

Statement of Community Involvement

**Application for an Energy from Waste
Plant at North Yard, HM Naval Base,
Devonport**

May 2011

Statement of Community Involvement

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1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Purpose and scope

This statement has been produced to outline and explain the approaches taken by MVV to engage the public in its proposals for the development of an Energy from Waste (EfW) plant at North Yard, HM Naval Base, Devonport, which is in the Weston Mill area of the Naval Base bordering Blackies Wood. The proposed plant will treat 245,000 tonnes of waste a year and generate electricity and heat which will be used in the Dockyard.

This statement does not cover consultations undertaken with statutory consultees such as the Environment Agency or English Heritage. Details and evidence of contact with these consultees is shown in the relevant parts of the Environmental Statement (ES).

The statement is confined to consultation relating to the proposed EfW facility at the Devonport dockyard and does not include consultation on MVV's proposal for an Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) reprocessing facility at Buckfastleigh.

1.2 Consultees

In planning its community consultation MVV identified a wide range of stakeholders including:

- local residents
- local councillors,
- Members of Parliament
- local interest groups such as Stifle and liW and
- the business community
- staff working in HM Naval Base
- local media
- general public

This statement addresses the steps that MVV has undertaken to inform and consult these stakeholders.

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1.3 Principles of Community Engagement

Consultation is now an inherent part of the planning process.

This report outlines the consultation strategy employed by MVV in pre-application consultation and describes how this has informed the planning application. It:

- describes the consultation process
- summarises meetings held and community consultation undertaken, outlining the key issues raised and the outcomes during a process of community and stakeholder engagement that has taken place from February 2010 to March 2011
- includes details of all consultation material (as Appendix 1)
- indicates how the feedback we have received during this consultation has influenced MVV's proposals, identifying where our plans have changed in response to specific issues raised.

1.4 Overview of Engagement Undertaken

Early and continual dialogue with the various parties has been essential throughout the life cycle of the SWDWP project to date. MVV commissioned a specialist agency, Green Issues Communications, early in the bidding process to undertake an initial analysis to identify the range of stakeholder considerations, providing a basis from which to develop a formal stakeholder engagement plan. This analysis identified key opinion formers at all government levels in the area surrounding the proposed site, as well as other interest groups and areas of the local community who may be affected by the project.

During the period from February 2010 to March 2011 MVV undertook a comprehensive programme of community consultation. In undertaking this consultation, MVV endeavoured to be inclusive in all its communications with the local community and its elected representatives.

MVV will continue to inform and communicate with relevant stakeholders, and is keeping its communication programme under constant review, in consultation with the South West Devon Waste Partnership (SWDWP) and Plymouth City Council, as well as representatives of the local community.

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The programme has so far encompassed contact with:

- Members of Parliament
- Local elected councillors
- Local residents
- Local employers
- Employees in the HM Naval Base Devonport
- Representatives of local action/opposition groups, eg STIFLE and IIW
- Members of other representative organisations

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2. POLICIES RELEVANT TO PUBLIC CONSULTATION

2.1 National policy

Government aspirations for wider public involvement in the planning system were formalised by the previous government in 'PPS1: Delivering Sustainable Development'. This superseded 'PPS12: Local Development Frameworks, which recommended a number of consultation techniques appropriate for major planning applications.

In July 2008, HM Government issued the 'Code of Practice on Consultation' (3rd version, URN 08/1097). This set out the approach the Government would take, once a decision has been made to carry out a formal, written consultation exercise.

Although the Code does not have legal force or prevail over statutory requirements, it nevertheless provides a sound framework under which public consultations exercises should be undertaken whether by central government or by other bodies.

It sets out seven key criteria:

1. **When to consult** - Formal consultation should take place at a stage when there is scope to influence the policy outcome.
2. **Duration of consultation exercises** - Consultations should normally last for at least 12 weeks with consideration given to longer timescales where feasible and sensible.
3. **Clarity of scope and impact** - Consultation documents should be clear about the consultation process, what is being proposed, the scope to influence and the expected costs and benefits of the proposals.
4. **Accessibility of consultation exercises** - Consultation exercises should be designed to be accessible to, and clearly targeted at, those people the exercise is intended to reach.
5. **The burden of consultation** - Keeping the burden of consultation to a minimum is essential if consultations are to be effective and if consultees' buy-in to the process is to be obtained.

