

THE DAILY MAIL

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25 April 2013

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Press Complaints Commission
Halton House
20/23 Holborn
London EC1N 2JD

Your ref 131881

Dear 

Thank you for passing on the complaint from Mr Jones about our article on recycling waste.

It appears the nub of his long complaint is that our statement that 12 million tonnes of supposedly recycled waste is sent abroad each year is wrong.

This story was soundly based on material provided by the Environment Agency, details of which follow.

Further we note that no complaint or call for correction has been received either from the Environment Agency or the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs.

The point of the story was that nobody, least of all the regulators, knows how much of the material sent abroad for recycling is in fact landfilled. However, as we pointed out, major efforts are now under way to curb the illegal landfilling trade. It is therefore reasonable to suppose a large illegal trade is suspected.

Mr Jones complains that we are damaging the recycling industry and undermining the efforts of the Government to encourage recycling. If this is so, it is only because we were reporting what is really going on.

For the reasons set out above, I do not believe that the PCC code has been breached.

Nonetheless, please do not hesitate to contact me if you wish to discuss the matter further.

Yours sincerely


Group Managing Editor