



Development of Waste Treatment Facility, comprising Reception and Recycling Hall; Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) Facility; Advanced Conversion Technology (ACT) Facility; Power Generation and Export Facility; Education and Office Accommodation; Landscaping and, Access.

Sinfin Lane Resource Recovery Park

Resource Recovery Solutions (Derbyshire) Ltd

Environmental Statement

Chapter 13:

Amenity Impacts

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13 Amenity

13.1 Introduction

13.1.1 This Chapter assesses the effects upon amenity associated with the proposed development. In addition to the air quality, odour, dust, and noise issues which are addressed in Chapters 7 and 12 respectively, waste management facilities also have the potential to cause environmental effects through the potential generation of litter, or through the attraction of vermin, birds and other pests to the site.

13.1.2 In addition to the incoming waste, the site will also export waste associated with the waste recovery operation and by-products from the energy recovery operation. The principal waste exported from the site will be:

- Bottom Ash from the energy recovery stage associated with the ACT operation
- Flue Gas Treatment (FGT) Residues
- Large Recyclables, non-processible objects, gully waste, bulky waste, clinical waste associated with the Waste Reception Operation
- Ferrous and non-ferrous metals associated with Primary Screening and Secondary Separation

13.1.3 Furthermore, during the remediation and construction phases there is also the potential to impact on local amenity through and the deposition of mud on the road.

13.1.4 The principal means of control of these considerations during operation will be through the Environmental Permit rather than through the planning regime. Nevertheless, the potential impacts and the proposed mitigation are summarised in this chapter.

Scoping

13.1.5 The scope of this Chapter has been agreed with Derby City Council as set out in the Scoping Request (see Appendix 1), and through the Council's Scoping Opinion (see Appendix 2).

13.2 Legislation and Policy Context

13.2.1 The effect of development on the amenity of local areas and their residents is a material consideration in the determining of planning applications. Accordingly, such matters are addressed within the development plan through policies in respect of what might be termed general amenity. The Planning Policy Framework is identified in Chapter 3 and analysed

further in the Reasoned Justification of the Planning Application Supporting Statement. Policies relevant to amenity issues, are as follows:

- 1) Policy W6 of the Derby & Derbyshire Waste Local Plan relates to Pollution and Related Nuisances. It states:

“Waste development will be permitted only if the development would not result in material harm caused by contamination, pollution or other adverse environmental or health effects to:

- *people or communities;*
- *the site of the development;*
- *nearby land uses; or*
- *the wider environment.”*

- 2) Policy GD5 of the Derby Local Plan requires a satisfactory level of amenity to be demonstrated and sets out criteria: It states:

“Planning permission will only be granted for development where it provides a satisfactory level of amenity within the site or building itself and provided it would not cause unacceptable harm to the amenity of nearby areas. In considering harm, the Council will consider the following:

- a. *Loss of privacy;*
- b. *Overbearing (massing) effect;*
- c. *Loss of sunlight and daylight;*
- d. *Noise, vibration, smells, fumes, smoke, soot, ash, dust or grit;*
- e. *Air, water, noise and light pollution;*
- f. *Hazardous substances and industrial processes;*
- g. *Traffic generation, access and car parking.”*

13.2.2 This Chapter addresses litter, vermin and other pests and mud on the road. Other chapters within the Environmental Statement address: a, b, c and e (part) (Chapter 8, Landscape and Visual); d, f (Chapter 7 Air Quality and Chapter 12 Noise); e (part) (Chapter 10 Hydrology and 11 Hydrogeology and g (Chapter 6 Traffic and Transport).

13.3 Assessment Methodology

13.3.1 This Chapter provides a qualitative assessment of the potential impacts. The significance of effects will be determined by the interaction of two factors:

- The value, importance or sensitivity of the receptor; and
- The magnitude, scale or severity of the effect or change.

13.3.2 The sensitivity of a receptor is determined by how sensitive a resource or group is to, and its ability to absorb an environmental effect or change.

13.3.3 The sensitivity of receptors will be defined as identified in Table 13.1 below:

Sensitivity	Description
High	Amenity is very important to these receptors owing to their sensitivity to changes in amenity, and their legitimate expectations regarding levels of amenity
Medium	Amenity is important to these receptors owing to their sensitivity to changes in amenity, and their legitimate expectations regarding levels of amenity.
Low	Amenity is less important to these receptors owing to their sensitivity to changes in amenity, and their legitimate expectations regarding levels of amenity.
Negligible	The sensitivity of these receptors is limited or they are not sensitive to changes in amenity.