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6. **Responsiveness of consultation exercises** - Consultation responses should be analysed carefully and clear feedback should be provided to participants following the consultation.
7. **Capacity to consult** - Officials running consultations should seek guidance in how to run an effective consultation exercise and share what they have learned from the experience.

The Coalition Government is currently consulting on provisions of the Localism Bill, which will set out the requirement for developers to consult with local communities prior to submitting certain planning applications, including the possibility of a referendum prior to a planning decision being made. The Coalition Government has published as part of the consultation a basic guide, which states:

“Developers must consult communities before submitting certain planning applications, having regard to any advice that their local planning authority may provide.

They must consider any responses they receive before they finalise their proposals and submit their applications.

When submitting their application they must account for how they have consulted the local community, what comments they have received, and how they have taken those comments into account.

Communities will not have a power of veto over whether a planning application can be submitted. They will however be able to raise issues for the developer to consider, and make suggestions which could improve the development and reduce its impact on the neighbourhood. This will reduce local opposition, increase chances of a timely and positive decision from the planning authority, and improve the quality of the development that results”.

2.2 Local policy

MVV has taken note of the potentially developing policy framework outlined above, but its programme of pre-application public consultation is governed by current requirements, in particular Plymouth City Council’s Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).

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'How We Consult with You' - Plymouth City Council's SCI and Compact Code of Practice was adopted by full Council in April 2009. It sets out a minimum standard of consultation practice relating to applications in the Council's area. It also sets out five standards of good practice which organisations involving people should aim to meet. These are:

1. Who should be involved

- List who needs to be involved, think about who will be directly affected by the decision, who has expertise to offer, and who may need extra help to get involved.
- Take advice on who to involve and how from other relevant organisations or groups
- Resources should be focused on making sure the people identified have a chance to get involved
- Think about who could work with you to make involvement more comprehensive or to share resources with

2. Why people are being involved

- Be clear why people need to be involved in making a decision
- Be clear what decision is being made
- Make sure people are properly informed of the facts and background
- Be clear what can and cannot be changed

3. When people will be involved

- Resources should be focused towards early involvement when people can really influence the process
- It is recommended that consultation should be open for 12 weeks unless there are clear reasons such as statutory guidelines that say otherwise
- Any events should be held at a range of times to ensure a wide range of people have a chance to attend

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4 How people will be involved

- Consultation should be planned in an environmentally sensitive way; for example, using local suppliers for refreshments and making sure that the venue is accessible by public transport
- Consultation should be planned in a culturally sensitive way; for example, being aware of religious festivals and dietary requirements
- Involvement should be at an appropriate scale depending on the impact the decision or policy will have. This needs to be carefully considered, it should not result in less involvement
- Accessible venues should be used wherever possible. Consideration needs to be given to physical access, proximity to those most affected by a decision, and access to services such as buses and childcare
- Use a range of methods to inform, consult and involve people (see table of methods)
- Creative and interactive methods should be used where possible to encourage people to take part, particularly seldom heard groups

5 What happens to the results

- Agree how results will be reported on and when.
- Be clear how you have met the values and standards in this statement.
- Show how results have been used to influence final decisions.
- Any consultation or involvement does not finish until the results and the decisions are fed back to those who took the time to get involved.

Plymouth City Council also sets out in Appendix A of the SCI the following advice to developers:

“Developers running pre-application consultation on major or significant applications are strongly advised to conform to the commitments set out in Plymouth’s Statement of Community Involvement”.

In particular, the Planning Services expects developers to:

- Set clear objectives and agree the consultation approach with the Planning Service
- Inform people about the details and scope of the scheme and be clear what can be influenced by making comments

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- Adopt a range of methods recommended in Plymouth's Statement of Community involvement
- Consider what is required to involve seldom heard groups or groups that will particularly be affected by the changes
- Clearly identify any changes made as a result of comments based on sound planning reasons.
- Submit a statement outlining the community involvement that has been carried out with the Planning Application to enable the process and outcomes to be validated.

