

66 Brynhyfryd,
Glynneath,
Neath Port Talbot,
SA11 5BA

31/10/2021

Our Reference: 20211031A-LE-EGRA-GTCO-morgan-complaint

Subject: Complaint against Councillor Haulwen Morgan.

Dear Glynneath Town Council,

I refer to the enclosed 2 documents.

Document 1 - An 8 page document titled "Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, 'PSP' Cluster, Brynhyfryd, Glynneath" prepared by David Richards of 66 Brynhyfryd compiled after consultation with experts on PSP and other academics, to include Professor Lawrence I Golbe, MD, a US physician widely regarded as the world's leading expert specialist in this neurodegenerative disorder. The conclusion of the document is that:

"Residents of Brynhyfryd are dying from the rare neurological disorder Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. These deaths are almost certainly due to specified and other probable unspecified contamination tipped at the Heol y Glyn landfill site. Public officers who have covered up this contamination are potentially responsible for the unlawful killing of these residents."

Document 2 - A Freedom of Information request that identifies that Councillor Morgan purposefully disposed of the above report (Document 1) between its hand delivery to her home in Brynhyfryd on 3 May 2021 and the full Glynneath Town Council meeting on 8 June 2021 during which the council only discussed the letter to Councillor Morgan accompanying the report.

The report included the following information in relation to our intended outcome for it:

"This is for the relevant authorities to investigate and to take any appropriate action on the conclusion of their investigation." We would suggest that the Glynneath Town Council should have forwarded the report to Public Health Wales with a request to undertake an investigation into PSP and other rare neurodegenerative disorder deaths in Brynhyfryd.

However, Councillor Morgan failed to provide the report to the clerk at Glynneath Town Council for inclusion in the town council meeting. Further to this she took part in a discussion about the covering letter only and even though the covering letter mentioned the report, the report itself was not mentioned during the meeting or included on the meeting agenda. If the report had been mislaid then Councillor Morgan had an opportunity to identify this and question its location. Councillor Morgan did nothing to suggest that anything was untoward during the discussion. She was complicit in allowing the letter to be forwarded to the NPT Council planning department and not Public Health Wales, the appropriate government body. In effect she misled her fellow councillors as to the nature of the communication they were discussing. (The recorded discussion is available for scrutiny should it be required)

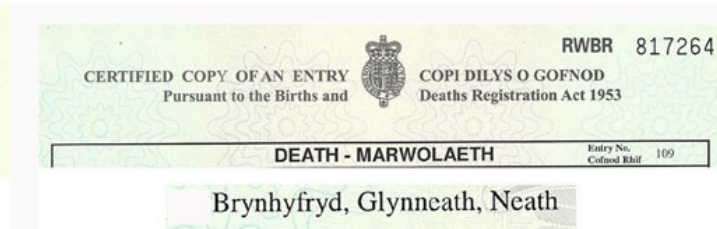
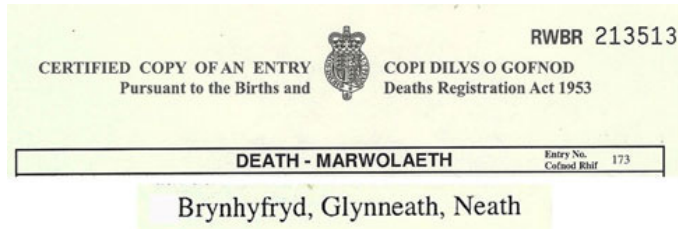
Our residents group suggest that this is the purposeful destruction of public information that may have serious consequences to the health of the Glynneath residents whom she is elected to represent. Residents in our street are dying of rare neurodegenerative disorders that are almost certainly linked to toxic waste at the Heol y Glyn landfill site which borders our street. The site was tested for chemical contamination in October 2020 and 6 out of 7 trial pits tested proved to contain at least 1 contaminant above the safety guidelines. The destruction of this information must be considered to be contradictory to the purpose of the Glynneath Town Council which is to support the people of Glynneath. The information has been wilfully destroyed by Councillor Morgan with malicious intent to

support the Corporate Manslaughter and Homicide of the residents of Glynneath by unscrupulous developers, planning related businesses and public officials at Neath-Port Talbot Council.