Table 13.1 Sensitivity Definitions

13.3.4 The sensitivity of receptors in respect of the amenity affects will be determined by the nature of the effect i.e. litter or mud, and the proximity to the effect. For example, the further away from any mud deposited on the highway the receptor is, the less sensitive it will be to the environmental effect. Sensitivity will also be determined by how sensitive the receptor is to the nature of the effect. To varying degrees all receptors are sensitive to changes in amenity affects, and determining sensitivity for a particular receptor is highly subjective, therefore, determining sensitivity of receptors is determined by comparing the sensitivity of one receptor relative to that of another. For example, at the extremes, residential development will be relatively more sensitive to changes in amenity affects than retailers. Essentially this is because resident's legitimate expectations for amenity are generally higher i.e it is relatively

more legitimate to expect your house to be free from vermin, than the shops you visit (even if it is not unreasonable to expect to shops to be free from vermin). The reasoning for this is in part due to the nature of the receptor and in part due to the time spent there.

13.3.5 Accordingly, the sensitivity of receptors to amenity in general is as defined in Table 13.2 below:

Sensitivity	Receptor Type
High	Residential receptors tend to be the most sensitive to all amenity issues due to the regular presence of people for long periods and amenity effects impacting on the enjoyment of their own property. Some retail / industrial receptors (e.g. food outlets) may also be particularly sensitive to impacts associated with vermin due to the potential tainting of food.
Moderate	Retail receptors may be moderately sensitive to litter as a dirty frontage may reduce their attractiveness to customers. Industrial / commercial receptors may be moderately sensitive to fly infestation as buzzing flies may disturb work. Recreational areas may also be sensitive to amenity impacts as people may be put off using a certain area or facility and will affect 'enjoyment'. However, they are less sensitive than residential areas as people are only present for short periods.
Low	Industrial receptors tend to be relatively insensitive to litter and mud as they are often relatively dirty in any case and 'enjoyment' of property is not an issue.
Negligible	No people present / no access.

13.3.6 The magnitude of impact is the actual change taking place to the environment, and will be defined as identified in Table 13.3 below:

Magnitude of Impact	Typical criteria descriptors
Major	Severe loss in quality of amenity (Adverse).
	Large scale or major improvement in the quality of amenity; extensive restoration or enhancement; major improvement of attribute quality (Beneficial).
Moderate	Readily noticeable/appreciable loss in quality of amenity (Adverse).
	Readily noticeable/appreciable improvement in quality of amenity (Beneficial).
Minor	Some measurable change in quality of amenity but less noticeable/appreciable (Adverse).
	Some measurable improvement to amenity (Beneficial).
Negligible	Very minor loss/detriment to amenity (Adverse).
	Very minor improvement to amenity (Beneficial).
No change	No identifiable change in level of amenity

Table 13.3 Definitions: Magnitude of Impacts

13.3.7 The significance of environmental effects will be defined as identified in Table 13.4 below:

Significance Category	Typical descriptors of effect
Very Large	Only adverse effects are normally assigned this level of significance. They represent key factors in the decision-making process. These effects are generally, but not exclusively, associated with Residential areas.
Large	These beneficial or adverse effects are considered to be very important considerations and are likely to be material in the decision-making process.
Moderate	These beneficial or adverse effects may be important, but are not likely to be key decision-making factors. The cumulative effects of such factors may influence decision-making if they lead to an increase in the overall adverse effect in the quality of amenity.
Slight	These beneficial or adverse effects may be raised as local factors. They are unlikely to be critical in the decision-making process, but are important in enhancing the subsequent design of the project.
Neutral	No effects or those that are beneath levels of perception.

Table 13.4 Definitions: Significance of Effects

13.3.8 Significance of effect will therefore be determined as identified by Table 13.5 below:

		MAGNITUDE OF IMPACT (DEGREE OF CHANGE)				
		No Change	Negligible	Minor	Moderate	Major
ENVIRONMENTAL VALUE (SENSITIVITY)	High	Neutral	Slight	Slight or Moderate	Moderate or Large	Large or Very Large
	Medium	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Slight	Moderate	Moderate or Large
	Low	Neutral	Neutral or slight	Neutral or Slight	Slight	Slight or moderate
	Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral or Slight	Neutral or Slight	Slight

Table 13.5 Significance Determination

13.3.9 As it is difficult to quantify the significance of effects it relation to amenity impacts, a qualitative assessment based upon professional judgement will be made. Using this methodology, the greater the sensitivity of the receptor, and the greater the magnitude of impact, the more significant the effect will be.

