## Finance & Customer Services Directorate

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Date:

15 June 2018

Dear Sirs

Re: 'Watson's Tip' - Droppingwell Road, Rotherham **Unauthorised Works on Council Land** 

We write further to our recent correspondence, regarding the above matter.

As you are aware, the Council has been investigating the works currently being undertaken on the above site by you and your sub-contractors, including trees being felled and a fence being erected.

An examination of the eastern boundary to the site has taken place by our surveyor. It has not yet been possible to conduct an examination of the northern, southern or western boundary of the site due to the works that have already been carried out.

The results of the examination are disappointing to the Council and show as follows:

- There has been vegetation removal and the felling of trees within the yellow cross hatched area shown on the enclosed plan. This land is owned by the Council and you have therefore carried out unauthorised works on council land.
- There has been approximately 20 metres of timber posts erected on the eastern boundary, which are between 200mm and 400mm away from the existing concrete posts. As shown on the enclosed plan, these posts have been erected on council land and works have therefore been carried out without any authorisation.
- There has been waste deposited on council land, which is clearly a product of the works being undertaken.

In order for you to carry out all of the unauthorised works, you have unjustifiably interfered with land that belongs to the Council. The works carried out amount to a trespass and you should therefore take the following steps immediately:

- Stop all works which continue to interfere with council land.
- Stop entering council land, except where agreed to carry out the following:
  - Rectify any damage caused by the unauthorised works on council land, including the felling of the trees.
  - o Remove the fence posts erected on council land.
  - o Remove all of the waste deposited on council land.

Should you intend to carry out any future works at the site, the Council requests that this is only carried out on your own land, unless you have the express permission of the Council to carry out any works on council owned land.

The Council is currently considering the legal remedies available as a result of the above, including bringing a claim for trespass, particularly as a result of the damage caused.

Should you fail to cease the unauthorised works, the Council will have no choice but to consider applying to court for an injunction. You will need to liaise directly with the Council in relation to any permission that you may require going forward.

If you require any further information in relation to the above, please do not hesitate to make contact.

Yours faithfully

For Dermot Pearson Assistant Director of Legal Services