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To: Councillor Jean Morrison MBE, Convener; and Councillors Cooney, Corall, Jackie Dunbar, Delaney, Donnelly and Finlayson.

Town House,
ABERDEEN 4 May 2016

ZERO WASTE MANAGEMENT SUB COMMITTEE

The Members of the **ZERO WASTE MANAGEMENT SUB COMMITTEE** are requested to meet in Committee Room 4 - Town House on **THURSDAY, 12 MAY 2016 at 2.00 pm.**

FRASER BELL
HEAD OF LEGAL AND DEMOCRATIC SERVICES

B U S I N E S S

- 1 Minute of Previous Meeting of 23 February 2016 - for approval (Pages 3 - 6)
- 2 Communal Mixed Recycling Project Update (Pages 7 - 14)
- 3 Communal Food Waste Project Update (Pages 15 - 22)
- 4 Zero Waste Project: Energy from Waste Update (Pages 23 - 38)
- 5 Zero Waste Project: Altens East Update (Pages 39 - 44)
- 6 Date of Next Meeting
30 June 2016 at 2.00pm.

Website Address: www.aberdeencity.gov.uk

Should you require any further information about this agenda, please contact Kate Lines, tel. 01224 522120 or email klines@aberdeencity.gov.uk

ZERO WASTE MANAGEMENT SUB COMMITTEE

ABERDEEN, 23 February 2016 - Minute of Meeting of the ZERO WASTE MANAGEMENT SUB COMMITTEE. Present:- Councillor Jean Morrison MBE, Convener; and Councillors Cooney, Copland (as substitute for Councillor Jackie Dunbar), Delaney, Donnelly, Finlayson and Nicoll (as substitute for Councillor Corall).

The agenda and reports associated with this minute can be located at the following link:

<http://committees.aberdeencity.gov.uk/ieListDocuments.aspx?CId=439&MIId=3808&Ver=4>

Please note that if any changes are made to this minute at the point of approval, these will be outlined in the subsequent minute and this document will not be retrospectively altered.

APOLOGIES

1. Apologies were received from Councillors Corall and Jackie Dunbar.

MINUTE OF PREVIOUS MEETING OF 1 DECEMBER 2015

2. The Sub Committee had before it the minute of the previous meeting of 1 December 2015.

The Sub Committee resolved:

to approve the minute as a correct record.

ZERO WASTE PROJECT UPDATE - ZWM/16/7637

3. The Sub Committee had before it a report by the Director of Communities, Housing and Infrastructure which provided an update on the progress of the Zero Waste Project.

The report recommended:

that the Sub Committee note the content of the report.

The Sub Committee heard from Pete Lawrence, Waste and Recycling Manager, who provided an update in regards to the Altens East Recycling facility and also the Energy from Waste facility.

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Communal Mixed Recycling

Mr Lawrence advised that the relocation from Berryden to the Altens East site was on schedule for completion in the early part of 2017 and would then be subject to the commissioning phase for refuse sorting methods.

The change over to mixed kerbside recycling was also on schedule and the first stage would involve communal mixed recycling. Mr Lawrence outlined the proposed roll out and provided information on the replacement of bins with details of types, sizes and locations within communal residential areas. He confirmed that communication with residents was being undertaken to ensure a smooth changeover and that there was provision for additional bin capacity for households with particularly high waste levels. Food waste recycling was being rolled out further with communal developments being phased in with the cooperation of factors and developers.

In response to a question from Councillor Nicoll, Mr Lawrence advised that existing bins would be re-configured to create 'clusters' of 3 bins – a mixed recycling bin, non recyclable refuse bin and food waste bin to ensure residents weren't inconvenienced by having to walk further than usual. Mapping of demand would be used to adjust collection periods on an ongoing basis with the aim being to reduce 'side waste' due to overflowing bins. It was hoped that the sporadic paper recycling should improve and overall the reconfiguration of bin provision should lead to a significant improvement in uptake by residents and service provided.

Councillor Finlayson advised that it was positive to see the coast road expansion and asked whether the Nigg area could be added to the project delivery. Mr Lawrence explained that if there was any demand for communal recycling in Nigg then it would be included in the Cove phase of rollout.

Mr Lawrence advised that mixed recycling is currently transported to Northumberland or Birmingham to reduce landfill use and that once the mixed recycling separation plant was in full operation it would offer a significant cost saving.

Councillor Finlayson explained that schools had recently participated in the production of a video to encourage recycling and enquired whether this concept could be used again to emphasise the new change in recycling bins. Mr Lawrence advised that he would discuss this with his team.

Joint Working on Energy from Waste

Mr Lawrence advised that the Inter Authority Agreement between Aberdeen, Aberdeenshire and Moray Councils had now been signed and a governance structure had been established which would include 1 Director from each of the three local authorities on the Project Board and an elected member steering group had also been established.

ZERO WASTE MANAGEMENT SUB COMMITTEE
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The first stage of procurement was in progress with the planning application on schedule for submission to the Planning and Development Management Committee. Following the submission, public exhibitions would be held to allow residents to see the plans in more detail and raise any concerns they might have. A site visit to an energy from waste site near Lincoln had been arranged for stakeholders to see a plant that has been operating for a period of time to help put the project in context. Continuous communication with community councils was felt to be instrumental to gaining public support and Professor Jackson from Salford University had been involved in developing links with communities. Maureen Watt MSP was meeting with Mr Lawrence and Mark Reilly in March and it was felt that it might be beneficial for a member of the Zero Waste Management Sub Committee also attend. The Convener advised she would be happy to attend the meeting.

Members discussed road and infrastructure issues, as well as other transportation issues. Mr Lawrence advised extensive research had been undertaken with in regards to lorry sizes, routes and times of deliveries of waste being carefully considered to minimise the impact and the number of vehicles moving around the city would have little impact compared to current vehicle movement. In the long term, developing rail links.

Councillor Cooney raised concerns that the south of Aberdeen was the subject of significant development and that the infrastructure needed to keep pace with the development in the area. He suggested that local schools be visited to explain the advantages of the scheme as pupils would be likely to speak to their parents about the project.

In response to a query from Councillor Finlayson about air quality, Mark Reilly further advised that the introduction of co-mingled collections should minimise the number of vehicles and subsequently vehicle emissions produced and was in line with national targets and the types of vehicles and routes taken would also help minimise emissions from vehicles.

The Sub Committee resolved:

- (i) to request that updates on Communal Mixed Recycling and the Waste Collection Depot be the subject of one report;
- (ii) to request that updates on the Energy from Waste project be the subject of a separate report;
- (iii) to request that Pete Lawrence discuss the possibility of producing an educational video on communal recycling; and
- (iv) to otherwise note the information provided.

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ANY OTHER COMPETENT BUSINESS

4. The Waste and Recycling Manager advised that interviews for the appointment of a Project Director for the Energy from Waste project would be held on 22 March and the interview panel would consist of 1 Councillor from each Local Authority involved in the project.

The Sub Committee resolved:

to request that the Convener attend the interviews as Aberdeen City Council's representative.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING

5. The Sub Committee noted that the next meeting was scheduled for 2.00pm, 12 May 2016.

- **Councillor Jean Morrison, Convener**

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Zero Waste Management Sub Committee
DATE	12 May 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Communal Mixed Recycling Project Update
REPORT NUMBER	ZWM/16/7647
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the progress of the Communal Mixed Recycling Project.

2. RECOMMENDATION

1. The Zero Waste Management Sub-Committee notes the proposed report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No new financial implications arise from this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Legal. The Council has a legal duty to provide recycling collections for all households under the Waste Scotland Regulations 2012.

