



# MVV Devonport Update



## Who is MVV?

MVV Energie has its headquarters in Mannheim, Germany. It employs more than 6,000 staff and has an annual turnover of €3.4 billion. MVV's core business is the distribution of energy, natural gas and water in Mannheim and other cities, the generation of energy from waste and the development of highly efficient energy solutions. It has set up MVV Environment Devonport Limited as a wholly owned subsidiary.

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## Comments

Do you have any comments or questions?  
Are there any topics you would like to see covered in our newsletter or on our website?

### Please:

**Fill in the form provided**

**Email us at:** [info@mvvuk.co.uk](mailto:info@mvvuk.co.uk)

**Write to us at:** MVV Environment Devonport Ltd, Scott Business Park,  
Unit 10 Beacon Park Road, Plymouth PL2 2PQ

**Phone:** 01752 565412

Question/comments .....

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Name ..... Address .....

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Resources  Innovation.

Thank you.

## Welcome to the first edition of MVV Devonport News



Welcome to the first edition of MVV Devonport Update, designed to keep you up to date on news about our proposal to develop an Energy from Waste plant at North Yard, Devonport.

I hope you will find it interesting. Please let me know if there are any topics you would like to see covered or if you have any comments.

**Paul Carey**  
Managing Director, MVV Environment Devonport Ltd



## EfW power plant contract signed

**MVV Environment Devonport Ltd and the South West Devon Waste Partnership (SWDWP)** have now signed a contract for the building, operation and maintenance of an Energy from Waste (EfW) power plant in Plymouth. MVV was awarded preferred bidder status in January, after a lengthy tendering process. The deal is expected to save council taxpayers around £560 million over the 25-year life of the project.

SWDWP is a partnership of Plymouth, Devon (West Devon, South Hams and part of Teignbridge districts) and Torbay Councils and the contract is to handle up to 245,000 tonnes of rubbish a year. MVV's chosen site is in the Weston Mill area of Devonport Naval Base, bordering Blackie's Wood. The plant will burn residual waste, that is, the rubbish that is left after material that can be re-used or composted has been taken out. It will then create heat and electricity which will be used in the Naval Base.

Mark Turner, Project Director of SWDWP, said: 'At the outset of the project the partnership estimated that a comparable energy-from-waste solution would cost around £825 million.

*'Because MVV has been able to sell the electricity and steam from the process, the actual cost of MVV's solution is £436 million, which is £389 million less than expected. In addition, by the three councils working together, we have secured central government PFI credit support worth another £177 million over the lifetime of the project. This means the partnership councils only have to fund £259 million for the waste solution*

*instead of the estimated £825 million, which is great news for council taxpayers.'*

Plymouth's rubbish is at present dumped in a landfill site. Since the Chelson Meadow landfill tip closed in 2008 the city has been sending its waste to Lean Quarry near Liskeard. With escalating penalties for using landfill, the city, along with its partners in Devon and Torbay, has faced a race against time to find a new solution. Mark Turner added: *'To compare with what we are doing at the moment, the cost of continuing with landfill and recycling the Partnership area is estimated to be £1,701 million. The cost of MVV's solution and recycling is £1,026 million, equating to a saving of £675 million for the Partnership.'*

The project is subject to approval of the planning application by the local planning authority, Plymouth City Council. MVV is currently working with the Council, discussing many of the issues of concern which were raised at the roadshows. MVV will report back as further information becomes available.



Plymouth's former landfill site at Chelson Meadow



# Out on the road

Hundreds of people from across South West Devon attended the series of roadshows in February organised by MVV and South West Devon Waste Partnership.

The roadshow visited ten public venues across the area and over 1,000 people attended, with over 270 people filling in feedback forms with questions or comments.

Bruce Braithwaite, MVV's Planning Manager, said: 'We would like to thank everyone who took the time to come

to an event talk about the proposals and give us their comments. We are looking at all the feedback we have received.

Many people said they would like more information on topics such as on health or traffic. We will use this newsletter to follow up many of these points and also give more information on our website.