Yours faithfully

David Richards, Director (Rugby Relics Ltd)

on behalf of East Glynneath Residents Against Contamination Group.



PROGRESSIVE SUPRANUCLEAR PALSY

‘PSP’ CLUSTER, BRYNHYFRYD, GLYNNEATH

This draft report is submitted to the relevant authorities for consideration in order that they can provide contrary evidence to the information contained within, or to take the appropriate actions to prevent further deaths of East Glynneath residents from Progressive Supranuclear Palsy and other illnesses related to the contamination at the Heol y Glyn landfill site in Glynneath.

In the last 5 years, 20% of properties in Brynhyfryd with long term occupancy bordering the Heol y Glyn landfill site have recorded deaths from **rare** neurological disorders. This report concludes that:

“Residents of Brynhyfryd are dying from the rare neurological disorder Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. These deaths are almost

certainly due to specified and other probable unspecified contamination tipped at the Heol y Glyn landfill site. Public officers who have covered up this contamination are potentially responsible for the unlawful killing of these residents.”

This report has been commissioned by members of the East Glynneath – Residents Against Contamination group.

The content was prepared by David Richards of

Rugby Relics Ltd, 66 Brynhyfryd, Glynneath, Neath, SA11 5BA

www.rugbyrelics.com

for the

**EAST GLYNNEATH RESIDENTS AGAINST CONTAMINATION
GROUP**

“Fighting for the right to stay alive”

BACKGROUND

Our street 'Brynhyfryd' borders the Heol y Glyn landfill site that has planning permission for a housing development. Brynhyfryd is a street of 62 houses, 17 of which border the development directly. 15 of the houses bordering the site I believe have long term (10 years +) occupancy. I have not undertaken extensive research into the illnesses and disorders of the complete street or even of all 15 houses but already have identified within those 15 residencies, 2 deaths from Progressive Supranuclear Palsy, instances of cancer, sudden heart attacks, a birth mutation and another extremely rare neurological disorder, Superficial Siderosis. This report only deals with the instances of PSP in Brynhyfryd.

AUTHOR NOTE: My role is to support the residents in our group and have not yet extended my research beyond those that have contacted me and volunteered information. It is not known if other residents in the area have been affected and if the PSP cluster is extended beyond Brynhyfryd to other parts of Glynneath and the surrounding area. This is for the relevant authorities to investigate and to take any appropriate action on the conclusion of their investigation. If the relevant authorities fail to observe the purpose of their existence in supporting the members of the East Glynneath Residents Against Contamination group then I will make this information available to the wider public and highlight their accountability for the negative outcomes of this failure to act upon information provided to them that is pertinent to their existence.

PROGRESSIVE SUPRANUCLEAR PALSY

I was made aware of Progressive Supranuclear Palsy in March 2021 by the daughter of a deceased parent of one of the East Glynneath Residents Against Contamination group. She indicated that a near neighbour, also part of the group had also died of the same neurological disorder, Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. I undertook initial research on

the subject and found that it was a rare disorder and that a potential cluster had occurred in our street.

In early April 2021 I confirmed the cause of death of the two PSP residents by collecting resident testimonies on video and death certificate information. Both residents featured in the death certificate illustration that follows died of pneumonia, a complication which is caused by the neurological disorder Progressive Supranuclear Palsy (source NHS website).

The image shows two death certificates from Wales, both issued by the Registrar General for Wales (RWBR). Both certificates are for a resident of Brynhyfryd, Glynneath, Neath.