Personnel. 4 additional mixed recycling collection crews will be put in place for these new collections.

Sustainability and environmental. The implementation of communal mixed recycling collections will help increase the city's recycling rate and help the Council meet its obligation to ensure that all households are provided with a minimum recycling service.

5. BACKGROUND/ MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Communal Mixed Recycling Project roll out update

5.1.1 Throughout the course of 2016 the new communal mixed recycling service will be rolled out to a total of 47,000 flats, tenements and multi storey properties across Aberdeen City. The communal mixed recycling service will enable residents to recycle the following materials in **one** bin:

- Paper and cardboard
- Plastic bottles and containers
- Metal tins and cans, foil and trays
- Glass bottles and jars

Among other benefits, this new system will be easier and more convenient for residents to use.

5.1.2 A large amount of work has taken place in background to get us ready to implement this service. Surveys of the whole city have taken place to decide on the most appropriate location and container capacity for each area. The Roads department are carrying out a lot of roadworks to prepare for the new service including dropped kerbs, concrete plinths and stanchion fittings. The bin installation crews have also been temporarily augmented in order to keep up with the increased workload of installing the mixed recycling containers.

5.1.3 The service will be rolled out to residents in communal properties in 4 phases, with the first collections already taking place and the remaining planned for roll out during 2016 as follows:

Phase 1 starting in February 2016 will cover *Bridge of Don, Seaton, Hannover and Torry*.

Phase 2 starting April/May 2016 will cover *Cove, Kincorth, Garthdee, Braeside, Cults, Peterculter, Ferryhill, Westend, Hazlehead and Kingswells*

Phase 3 Summer 2016 will cover *Rosemount, Mastrick, Northfield Summerhill, Bucksburn and Dyce*

Phase 4 Autumn 2016 *Ashgrove, Froghall, George Street, Hilton, Old Aberdeen, Tillydrone, Woodside*

5.2 Tenement Infrastructure Fund (TIF) project update

- 5.2.1 The TIF project 2015/16 was part funded by Zero Waste Scotland, the Housing department and the Waste and Recycling Team and aimed to provide a better waste and recycling service to tenemental properties in Aberdeen City. Some communal areas across the city have an individual general waste wheeled bin service and no access to a recycling service. This TIF project prioritised 564 of these properties in Kincorth, Old Aberdeen, Torry and Mastrick and changed their waste service to a more appropriate communal waste collection service and provided a new mixed recycling service.

5.3 Recycling points

- 5.3.1 A review of the public recycling points will take place in 2016 as the new communal mixed recycling service is rolled out across the city. The recycling points have performed an important service in the areas across the city without access to a doorstep service. However as communal properties receive access to the new communal mixed recycling service in 2016 it is envisaged that the requirement and usage of the recycling points will be reduced. Appendix 1 shows the full list of public recycling points and the initial thoughts about which recycling points should be kept long term and which ones should be withdrawn once the new service is implemented.
- 5.3.2 No decision has been made on removal of these points, however, members views are sought on the future requirement for sites earmarked for possible removal.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –

A key customer benefit of the communal mixed recycling project is that all households will have access to mixed recycling collections close to their property either via their own individual kerbside collections or communal mixed recycling collections.

Improving Staff Experience –

Dedicated mixed recycling collection rounds have been created to collect the new communal mixed recycling and new vehicles have been purchased to service these rounds.

Improving our use of Resources –

Increasing the amount of mixed recycling collected allows us to make better use of our resources in general. It is also cheaper for the Council to send our waste for recycling than to send it to landfill.

Corporate -

This project is a key outcome from the Aberdeen City Waste Strategy. The project enables the Council to comply with its statutory obligations to provide all households with a recycling service.

Public –

An EHRIA was completed for the Communal Mixed Recycling project on 27/08/15. The mixed recycling service will ensure that all households across the city get equal access to recycling services addressing the current inequitable level of service delivery.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

No new risks have emerged in relation to this update report

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Ros Baxter
Waste Collections Services Manager
robaxter@aberdeencity.gov.uk
01224 489345

Recycling Points in Aberdeen City

Appendix One

Site	Public point
Aberdeen Exhibition and Conference Centre	Keep
Airyhall Library	Keep
Asda, Bridge of Don	Keep
Asda, Dyce	Keep
Asda, Garthdee	Keep
Cornhill Shopping Centre	Keep
Footdee	Keep
Hillhead Student Accommodation	Keep
Justice Street	Keep
Morrisons	Keep
Ruthrieston Community Centre	Keep
Sainsburys Berryden	Keep
Sainsburys Garthdee	Keep
Seaview Caravan park	Keep
Skene Street	Keep
Tesco Woodend	Keep
Tesco, Danestone	Keep
Tesco, Torry	Keep
The Green	Keep
Thistle Court	Keep
Crombie-Johnston Student Accommodation	Maybe
Gardner Drive shops	Maybe
Greenfern Road Toilets	Maybe
Hilton Community Centre	Maybe
Kingswells Park and Ride	Maybe
Loriston Close car park	Maybe
Milltimber Primary School	Maybe
Provost Watt shops	Maybe
School Road	Maybe
Seamount & Porthill Courts (Gallowgate)	maybe
SRUC (formerly SAC)	maybe
St Peters Terrace Car Park	Maybe
Station Road – shmu Radio	Maybe
Seaton Drive	Maybe
Balnagask Circle	Remove
Broadsword Bar	Remove
Byron Square shops	Remove
Clifton Court	Remove
Croft Tavern	Remove
Greig Hutcheon Courts	Remove
Marquis Car Park	Remove
North Balnagask Road	Remove
Park Road	Remove
Pittodrie CC	Remove
St Ninians Place	Remove

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7: Action Planning					
As a result of performing this assessment, what actions are proposed to remove or reduce any risks of adverse outcomes identified on employees, service users or other people who share characteristics protected by <i>The Equality Act 2010</i> ?					
Identified Risk and to whom:	Recommended Actions:	Responsible Lead:	Completion Date:	Review Date:	
More street furniture causing obstacles for people with disabilities and push chairs	Make sure there is enough space on pavements for wheelchairs and push chairs to pass through, ensure surveys take this into account	Ros Baxter	31/12/15		
Potential for people who do not speak English as their first language to not understand the communications materials	Translate materials into other languages as required	Pam Walker	30/04/16		

8: Sign off	
Completed by (Names and Services) :	Ros Baxter, Waste Collection Services Manager
Signed off by (Head of Service) :	
<p>Please send an electronic copy of your completed EHRIA - without signatures - together with the proposal document and/or committee report to:</p> <p> Equalities Team Customer Service and Performance Corporate Governance Aberdeen City Council Business Hub 13 Second Floor North Marischal College Broad Street Aberdeen AB10 1AB </p> <p>Telephone 01224 523039 Email sandrab@aberdeencity.gov.uk</p>	

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Zero Waste Management Sub Committee
DATE	12 May 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Communal Food Waste Project Update
REPORT NUMBER	ZWM/16/7648
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the progress of the Communal Food Waste Project.

2. RECOMMENDATION

1. The Zero Waste Management Sub-Committee notes the proposed report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No new financial implications arise from this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Legal. The Council has a legal duty to provide food waste collections for all households in Aberdeen under the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012.

Personnel. Additional food waste collection crews have been put in place for these new collections.

Sustainability and environmental. The implementation of communal food waste collections will help increase the city's recycling rate and help the Council meet its obligation to ensure that no bio-degradable waste is sent to landfill by 2021.

