China Waste Export Ban Meeting - Draft Agenda

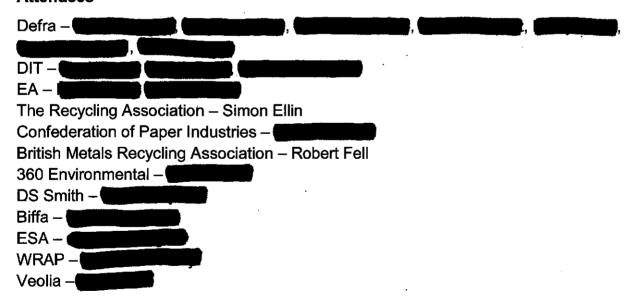
2.30 - 4.30pm, 13 September 2017

Room 506, Nobel House

Dial-in details: 0800 073 0694, conference code: 9902152400

1	Overview of China ban	Defra/EA
2	Options for approaching China	DIT/ Defra Trade
2	Industry evidence to support any approach	Industry colleagues
4	Contingency planning – alternative routes for affected waste streams	All
5	Next steps	All

Attendees



China Waste Export Ban Meeting

2.30 to 4.30, 13 September 2017

Attendees

Representatives from Defra, DIT, EA and SEPA, plus industry experts from the field of waste management (full list of names at the end)

Aim

- To share our understanding of what is covered in China's proposals on waste exports and the potential impacts,
- To identify the actions that may be needed to clarify the situation and to mitigate the consequences

Overview of China ban

On 18 July 2017, China contacted the World Trade Organisation stating that the import of 24 types of solid waste will be banned by the end of 2017

On 25 August 2017, an internal consultation closed which would introduce changes to the standards applied to waste materials imported. Changes expected by the end of 2017. Includes a proposal to set contamination levels at 0.3%

There is uncertainty around the scope of the ban and standards due to the terminology applied, for example:

- Has the 0.3% contamination standard been adopted and how will it be applied?
- For plastic does the ban apply to post-consumer waste only
- For paper does the ban apply to all mixed-paper, does the ban apply to mixed paper only
- For cables what does the 0.3% contamination standard cover.

Impact on UK industry

There will be significant impacts on UK exporters of waste plastics, paper and cable, with knock on effects on the wider waste management industry, local authorities and obligated producers. These impacts are already being seen in the industry and are likely to have become significant before the end of the year

For plastics:

- Industry view is that at least 50% of the export market would be affected, either from shipments to China directly, or from indirect impacts on markets in other countries
- Tonnages involved would be in the region of 70-80K tonnes per quarter of plastic packaging waste. Figures not available for non-packaging waste plastic
- No alternative markets are available for these quantities of waste

- Clarification would be required on the scope. At this stage industry would anticipate
 the ban applying to post-consumer waste (not just household) but not to pellet (ie
 processed waste plastic). Unclear whether flake will be allowed.
- Impacts on PERN market: Prices will rise as fewer PERNs are available and targets will be unachievable
- Storage levels within the UK will become tight quickly
- Waste shipment bonds will make shipping expensive

For paper:

- Clarification would be required on the scope, as the standards refer to 'unsorted waste paper' rather than the systems in place to grade different types waste papers.
- UK ships around 3.7m tonnes of waste paper per annum to China, of which 1.1m tonnes is mixed paper, 2.4m tonnes was OCC
- From mid-September no mixed paper will be shipped from the UK to China
- Stockpiling will be an issued, especially as paper must be stored indoors

For cables:

- There is potential for the export of waste cables to be affected
- Figures not available for tonnages

Actions needed to clarify the situation and to mitigate the consequences

Given the level of uncertainty it will be critical to get a better understanding of the scope of the Chinese proposals and the likelihood of their introduction. Options for taking this forward include:

- 1. An approach to the WTO to see what clarifications they may be seeking from the Chinese Government. There are two avenues for this:
 - An approach via the Technical Barriers to Trade Committee due to meet in November, this would need to be taken forward through the EU Commission,
 - An approach via the Market Access Advisory Committee this would need to be taken forward through the EU Commission. There is scope to do this in October.

