP cover-up](#)

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29 Jun 2017



Nicola Sturgeon owes the Scottish Parliament an explanation after failing to disclose that her government had sought an extension on farming payments.

Last week, the First Minister refused to say whether the Scottish Government had made the request to Europe for paying Common Agricultural Policy cash to farmers.

It has since emerged she and her cabinet had been informed such an extension would be sought days earlier, and today was put under pressure as to why she pleaded ignorance.

At First Minister's Questions, the Scottish Conservative leader said having apologised to farmers for botching the CAP payments process for the second year on the trot, she should now say sorry to Holyrood for not being up front last week.

Instead, Ms Sturgeon said farmers across the country were happy with the SNP's performance on CAP, despite the fact just 82 per cent of the cash has been paid ahead of tomorrow's deadline.

Audit Scotland have said, if the Scottish Government misses the deadline, it could be fined up to £60 million.

**Scottish Conservative leader Ruth Davidson said:**

"Last week I asked the First Minister three times if her government had contacted the EC to seek an extension, and three times she refused to answer.

"We subsequently found out the extension had been requested, and she had been informed.

"That's why Nicola Sturgeon has to explain why she tried to hide this from the Scottish Parliament.

"People watching will have rightly wondered if this was a case of misleading parliament.

"Farmers have been badly let down by the SNP, and it's no wonder they've turned their back on the nationalists.

"But parliament needs an explanation too, because the ministerial code is clear about ministers providing accurate and truthful information.

"The SNP fell far below those standards in recent weeks."

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It emerged yesterday that the Scottish Government had been told of the CAP delay, prior to both Nicola Sturgeon and Fergus Ewing denying it:

<http://www.scottishconservatives.com/2017/06/scottish-government-cabinet-was-told-about-farm-payments-delay/>

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# [News story: Defence Secretary steps up UK commitments to NATO](#)

At a meeting of NATO Defence Ministers today, the Defence Secretary confirmed:

- The Royal Navy will take the lead of half of NATO's maritime forces for a year.
- Offensive cyber support to NATO operations.
- Increased UK support for advising the Afghan Government, and its defence and security forces.
- Strengthened cooperation on Maritime Patrol Aircraft.

The meeting also confirmed that Britain continues to meet its commitment of spending 2% of GDP on defence, as well as meeting the target of 20% defence spend on equipment and capabilities.

## **Leading NATO's maritime forces**

HMS Duncan, a state of the art Type 45 Destroyer, will lead NATO's Standing Maritime Naval Group 2 (SNMG2), providing reassurance and deterrence in the Black Sea, as well as commanding NATO's counter migration activity in the Mediterranean. The naval force will also exercise together to improve the Alliance's readiness and ability to work together on operations, as well as conducting port visits in the region, including to Ukraine.

HMS Enterprise will also lead Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group 2 (SNMCMG2) from July this year. The Mine Countermeasures Group is a multinational, integrated maritime force, made up of vessels from a number of NATO countries. The group is mainly based in the Mediterranean and is capable of searching for and disposing of explosive ordnance. HMS Enterprise will be the flagship for the force, and will be joined by HMS Pembroke in the second half of 2017.

Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon said:

As part of our leadership within the Alliance, we're stepping up our NATO commitments. Whether it's in the cyber domain, where I'm committing UK support to NATO operations, or on the high seas with HMS Duncan and HMS Enterprise leading half of the Alliance's maritime forces in the Mediterranean, the Aegean and the Black Sea, Britain is playing its full part.

## **Strengthening cooperation on Maritime Patrol Aircraft**

On the margins of today's meeting, Sir Michael signed a Statement of Intent on North Atlantic Maritime Patrol with his US and Norwegian counterparts. The

agreement enhances collaboration on each nation's P-8A Maritime Patrol Aircraft programmes and will provide NATO Allies with multiple benefits in the maritime reconnaissance and anti-submarine areas.

Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon said:

The P-8A aircraft will play a vital role in protecting the UK's nuclear deterrent, the two new Queen Elizabeth Class carriers and supporting our NATO Allies.

By investing in these aircraft, as part of our £178 billion defence equipment programme, we're showing that we're serious in tackling the threats on NATO's North Atlantic flank.

And in stepping up our cooperation with the US and Norway on maritime patrol around our shores, we will help keep Britain safer and more secure.

## **Stepping up to counter terror around the world**

The Defence Secretary also confirmed today that Britain is stepping up its support to Afghanistan, with around 85 extra service personnel to support NATO's mission in the country.

Britain has an enduring commitment to Afghanistan, and supporting the Government and the Afghan National Security and Defence Forces (ANSF) helps to prevent the country from becoming a safe haven for terror.

The increase of UK personnel comes in response to a NATO request, which was made to all partner nations, for additional troops to support the Alliance's train, advise and assist mission in the country.

The additional troops will continue to work in non-combat roles mentoring the Afghan Army and Police, the Afghan Air Force, and will provide further support to the ANSF in training and leadership development.

Underlining Britain's leadership within NATO, the uplift will add to the already significant contribution of 500 troops the UK already makes to NATO's Resolute Support Mission.

## **Endgame for Daesh in Mosul**

Three years on since the start of the so-called caliphate was proclaimed in Mosul, Defence Secretary Sir Michael Fallon underlined that Daesh faces its endgame in the city where it originally launched its ideological campaign of terror and violence.

Sir Michael said that the terrorist group faces irreversible momentum and

progress from local forces on the ground, and UK and Coalition aircraft in the skies. UK aircrew have now hit over 700 targets in support of operations to liberate Mosul since last year. In addition to operations over Mosul, the RAF has so far struck 69 targets in and around Raqqa in support of Syrian Democratic Forces (SDF) advancing on the city from the north, east and west.

With Daesh losing ground on two fronts in Mosul and Raqqa, around 70% of territory once controlled by the terror group in Iraq and 51% in Syria, has now been liberated. This amounts to over 4 million Iraqis and Syrians who have been freed from Daesh tyranny.