

ANGUS COUNCIL

NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES COMMITTEE – 8 OCTOBER 2009

ARRAT'S MILL CLOSURE PLAN

REPORT BY DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES

**ABSTRACT:**

To seek Committee approval to proceed with the closure plan for Arrat's Mill Landfill Site.

**1. RECOMMENDATIONS**

1.1 It is recommended that the Committee;

- i. Agree to formally submitting the Closure Plan to the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA) for a variation of licence and approval to cap and close the landfill site.
- ii. Remit to the Director of Neighbourhood Services to seek tenders and to bring forward a further report, on obtaining SEPA approval, outlining the most cost-effective method of capping and closure of the landfill site.
  - a. Remit to the Director of Neighbourhood Services to seek tenders and to bring forward a further report to establish a series of boreholes to monitor water and gas levels and to establish an ongoing monitoring regime to fully satisfy the requirements of the SEPA license.

**2. BACKGROUND**

3.

- 2.1 Arrat's Mill Landfill Site lies just off the Brechin to Montrose Road. It was originally rented by Angus District Council and utilised as a transfer station and landfill site during a period of approximately 20 years between 1980 and 2000.
- 2.2 An extension was added in 1992, which by 1999/2000 had been filled and the increasing size of waste collection vehicles meant that the transfer station concept was no longer valid. Arrat's Mill as a working site at this point had reached a natural completion.

**4. CURRENT POSITION**

- 3.1 The Council has commissioned a report from Grontmij which provides a Closure and Restoration Landfill Site Assessment for Arrat's Mill.
- 3.2 This report shows that the Council will not be able to surrender the SEPA waste management licence until it can be shown that the site has stabilised physically, chemically and biologically. A copy is available in the Member's Lounge.
- 3.3 The report also sets out a monitoring regime in relation to potential leachate and landfill gas generation which will require the Council to have access to the site for a number of years.

**4. PROPOSALS**

- 4.1 The first stage of the closure process is to submit the Closure, Restoration and Aftercare Plan for a variation of licence to SEPA. This plan was also commissioned through Grontmij and Council Officers are satisfied with the contents. A copy is available in the Member's Lounge. The timescale from submission of the plan to determination by SEPA is likely to be a minimum of four months.
- 4.2 It is further proposed that the Director of Neighbourhood Services seek tenders from appropriate contractors to supply material to cap and restore the site in line with the plan and SEPA variation of

license and to bring forward a further report to committee outlining the most cost-effective method of capping and closure of the landfill site.

- 4.3 In addition the Director of Neighbourhood Services is to seek tenders from appropriate contractors and to bring forward a further report to committee to install a series of boreholes, as outlined in the plan, to monitor water and gas levels as appropriate and to establish an on going monitoring regime to ensure full compliance with the SEPA license.

## **5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 The cost of the variation from SEPA is £1,165.00 which can be contained within the Environmental Management Service 2009/10 revenue budget.
- 5.2 The costs associated with capping and closure of the site are likely to be in the order of £150,000 to £200,000. These costs may be incurred over 2-3 years and it is intended that these will be met from Environmental Management capital resources. This aspect will be the subject of a further future report and the funding implications will be clarified further at that time.
- 5.3 The costs associated with installing the required boreholes to monitor water and gas levels is in the order of £30,000 and it is intended that these will be met from Environmental Management capital resources. This aspect will be subject of a further future report and the funding implications will be clarified further at that time.

## **6. HUMAN RIGHTS IMPLICATIONS**

- 6.1 There are no Human Rights implications arising from this report.

## **7. EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

- 7.1 The issues dealt with in this report have been the subject of consideration from an equalities perspective (as required by legislation). An [equalities impact assessment](#) is not required.

## **8. SINGLE OUTCOME AGREEMENT**

This report contributes to the following local outcome contained within the single Outcome Agreement for Angus

- Angus natural environment is promoted and enhanced.
- The carbon and ecological footprints of Angus are reduced.

## **9. CONSULTATION**

- 9.1 The Chief Executive, Director of Corporate Services, Head of Finance, and Head of Law & Administration have been consulted in the preparation of this report.

## **10. CONCLUSION**

- 10.1 Arrat's Mill Landfill Site and Transfer Station are no longer required by the Council in dealing with treatment and disposal of waste and the closure, restoration and aftercare plan implementation is now required.

**RON ASHTON**

**DIRECTOR OF NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES**

**NOTE:** No background papers, as defined by Section 50D of the Local Government (Scotland) Act 1973 (other than any containing confidential or exempt information) were relied on to any material extent in preparing the above report.

**NS/RA/JRZ**