

MEMBER BRIEFING

Weston Mill Recycling Centre Upgrade



The Environment Agency have reported their concerns that the surface water and foul sewer drainage systems at Weston Mill Recycling Centre require improvement.

Following the decision to keep the facility open, investment is required to prevent the potential risk for pollution event to occur from the site as there is not a sufficient drainage system in place to allow for high rainfall and flooding events

The site has been identified as a key part of the city's infrastructure in the plan to increase the recycling rate for domestic waste which will reduce disposal costs.

The facility requires the design of a new drainage system and once installed, the site will need to be resurfaced with new internal road markings that will improve traffic throughput and keep pedestrian site users safer as well as new steps to ensure public safety when using the facilities.

The costs associated with these works totals £203,000

The design and installation of the new drainage system will allow the facility to operate legally without the potential to cause a pollution incident.

Resurfacing the site and provision of new internal road markings will improve traffic throughput and separate the residents using the facility from vehicles which will improve site safety.

Success will be measured by customer satisfaction and decreased health & safety risks. The installation of the drainage systems will enable pollution incidents to be avoided and the resurfacing and new road markings will improve traffic flow and increase site user safety.

The local authority has a statutory duty to provide HWRC facilities and if it wants to ensure the continued provision of the Weston Mill HWRC it must operate within the confines of the site waste management licence and the Environmental Protection Act.

The Weston Mill HWRC will need to be closed for the work (up to 2 months) to be undertaken and historically October and November has seen a reduction in tonnage of waste received and number of visits made to the site. Pre-closure advertising and suitable arrangements for disposal will be made in advance.

Failure to invest in the facility as outlined could result in potential prosecution and closure. These tactical investments into the waste and recycling centres will future proof the sites and continue to deliver our statutory requirements whilst being in accordance with the Local Authority environmental permits.