

March 15th 2011

PROSIECT GWYRDD



PRESS RELEASE / DATGANIAD I'R WASG

TURNING A PROBLEM INTO A RESOURCE

Everyone needs to continue to play their part to increase recycling

Prosiect Gwyrdd is thanking residents in each partner authority for their continued efforts in reducing, reusing and recycling and composting their waste.

Through the efforts of the partner authorities and the residents, each Council is delivering a year on year average increase in their recycling and composting rates. This now means that partner authorities are now expecting to meet or exceed the current waste target set by the Welsh Assembly Government.

Prosiect Gwyrdd will deliver a solution to the remaining waste after recycling and composting is maximised, so the amount and make up of the remaining waste is a key criteria to the success of the project. The Partnership has and will continue to review the waste flow modelling at each stage of the procurement process and up to date information will be shared with bidders as the process continues.

The partnership is currently in detailed negotiations with the four selected companies and current waste flow projections indicate that there has been a 10% reduction in the estimated waste that will need to be treated. 35% of the Partnership's waste in 2017/2018 is now predicted to equate to around 188,000 tonnes. The partnership will continue to review and update its waste flow data as the process continues.

This reduction is a testament to the continued efforts in educating the public on the need to recycle and compost, providing the facilities and the participation of the public to divert the majority of their waste from the kerbside. Other factors have also contributed to the current reduction, mainly relating to a global downturn in the economy.

The waste flows are calculated using a number of factors, including the current recycling and composting performance, the anticipated increase in future recycling and composting levels, population growth and waste compositional analysis, which is the analysis of the 'make up' of the types of waste which are anticipated to remain.

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Councillor Stephens, Chairman of the Joint Committee, governing the Project, said: “I would like to thank all the residents in the partner authority areas for their continued efforts in reducing and recycling their waste. The priority for each Council is to recycle and compost as much waste as possible, reducing the amount of residual waste which will remain. As Prosiect Gwyrdd moves forward the continual review and accuracy of the waste flow modelling will be critical to the success of the Project.”

“This is why these figures will continue to be monitored at each stage of the procurement process and this information will be shared with bidders as the project moves forwards.”

Notes to Editors

Stakeholder Events

- Stakeholder events are currently taking place near to areas where sites have been identified. These events are being held at:
 - 7 March (11 am till 2 pm): Fochriw Community Centre, Fochriw. - **Complete**
 - 8 March (5 pm till 8 pm): St David’s Community Centre, Rhymney. – **Complete**
 - 9 March (5 pm till 8 pm): Corporate Suite, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry - **Complete**
 - 10 March (5 pm till 8 pm): NISV Football Stadium, Newport.
 - 11 March (11 am till 2 pm): NISV Football Stadium, Newport.
 - 14 March (11 am till 2 pm): County Hall, Cardiff Bay.
 - 15 March (5 pm till 8 pm): Splott Bowls Pavilion, Cardiff.
 - 16 March (11 am till 2 pm): Palmerston Community Centre, Barry
 - 19 March (10 am till 4pm): Abergavenny High Street, Abergavenny.

Procurement, funding and waste flows

- The procurement of this project is envisaged to take Two (2) years, the indicative timetable is summarised below:

OJEU advertised to the market – November 2009
 Prequalification Questionnaire –spring 2010
 Dialogue with bidders – spring 2010 to summer 2011
 Preferred bidder – autumn 2011
 Contract finalised and planning –2012

- Funding has been secured from WAG through the Outline Business Case (OBC) in the form of a grant and will contribute 25% of the future gate fee up to a maximum of £9.124m in a full year of operation depending upon approval of the final business case for the project. The level of grant awarded for Prosiect Gwyrdd is based on a projection of the estimated cost of providing the facility and will vary in line with the actual costs when the Final Business case is approved. The actual calculation must remain commercially confidential as the project will be subject to a commercial tender process.
- Waste Arisings’ that make up ‘residual waste’ have been analysed in 2003, June 2009 and November 2009 by AEA Technology. The research in 2003 was used to compose data for the OBC for Cardiff, Monmouthshire and Vale of Glamorgan, while specific composition data was available for Caerphilly and Newport. WAG commissioned AEA technology to carry out further research in June 2009 and November of 2009. This new research will be evaluated to inform the procurement and participants of the quantity and composition of ‘residual waste’. A ‘Waste Arisings’ briefing is available at www.prosiectgwyrdd.co.uk .

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- As reported to the Joint Committee, the waste flow modelling will continue to be assessed at each stage of the procurement process. The predicted tonnage of 188, 304 for 2017/18 should not be interpreted as the Guaranteed Minimum Tonnage (GMT). The GMT will be agreed with the successful Preferred Bidder at the end of the procurement, after further reviews and assessments have taken place.

Stakeholder consultation

- Stakeholder days and surveys were conducted between September and December 2009 to engage with key stakeholders on the Evaluation Criteria. Specific issues were discussed and assessed seeking views on the priorities of technical, social, financial and legal aspects of the Evaluation Criteria.

Regulation and research into perceived health effects

- The Environment Agency regulates all energy from waste facilities, and information on the process of this regulation can be downloaded from their website, www.environment-agency.co.uk.
- All waste processes which involve burning have to comply with the Waste Incineration Directive (WID). This law sets stringent controls on emissions of all types of energy from waste technologies, including Pyrolysis, Gasification and Energy from Waste with Combined Heat and Power (Incineration). These technologies are required to monitor emissions to ensure that they comply, as a minimum, with the limits in the EU Waste Incineration Directive (2000/76/EC) which sets strict emissions controls for pollutants. The Directive has been implemented in England and Wales by the Environmental Permitting (EP) (England and Wales) Regulations 2007. From April 2008 these replaced the Pollution Prevention and Control (PPC) (England and Wales) Regulations 2000'. The guidance on this legislation can be viewed through the following link: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/policy/permits/documents/wid-guidance.pdf>.
- The Health Protection Agency published a report in September 2009, addressing the perceived health effects of waste incineration. The report can be viewed through the following link: http://www.hpa.org.uk/web/HPAwebFile/HPAweb_C/1251473372218.
- The comparative impacts on health on different methods of waste disposal have been considered in detail in a report prepared for the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra 2004). A summary of this extensive research can be reviewed through the following link: <http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/statistics/documents/health-summary.pdf>.
- This research, 'The Review of the Environmental and Health Effects of Waste Management Municipal Solid Waste and Similar Wastes', 'considered 23 high quality studies of the patterns of disease around EFW plants and four peer review papers looking at the health effects of EFW plants. It concluded that there is no convincing link between EFW plants and adverse effects on public health' (http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/static/documents/Business/5_wip_health_2147990.pdf.)

(Ends)

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