Left Certificate (RWBR 213513):
- Title: CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY Pursuant to the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953
- Date and place of death: Sixth November 2018, Morryston Hospital, Morryston, Swansea
- Cause of death (9. Achos marwolaeth):
 I (a) Pneumonia
 (b) Progressive Supranuclear Palsy

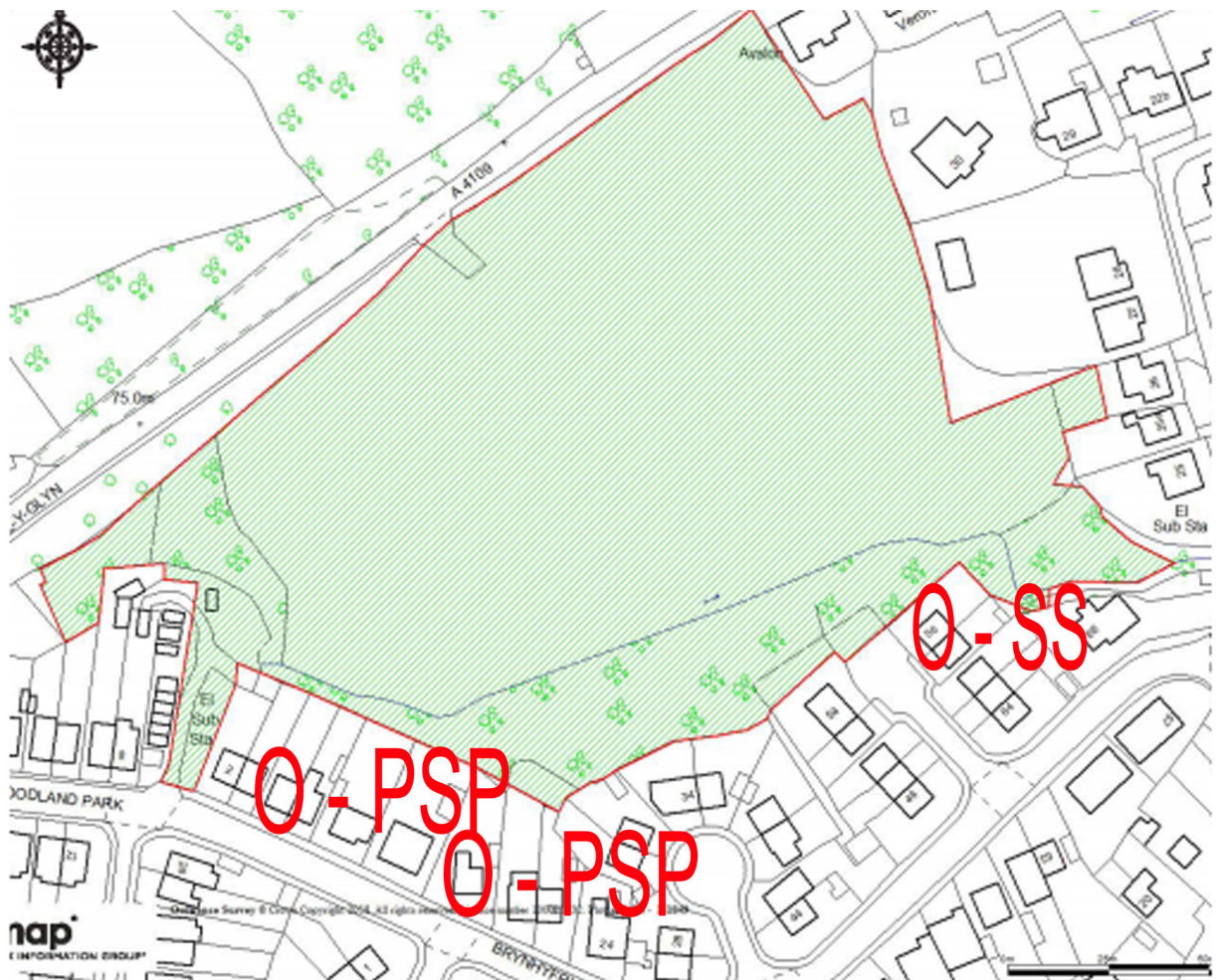
Right Certificate (RWBR 817264):
- Title: CERTIFIED COPY OF AN ENTRY Pursuant to the Births and Deaths Registration Act 1953
- Date and place of death: Thirtieth December 2020, Singleton Hospital, Sketty, Swansea
- Cause of death (9. Achos marwolaeth):
 I (a) Aspiration Pneumonia
 (b) Supranuclear (Progressive) Palsy
 II Hypertension

