

REPORT TO: RECESS SUB COMMITTEE - 11th JULY 2005

REPORT ON: RIVERSIDE LANDFILL SITE AFTERCARE AND CLOSURE PLAN

REPORT BY: HEAD OF WASTE MANAGEMENT

REPORT NO: 443-2005

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise members of the progress and timescales associated with the Aftercare and Closure Plan for Riverside Landfill Site.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 The Head of Waste Management be authorised to implement and complete all necessary final remediation works following approval of the Aftercare and Closure Plan by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA).

3.0 FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

- 3.1 An allowance of £100,000 per annum has been made in the Capital Budget of the Waste Management Department for the next three years for the restoration of Riverside Landfill Site. These costs, however, will be minimised as far as possible by using recycled top soil material for the restoration works.

4.0 LOCAL AGENDA 21 IMPLICATIONS

- 4.1 Resources are used efficiently and waste is minimised.
- 4.2 Health is protected by creating a safe, clean and pleasant environment.

5.0 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES IMPLICATIONS

- 5.1 Nil

6.0 BACKGROUND

- 6.1 SEPA have approved in principle, the Aftercare and Closure Plan for Riverside Landfill Site submitted under the Environmental Protection Act 1990 in March 2005, but requested additional information and detail for some specific areas.
- 6.2 The final Aftercare and Closure Plan including the requested additional information has now been submitted, and formal approval is awaited. Restoration of the site is scheduled to be completed by July 2007.
- 6.3 SEPA have expressed particular interest in three aspects of the closure of Riverside, namely leachate management, landfill gas management and the depth of final cover in certain areas of the site.
- 6.4 They have concluded that leachate management is not a serious factor on site owing to the location on the estuary of the Tay. However, the Council is required to address the issues of gas management and final cover.

- 6.5 Gas management has been investigated, with the City Engineer's Department receiving a brief to seek tenders for the design, supply and installation of a pipe collection network system and flare stack for destroying or re-using any methane gas which is present. It is anticipated that this matter will be the subject of a further Committee report in October 2005. The investigatory works so-far carried out however regarding quantifying landfill gas on-site have indicated that only low levels are likely to be present.
- 6.6 Provision of suitable cover materials for the final restoration level at Riverside has been ongoing for a number of years. The sources to-date have included soils from recycled parks material, surplus materials resulting from the on-site composting operation, and supplies of top soil from third parties. There are several areas at Riverside where this material has been stockpiled in preparation for spreading where required. Further quantities of suitable top soil are required to complete the restoration works.
- 6.7 In order to generate the quantity of final top soil required, a small section of the site is to be let to Delson Contracts for their excavation material recycling operations. The top soil material which is generated from this process will be applied to the relevant areas of Riverside as directed by the Scottish Environment Protection Agency and the City Council.
- The provision and application of this material will be carried out by the contractor at no cost to the City Council and since it will be used at the place of its production, any impact caused by transportation will be minimised.
- There will be no visual impact associated with the recycling operations and these will take place adjacent to the existing compost recycling operations.
- This agreement with Delson Contracts Ltd will initially extend for six months and will be evaluated for its merits at the end of 2005.
- 6.8 The application of final top-soil to the required areas will allow the site to reach its Closure and Aftercare status and be operated in line with the requirements of the Aftercare Plan by around July 2007. At that stage, and with the agreement of the Scottish Environment Protection Agency, a Risk Assessment will be carried out at the site to establish which parts will be suitable to be landscaped, developed and made accessible to the general public.

7.0 CONSULTATION

- 7.1 The Chief Executive
Depute Chief Executive (Finance)
Depute Chief Executive (Support Services)
City Engineer

8.0 BACKGROUND PAPERS

- 8.1 None.

Jim Laing
Head of Waste Management

Date: 4th July 2005