Action: DIT

2. An approach to the Chinese Environment Ministry via the British Embassy or a UK Trade Mission. Views to be sought from DIT and the Embassy on the best way to handle such an approach. One industry representative offered direct support

Action: Defra to approach Embassy

Given the volumes of waste material impacted there is an urgent need to explore alternative routes for handling this material in the short term. In particular to consider the availability of storage, alternative waste treatment and waste shipments. Further work is need to scope out the scenarios for each impacted material and regulatory responses required, with a short term position needed urgently.

Action: Environment Agency (with Defra)

Given the likely impacts on PERNs, there is a need to scope out in more detail what may be required to address the consequences on reaching existing targets, possible regulatory signals and, in the longer term, the need to review targets

Action: Defra

If implemented in full the Chinese proposals will result in a paradigm shift in the way waste is managed to both increase the quality of secondary raw materials but also the need to find markets for those materials, including looking at ways of boosting domestic reprocessing.

Action: Defra

Engage with other stakeholders to understand wider impacts, in particular the local authority organisations such as the LGA and LARAC.

Action: Defra

Attendees – [tc] indicates attendance via teleconference Defra – (Laboratoria de la Conference) DIT – (Laboratoria de la Conference) EA – (Laboratoria de la Conference) SEPA – (Laboratoria de la Conference) Simon Ellin (The Recycling Association), (Confederation of Paper Industries), Robert Fell (British Metals Recycling Association), (ACP), (CONFERENCE) (DS Smith), (Biffa) [tc], (ESA), (WRAP) [tc], (Weolia)

Subject:

China waste export ban meeting

Location:

Nobel House, Room 506: Teleconference

Start:

Wed 13/09/2017 14:30

End:

Wed 13/09/2017 16:30

Show Time As:

Tentative

Recurrence:

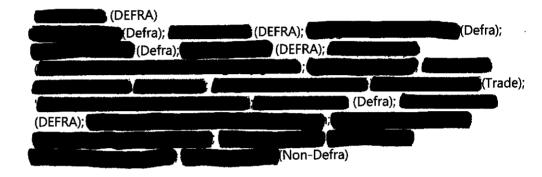
(none)

Meeting Status:

Not yet responded

Organizer:

Required Attendees:



Dear colleagues,

This meeting will be an opportunity to discuss China's proposed waste export ban and will cover:

- Options for approaching China directly or via WTO and likelihood of success of these approaches
- Industry evidence to support any approach to WTO (or others) and to inform any necessary contingency planning
- Contingency planning in the likelihood that we need to find alternative routes for affected waste streams

Agenda and papers will follow.

Kind regards,



Teleconference details

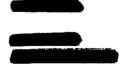
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Freephone Dial-In Number:

United Kingdom

LocalCall Dial-In Number:

United Kingdom, All Cities



(0844 number will have premium rate call charges applicable when using this number)

Conference code:

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(DEFRA)

Sent:

05 September 2017 17:35

To:

Subject:

Meeting on China waste export ban and new standards



I am writing to invite you to a meeting next week with Defra, Department for International Trade and other external stakeholders to discuss China's proposed waste export ban. As you may know, China have proposed a ban on 24 types of solid waste and more stringent standards around levels of non-target materials to 0.3%

The meeting will be an opportunity to look at the following:

- Options for approaching China directly or via WTO and likelihood of success of these approaches
- Industry evidence to support any approach to WTO (or others) and to inform any necessary contingency planning
- Contingency planning in the likelihood that we need to find alternative routes for affected waste streams

I will send you a meeting invite momentarily and hope that you will be able to attend, or to send someone in your stead.