5. BACKGROUND/ MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Project roll out update

- 5.1.1 The total number of households in Aberdeen City is around 115,000. Around 70,000 of these households have access to the brown bin service for garden and food waste and these bins are collected fortnightly. The remaining households do not generally have gardens and are made up of tenements, flats and multi storey properties. The communal food waste service is therefore aimed at providing a food waste collection to these properties bringing the level of service to all properties in Aberdeen onto an equal footing.
- 5.1.2 The communal food waste service has now been rolled out to over almost all communal properties in Aberdeen city since the start of the implementation in 2013. The remaining properties will receive their new communal food waste collections at the same time as the communal mixed recycling service which is also being implemented during 2016. By the end of 2016 it is anticipated that all households will have access to a food waste collection service.

5.2 Communications and campaigns

5.2.1 Love your caddy campaign

The “Love Your Caddy” campaign ran from 1-20 February 2016. The aim of the campaign was to raise awareness of the food recycling service and to encourage residents to use their caddies. This was originally mainly aimed at students although did not exclude others and attracted participants of all ages. The campaign included a competition in which residents were asked to post “selfies” using their food recycling caddies onto the **Recycle For Aberdeen** Facebook page.

The campaign was a huge success, with participants using creative ideas that ranged from dressing their caddies up as leftover-munching monsters to incorporating the caddy into theatrical photos and the Facebook likes increased significantly making sharing service updates and information much easier.

To mark the end of the campaign, a screening of the film “Just Eat It - A Food Waste Story” was held at the Belmont Filmhouse with an attendance of around 200 people. Prize winners were presented with their prizes at the event.

5.2.2 Door knocking campaign

During February 2016 Nicki Souter Associates were contracted to carry out public engagement and survey work at those properties that are served by the latest phase of the communal food waste recycling service. The exercise included a number of privately-operated student accommodation buildings.

A total of 3,541 doors were knocked during this exercise, of these 1,001 were in and answered and this resulted in 606 surveys being completed.

Main points from the final report were:

- Overall, 69% of householders surveyed said they were using the food waste service
- 91% of food waste recyclers said they had no problems using the service
- Participation in the service has a direct correlation to length of time the occupier has lived there
- The main reasons given for not using the service were - lack of a caddy, lack of awareness of the service and not enough food waste (in that order)
- Half of all students surveyed said they were using the service
- 83% of those who did not use the service said they were willing to try or retry

As a result of this survey, consideration will be given to an action plan aimed at increasing participation and awareness of the service.

5.2.3 Radio Advertising

To supplement the above activity and further increase awareness, a series of food waste recycling radio advertisements were also run on Northsound radio concurrently with the Love Your Caddy campaign and the public engagement exercise.

5.3 Conclusion

- 5.3.1 The Council's approach to fulfilling its obligation to provide food waste collections has gone significantly beyond a 'tick box' exercise, doing the bare minimum to avoid enforcement action by the regulator. Aberdeen City Council has fully embraced its objective of providing equality of service to all householders by installing a high density network of communal food waste

containers based on the premise that householders should not need to walk past a general waste bin in order to recycle or dispose of their organic waste.

5.3.2 The purchase and secure installation of attractive and high quality housings for the communal food bins, supported with capital funding from Zero Waste Scotland has enabled the Council to demonstrate that we consider food waste to be a resource and something that can value can be gained from its proper management. This approach encourages householders to use the service and ensures that the impact on the streetscape and visual amenity from additional waste containers is minimised.

5.3.3 The outcome is what we consider to be the most intensive and high quality food waste collection service in any city in Scotland and, to our knowledge, the UK.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –

A key customer benefit of the food waste project is that all households will have access to food waste collections close to their property either via their own individual brown bin or communal food waste collections.

Improving Staff Experience –

Dedicated food waste collection rounds have been created to collect the new communal food waste and new vehicles have been purchased to service these rounds.

Improving our use of Resources –

Increasing the amount of food waste collections and recycling the food waste into compost allows us to make better use of our resources in general. It is also cheaper for the Council to send our food waste for compost recycling than to send it to landfill.

Corporate -

This project is a key outcome from the Aberdeen City Waste Strategy. The project enables the Council to comply with its statutory obligations to collect food waste from all households.

Public –

AN EHRIA has been completed during the formulation of the Aberdeen City Waste Strategy. The recycling service that will be enabled by the Altens East facility will ensure that all households across the city get equal access to recycling services including food waste, addressing the current inequitable level of service delivery.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

No new risks have emerged in relation to this update report

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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7- EHRIA Summary and Action Planning					
Report Title	Food waste project update report				
Assessment not required	Evidence EHRIA not required as it is an update report				
Assessment completed	As a result of completing this assessment, what actions are proposed to remove or reduce any risks of adverse outcomes which were identified.				
Identified Risk and to whom:	Recommended Actions:	Responsible Lead:	Completion Date:	Review Date:	

8: Sign off	
Completed by (Names and Services) :	Ros Baxter, Waste Collections Services Manager
Signed off by (Head of Service) :	
<p>Only sections 7 and 8 will be attached to the committee report</p> <p>The full EHRIA will be published on Aberdeen City Council's website under http://www.aberdeencity.gov.uk/xeq_EHRIA_Search.asp</p> <p>Please send an electronic format of the full EHRIA without signature to SHoward@aberdeencity.gov.uk</p>	

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Zero Waste Management Sub Committee
DATE	12 May 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Zero Waste Project: Energy from Waste Update
REPORT NUMBER	ZWM/16/7630
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the progress of the East Tullos Energy from Waste Project.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

The Zero Waste Management Sub-Committee:

1. Notes the report.
2. Invites the Project Director to attend the next Zero Waste Sub-committee meeting.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No new financial implications arise from this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Legal. Specialist legal support is being provided to ensure the development of the Inter-Authority Agreement is undertaken in accordance with best practice and minimizes risk to the Council.

Resource. The Council has allocated capital resource for the purchase of the site in East Tullos and to manage the procurement of an EfW contractor; Inter Authority Agreement 1 provides for the costs of applying for planning permission to be shared between Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and the Moray Councils.

Personnel. The Waste and Recycling Service are providing the technical lead to the project, the Finance team also provides the Finance lead. The Procurement and Commercial service are providing

project and legal support and the Asset management team are managing the purchase of the land.

Sustainability and environmental. The Zero Waste Project will deliver substantial advances in sustainability and environmental performance.

5. BACKGROUND/ MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Joint Working on Energy from Waste

5.1.1 Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and The Moray Councils continue to work on the development a joint Energy from Waste (EfW) solution for the management of non-recyclable waste.

5.1.2 On 16th December 2015, Aberdeen City Council agreed to enter into an Inter-Authority Agreement (IAA) with the other authorities that established a commitment of funds for the period to summer 2016 for the preparation of a more detailed, longer-term IAA to cover the procurement phase. In addition, advisors have been appointed for the next phase; PWC on financial matters and DWF for legal issues. Linda Ovens has been appointed as Project Director and is now developing a work programme to get the three authorities to the position of making decisions on whether to proceed with IAA2. Linda will be supported by Heather Martin from the Procurement and Commercial Service as interim Project Manager.

5.1.3 A Project Board has been established with one appointment from each Authority. Supporting the Board an interim project team has been established with Aberdeen City Council providing Technical and Financial leads whilst Aberdeenshire provides Legal support. It is anticipated that a Technical Advisor will have been appointed by the time committee considers this report. Officers across the three authorities are developing common positions in relation to contract structure and procurement strategy that will inform the development of a second stage IAA. This agreement will authorise commencement of the procurement process and put in place mechanisms for cost sharing.

