

Lions Clubs International British Isles
257 Alcester Road South
Kings Heath
Birmingham
B14 6DT

Our ref: Bonfire advice letter

Date: 17 October 2017

By email only: enquiries@lionsclubs.co

Dear Sir or Madam,

Bonfire advice letter - Environmental Permitting Regulations 2016

I understand that your members/clubs are organising large scale cultural events in recognition of Guy Fawkes in November across the country. We are asking people who are planning these events to check that what they are proposing to burn is suitable in order to minimise any pollution that may occur, and reduce the risk of waste being disposed of inappropriately.

It is illegal to burn many types of wastes and setting fire to treated wood, plastics, tyres, rubber and oil can both pollute the environment and harm human health.

We would like to take this opportunity to ask organisers to be vigilant with regard to the materials deposited on their bonfire and to prevent others from adding unsuitable waste materials on it by keeping the location secure. We are concerned that bonfire night can be used as an excuse to dispose of old furniture, mattresses or even household rubbish, which shouldn't be burnt at these events.

We also wanted to remind event organisers that they can only burn clean and untreated wood waste, so if you're organising a bonfire make sure you know where the material has come from and that it is in line with the [guidance available](#). We advise that you view the material at the place of origin before it is imported to your fire site to reduce the risk of any issues arising.

If we suspect inappropriate or unsuitable wastes are to be burnt at an event, or there is a potential for significant harm to the environment, we can issue a STOP notice which can require adjustments to be made or prevent an event from taking place.

We hope that this advice is helpful and that the events are a success.

If you would like to discuss any aspect of this further, please contact me on the details below.

Many thanks

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Kay Champion', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Kay Champion
Environment Manager - West Midlands

Telephone: 0208 474 7856

Email: Enquiries_WestMids@environment-agency.gov.uk

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