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Date as postmark

In September I wrote to you explaining why we were being held up with the purchase of Hartley Wood. Shortly after sending out my letter we reached an impasse in negotiations with Southwark, with their solicitors still refusing to put a clause into the lease indemnifying us against any future claims arising as a result of the adjacent tip.

We could not let things drop there so we are looking into the possibility of buying all the wood minus the strip adjacent to the tip, where there is some evidence of contamination. This is not quite as simple as it seems because our solicitors and insurers will only accept our purchase of the wood if we can prove that the area we buy is free of contamination.

To that end we have employed a firm to provide us with a written report detailing the state of play with contamination. If all goes to plan we can use this report to push through this compromise.

If you would like to speak to anyone at the Trust about this situation, then please ring Suzanne McEwen on 0115 9436084, as I will be leaving the Trust this month. Once again, my apologies for the delay. We are doing our best!

Yours sincerely