relevant information on two Brynhyfryd residents' death certificates

The incidences or national average of Progressive Supranuclear Palsy cases occurring in the UK are 1 in 100,000 people per year. Glynneath is a town of just under 5,000 people. This being the case, the expected incident rate of PSP occurring in Glynneath is approximately 1 case in every 20 years or 2 cases in 40. That 2 cases have occurred in a group of 5 houses and that both cases were diagnosed within a period of 2 years of each other is a serious cause for concern and as such these incidences must be considered a 'cluster'.

We take the meaning of a cluster here to be:

"A cluster is the occurrence of a greater than expected number of cases of a particular disease within a group of people, a geographic area, or a period of time."



Locations of rare neurological disorder deaths in Brynhyfryd houses bordering the Heol y Glyn landfill site.

Research into Progressive Supranuclear Palsy clusters by relevant health professionals with an interest in the disorder show that the only

previously recorded cluster of PSP is in the French town of Wattrelos, a scientific paper published in relation to the cluster concluded that:

"We have identified a cluster of Progressive Supranuclear Palsy in a geographical area with severe environmental contamination by industrial metals."

I have taken the following quotes from the same published scientific peer reviewed paper which are relevant to the Glynneath cluster:

"Wattrelos is a town in northern France where textile dyeing plants and tanneries operated for most of the 20th century, using arsenic and chromate from the nearby chemical plants. Arsenic and hexavalent chromium contamination have been documented in the soils of the sites of former plants in Wattrelos and Leers, where the cluster of PSP cases described in this report live."

"Arsenic, a potential neurotoxin, has been found in the soil at the sites of the former chemical plants in Wattrelos and is present in the phosphate ore formerly processed there, as described also in [Arsenic pollution in Multan] Pakistan. Contamination with chromium is common in Wattrelos, but we consider it to be a less likely candidate as a neurotoxin although a synergistic toxicity with arsenic is possible."

Both chromium and arsenic have been found in chemical testing at the Heol y Glyn landfill site along with other contaminants. Cuddy Group Ltd, the demolition company that previously owned the site had demolition contracts within the steel industry and chemical industry during the period in which they tipped at the site (2003-2016). They were specialists in the removal of asbestos and there are resident's eyewitness reports of asbestos being tipped at the site and sealed barrels potentially containing toxic waste being buried deep at the site.

The Cuddy Group regularly excavated deep holes in which to tip waste suggesting that they didn't want the contents of a particular consignment of waste to be discovered or tested.

REPORTS OF CONTAMINATION & TESTING

The site was chemically tested in 2008 and found to be contaminated. This contamination should have been remediated as suggested by the geo-technical report in which it was contained. However, this information was withdrawn from the planning process, it then remained hidden in the council archives until I discovered it in 2020. There is no record of site remediation or conditions imposed in future planning permissions in relation to this identified contamination.

Subsequent research into the Neath Port Talbot Council Contaminated Land Strategy and Environment Agency documentation of the period shows that the council had a duty to investigate the identified contamination further. Failure to do so breached the 1990 Environmental Protection Act. Both the Glynneath Town Council and Neath Port Talbot Council were informed of this breach in April 2020 and we (East Glynneath Residents Against Contamination) submitted a draft report to the Neath Port Talbot Council Planning Committee for consideration prior to a meeting on 8 September 2020.

