



Memo to: Councillor Lea

Copy to: Mayor Watton, all Councillors, General Manager, Directors, Senior Leadership Group and Communications & Engagement Team

From: Sue Page, Acting Director Planning and Environment

Subject: Hebburn Dam – Dumping of barrels

Date: 4 February 2026

Reference: CRM 2551/2026 – DOC2026/021617

Dear Councillor Lea

I refer to your enquiry on regarding the dumping of oil in Hebburn Dam, Pelaw Main.

“I have recently had reports of dumping in the dam including what appears to be barrels of oil or oil by products. What is the process for the clean-up of this area?”

Council officers have investigated the subject matter and advise as follows:

- Hebburn Dam, is located on private property within the Hunter Economic Zone. The incident is being investigated by Council’s Environmental Compliance Team. Appropriate action will be taken in accordance with the provisions of the *Protection Of the Environment Operations Act* and Cessnock Council’s Compliance Enforcement Policy.

Please note a copy of this memo will be uploaded to the Council website.