5.1.3 A further element of the governance structure for the project is the establishment of an elected member steering group. This group recently met on 13 April 2016 in Inverurie. The group oversees the development of the project and provides feedback and advice to the Project Board and Team. The meeting received two project updates outlining the progress made to date and the main issues facing the project in the coming months.

- 5.1.4 The key workstream facing the team is determination of the form of procurement and consequent operation of the facility. There are two main routes being considered, firstly a 'standard' design, build and long term operation contract and a second option of a design and build contract leading to operation of the facilities by the Councils themselves. Each option has costs, benefits and risks and work over the summer will focus on balancing these issues for the best interests of the three authorities.

5.2 East Tullis Energy from Waste Planning Application

- 5.2.1 A planning application was submitted by Aberdeen City Council in early March to develop an approx. 150,000 tonnes per annum energy from waste facility on the former gas storage site on Greenbank Crescent, Aberdeen. See Appendix 1 for details of location and design. The application includes an Environmental Statement and various Impact Assessments addressing a wide range of potential impacts. Key factors raised through the consultation process were:

1. Traffic impact, especially the potential to increase congestion and safety issues on Wellington Road
2. Over-development in the south of the city
3. Torry is the 'dumping ground of Aberdeen', why here?
4. There is a history of bad neighbours, why would this be any different?
5. Lack of trust in the City Council and SEPA as the regulator
6. Scepticism that the Council will deliver a heat system to benefit local people
7. Concern about impact on air quality and health, both generally across the south of the city but also around the current Air Quality Management Area at the north end of Wellington Road

- 5.2.2 The detailed Impact Assessments address the traffic, health and air quality issues as well as other concerns such as odour, visual impact and site selection. The Council considers all the issues raised are managed through good design and appropriate mitigation measures incorporated in the proposals such that no significant adverse effects will arise from the proposal.

- 5.2.3 In relation to issues surrounding confidence in the Council and SEPA, officers have consulted widely on the project and continue to work with the Stakeholder Group to prepare and provide detailed information addressing concerns. A visit was arranged in March to a comparable Energy from Waste facility in Lincoln, England. Seven Community Council members and a representative from Aberdeen Friends of the Earth attended and saw a 150,000 tonnes per year facility in its second year of

operation. The site was clean, odour free and has an exemplary operating track record to date. Emissions control has been effective with no requirement for the Environment Agency to take action against the site since it opened. Monitoring, both on and off-site, demonstrates that there are no adverse effects on the community or environment and the Stakeholder Group met with local residents who also made it clear that they were very happy with the operation of the facility.

5.2.4 A further visit was arranged for late-April to Lerwick, Shetland to see the District Heating system in the town that is fuelled by the island's energy from waste plant. It is hoped that continued engagement and provision of real-life experiences elsewhere will increase knowledge and understanding of how energy from waste facilities can be beneficial to communities and do not represent a threat or inflict harm on local residents.

5.2.5 The period for public representations in relation to the planning application has now closed; it is anticipated that the Planning Service will make an initial report to the Planning Committee requesting that a Planning Hearing is established as a result of the Council having a significant interest in the application and because of the anticipated level of public interest. Determination of the application is still expected to be in the autumn of 2016.

5.2.6 A template letter of objection and leaflet have been circulating in the Torry and surrounding area. These raise a number of issues; a copy of each of these documents and commentary on the issues is attached in Appendix 2.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –

A key customer benefit of the joint working will be the provision of the most cost-effective waste management solution for city residents. In addition, the development will facilitate the provision of low and stable cost heat and power to up to 25,000 households.

Improving Staff Experience –

The proposal will provide clean, spacious and indoor disposal facilities for Council refuse collection crews. The Council's contractor will also benefit from improved office and welfare facilities compared to those currently in place.

Improving our use of Resources –

Development of the East Tullos EfW facility will enable the Council minimize the amount of waste sent to landfill, thereby reducing costs and mitigating the cost pressures on the service.

Corporate -

This project links to the Smarter Environment theme of Aberdeen – the Smarter City vision and is a key outcome from the Aberdeen City Waste Strategy. The project enables the Council to comply with its statutory obligations to collect recycling from all households.

Public –

AN EHRIA has been completed during the formulation of the Aberdeen City Waste Strategy. The recycling service that will be enabled by the Altens East facility will ensure that all households across the city get equal access to recycling services, addressing the current inequitable level of service delivery.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