Kind regards,

Policy Adviser | EU and International Waste | Environmental Quality | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Direct Line: Address: 3rd Floor, Mallard House, Kings Pool, 3

Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX

From:

(DEFRA)

Sent:

05 September 2017 17:35

To:

Subject:

Meeting on China waste export ban and new standards

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- Contingency planning in the likelihood that we need to find alternative routes for affected waste streams

I will send you a meeting invite momentarily and hope that you will be able to attend, or to send someone in your stead who can represent the BMRA.

Kind regards,

EU and International Waste | Environmental Quality | Department for Environment, **Food and Rural Affairs**

Address: 3rd Floor, Mallard House, Kings Pool, 3

Direct Line: | Email: / Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX

From:
Sent:
To:
Subject:

(DEFRA) 05 September 2017 17:35

Meeting on China waste export ban and new standards

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I will send you a meeting invite momentarily and hope that you will be able to attend and/or will be able to suggest an appropriate colleague from one of your member organisations which exports to China to attend.

Policy Adviser | EU and International Waste | Environmental Quality | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Direct Line: | Email: | Email: | Address: 3rd Floor, Mallard House, Kings Pool, 3

Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX



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Sent:

05 September 2017 17:35

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Subject:

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I will send you a meeting invite momentarily and hope that you will be able to attend, or to send someone in your stead who can represent the Recycling Association.

Kind regards,

Policy Adviser | EU and International Waste | Environmental Quality | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

| Address: 3rd Floor, Mallard House, Kings Pool, 3

Direct Line: Email: Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX

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I will send you a meeting invite momentarily and hope that you will be able to attend, or to send someone in your stead who can represent the Confederation of Paper Industries.

Kind regards,

Policy Adviser | EU and International Waste | Environmental Quality | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Direct Line: Address: 3rd Floor, Mallard House, Kings Pool, 3

Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX

From: Sent: (Defra) 15 September 2017 14:43

To:

Phil Conran

Cc:

(DEFRA)

Subject:

RE: Notes from Wednesday

Working on them now.

From:

Sent: 15 September 2017 14:41

To:

(Defra)

Cc: (DEFRA)

Subject: Notes from Wednesday



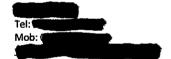
Sorry to be a pain, but how quickly are we likely to get the notes from Wednesday? The plastics export sector is not well represented through any one body so there are a number of people – mainly those at our ACP meeting last week – who are keen to see the detail about which I have only been able to give a summary!!

Have a lovely weekend.

Cheers







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Environmental Services Association
Direct Dial:
www.esauk.org <http: www.esauk.org=""> [ESA logo]</http:>
Follow us on Twitter: ESA: @ESA_tweets http://twitter.com/SESA_tweets / SESA_tweets http://twitter.com/WESA_tweets Please consider the environment. Before printing this e-mail message, ask yourself whether you really need a hard copy. 1 ream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4kg CO2 in the atmosphere From: (DEFRA) Sent: 11 September 2017 13:12 To: Co: (Defra) Subject: RE: Stakeholder meeting on Chinese import restrictions
Dear The Control of t
Yes, there is a stakeholder meeting arranged for this Wednesday, I will forward you the calendar invite with the meeting details.
Best,
Sent: 11 September 2017 09:14 To: (DEFRA) Cc: (Defra) Subject: Stakeholder meeting on Chinese import restrictions Importance: High
Dear Dear Dear Dear Dear Dear Dear Dear
I understand that Defra has organised a stakeholder meeting on the 13th September regarding the Chinese import restrictions. From an earlier conversation with a stakeholder meeting in copy, I was under the impression that ESA would be invited as well. I would be very interested in attending the meeting, please let me know if that is possible.
Kind regards,
Environmental Services Association Direct Dial:
www.esauk.org <http: www.esauk.org=""></http:>

[ESA logo]

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Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

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To:

27 September 2017 15:44

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(Trade)

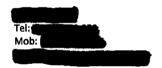
Subject:

RE: China waste export ban meeting

For 2016

2016	tonnes
Total plastic exports from UK	684,495
Exports to China	264,729
Exports to other Far East destinations (Includes	
India & Pakistan)	178,871
Exports to Europe	240,895