13.4 Baseline Conditions

13.4.1 The proposal site has an area of approximately 3.4 hectares, and comprises the former tannery site that is bounded by rail lines to the north and east, Sinfin Lane to the West and Rolls Royce to the south. The site has been unused for a number of years and has become overgrown with grass and scrub with self set trees along its north, east, and southern boundaries.

13.4.2 To the north, east and south of the site the predominant land use is industrial in nature. To the west of the site, beyond Sinfin Lane and the rail line is an area of allotment gardens beyond which is residential development.

13.4.3 Figure 13.1 identifies sensitive receptors within 1 km of the site. In summary, these are:

- Residential Areas including schools, allotments, recreation and sports ground, medical centre
- Industrial Development
- Retail Superstore
- Rail Line

13.4.4 The sensitivity of the Sensitive Receptors identified are therefore determined as identified in Table 13.6 below:

Land-use	Sensitivity to Litter	Sensitivity to Mud on Road	Sensitivity to pests and vermin
Residential Amenity	High	High	High
Industrial Amenity	Low	Medium	Medium
Retail Amenity	Low	Low	Medium
Rail line Amenity	Low	Negligible	Negligible

Table 13.6 Sensitivity of Identified Receptors

13.5 Incorporated Enhancement and Mitigation

13.5.1 The following control measures are inherently incorporated into the development proposals to reduce the potential amenity impacts.

Litter

13.5.2 The following control measures will reduce the potential amenity impacts from wind blown litter:

- All vehicles delivering waste to or removing waste from the site will be required to ensure that loads carried in open vehicles or containers are secured with a net or tarpaulin to prevent items falling or being blown from the load.
- All waste treatment and transfer operations that may be susceptible to problems from windblown litter (i.e the storage and processing of wastes containing paper, cardboard and plastics) will be conducted inside the enclosed building. Storage of

segregated/processed materials of a similar nature will either be inside or if outside, on the impermeable hard standing in enclosed or sheeted skips/containers

- The facility will be inspected at daily intervals for litter. Any litter that is blown from the site into adjoining parts of site or onto the hard standing area will be collected at least once per week.
- Use of fast closing doors when waste is delivered which will shut prior to unloading in the waste reception area
- Litter fencing

Vermin and Other Pests

13.5.3 The following control measures will reduce the potential amenity impacts from vermin and other pests:

- Undertaking all waste reception and storage operations involving biodegradable waste within the enclosed building
- Minimising the time between initial collection of waste, and treatment or transfer
- Ensuring that kitchen and green waste delivered to the facility is not retained on the site for long periods and is transported off-site without delay. The maximum retention for such waste will be 1 day or 3 days over bank holiday weekends
- Regular inspections and treatment by pest control specialists including the use of pesticides, rodenticides, and traps, as appropriate
- Inspection and treatment of areas where rats are likely to live such as drains, and culverts.

Mud

13.5.4 The following measures will reduce the potential amenity impacts from Mud during construction:

- Water sprays, wheel washing facilities and road sweeping

13.6 Identification and Evaluation of Likely Significant Effects

Construction Phase (Temporary)

Litter

13.6.1 During this phase there is almost no prospect of any generation of litter other than packaging associated building materials, etc. Should some litter become airborne it will be unlikely to escape from the site due to the effectiveness of the boundary treatment as a barrier. Furthermore, there will be regular litter picking activities within the site.

13.6.2 However, there is less prospect of litter being generated at the site in its present use given that it is unused and is not a source of litter.

13.6.3 The magnitude of the impact on the environment is therefore assessed as being Negligible for sensitive receptors within 250m of the site (as shown on Figure 13.2); Negligible for sensitive receptors within 250m – 500m owing to distance and physical barriers such as road, rail line, and buildings; and, No Change for sensitive receptors further way due to distance and barriers it is unlikely that much litter be found.