No new risks have emerged in relation to this update report

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1. Images of EfW Facility

Appendix 2. Template Letter/Leaflet and Council Commentary

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

Peter Lawrence

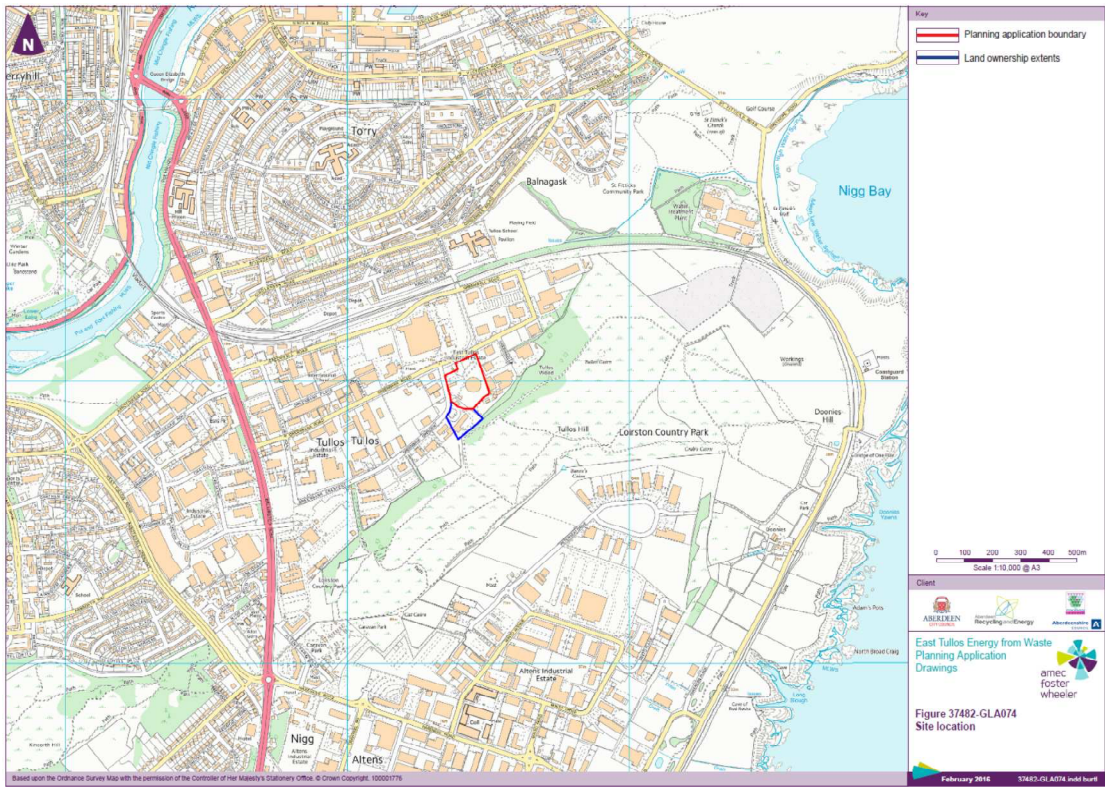
Waste and Recycling Manager

PLawrence@aberdeencity.gov.uk

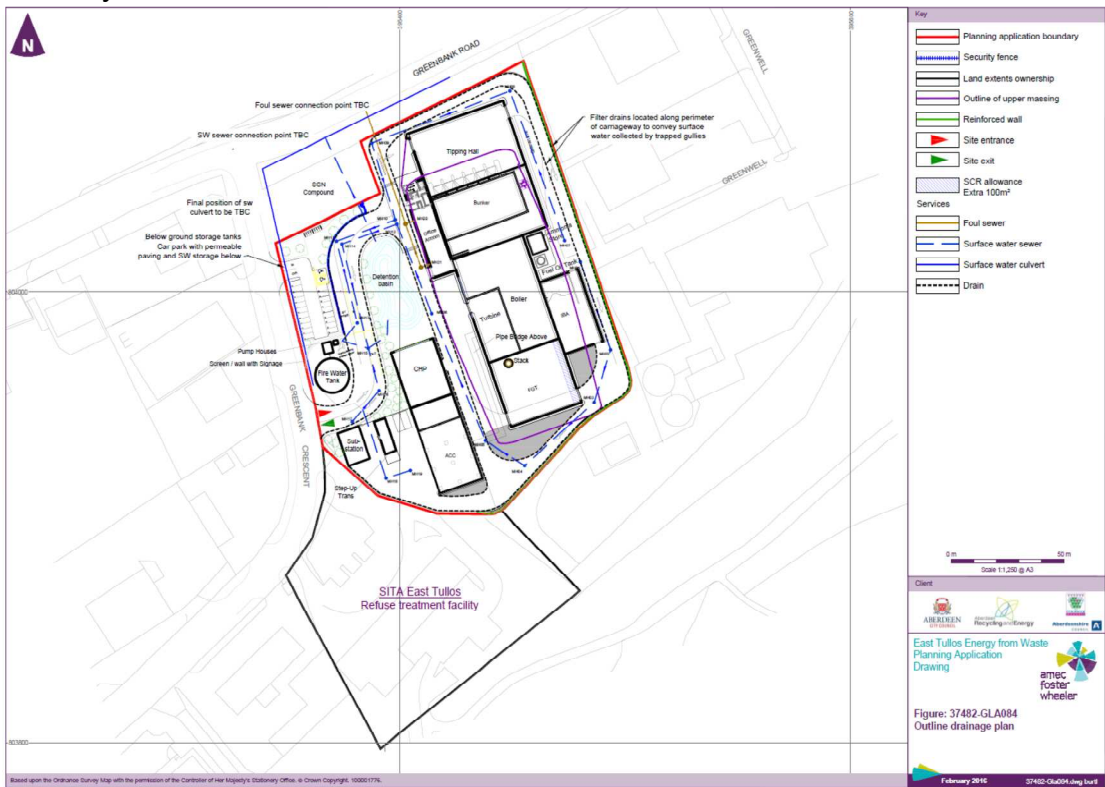
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Appendix 1. Energy from Waste Pant Location and Visual Impressions

Site Location



Site Layout



Night Study from St Fitticks Church



APPENDIX 2

Incinerator Update



Threat of an incinerator is being planned near Tullos Primary - the incinerator is to burn all three North East's councils waste.

City Council bureaucrats admit to Councillors that burning waste is their plan due to planned EU laws and the City Council's poor waste practise.

This time Council bureaucrats are calling the incinerator plan *Energy from waste (EfW)*; the bureaucrats plan (for now) is to opt for burning household waste while other waste material maybe burnt at the East Tullos site for potentially 40+ years.

No safety guarantee: David Fryer reported back to Torry Community Council and said that he had asked for assurances that the incinerator plant is safe - to date, no assurances had been given by the council.

Planned site is not the first choice:

Council documents show that the site near East Tullos Primary was joint second with five other sites. One other site scoring highest of all for the potential incinerator location.

Protect Torry Protect Aberdeen

Was planning criteria written to make Torry yet again a dumping ground?

If, and its a big if, the incinerator was needed, why in the event of a leak is it in an urban area - would it not be safer in away from many peoples homes? Perhaps at a rural business park? SEPA report emissions can travel 15Km+.

No business case - Torry Resident Simon McLean says: "...I've read documents supplied by the Council and obtained more data, visited the council's choice of incinerator in Lincolnshire - why didn't we get to visit the EfW plant in Runcorn? I hear in Runcorn, local people there are in a legal battle over health concerns. Aberdeen city council plans seem more about money and less about Aberdeen resident's welfare or the environment - burning instead of recycling is not green..."

Plan B? Focus is on building an incinerator while not calling it an incinerator. Mr McLean says, that he has not seen evidence of alternative plans that would be more energy efficient, safer and less of a financial risk to people or the cash strapped council. - was this not considered; why an incinerator?



What will they burn?

Sweden and Germany are importing waste in to their countries to fuel their incinerators as they have much higher recycling rates. Its alleged that Aberdeen city council plan to send household waste to Europe to be burnt while they wait to build an incinerator.

If Grampian, improves its recycling - council bureaucrats plan to burn commercial waste and bio-fuels!



Yet More traffic: Over 200 HGV trips are anticipated per week. Application is for 24hrs a day deliveries. The report claims traffic not to be significant - can we afford to keep adding to our already busy road network?

No guarantee Torry and elsewhere in the City wont feel the further effect of these lorries in our neighbourhoods.

Traffic accident plan focus' on a small area (3 roads) - what about all the pupils walking to the poorly planned & questionable replacement school for Torry Academy?

The current Torry Academy school is not planned to get energy from the plant as the school's site may not be for educational purposes anymore... Is more traffic coming? What's been planned?

Time is running out - 13.04.2016:

Planning objections need to be in before April 13th. A draft letter of objection is available to send to the planning authority (Aberdeen city council) NB the applicant is also Aberdeen City Council.

What can you do to stop the Incinerator plan. (easy steps)

1. Send an email to:
cleanairnoincinerators@gmail.com

We will email back a draft planning objection letter to you.

No internet? Use a local Library, to print off or email your objection to the Council (see below)

2. Fill in the blanks and send to:
pi@aberdeencity.gov.uk

or post a paper copy to:

Development management, Communities, Housing and Infrastructure, Aberdeen City Council, Business Hub 4, Marischal College, Broad Street, Aberdeen AB101AB

Please note a few local Torry shops have draft letters for you to fill in there.

Thank you, and the best of luck.

Follow on Facebook:
No to the incinerator on our doorstep

Thoughts on the incinerator:

Experts said DDT, asbestos and thalidomide were safe.

Its unclear who pays for this energy source alleged to be for homes the pipes / heat exchangers.

Creating a more industrial site in our communities has adverse affects on health, and education.

History repeating?



Waste water
Treatment plant

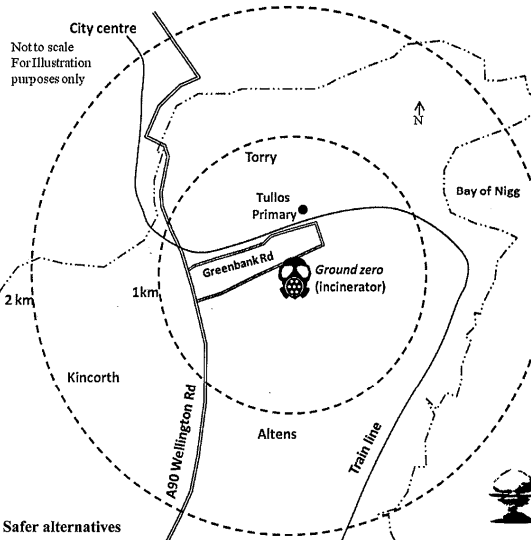
Regulators
SEPA
City Council

•Residents Shown something new and shiny,
(Lincolnshire 2016)...