[www.mvvuk.co.uk](http://www.mvvuk.co.uk)

## Local Liaison Committee launched

MVV is setting up a Local Liaison Committee (LLC) to promote discussion with local people and to give them a chance to meet staff from MVV, SWDWP, MOD, the Environment Agency, local Plymouth City councillors and other organisations, ask questions and get more detailed information on the scheme. The idea is that they can feed this back to their community. The committee will not only meet throughout the planning stage, but – if the scheme goes ahead – also during construction and operation of the plant.

At the roadshows, over 30 people said they would be prepared to take part. They were all invited to a preliminary meeting on 31 March at Tamar View Community Centre. Twelve people attended. Paul Carey from MVV and Mark Turner from SWDWP gave a brief introduction and answered questions.

As there were fewer people present than the 15 vacancies reserved for the local community on the LLC at the preliminary meeting, all were invited to attend the first meeting proper. This will be held on Thursday 19th May at Tamar View Community Centre at 6pm. Anyone who was not able to attend the preliminary meeting but is still interested in taking part should contact Paul Carey at [info@mvvuk.co.uk](mailto:info@mvvuk.co.uk). Alan Dyer, chairman of the Whiteleigh Forum, who had visited some of the roadshows and came to the initial discussion, offered to chair the first meeting. He said: 'I'm happy to volunteer and then we can decide at the first meeting if anyone else should take over.'

Details of the members of the committee and its terms of reference will be published on the website and in the next newsletter. If there are matters that you would like to see brought up, please contact one of the committee members, or MVV directly.

## Next round of roadshows

MVV will be holding more public roadshows in June to provide an update on progress, give further information on the project and to report on feedback from the February exhibitions. Paul Carey said: 'We intend to let people know how we have responded to their comments we have received and any changes we will be making to our plans. We will also give more information on the planning application which we are submitting to Plymouth City Council in May.'

The next round of exhibitions will be held in June at the Guildhall, Plymouth; Ivybridge; St Budeaux, Saltash, Keyham, Weston Mill; Barne Barton and Torpoint.

## Why Energy from Waste?

- Energy from Waste is a modern, well proven and safe technology for dealing with rubbish after things that can be re-used or recycled have been taken out
- There are over 400 such plants operating in Europe, many in the heart of cities such as Plymouth
- It produces electricity which can be used in the National Grid to power homes and businesses
- It can produce heat and steam which can heat the dockyard or local homes
- It saves burning fossil fuels such as coal and oil which produce CO<sub>2</sub>
- EfW and recycling go hand in hand – EfW does not stop recycling

## MVV opens local office

MVV is opening a local office at Scott Business Park, Unit 10, Beacon Park Road, Plymouth PL2 2PQ. Amanda Booth is MVV's office manager. She will be on hand to answer questions and talk to residents. The boards from the February roadshows will be on display. Anyone who missed the roadshows or would like to see the boards again can drop in to the office and leave their comments. The office will be open from 3 May, Tuesday to Thursday, from 10am to 3pm, and details will be publicised. No appointment will be necessary.



Amanda said: 'I am looking forward to meeting local people, hearing their views and discussing the project with them. I hope people will take the opportunity to drop in for a chat, and that they will find it useful to have a place where they can find out more about the plans.'

## What's left after the waste has been burned?

After waste has been burned, two kinds of ash are left: bottom ash and fly ash. Bottom ash is what is left on the grate that can't be burned. It consists of things like metal, glass and debris. The ash drops into a quenching bath and is then collected for further processing so that metals can be removed for recycling and the remainder can be used in road building, reclamation works or construction.

Fly ash is collected in the filters as the hot gases are cleaned up. It consists of small particles from the waste itself as well as the material added to the flue gas in order to remove harmful substances. The fly ash will be collected and transported off-site in special closed containers. It is not toxic, although it is classified as hazardous because it is alkaline like cement.

 **MVV** Environment  
Devonport Ltd

## Why we can't go on burying our rubbish

- Household rubbish currently goes to landfill sites after it has been collected by council refuse lorries. Councils cannot keep sending rubbish to be buried in holes in the ground.
- It produces methane – a harmful greenhouse gas which contributes to global warming
- It produces liquid waste which can pollute water supplies
- We are running out of landfill sites
- There are cost penalties for landfilling – and these costs are increasing significantly

