

Baroness Sheehan
Chair of the
Environment and Climate Change Committee
House of Lords
London
SW1A 0PW

Philip Duffy
Chief Executive
Environment Agency

13 May 2026

Dear Philip,

Thank you for your letter of 22 April 2026 clarifying the figures regarding the number of illegal sites that are over 20,000 tonnes. As you note, improving waste crime data transparency and accuracy remains a shared priority.

We note that the figures in question were presented at your appearance before the Committee on 25 March 2026, and we appreciate that you have since taken the opportunity to revisit them. We welcome the steps the Environment Agency is taking to strengthen its data collection processes and deepen its understanding of the full scale of waste crime.

We are grateful that you have now set the record straight, and we look forward to meeting with you again following the conclusion of your 16-week waste crime campaign.

Yours sincerely,

Baroness Sheehan, Chair of the Environment and Climate Change Committee