

**OXFORDSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE****30 MARCH 2007****WASTE TREATMENT PROJECT UPDATE****1 Purpose of Report**

- 1.1 To update the OWP on progress on the waste treatment and food waste procurement projects.

**2 Background**

- 2.1 Diversion of waste from landfill is essential to reduce the risk of fines for exceeding targets for limiting the amount of biodegradable waste that is landfilled under the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS). The County Council gave approval to proceed with the procurement of waste treatment capacity on 19 September 2006, and for the procurement of food waste processing capacity on 4 January 2007.
- 2.2 Since the update given at the OWP meeting on 26 January, the Project Team has been preparing the OJEU notice and Prequalification Questionnaire (PQQ) documentation under the guidance of the Waste Treatment Board. The Waste Treatment Board has agreed a procurement strategy which sets out how the contract will be offered to the market. The focus will be on treatment capacity, but will include the option of including other related services.
- 2.3 The contract will be advertised at the end of March, with the selection of pre-qualified bidders expected to be completed in June. An industry day is being held on 23 April 2007 at the Said Business School in Oxford to help generate market interest in the contract. It would be welcome if a representative of the OWP could attend to demonstrate partnership commitment to the project. During April and May the Project Team will be developing work on the allocation of risks for the contract, the output specification, and evaluation criteria.
- 2.4 The indicative timetable for the Waste Treatment Project is attached at Annex A.
- 2.5 On food waste processing, Entec have been engaged to provide technical advice and assist with the procurement process. The OJEU notice for this procurement is expected to follow shortly after the treatment contract notice.

**3 Financial, Risk and Staff Implications**

- 3.1 A comprehensive risk register exists for the procurement which is updated and reported to the Waste Treatment Board at appropriate intervals. A key area of concern is the relationship between the waste treatment procurement process and preparation of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework, Waste Sites and Policies Document, which will have an impact on when any facility could be expected to receive planning consent. Work on contractual risks and the allocation of risks between the County Council and the contractor started in March. It will be important to manage risks as well as possible in order to reduce the risks of delay or market failure that could lead to LATS fines.

Frankie Upton, our Waste Project Manager has now returned to work.