13.6.4 The significance of the environmental effects for litter is therefore assessed as indentified in Table 13.7 below:

		Magnitude of Impact		
Sensitivity of Receptor		0-250m	250-500m	500m-1km
	Residential - High	Negligible	Negligible	No change
	Non-Residential - Low	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse	Neutral

Table 13.7 Significance of Effect for Litter during Construction Phase

13.6.5 In determining the above significance of effects judgement was used to determine which option was relevant in respect to the effect of industrial at 250-500m. It was determined that the significance of effect was Slight rather than Neutral on the basis that there would be some change to the environment at those distances.

13.6.6 The overall significance of effect on the environment of litter during the Construction Phase is assessed at worst to be Slight Adverse for both the residential and non-residential receptors indentified.

Vermin and Other pests

13.6.7 There is little potential for the attraction of vermin and other pests to the site during this phase of development as there will be no obvious attraction for the or source of them. Equally, there is little potential for vermin or other pest in the sites current un-used state.

13.6.8 The magnitude of impact is therefore assessed has been No Change.

13.6.9 The significance of effect for vermin and other pest during this phase is therefore as identified in Table 13.8 below:

Magnitude of Impact				
Sensitivity of Receptor		0-250m	250-500m	500m-1km
		No Change	No Change	No change
	Residential - High	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
	Non-Residential – Medium to Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

Table 13.8 Significance of Effect for Vermin and Other Pests during Remediation and Construction Phase

13.6.10 The significance of effect on the environment is therefore neutral.

Mud Deposits

13.6.11 There is the potential for mud to be deposited on the road in the vicinity of the site from vehicles importing and exporting material to the site during the remediation and construction phases. The amenity issue likely to occur in this respect relates to visual amenity, as potential for traffic accidents is a highway safety issue and does not concern amenity.

13.6.12 However, given the proposed mitigation measures proposed in the form of wheel washing and regular road sweeping reduce the prospects of mud being deposited, and therefore the magnitude of impact is assessed as being Negligible within 250m of the site. It is unlikely that of the potential mud deposits none would occur more than 250m from the site and as such, it assessed that there would be No Change in magnitude of impact.

13.6.13 The significance of effect for Mud Deposited on the Highway is therefore assessed as identified in Table 13.9 below:

Magnitude of Impact				
Sensitivity of Receptor		0-250m	250-500m	500m-1km
		Negligible	No Change	No change
	Residential - High	Slight Adverse	Neutral	Neutral
	Industrial and Retail-Low	Slight Adverse	Neutral	Neutral
	Rail-Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

Table 13.9 Significance of Effect for Mud deposited on the Highway during Remediation and Construction Phase

13.6.14 In determining the significance of effect for Retail and Industrial within 250m of the site it is assessed that Slight was more appropriate than Neutral on the basis that there is some potential for Mud deposits.

13.6.15 The overall significance of effect of Mud Deposits is assessed as being no more than Slight Adverse.

Operational Phase

Litter

13.6.16 During this phase there is little prospect of any generation of litter at the site as any wastes will be unlikely to become air borne as litter, due to waste being dealt with within the building behind fast acting fabric doors. Should some litter escape from the building it will be unlikely to escape from the site due to the effectiveness of the boundary treatment as a barrier. Furthermore, there will be regular litter picking activities within the site.

13.6.17 However, there is less prospect of litter being generated at the site in its present use given that it is unused and there is no source of litter.

13.6.18 The magnitude of the impact on the environment is therefore assessed as being Negligible for sensitive receptors within 250m of the site (as shown on Figure 13.2); Negligible for sensitive receptors within 250m – 500m owing to distance and physical barriers such as road, rail line,

and buildings; and, No Change for sensitive receptors further way owing to distance and barriers it is unlikely that much litter be found.

13.6.19 The significance of the environmental effects for litter would therefore be assessed as identified in Table 13.10:

		Magnitude of Impact		
		0-250m	250-500m	500m-1km
Sensitivity of Receptor		Negligible	Negligible	No change
	Residential - High	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse	Neutral
	Non-Residential - Low	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse	Neutral

Table 13.10 Significance of Effect for Litter during the Operational Phase

13.6.20 In determining the above significance of effects judgement was used to determine which option was relevant in respect to the effect of non-residential at 250-500m. It was determined that the significance of effect was Slight rather than Neutral on the basis that there would be some change to the environment at those distances.

13.6.21 The overall significance of effect on the environment of litter is assessed at worst to be Slight Adverse for both the residential and non-residential receptors identified.

Vermin and pests

13.6.22 Due to the biodegradable nature of the waste to be managed at the site, especially that associated with Municipal Solid Waste, there is the potential for the site to attract vermin and other pests such as birds and flies.

