

## ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

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

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### **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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## 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

