

Management & “preferred operator”

The old HRC was free-to-use, council-owned, and professionally-run by an established and well-regarded contractor, FCC. The facility was closed for strategic reasons in April, 2019, following a broad and expensive consultation. The council was responsible for the safe operation of the site. Now it is proposed that all users will be charged to use the new operation. The “preferred operator” is not an established waste management company and has no experience of running a waste site. It is a new company set up by a person with a history of property development and involvement in numerous failed businesses. Despite this, the Council is willing to put the operation of this waste site, in a sensitive location in the AONB in their hands. Why is this?

The CIC has declined to provide any detail as to its relationship with the ‘Preferred Operator’, still less to confirm the name of the Company or to indicate why this particular Company is considered to be suitable.

For more information about this contact us and to object please go to “How to object” on the menu.

Wigans Lane household recycling centre Ltd, (WLHRC) appears to be the “preferred operator” chosen by the CIC. (No.11688809, co. incorporated 21/11/18, Companies House data) .

The two directors Mr Finnerty and Mr Hookins **of the “preferred operator”WLHRC Ltd were involved in a company**, (Charterhouse Energy Ltd, No.05592926) that was **dissolved** with liquidators appointed to investigate.

The liquidators reported that:

- the RSA insurance company alleged that it may have been subjected to a **fraud** involving the payment of invoices to Charterhouse when no services were rendered.
- a £400k payment to its shareholders ... was **unlawful** and directors and shareholders were pursued to recover funds for **creditors**
- the company’s books and records suggest that the Company invested sums in excess of £1million in SEL, incorporated in Nigeria on 9 May 2008.”
- The unsecured creditors claims were estimated at **£3.5m**

link to Companies House data: <https://www.gov.uk/get-information-about-a-company>.