

Somerset Waste Board meeting  
28 June 2019  
Report for information

Paper  
Item No

Recycling Centres – New Waste Treatment Facility Project Update  
Lead Officer: David Oaten, Contracts Manager – Treatment & Infrastructure  
Author: David Oaten, Contracts Manager – Treatment & Infrastructure  
Author: Contact Details: [david.oaten@somersetwaste.gov.uk](mailto:david.oaten@somersetwaste.gov.uk) (01823) 625721

<b>Forward Plan Reference:</b>	
<b>Summary:</b>	<p>This brief report updates Members on progress with the New Waste Treatment Facility Project (NWTF2).</p> <p>A representative of Viridor Ltd will be present at the Board to provide a visual update for the build progress made on each of the new waste facilities.</p>
<b>Recommendations:</b>	<b>That the Somerset Waste Board notes the progress made with the project.</b>
<b>Reasons for recommendations:</b>	To receive an update from SWP & Viridor following on from the report received and decisions made by the Board on 21 October 2016.
<b>Links to Priorities and Impact on Annual Business Plan:</b>	Business Plan 2019-24, Item 1.2 – Moving away from landfill sites.
<b>Financial, Legal and HR Implications:</b>	As outlined in Board Report SWB/15/12/01 received 21 October 2016.
<b>Equalities Implications:</b>	There are no equality implications arising from this report.
<b>Risk Assessment:</b>	The risk assessment outlined in Board Report SWB/15/12/01 received 21 October 2016 is still extant.

## 1. Summary

1.1. In line with the Somerset Waste Board's longstanding commitment to reduce the

overall environmental impact of our residual waste, through moving away from highly taxed landfill, we are progressing well with this project. The overall contract and build schedule for the New Waste Treatment Facility and Waste Transfer Stations continues to remain on track, with plant commissioning tests expected to commence in the latter quarter of 2019 in preparation for the April 2020 start date. In addition to the environmental benefits, this will continue to deliver £1.3m annual MTFP savings until March 2020 to the waste disposal authority (Somerset County Council).

- 1.2.** Since 2014 the Somerset Waste Board's Business Plan has included a target to seek long term affordable and sustainable alternatives to landfill for material that cannot be avoided, reused or recycled. This aimed to reduce the overall environmental impact of residual waste, to introduce compliant, competitive and affordable arrangements for the transfer, haulage and treatment of residual waste and to meet Somerset County Council's MTFP savings target from 2016/17 onwards.

Following protracted negotiations with the incumbent residual waste service provider (Viridor Ltd), a new waste treatment facility contract was approved by the Somerset Waste Board at its meeting in February 2017. Moving away from landfill is enabled by Viridor constructing a Resource Recovery Centre at Avonmouth, serviced by two Waste Transfer Stations at Dimmer (Castle Cary) & Walpole (Pawlett). The new service is scheduled to commence from April 2020.

The waste treatment facility contract is predicated on the basis that the residual household waste from Somerset provided Viridor with an exclusive anchor waste stream to enable the financial sign off and build of the Avonmouth, Dimmer & Walpole facilities. The anticipated residual waste that we will send to Avonmouth will be circa 120,000 tonnes per annum, although we have a generous floor & ceiling built in to the contract to allow for further cost-effective diversion to reuse and recycling, particularly that additional recycling material expected via the Recycle More contract. Whilst all kerbside residual bin waste will be routed to the Waste Transfer Stations for onward delivery to Avonmouth, a proportion of material handled via our recycling sites, such as mattresses (due to their size), will continue to be landfilled until such time that economic & operational drivers allow for such items to be recycled. Residual waste separation trials have already commenced on a number of the recycling sites.

- 1.3.** Since contract signature in March 2017, building has commenced on the two in county Waste Transfer Stations at Dimmer and Walpole and the Resource Recovery Centre at Avonmouth. Members were given the opportunity to visit the Avonmouth plant in November 2018 and further visits will be organised for new Members to visit the plant prior to April 2020.

The planned completion dates for the facilities are;

- Dimmer Waste Transfer Station – June 2019
- Walpole Waste Transfer Station – October 2019
- Avonmouth Resource Recovery Centre – November 2019
- Waste Commissioning Commences – November 2019
- Contract Start – 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020

- 1.4.** Retail Price indexation has been applied to the NWTF2 contract rates since contract signature and whilst the differential between that and the existing price for landfill has narrowed, predominantly due to a change in how the Landfill Tax is escalated, it remains lower in comparison. This cost saving is in addition to the environmental benefit of moving Somerset’s residual household waste away from landfill.

**2. Waste Transfer Station Progress**

**2.1.**

	Recently Completed Works	Current Works	Works to be Completed in the Next 3 months
Dimmer	Main works now complete	Finishing works and relocation of weighbridge	Plant handover to Viridor
Walpole	Main steel building frame & concreted waste tank base	Installation of foul tank, louvres & venting system plus road improvement	Water main installation & power substation

**3. Resource Recovery Centre Progress**

**3.1.**

	Recently Completed Works	Current Works	Works to be Completed in the Next 3 months
Avonmouth	Crane rails and waste cranes are installed and the waste bunker building steelwork installation is substantially complete. Site works currently focussed on installation of Balance of Plant (BoP) pipework, electrical, refractory and insulation works	Piping installation and testing. Electrical cabling installation. Boiler refractory installation.	Preparation for the commencement of cold commissioning with the energisation of the 11kV electrical rooms within the ERF building. Construction of the boiler area building steelwork.

**4. Background papers**

- 4.1.** New Waste Treatment Facility Update Report – SWB/15/12/01 dated 21<sup>st</sup> October 2016