Additional to our draft report, during the planning committee meeting of 8 September 2020, the current Neath Port Talbot Contaminated Land Officer confirmed the breach of the 1990 Environmental Protection Act by indicating that the testing of the land in 2008 was very limited, the sampling shallow and his opinion was that the testing was not sufficient enough considering the site as a whole.

This confirmed the findings of the EGRAC draft report submitted to the Planning Committee for that meeting that because the land was identified as a danger to human health in 2008 further chemical testing should have taken place as required by this UK Government law. The council's failure to do so is a clear breach of the 1990 Environmental Protection Act and of the purpose for its existence which is "to *serve and represent the interests of its citizens and communities*"



legislation.gov.uk

Environmental Protection Act 1990

UK Public General Acts ▶ 1990 c. 43 ▶ Part IIA

F1078B Identification of contaminated land.

- (1) Every local authority shall cause its area to be inspected from time to time for the purpose—
- (a) of identifying contaminated land; and ✓
 - (b) of enabling the authority to decide whether any such land is land which is required to be designated as a special site. ✗

Neath Port Talbot Council have failed to respond to the submitted report and have also refused to provide evidence of due diligence taken in relation to the findings of the report. They have refused to provide any further relevant information even when Freedom of Information requests have been made.

The Heol y Glyn landfill site has been misrepresented on the Local Development Plan to show it as a suitable location for a housing development. It is a former 'council' ash tip and so historically the land has been used as both a domestic and industrial landfill site for the majority of the last 80 years. There were several years of unregulated tipping at the site by the former owners, the Cuddy Group. The Cuddy group was a specialist industrial waste disposal company and at one

time was billed as the 12th largest demolition company in the world. The combination of the historic domestic tipping and the more recent unregulated industrial tipping, together with a failure to treat contamination when identified at the site in accordance with the land contamination protocol are evidence factors that suggest the contamination is the probable cause for the deaths of the two residents with the Progressive Supranuclear Palsy disorder.

RELEVANT AUTHORITIES:

The relevant authorities who exist to support the residents bordering the Heol y Glyn landfill site, namely Natural Resources Wales, Neath Port Talbot Council and Glynneath Town Council, have refused to investigate the concerns of the East Glynneath Residents Against Contamination group or undertake due diligence on their behalf in accordance with their purpose. Their actions in relation to our concerns can be shown to be actively covering up the site's historic use as a domestic landfill site and any illegal tipping that may have occurred at the site by the former owner, the Cuddy Group. It can be seen in supporting information to this document available on-line that these organisations are also covering up their own malpractice and/or negligence following the identification of hidden contamination by this resident's group. This is contrary to UK, Welsh and local government guidelines on the duties of public office holders.

ACCOUNTABILITY

The Glynneath Town and Neath Port Talbot Councillor, Del Morgan and the Neath Port Talbot planning department were made aware in January 2017 of the suspicious tipping activities of the Cuddy Group. It is clear from the subsequent events that NPT Council have failed to follow up on these reports to investigate the land and protect the health of neighbouring residents. This failure to address illegal tipping and

historical contamination relating to domestic tipping implicates the Neath Port Talbot and Glynneath Town Council's in the past and future deaths of any residents resulting from the contamination at the site.

SUMMARY:

Progressive Supranuclear Palsy is an extremely rare neurological disorder. The national average occurrences and subsequent deaths for the whole of Glynneath for PSP should number 2 in 40 years. That two deaths from PSP have occurred in a group of 5 houses in Brynhyfryd in a space of two years indicate that these deaths are unnatural. The only scientific study of this disorder of a previously known cluster concluded that the cause was most likely due to industrial contamination. The houses border a historic domestic and industrial landfill site that was tested as contaminated in 2008 but not remediated in accordance with the United Kingdom law the 1990 Environmental Protection Act.