•Residents Shown something new and shiny
•Aberdeen gets something different and managed different
•Questionable regulation
•Millions reported to be spent tackling the 'Torry Pong'



Incinerator



Safer alternatives

Areas of Australia changed their waste practise, decades ago increasing recycling / reducing packaging working with & legislating for business to do their bit

The result is much better than being offered here in Aberdeen.

There are better solutions.

Case study:

New, Runcorn incinerator (EfW)

Alleged to have had a Chemical Leak:

16 casualties admitted themselves, causing a lock down of the hospital's accident and emergency department as staff dealt with the decontamination.

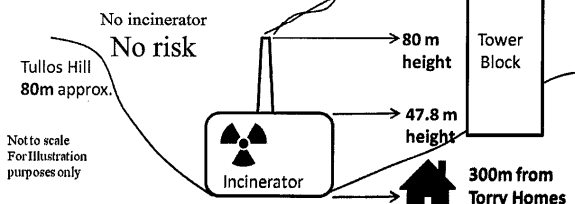
Further alleged hundreds of local resident are involved in a legal case due to the incinerator.

House prices reported to have fallen

Things can go wrong

**No incinerator
No risk**

Emission range - 15km
(could reach: Balmadie, Dyce Airport, Westhill, Peterculter and Newtonhill)



.....
.....
.....
Development Management
Communities, Housing and Infrastructure
Aberdeen City Council
Business Hub 4, Marischal College
Broad Street
ABERDEEN AB10 1AB

Date:.....

Dear Sir,

Application Reference P160276, proposed Incinerator (EfW), Torry, Aberdeen.

I wish to object to the above application on the following grounds: -

- A This planned incinerator is contrary to the overarching national policy for zero-waste, will lead to increases in carbon footprints and contribute to climate change
- B This planned incinerator will be damaging to the environment, be a loss of amenity, and damaging to the health and wellbeing of communities
- C The long term financial implications of building this incinerator are flawed and could add to future debt that the council tax payers of Aberdeen will have to pay

In more detail, my concerns are

- 1 The proposal to incinerate waste rather than address the source of waste materials is the wrong priority and is contrary to policy R3 of the present LDP. Attention should be given to reuse and recycling of finite materials. This proposal can only lead to lower levels of recycling of many materials as they would be incinerated rather than reused.
- 2 The proposal to incinerate waste in one building from all of the North-East is contrary to Policy NE 10 and will lower of air quality in this area of Aberdeen which has a high concentration of odour creating industrial activities that use an over-stretched and inadequate network of roads.
- 3 The enormous size and design of this major proposal is contrary to Policies D1, and D6 will add to traffic congestion and air-polluting diesel exhaust fumes near and on routes leading to this proposed site in and around Torry which is known to have its own micro-climate. Baseline data used to support the planning application is flawed as the data used is taken from Dyce (7miles away). It is a well-known and established fact that temperature inversion is a North-East Coastal phenomenon creating a micro-climate in Torry that traps gases and odours
- 4. The proposed development of the site does not comply with Policy CF1 of the current LDP and can only adversely affect the health and mental wellbeing of the residents of Torry whose lives have been blighted over decades by serious odours from fish factories and the sewage works. The proposed site for this huge incinerator at the foot of the Gramps is too close to many thousands of family homes and one of the local primary schools. Enforcement action by the statutory regulators, SEPA and the City Council over the last 15 years proved totally inadequate to help communities when the sewage treatment works failed consistently with the repugnant odours affecting Torry and nearby communities

The building of this incinerator at the foot of the Gramps can only make Torry a dumping ground for the waste of the North East of Scotland. By reason of the clear deviation from National and Local Policy, and to meet local health and social needs of the local communities, I appeal to the Planning Committee and the City Council to refuse this application to build an incinerator next to Torry

Yours sincerely,

.....

Comments on EfW leaflet and template objection letter

A leaflet and a template objection form have been circulated in the Torry area in recent weeks. The following provides a briefing on the Council's commentary on the issues raised:

Template Letter

The letter contains the following objections to the planning application to develop an Energy from Waste (EfW) facility in East Tullos.

Objection A: The proposal is contrary to overarching national policy for Zero Waste, will lead to increases in carbon footprints and contribute to climate change:

Commentary: The proposal is in line with the Scottish Government's Zero Waste Policy. The Scottish Government Vision for Zero Waste is:

'This vision describes a Scotland where resource use is minimised, valuable resources are not disposed of in landfills, and most waste is sorted into separate streams for reprocessing, leaving only limited amounts of waste to go to residual waste treatment, including energy from waste facilities.'

This recognises that high efficiency EfW has a limited role to play in ensuring that value is obtained from all waste streams, including 'when they reach the end of their life'. This facility is designed to accept only non-recyclable materials left over after extensive reduction, reuse and recycling activities have been undertaken and sized on the basis that significant further improvements in recycling will be achieved prior to it commencing operations. The Councils will continue to pursue increased recycling and reduced waste production thereafter.

Diverting non-recyclable waste from landfill makes a significant contribution to the reduction in carbon emissions (and therefore minimising climate change impacts). Landfilling household waste results in the uncontrolled release of methane. Methane is a greenhouse gas and 23 times worse for the atmosphere than carbon dioxide. Furthermore, a significant proportion of waste burned in the EfW is from renewable sources thereby contributing to renewable energy targets and displacing fossil fuels currently used for heat and electricity production.

Objection B: The proposal will be damaging to the environment, a loss of amenity and damaging to the health and well-being of communities

Commentary: Environment. The planning application and the Environmental Statement (ES) reporting on the Environmental impact Assessment (EIA) includes a range of assessments that demonstrate that there will be no significant adverse effects from the proposal. The air quality assessment shows that as a result of design mitigations, including adopting enhanced nitrogen dioxide abatement systems, there will be no demonstrable adverse impact on any of the 40+ receiver points modelled. SEPA will

scrutinise this assessment and we are confident they will come to the same conclusion. An odour impact assessment has also been undertaken and, as with many other examples from across the UK and Europe, it demonstrates that EfW facilities do not have adverse odour impacts arising from operations. Indeed, the management plan takes account of both normal operation and also how odour is contained during shutdowns. All operations are undertaken within buildings and the waste reception area and bunker have air extracted and fed into the furnace chamber in order to prevent odour release.

Amenity. It is unclear from the letter what element of amenity is considered to be lost, however, the site is currently brownfield within an industrial estate, derelict, occupied by large disused gas holder and secured. As a result the existing site holds no recreational or other public amenity value. A visual impact assessment has been undertaken and, as a result of the high quality design, it is considered to have a positive impact on visual amenity in the area.

Health and well being. The Health Impact Assessment also demonstrates that there will be no adverse impact on health arising from the EfW facility. The study considers the most extreme possible circumstances, for example individuals living near the plant their whole life and emissions from the plant being at the maximum permitted levels for the whole of that period, and concludes that exposure to harmful materials would be at such low levels as to be undetectable or well below levels where adverse health impacts can be foreseen. Experience from many similar facilities across the UK and Europe is such that no adverse health impacts relating to the energy from waste process have been identified.

Objection C: Long term financial implications are flawed.

Commentary: No detail is provided to support this assertion, therefore it is difficult to address. The three authorities have undertaken independent business cases that demonstrate that by taking the resolution of residual waste management into their own hands and dealing with their waste locally, this will not only secure the best value solution in a 'post-landfill' world but also minimise the risks of management of residual waste over a 25 year timeframe. Furthermore, the benefits of electricity and heat generation will be felt directly by the local communities and, in the case of heat, by householders and businesses in south Aberdeen.