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 Sent: 27 September 2017 14:29
 (DEFRA);
 (Defra);
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 (Defra);
 (Defra);
 (Defra);
 (Trade);
 (Trade);
 (Trade);
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 (Defra);
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Subject: RE: China waste export ban meeting

Hi

On plastics, 395kt (valued at £83m) was exported from the UK in the period Jan-Jul 2017. On an annualised basis this equates to plastics worth £142m based on UK Trade Info. Annualising the export data destined for China/HK during the period Jan-Jul 2017 gives 332kt and a value of £67Mt. But of course, not all of this is plastic packaging. Do we know how much plastic packaging is exported to China/HK?

Best,

(DEFRA)		
From: Sent: To: Subject:	13 September 2017 11:08 (DEFRA) China and waste telecon this PM	
Dear William		
	SEPA is keen to be involved in these entative at the moment for the meeting	e discussions at the earliest stage. Pleas ng this afternoon.
You may also want to consid	er the other DAs in Northern Ireland	and Wales, their contact details are:
Kind regards		
Producer Compliance and W Scottish Environment Protect		
Tel:		

From:

Sent:

25 September 2017 14:56

To:

(DEFRA)

Subject:

RE: China waste export ban meeting

Follow Up Flag:

Follow up

Flag Status:

Completed



If the industry can help provide any of the additional information you are looking for, please let us know. Given that time is short and it will probably take a while to arrange meetings with the Chinese we would certainly welcome a decision relatively soon.

It could be good to know that mainstream media is now asking questions so unless Defra has already provided comments you are likely to be asked what the Government is doing to address the issue.

Best regards,





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(DEFRA) [

Sent: 22 September 2017 10:28

Subject: RE: China waste export ban meeting

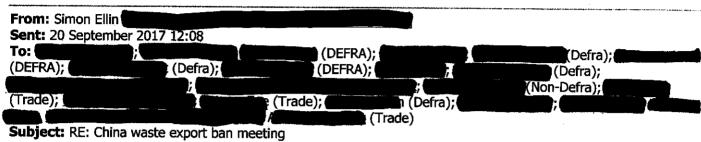
Hi.

Sorry for the slow response. We've been in touch with post of decisions – I will let you know when I hear more. with the intention to raise the issue in AOB. Will hopefully go	attended the Marke	t Access Advisor	before taking any Council yesterday
Best,			
Policy Adviser EU and International Waste	EQ		
Sent: 20 September 2017 13:56 To: (DEFRA) Subject: RE: China waste export ban meeting			
Hi			
Thank you for taking on board our comments. What is the lar Recycling Association that this would be worthwhile. As was be in China in October anyway and has offered to extend his	mentioned at the me	eting,	from Veolia will
Best regards,			
Environmental Services Association Direct Dial:			
environmental services association			,
Follow us on Twitter: ESA: @ESA tweets / SESA: @SESA tw. Please consider the environment. Before printing this e-mail messageream of paper = 6% of a tree and 5.4kg CO ₂ in the atmosphere From: (DEFRA) Sent: 20 September 2017 13:49	eets / WESA: @WESA ge, ask yourself whethe	tweets er you really need a	a hard copy. 1
(Defra); (DEFRA);	1	(Defra); Defra);	(DEFRA);
(Trade); (Trade); (Subject: RE: China waste export ban meeting	(Defra); Trade)	7	

Hi all,

Please see the attached updated meeting note. Thanks all for comments and for your contributions at the meeting, they were very helpful. We will take forward the actions as listed and will keep you updated on progress.





Thank you again for hosting the meeting last week – Jacob and Trevor have highlighted some proposed minor changes which I concur with and have nothing further to add on the minutes themselves.