The cause of these deaths from Progressive Supranuclear Palsy is almost certainly due to previously identified and other potential illegally tipped unidentified contaminants at the site. The deaths could have been prevented if council land contamination protocol had been followed, but subsequent council malpractice and the continued active cover up operation has allowed the recorded contamination to remain on site and additional tipping to occur. Neath Port Talbot Council staff and councillors, together with Glynneath Town councillors have been identified as actively covering up and perpetuating the existence of contamination at the Heol y Glyn landfill site. The recorded PSP deaths of Brynhyfryd residents and any future deaths from PSP or other related contamination illnesses such as cancer must be considered as unlawful killing and those public officers covering up the contamination must be held responsible for the deaths.

CONCLUSION:

“Residents of Brynhyfryd are dying from the rare neurological disorder Progressive Supranuclear Palsy. These deaths are almost certainly due to specified and other probable unspecified contamination tipped at the Heol y Glyn landfill site. Public officers who have covered up this contamination are potentially responsible for the unlawful killing of these residents.”

ENDS



Glynneath Town Council - Cyngor Tref Glynnedd

Bethania Community Centre
High Street, Glynneath, SA11 5DA
Tel: 01639 722961 / 07592 383523
E-mail: clerk@glynneathtowncouncil.gov.uk
Website: www.glynneathtowncouncil.gov.uk

8th October 2021

Mr D Richards
66 Brynhyfryd
Glynneath
SA11 5BA

SENT VIA E-MAIL: dairichardswales@gmail.com

Dear Mr Richards,

RE: Freedom of Information Request

- (a) "Please identify the physical location of the "Progressive Supranuclear Palsy 'PSP' Cluster, Brynhyfryd, Glynneath" report delivered to Councillor Haulwen Morgan on 3 May 2021"
- (b) "Please identify the physical location of the "Progressive Supranuclear Palsy 'PSP' Cluster, Brynhyfryd, Glynneath" report delivered to Councillor Gerry Reynolds on 3 May 2021"
- (c) "Did you, (the Glynneath Town Council Clerk, Joanna van Tonder) receive either hard copy of the report titled "Progressive Supranuclear Palsy 'PSP' Cluster, Brynhyfryd, Glynneath" that was delivered to the Glynneath Town Councillors, Haulwen Morgan or Gerry Reynolds on 3 May 2021?"

I refer to the above request which was received on 17th September 2021.

I can confirm that it has been dealt with under the Freedom of Information Act 2005. The FOI gives the public the right of access to information held by public authorities.

When a public authority receives a request made under the FOI Act then it must either:

- provide the information to the requester
- write back to the requester to inform them that the information is not held
- refuse to confirm or deny whether information is held;
- confirm that information is held but refuse to provide it.

A public authority may only refuse a request if the information is subject to an exemption in Part II of the Act, would exceed the appropriate cost limits under section 12 or is vexatious or repeated under section 14.

In relation to your Freedom of Information request, I can provide the following information:

- a) The current physical location of the report to which you refer is unknown as Councillor

Haulwen Morgan disposed of it some time ago.

- b) The current physical location of the report to which you refer is unknown as Councillor Gerry Reynolds disposed of it some time ago.
- c) I, Joanna van Tonder, Current Clerk to Glynneath Town Council, did not receive either hardcopy of the report.

Should you wish to complain about the handling of this Freedom of Information Request, you are asked to put your complaint in writing. It will be dealt with at the next available Full Council meeting.

You also have the right to complain directly to the Information Commissioner's Office in relation to this item.

Information Commissioner's Office – Wales
2nd Floor, Churchill House
Churchill Way
Cardiff
CF10 2HH

Please phone 0330 414 6421 to talk to the team.

e-mail: wales@ico.org.uk

Yours Sincerely,

Joanna van Tonder

Joanna van Tonder
Town Clerk, Glynneath Town Council