

ABERDEEN CITY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE	Zero Waste Management Sub Committee
DATE	22 November 2016
DIRECTOR	Pete Leonard
TITLE OF REPORT	Zero Waste Project – Energy from Waste
REPORT NUMBER	ZWSC/16/7680
CHECKLIST COMPLETED	Yes

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

The purpose of this report is to provide an update on the progress of the Joint Energy from Waste Project.

2. RECOMMENDATION

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

3. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

None from this report.

4. OTHER IMPLICATIONS

Legal. The Council has a legal duty to make provision for the management of municipal waste under the Waste (Scotland) Regulations 2012 and the Environmental Protection Act (1990).

Personnel. The project is supported by a dedicated Project Director working on behalf of the three authorities. Aberdeen City Council provides a part-time interim Project Manager and officers from the waste and recycling, asset management, finance and legal services support the project delivery.

Sustainability and environmental. The development of an Energy from Waste facility in the city will substantially reduce the environmental impact of landfilling waste and provide a secure and long-lasting renewable energy source for the benefit of the city, its residents and businesses.

5. BACKGROUND/ MAIN ISSUES

5.1 Planning Application

- 5.1.1 A special Development Planning Committee meeting was convened on 3 October 2016 to consider the Planning Application for erection of an Energy from Waste (EfW) at East Tullos. A procedural motion was passed that referred the decision to the Council meeting on 6 October 2016. The decision of Council was to grant permission with conditions. A decision notice was issued by the Planning Authority on 10 October 2016. Shortly afterwards, the Scottish Government notified the Council that it would not contest the decision notice. The conditions are not considered to be onerous or adversely affect the progression of the project.

5.2 Signature of Missives for East Tullos former Gasworks Site

- 5.2.2 The Council has concluded the missives with Scottish Gas Network (SGN) to acquire the site for the EfW facility. The missives include a requirement for SGN to demolish the existing structures on the site, including the gas holder and to remediate the land to a standard suitable for development as an industrial site. This process is anticipated to take approximately 18 months and will be monitored by the Council and SEPA to ensure the site provided to the Council is fit-for-purpose.

5.3 Inter-Authority Agreement 2

- 5.3.1 Following extensive negotiation and development Aberdeen City, Aberdeenshire and the Moray Councils' officers supported by external advisors prepared a second Inter-Authority Agreement (IAA2) that was considered by special meetings of the three partner authorities on 24th, 25th and 26th October 2016.
- 5.3.2 Aberdeen City Council agreed the recommendations in the report and added further amendments that were agreed relating to matters raised by community council representatives and to the development of a District Heating system in Torry. A report relating to the first stage of the Torry District Heating system will be brought to the January 2017 Communities, housing and Infrastructure Committee.
- 5.3.2 Moray Council agreed similar recommendations, whilst Aberdeenshire Councillors voted on two amendments relating to delaying the decision and changing the scale of the facility. Both were defeated and the report recommendations were agreed.
- 5.3.3 Since the decisions outlined above, the Joint EfW Project Board has met and agreed the continued appointment of Linda Ovens

of Entec Solutions as Project Director and adopted NESS Energy as the name for the EfW Project with NESS standing for North East Scotland Shared Energy (from Waste) project.

- 5.3.4 Advertising and appointment of the Project Manager and Project Administrator will now commence and the Project Team will develop procurement documentation in advance of formally commencing the procurement in early 2017. A detailed project plan for the procurement will be provided in a report to the next Zero Waste Management Sub-committee.

5.4 Communications

- 5.4.1 The Council continues to facilitate a Stakeholder Group that has met monthly for the last year. Over that time a wide range of issues have been discussed by the group. Officers attending can confirm that there has been extensive engagement on health and environmental impacts throughout the last year.
- 5.4.2 Following award of Planning Permission and agreement of IAA2, the project will now be known as NESS Energy (North East Scotland Shared Energy from Waste).

6. IMPACT

Improving Customer Experience –

This policy will provide clear guidelines for staff and residents on the policy for contamination of recyclables. It will also ensure that the Council is being open and transparent and fair and consistent in its approach.

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.

7. MANAGEMENT OF RISK

No new risks have emerged in relation to this update report

8. REPORT AUTHOR DETAILS

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