

STATES OF JERSEY

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RE-USE AND RECYCLING FACILITIES: CAPITAL AND REVENUE FUNDING

Lodged au Greffe on 15th January 2008
by Deputy J.B. Fox of St. Helier

STATES GREFFE

PROPOSITION

THE STATES are asked to decide whether they are of opinion –

to request the Council of Ministers to –

- (a) re-prioritise the current capital programme to bring forward in the 2009 Annual Business Plan allocated funding for a permanent Re-use and Recycling Centre in 2009 (currently scheduled for 2011);
- (b) re-prioritise the current capital programme to bring forward in the 2009 Annual Business Plan allocated funding for an additional permanent Re-use and Recycling Centre in the east of the Island in 2009;
- (c) make provision in the 2009 States Business Plan and beyond for the revenue required to operate such facilities upon completion.

DEPUTY J.B. FOX OF ST. HELIER

REPORT

The Minister for Transport and Technical Services has proposed the temporary relocation of the public green waste reception facility to Compound 6, Field 1491, Bellozanne Valley, St. Helier for a period of up to 4 years until such time as the proposed Energy from Waste Facility is established at La Collette. Following the decommissioning of the Bellozanne incinerator, the Minister has proposed that a permanent re-use and recycling centre, to include garden waste, be established on the main site at Bellozanne.

The Minister indicates that this temporary re-location was totally unforeseen at the time of the Solid Waste Strategy debate and is necessary because the site of the current reception facility at La Collette is needed to progress the proposed Energy from Waste Plant. The original plan to locate the public garden waste reception in a new position at La Collette has recently been confirmed as unacceptable due to the number of people visiting the site, its proximity to the La Collette Fuel Farm and the consequent unacceptable level of risk following the Buncefield terminal explosion in December 2005.

The chosen temporary location in Bellozanne Valley is considered reasonable by the Department because it offers the opportunity for residents to deliver garden waste at the same time as delivering other recyclable waste to the new Temporary Re-use and Recycling Centre at Bellozanne.

However, the residents of Bellozanne Valley and First Tower are concerned about the traffic impact of a further waste management facility in the valley in addition to the current Sewage Treatment Works, Waste Incinerator Bulky Waste Handling and Re-use and Recycling Facility.

The Solid Waste Strategy approved by the States in July 2005 (P.95/2005) included proposals for a permanent Re-use and Recycling Centre and indicated the advantages of co-locating this with public collection facilities for green waste. The States Business Plan includes the allocation of £1.452 million for a permanent Re-use and Recycling Centre in 2010.

My proposition is asking the States to agree to establish a second reception site in 2009 for recycling and garden waste to minimise the traffic impact on residents in Bellozanne Valley. My suggestion would be to establish a third site in the east of the Island as well, to serve the heavily populated areas of the Island and hence distribute and minimise the traffic impact across the Island of recycling centres, thereby helping the environment.

The Minister for Transport and Technical Services has publicly indicated his support for more than one public garden waste and recycling collection facility to be developed because of the advantages in traffic reduction across the Island. However, the Department does not have the available capital funding to establish permanent re-use and recycling facilities until the capital allocation is available in 2010. In addition, the department does not have sufficient revenue funding to operate additional sites until this is identified and approved by the States, either in the form of Environmental Taxes or, through additional revenue through the States Annual Business Plan.

The unforeseen requirement to temporarily relocate the public garden waste collection facility away from La Collette and the strong concerns raised by Bellozanne residents over the location of just one facility in Bellozanne Valley until other operations are removed from the site, has meant that the Transport and Technical Services Department developed proposals for a further temporary reception facility to be located at Field 298, St. Peter, the old Mermaid compost site. I must emphasise that this site would be for receiving garden waste from the public only and NOT for composting operations. The site would be cleared of waste at the end of each day's operation.

In addition, I am asking the Minister for Transport and Technical Services to identify a site that would serve the east of the Island.

It is anticipated that the site at St. Peter would attract approximately one third of the total traffic movements associated with the public green waste collection if this site were to be established at the same time as the Bellozanne Valley facility. This would result in a considerably reduced impact on the residents of Bellozanne Valley, but also a much needed and convenient public amenity for residents in the west of the Island.

Financial and manpower implications

I understand from the Department that the engineering costs necessary for establishment of the most basic green waste collection site in Field 298, St. Peter are estimated to be £315,000 to prepare the site to be compliant with the Waste Law and Water Pollution Law, and containers and equipment are estimated to cost £45,000 giving a total capital cost of £350,000. The cost of operating the site would be in the order of £200,000 per annum to operate 6.5 days per week. This would include staff costs, amenity facilities, environmental and security monitoring and vehicle costs to transport the waste from the site to the permanent compost processing facility. The Department has confirmed that to operate this site as a permanent facility including recycling for other materials, the capital cost would increase to approximately £600,000 and revenue costs by a further £50,000 p.a.

Once the third Re-use and Recycling Centre is identified for the east of the Island, it can be assumed that it would require similar financial resourcing as that indicated for the proposed St. Peter's basic green waste collection site.

Given that the States has already recognised the future requirement for such Re-use and Recycling facilities and have allocated capital funding in 2010, my proposition is to bring forwards this allocation to 2009 and to re-prioritise the capital and revenue programme accordingly.