Further Comments

The letter makes reference to policies within the adopted local development plan (LDP) and takes no account of those included in the proposed Local Development Plan (pLDP) currently being examined by Scottish Government. This pLDP is a material planning consideration and must be taken into account by the planning authority. As detailed within the submitted Planning Statement, the proposals comply with both the LDP and the pLDP. Notwithstanding this, the following is an analysis of the claims made in reference to specific policies in the adopted LDP:

Policy R3 - New Waste Management Facilities

The three authorities through published business cases have demonstrated that this proposal is the best solution to a regional requirement for the management of waste (Point 2 in the policy). Accepting that a single facility is the best solution, the best way to minimise transport across the region is to locate the facility closest to the largest concentration of waste arising (in and around Aberdeen). The site in East Tullos meets this criterion; potential localised impact arising from additional traffic is dealt with in other parts of this Commentary.

Policy NE10 - Air Quality

The proposal complies with policy NE-10 as it will not result in detrimental impact on air quality as appropriate design mitigations have been incorporated in order to reduce effects to negligible. An air quality impact assessment is included in the application (a requirement of the policy) and demonstrates that there will be no significant adverse impacts on air quality arising from this development. The assessment follows the requirements set by SEPA and considers the potential impacts on over 40 receptor points in south Aberdeen and beyond. Two separate air dispersion models have been run for the proposal with emissions set at the maximum levels permissible under European legislation. EfW plants typically operate at levels much lower than the emissions limits in order to ensure that these are not breached, as a result even in the worst case scenario, the plant will not have adverse air quality impacts.

Policy D1 - Architecture and Placemaking

The revised D1 policy in the pLDP varies quite considerably from the existing policy and it is considered that the design proposed complies with the requirement of both the LDP and the pLDP policy. The proposal addresses the requirements of D1 in that the full scope of the design assessment has been agreed with the Planning Authority. The design has evolved following consultation with the community and the design team at Aberdeen City Council's planning service. The design addresses requirements of high standard of design, requirements of distinctiveness taking account of function and context, and enhancement to site and setting.

Policy D6 – Landscape

This policy requires development proposals not to: result in significant adverse effects on landscape character or sense of place; obstruct important views of Aberdeen's townscape; adversely affect recreational or woodland resources; result in urban sprawl; and to avoid significant adverse impacts on landscape elements "*which contribute to local amenity*".

In relation to D6, the proposal has been subject to a landscape and visual impact assessment and whilst it is evidently a large structure it does not

directly impact on important views of the city landscape. It will not result in significant adverse landscape effects nor will it result in significant adverse impact on landscape elements which contribute to local amenity or a sense of place. The surrounding terrain and urban landscape assists in minimising the impact on skylines from the development. The proposals also comply with revised pLDP policy D6.

Traffic Congestion. This section of the letter also refers to traffic congestion arising from the development. A traffic statement and impact assessment have been produced that demonstrates a net increase in traffic at the busiest time of 9 vehicles per hour on a road that typically experiences over 1200 vehicle movements per hour. Indeed, daily weekday variation on the road can be as much as 200 vehicles per hour, meaning that the projected change will be barely detectable within the natural fluctuations in traffic numbers. There will be a small number of additional HGVs accessing the site from the south. These will bring the waste from Aberdeenshire and Moray Councils, however this will be no more than 2/hour on average.

It should also be noted that the application takes no account of the current waste-related activity in East Tullos/Wellington Road where Aberdeen City Council already delivers approx. 30,000 tonnes per year into the existing Waste Transfer Station adjacent to the proposed EfW site, all of this material is then taken out of the site in articulated heavy goods vehicles. These HGVs currently drive north along Wellington Road and through the two Air Quality Management Areas (north Wellington Road and Market Street). This proposal takes away that requirement. These considerations have not been taken into the assessment presented in this proposal meaning that the worst case scenario has been applied and that this does not demonstrate any significant impact on traffic flows on Wellington Road.

The adoption of vehicles with significantly lower emission standards to those currently in operation (driven by European legislation) means that whilst there may be some additional Aberdeen City Council refuse vehicles passing through the Air Quality Management zone at the north end of Wellington Road, there is unlikely to be any increase in overall emissions. It should also be noted that many large or heavy goods vehicle movements will be directed south from East Tullos to the Western Peripheral Route and therefore will not pass through the area designated as having air quality issues.

Meteorology. Reference is also made to meteorological issues. The baseline meteorological data is indeed gathered at Dyce, however, this is then used to populate models that take account of known meteorological conditions and effects associated with the local landforms (e.g. Tullos Hill to the south and the coast). The assessment is as comprehensive as possible and undertaken to the highest possible standards. It will, of course, be subject to detailed scrutiny by specialists at SEPA who are best equipped to make judgements on this matter.

The letter makes reference the 'temperature inversion' effect. This phenomenon has been modelled and it is evident that any inversion will

actually reduce the likelihood of emissions reaching ground level close to the site. The height of the stack and buoyancy of gases as they leave the stack at a higher temperature means that they will be higher than any inversion likely to occur in this locality. As a result, the boundary effect caused by the inversion then allows emissions to disperse at a higher level.

Reference has also been made locally to the haar, a coastal effect that often results in low cloud forming along the coast. The theory underlying dispersion modelling states that the maximum impact from a high stack on ground level air quality occurs during unstable, weather conditions when portions of the plume can be drawn towards ground level due to strong vertical turbulence. The haar is a phenomenon that only occurs in stable conditions, similar to the inversion layer effect described above and as such the same premise applies, air quality at ground level is less likely to be affected during haar conditions than when there is turbulent airflow.

Policy CF1 – Existing Community Sites and Facilities

The letter refers to development on existing Community Sites and Facilities, however the proposal is not on such a site, indeed there are no new community sites or facilities located in the south of Aberdeen. It is not clear therefore how this is relevant to the application. The letter refers to concern about potential impacts on residential homes and schools in the south of the city. These impacts are listed as being health and odour related; these have been considered in specific impact assessments in the planning application and no detrimental impacts have been identified.

It is evident that the letter demonstrates a lack of confidence in the Council and SEPA, we are working to address this through extensive communication work with the community including the establishment of a Stakeholder Group and arranging study visits to relevant, comparable facilities. We will continue to provide as much information on the proposals as possible.

Commentary to Leaflet Opposing the Energy from Waste proposal

The leaflet highlights a range of issues, many of which are addressed above. The remaining points are addressed as follows:

Issue: Over development in the south of the city

Commentary: Development in the south of the city has been mapped out through the Local Development Planning process. The Adopted LDP of 2012 was reviewed and a new, pLDP was agreed by Council in 2015. This Plan is now being considered by the Scottish Government and is now a material consideration for all planning applications. The Planning Authority now considers each application as it comes forward in relation to the plan and also takes account of other permitted developments. As the applicant for this proposal we have in the various Environmental Impact Assessments considered both the effects of this proposal and any other relevant permitted or known future developments in the area. The assessments and associated

mitigation proposals do not indicate that there will be any significant adverse effects in the south of the city from the proposals.

Issue: Torry is the dumping ground of Aberdeen

Commentary: The proposed EfW will not have adverse impacts in Torry, indeed, the ability of the plant to supply heat into a District Heating network will deliver benefits to the community, especially for those currently living in fuel poverty. The proposal also returns derelict land to beneficial use and provides employment and skills training opportunities. The opportunity to provide stable and competitively priced heat to local businesses also helps to sustain vibrant businesses in south Aberdeen, thereby providing other future employment opportunities.

