

## **Briefing Note**

### **Request to increase the tonnage throughput at Shelford**

In the last two months Valencia Waste Management Limited commissioned two facilities with similar operations and objectives to the Shelford MRF facility. The two facilities (Dunbar and Heathfield) are processing waste originally destined to go directly to landfill and removing material that can be recycled. In both operations the speed the material can be processed, and the recycling rates have been higher than we originally expected.

As a result, we have reviewed the Shelford application and believe we will be able to process more material per annum than the 150,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) stated in the current permit application. We would like to request that that limit be increased to 250,000 tpa. This will allow Valencia to process more material destined for landfill through the MRF facility to maximise the recycling rates.

We do not believe the increase to 250,000 tpa at this stage will change any of the environmental impacts that has already been assessed and mitigated in our current permit application for the following reasons.

- The increase to the MRF permitted tonnage will not increase the total tonnage entering the site. Site inputs, in total, will still be limited to the current permitted landfill tonnage. The increase in MRF tonnage will allow more material to be processed through the MRF before any residual material is then taken to the landfill.
- Since there is no incremental tonnage entering the site, there will not be any material, additional traffic movements. Where possible we will backhaul any recycled material off site using vehicles that have delivered input material.
- The processing at the MRF, and opening/closing times, will remain the same as currently described in the application. It is only the processing speed and throughput that will increase.
- Storage volumes and waste pile dimensions will remain the same as currently applied for, the stock will be turned more quickly if required.
- Since the operating process and the stockpile volumes will remain the same as they are now, the odour, noise and the fire prevention plans (and all associated documentation and procedures) will remain suitable and fit for purpose.

We believe the current processing equipment, once fully commissioned and calibrated for the type of waste inputs, will be able to process up to 250,000 tpa.

We are aiming for recovery rates of up to 30% of material so by making this change it should generate an additional 30,000 of recycled material per annum (a total of up to 75,000 per annum).