I would however like to add weight to the urgency required here as Jacob has highlighted in his note about shortterm measures. I believe that direct contact with China is absolutely imperative at the earliest possible opportunity. As we stand, we still don't have definitive guidance from China and we should take this as an opportunity to make representation - the pertinent issues were raised at the meeting last week and you also have the letters I sent to you from BIR and EuRIC along with our own representations to CCIC which expand on these areas. I simply cannot stress enough the impact this will have on the UK industry supply chain if these changes are brought in, in their current form. Again, we would like to offer our assistance if required to get in front of the right people in China which would complement the other offer received.

You may already be aware, but China situation is not on the agenda at the MAAC committee in Brussels tomorrow and I am told via EuRIC that the earliest possible opportunity to do so is the meeting on 20th October which I intend to attend. Again I am afraid, the clock is ticking.

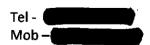
We are always here to assist in anyway please keep us updated.

Thank you and Kind Regards



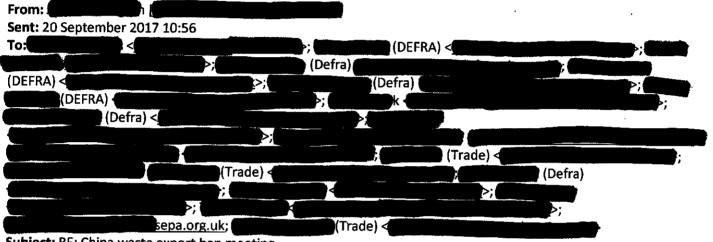
The Recycling Association/IWPP Ltd/UKSSA

Heritage House Vicar Lane Daventry **NN11 4GD**





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Subject: RE: China waste export ban meeting

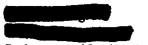
Hi

Thank you for organising the meeting last week. I've included a few comments in tracked changes, I thought that would be easier. Even if the comments are not included in the final document it would be good if they are reflected in Defra's and the EA's thinking. In addition to these, I seem to remember there was an action for Defra to discuss the issue with other stakeholders, in particular the local authority organisations such as the LGA and LARAC. I have attended a few local authority events in the last week and there is very little understanding of the Chinese restrictions.

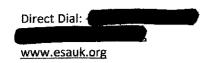
I also have a question, how much of the exported plastics is commercial and industrial? This will still have an impact on the PRNs/PERNs but less on local authorities and therefore relevant when discussing the implications for them. Hearing that 50% of capacity is lost could impact on their future waste strategies, some of which are considered at the moment.

Lastly, I want to stress the urgency in looking at the storage issue and whether a temporary regulatory position can be provided in the short term.

Many thanks,



Environmental Services Association





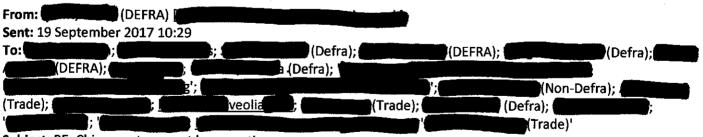
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Sorry, one other point is that the status of washed plastic flake is unclear. I'm hearing of it being stopped for import but I'm not clear whether this relates to restrictions on 2017 import licences or is due to it being banned going forward. It would be very useful to have clarification on this.

Best regards



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Subject: RE: China waste export ban meeting

Hi ,

Thanks for raising this point and clarifying the discrepancy. I will update the text to the following:

 The UK ships around 3.7m tonnes of waste paper per annum to China of which 1.1m tonnes is mixed paper



Companies and Co	and detailment on contract processes and an extension of the contract processes of the contract of the contrac	Comment of the Commen	C. L. Ph. Control of the Assessment Control of the		
From:					TO COME COMES CONTROL OF COMMENTS OF CONTROL
Sent: 19 Septe	ember 2017 10:25				
To:	D	EFRA);	(Defra);	(DEFRA); V	t
(Defra);	(DEFRA);		(Defra);		
	<i>j</i>				-
(Trade);	; (200	veolia.	(Trade); /	(Defra);	
(;			@sepa.org.uk; '	(Trade)	
Subject: RE: C	china waste export bar	n meeting		,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	

. Hi

According to CPI and HMRC data, in 2016 UK shipped a total of 3.689 mio tonnes of Paper for Recycling to China.