Issue: History of bad neighbours

Commentary: Regulation of EfW facilities is very strict and SEPA has significant powers to ensure the plant has no adverse impacts on the community or environment. The EIA carried out for the proposals demonstrate that the facility would result in negligible and not significant odour effects beyond its site boundary. The EfW can be closed down in the event of problems, thereby ensuring any issues can be addressed immediately. There are many EfW facilities in the UK and Europe that can be seen to operate without adverse impacts on the local community; a visit by the Stakeholder Group to the Lincoln EfW facility where members of the local liaison group attended demonstrated this to be the case.

Issue: Don't trust the City Council or SEPA

Commentary: Throughout the process the City Council team has made widespread efforts to engage widely with the community and to take a professional and measured approach to the project, ensuring that the most detailed and comprehensive studies and assessments have been undertaken to ensure that there will not be adverse impacts from the development. The Council has engaged Professor Robert Jackson to act as a bridge to the community. Professor Jackson is an independent specialist who has been key to the improvements seen by the local community in the management of issues of odour from the Wastewater Treatment Works and is scrutinising this application and providing specialist analysis to the community. In relation to SEPA, as outlined above, we have explained that a different regulatory regime applies to EfW and that SEPA have much stronger and more direct powers. SEPA has provided examples where they have taken action to close down poorly performing facilities, notably, a prototype gasification facility in Dumfries.

Issue: Don't believe that the Council will deliver heat system to benefit locals

Commentary: The application includes a heat plan that sets out a feasibility study demonstrating that the location can support a district heating system. The feasibility study details a phase 1 of the plan will link together public buildings (including the local swimming pool and primary schools) and social housing blocks and tenements. This will create a spine of heat pipes from which other connections, including individual houses, can be made (Phase 2). Further opportunities then exist to connect to the existing heat network operated by Aberdeen Heat and Power and other major heat uses such as further education and retail facilities. Should approval be given for the facility, there would be an approx. 5 years to develop the initial phase of the heat delivery infrastructure.

Issue: Site selection

Commentary: An extensive site selection exercise has been undertaken looking at many sites across the city, starting with the requirement that the facility is developed on appropriately zoned land. It is evident that many potential sites are in private ownership and not available as the preferred development is high-quality office development rather than more industrial uses. This reflects the predominant business environment in Aberdeen. As a result, the number of deliverable sites was few and the East Tullos the best available option. The selection exercise shows that there are no reasons why the site which scored the highest when assessed against selection criteria could not be successfully developed in planning terms.

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Zero Waste Management Sub Committee
DATE	12 May 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Zero Waste Project: Altens East Update
REPORT NUMBER	ZWM/16/7637
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to update the Committee on the progress of the construction works at Altens East.

2. RECOMMENDATION

1. The Zero Waste Management Sub-Committee notes the report.

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

No new financial implications arise from this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Legal. Specialist legal support is being provided to ensure the variation to the Waste Management Services Contract is undertaken in accordance with best practice and minimizes risk to the Council.

Resource. The Council has allocated capital resource for the construction of new facilities at Altens East; the supervision of the construction is managed internally with specialist technical support from AMEC Foster Wheeler

Personnel. As above.

Sustainability and environmental. The Zero Waste Project will deliver substantial advances in sustainability and environmental performance.

5. BACKGROUND/ MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Altens East

- 5.1.1 Construction of the Materials Recycling Facility, Refuse Derived Fuel Facility and the new Waste Collection Depot and offices at Altens East started on 5 January 2016. Morrison Construction is

the main civils contractor. Initial works included soil stripping, rock excavation and establishment of levels prior to construction of the main building structures. Construction of the northern boundary fencing and screening bund was largely completed before the Doonies Farm reopened to the public in April 2016. The Lennox family, tenants of Doonies Farm, has been very helpful in assisting completion of these early works.

- 5.1.2 Morrison Construction has established site offices, implemented health and safety procedures and is putting in place measures to prevent adverse effects on local roads from the construction works. It should be noted the site boundary adjacent to the Coast Road allows for any proposed upgrade should any expansion of Aberdeen Harbour require this.
- 5.1.3 The works are largely proceeding according to programme despite the first weeks of activity being hampered by extreme rainfall conditions. This early rainfall highlighted an unexpected issue relating to uncontrolled surface water flowing from the partially developed industrial estate to the west. Morrisons has worked around this issue and a permanent solution is being developed. It is not anticipated that the project end date will be affected.
- 5.1.4 Steel erection has commenced in recent weeks with the main building structure anticipated to be in place by the time committee considers this report. Cladding and roofing is also underway. Photos are attached at Appendix 1.
- 5.1.5 Bulk Handling Systems (BHS) has been appointed as the supplier of the MRF and RDF equipment and final design work is currently being completed. The suppliers describe the quality and specification standards set for this facility as the most demanding they have faced and assure us that this facility will utilise the best available technology to ensure high quality recycling products are produced from the site.
- 5.1.6 As outlined above, the overall project timetable remains on schedule for completion of the main building works by October 2016, completion of MRF and RDF construction works by February 2017 and full commissioning completed by end of May 2017. The office and depot facility will be completed by mid-February 2017 with an anticipated move of staff and equipment from Kittybrewster to Altens East commencing on 1 March 2017.
- 5.1.7 The construction and commissioning schedule allows for the commencement of kerbside recycling in the first quarter of 2017 as planned; more detail on the programme for introduction of the new recycling and reduced-size refuse container services will be provided to future committee meetings.

5.1.8 It is estimated that the civils construction works (outlined above) will involve the employment of 110 – 120 people with the majority being employed via local contractors as the development progresses. The principal contractor, Morrisons, is based locally and has, over a number of years, developed a strong local supplier network. This is demonstrated by the number of main sub-contractors who are located in Scotland. In terms of operational roles it is expected that the facility will require around 40 positions to operate, maintain and manage the new facilities. Advertising for these roles will be in the local press which will stimulate employment in the local community.

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –

Development of the Materials Recycling Facility will enable the introduction of mixed recycling collections for all households across the city, increasing both the range of materials collected and the container capacity for recycling.

Improving Staff Experience –

The proposal will provide clean, spacious and modern for Council refuse collection crews and officers. The move from bag-and-box recycling to wheeled bin will reduce health and safety risks associated with manual handling. The Council's contractor will also benefit from improved office and welfare facilities compared to those currently in place.

Improving our use of Resources –

Development of the Altens RDF facility will enable the Council minimize the amount of waste sent to landfill, thereby reducing costs and mitigating the cost pressures on the service. The MRF will facilitate increasing recycling rates and therefore reduce disposal costs overall. The new collection system will also be more cost effective than the kerbside sort system.

Corporate -

This project links to the Smarter Environment theme of Aberdeen – the Smarter City vision and is a key outcome from the Aberdeen City Waste Strategy. The project enables the Council to comply with its statutory obligations to collect recycling from all households. The recruitment of local operatives for the new facilities will go towards our aim of smarter people by giving staff the opportunity to gain experience in new services and systems.

Public –

AN EHRIA has been completed during the formulation of the Aberdeen City Waste Strategy. The recycling service that will be enabled by the Altens East facility will ensure that all households across the city get equal access to recycling services, addressing the current inequitable level of service delivery.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

No new risks have emerged in relation to this update report

8. BACKGROUND PAPERS

Appendix 1. Images of Altens East Facility

9. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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Waste and Recycling Manager
PLawrence@aberdeencity.gov.uk
01224 489311

Appendix 1. Images of Altens East Construction

Aerial View March 2016



View from Site Entrance 20 April 2016



View from Northwest Corner of Site 20 April 2016