13.6.23 However, at well managed facilities incorporating the inherent mitigation measures set out this is unlikely to materialise as an amenity issue especially given that the waste material giving rise to the potential will be within an enclosed building with fast acting doors and therefore less likely to be accessible to vermin and birds. It would also be less likely that any flies would be able to escape to the surrounding environment. Furthermore, the operation will include regular pest control inspections.

13.6.24 The magnitude of the impact on the environment is therefore assessed as being Negligible for sensitive receptors within 250m of the site (as shown on Figure 13.2); Negligible for sensitive

receptors within 250m – 500m; and, Negligible for sensitive receptors. These assessments are based on the nature of the pests and particularly flies densities diminishing over distance.

13.6.25 The significance of effect on the environment for Vermin and Other Pests is therefore assessed as identified in Table 13.11 below:

Magnitude of Impact				
Sensitivity of Receptor		0-250m Negligible	250-500m Negligible	500m-1km Negligible
	Residential - High	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse
	Industrial- Medium	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse
	Retail – Medium	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse	Slight Adverse
	Rail- Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

Table 13.11 Significance of Effect for Vermin and Other Pests during the Operational Phase

13.6.26 In determining the significance of effect on the environment the Slight Adverse rather than the Neutral option was considered more appropriate for Industrial, and Retail on the basis that some effect was possible. However, the opposite was considered appropriate given the less sensitive nature of the receptor.

13.6.27 The overall significance of effect on the environment of vermin and pests is assessed as no worse than Slight Adverse.

Mud Deposits

13.6.28 There is no potential for mud to be deposited on the road during the operational phase of the development, as there will be no mud associated with the operation.

13.6.29 As there is no potential for mud to be deposited at present given that the site is un-used, the magnitude of impact is assessed as No Change.

13.6.30 The significance of effect on the environment from Mud deposits during this phase is therefore assessed as identified in table 13.12 below:

Magnitude of Impact				
Sensitivity of Receptor		0-250m No Change	250-500m No Change	500m-1km No change
	Residential - High	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
	Industrial- Low	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
	Retail – Low	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral
	Rail- Negligible	Neutral	Neutral	Neutral

Table 13.12 Significance of Effect for Mud Deposits during the Operational Phase

13.6.31 The overall significance of effect on the environment during this phase of the project is assessed as being Neutral.

13.7 Mitigation

13.7.1 The assessment of Likely Significant Effects, in section 13.6 above, takes account of the mitigation measures incorporated into the design of the proposed development. Taking this assessment into account, and in light of the comprehensive incorporation of mitigation measures already incorporated into the scheme, no further mitigation measures are proposed.

13.8 Residual Impacts

13.8.1 The residual amenity impacts in relation to Litter, Vermin and other pests, and Mud deposits directly associated with the proposal are likely to be of no more than slight (adverse) significance to the immediate environment.

13.8.2 Additionally, there is of course an associated direct benefit to diverting waste arising's from landfill to the Waste Treatment Facility, as it has more effective mitigation measures such as enclosing the waste.

13.8.3 The range of residual impacts and their significance upon environment are summarised in table 13.13 below:

Phase	Nature of Impact	Magnitude of Impact (Range)	Significance of Effect (Range)
Operation	Litter	No Change to Negligible	Neutral to Slight Adverse
Remediation and Construction	Litter	No Change to Negligible	Neutral to Slight Adverse
Operation	Vermin and Other Pests	Negligible	Neutral to Slight Adverse
Remediation and Construction	Vermin and Other Pests	No Change	Neutral
Operation	Mud Deposited on Highway	No Change	Neutral
Remediation and Construction	Mud Deposited on Highway	No Change to Negligible	Neutral to Slight Adverse

Table 13.13 Summary of Significance of Effects

13.9 Conclusions

- 13.9.1 The potential adverse effects on local amenity from Litter, Vermin and Other Pests, and Mud Deposited on the Highway can be mitigated to an acceptable level. These standards will be required under the terms of the sites Environmental Permit.
- 13.9.2 Taking the mitigation measures into account, it is considered that the development will not give rise to any unacceptable effects in terms of local amenity.
- 13.9.3 In addition, the diversion of the municipal waste element of the waste from landfill to the proposed Waste Treatment Facility will potentially have a direct beneficial effect upon any sensitive receptors adjacent to those existing sites within the County in relation to effects from Litter, and Vermin and Other Pests.