Of this, 1.076 mio tonnes was mixed papers. The majority of the remainder (2.437 mio tonnes) was OCC (Cardboard). The balance was made up from other grades (Woodfree = 26.6 mio tonnes, News & Pams = 149.7 mio tonnes).

I hope this helps

Kind regards

Simon

Simon Weston

Director of Raw Materials

Mobile: Email:

Web: www.paper.org.uk



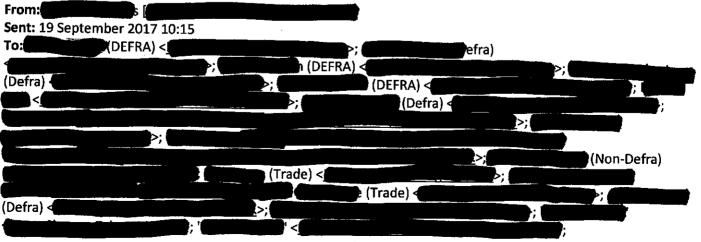


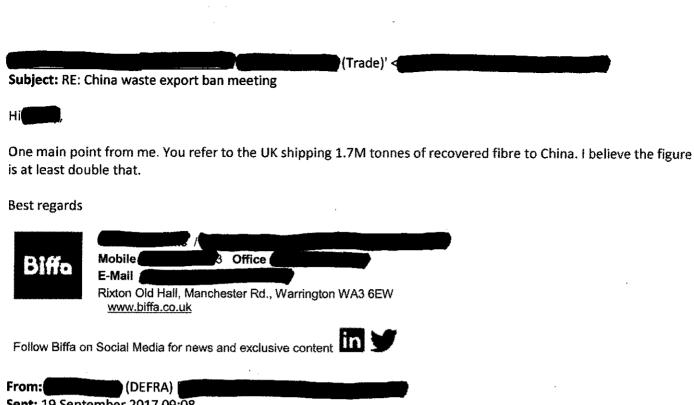
Paper - the sustainable, renewable choice

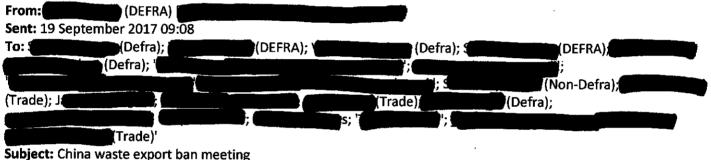
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Dear all,

Please see the attached meeting note of last week's meeting. Please let me know if you have any comments.

Best,

Policy Adviser | EU and International Waste | Environmental Quality | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Direct Line: Email: Email: Email: Address: 3rd Floor, Mallard House, Kings Pool, 3

Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX

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From:

Sent:

19 September 2017 11:27

To:

(DEFRA)

Subject:

RE: China waste export ban meeting

Sorry, I know it's a bit picky, but I think it would be useful for people to know who was there and who was on the end of a phone?





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(DEFRA)

Sent: 19 September 2017 11:22

To:

Subject: RE: China waste export ban meeting



You have a keen eye! Thanks for that - I will update both.

Best.



From:

Sent: 19 September 2017 11:19

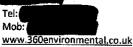
(DEFRA)

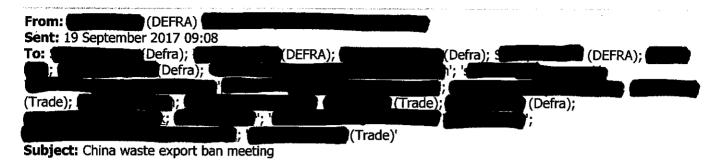
Subject: RE: China waste export ban meeting

Thanks Spelling of Veolia needs correcting (next to make in Attendees). And could you put me down as ACP, not 360 Environmental.

Cheers







Dear all,

Please see the attached meeting note of last week's meeting. Please let me know if you have any comments.

