

**Cabinet Meeting: Monday, 04 August 2025**

**Question from: Clive Wilkinson**

**Question to: Councillor Durrans, Cabinet Member with responsibility for Public Services and Communities**

### **QUESTION**

As you will know from the petition with over 2400 signatures presented to the last full council, the people of Sowerby Bridge do not want a waste incinerator to operate in their town.

Given the council's refusal, thus far, to rescind the environmental permit (despite huge amounts of evidence from the public), it is now imperative that if this folly is allowed to proceed, the council do everything in its power to ensure that the planning conditions stipulated by HM Government's planning inspector Mr Jenkins are implemented.

One of these is about the export of electricity to the Grid.

Jenkins said:

“Before the first operation of the SWIP, a scheme for its connection to the National Grid for the export of electricity shall be submitted to and approved in writing by the Local Planning Authority. The connection shall be completed in accordance with the approved details before the first operation of the SWIP and shall be maintained as installed. The SWIP shall not be operated in the event that the connection to the National Grid for the export of electricity is not available for use.”

How will the council ensure that this planning condition is enforced?

### **Response**

Where there is evidence of a breach of a planning condition, or any other breach of planning control, the Council has the power to serve a Planning Contravention Notice (PCN) to seek further information. The recipient of a PCN is obliged to answer the questions set out therein, typically within 21 days. Failure to respond within the required timeframe, or providing false or misleading information, is an offence. Where a breach of Planning control is not rectified voluntarily, there are various formal notices that the Council could serve to secure compliance. These include Enforcement and Breach of Condition Notices.