Best,

Policy Adviser	EU and International Waste En	vironmental Quality Department for Environment,
Food and Rural Affairs		•
Direct Line:	Email:	Address: 3 rd Floor, Mallard House, Kings Pool, 3
Peasholme Green, York, YO1	7PX	
Website Twitter Facebook	<u>LinkedIn</u> <u>Instagram</u>	

Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra)

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From:

Simon Weston 4

Sent:

19 September 2017 10:32

To:

(DEFRA)

Subject:

RE: China waste export ban meeting



I think the significance is that the additional restrictions placed on contamination could affect the remainder of exported material and not just mixed papers.

Interesting times!

Regards

Simon

Simon Weston

Director of Raw Materials

Mobile:

Email:

Web: www.paper.org.uk







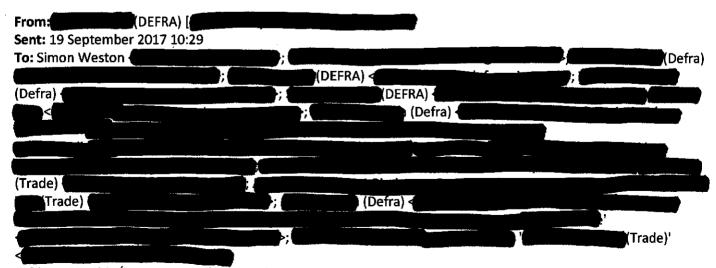


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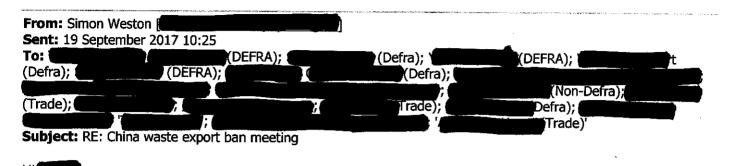
Subject: RE: Chiná waste export ban meeting

Hi Simon,

Thanks for raising this point and clarifying the discrepancy. I will update the text to the following:

 The UK ships around 3.7m tonnes of waste paper per annum to China of which 1.1m tonnes is mixed paper

Best.



According to CPI and HMRC data, in 2016 UK shipped a total of 3.689 mio tonnes of Paper for Recycling to China.

Of this, 1.076 mio tonnes was mixed papers. The majority of the remainder (2.437 mio tonnes) was OCC (Cardboard). The balance was made up from other grades (Woodfree = 26.6 mio tonnes, News & Pams = 149.7 mio tonnes).

I hope this helps

Kind regards

Simon

Simon Weston

Director of Raw Materials
Mobile:
Email
Web: www.paper.org.uk



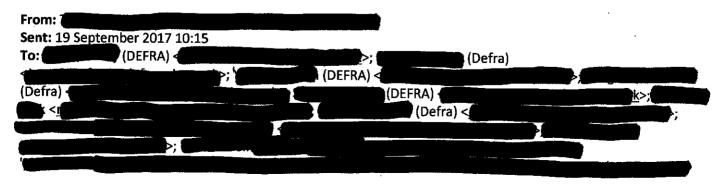


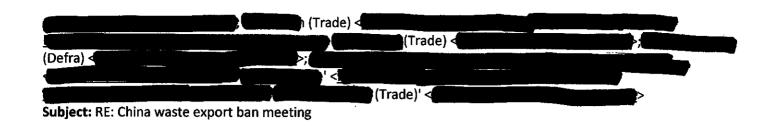
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One main point from me. You refer to the UK shipping 1.7M tonnes of recovered fibre to China. I believe the figure is at least double that.



Please see the attached meeting note of last week's meeting. Please let me know if you have any comments.

Best,

Policy Adviser | EU and International Waste | Environmental Quality | Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs

Direct Line: | Email: | Email: | Address: 3rd Floor, Mallard House, Kings Pool, 3

Peasholme Green, York, YO1 7PX

Website Twitter Facebook LinkedIn Instagram

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