2.3 How MVV sought to comply with relevant policies

MVV is committed to effective community consultation and public engagement, and views stakeholder engagement as a vital part of the submission process, especially when involving a project of this scale. MVV is further committed to open, honest and transparent communications and stakeholder engagement throughout the design, planning, construction and operational phases of the project. Before submission of the planning application MVV has aimed to ensure that the principles outlined in Plymouth City Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) are taken into account when further detailing the approach to public consultation.

In order to comply with Plymouth City Council's SCI, MVV therefore ensured that the proposals it consulted on throughout the process were not at a finalised stage and could be amended following public consultation. The conclusion to this report at Section 7 below demonstrates that a number of significant changes were made to the proposals following consultation.

MVV's aims of the consultation process throughout have been to:

- Inform local residents and key stakeholders about MVV's proposals, initially for the sites at Ernesettle and North Yard, and subsequently for North Yard;
- Reach out to the wider community, identifying relevant issues and addressing these where possible;
- Enable the local community to influence the design process by giving residents and stakeholders the opportunity to express their views on the emerging proposals;

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- Explain the reasons for design decisions made and provide feedback to the community;
- Meet current and evolving best practice for public involvement and consultation.

MVV responded to Plymouth City Council's SCI as set out below. Specific details are given in the subsequent sections.

Who should be involved	MVV Response
List who needs to be involved, think about who will be directly affected by the decision, who has expertise to offer, and who may need extra help to get involved.	Carried out a stakeholder analysis to identify relevant politicians and interest groups. Identified local communities who could be affected by MVVs proposal and engaged in early contact with local residents who could be affected via exhibitions and website
Take advice on who to involve and how from other relevant organisations or groups	Spoke to Plymouth City Council including the Community Planning and Partnership Co-ordinator, and SWDWP and their advisors, plus Planning Aid
Resources should be focused on making sure the people identified have a chance to get involved	Set aside a clear budget and staff with responsibility for stakeholder engagement.
Think about who could work with you to make involvement more comprehensive or to share resources with	Discussed community consultation with Plymouth City Council Community Planning and Partnership Co-ordinator. Employed Green Issues Communications
Why people are being involved	MVV Response
Be clear why people need to be involved in making a decision	To inform the local community about the proposed facility and to seek their views on various aspects of the project

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	including the design prior to them being finalised. To listen to any concerns that the local community may have about the project.
Be clear what decision is being made	MVV asked for views on design aspects, community benefits, mitigation of impacts and areas of interest to contribute to the decision.
Make sure people are properly informed of the facts and background	Made use of printed and broadcast media, dedicated website, posters in local shops and public centres, adverts in Plymouth Herald, exhibitions, personal emails and telephone calls, press and member briefings, Local Liaison Committee
Be clear what can and cannot be changed	MVV communicated that the public could influence the decision on design aspects, community benefits, and mitigation of impacts but that the capacity and dimensions of facility could not be changed for technical reasons.
When people will be involved	MVV Response
Resources should be focused towards early involvement when people can really influence the process	MVV initiated its public consultation in February 2010 when it was still one of 2 bidders. This was followed up by attendance at exhibitions in June 2010 as well as a large number of MVV led exhibitions which were held in early 2011
It is recommended that consultation should be open for 12 weeks unless there are clear reasons such as statutory guidelines that say otherwise	Consultation commenced in February 2010 and has continued throughout 2010. MVV will continue to consult with stakeholders.

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<p>Any events should be held at a range of times to ensure a wide range of people have a chance to attend</p>	<p>MVV targeted exhibition opening times with the aim of ensuring that a wide range of people were able to attend. Exhibitions were held from late afternoon to early evening on ten different days.</p> <p>MVV has also delivered ad-hoc briefings on request to local organisations such as the Barne Barton Residents Association, the Weston Mill retirement home, and local housing associations.</p>
<p>How people will be involved</p>	<p>MVV Response</p>
<p>Consultation should be planned in an environmentally sensitive way; for example, using local suppliers for refreshments and making sure that the venue is accessible by public transport</p>	<p>Local community venues were used wherever possible. These were generally accessible with public transport and had disabled access</p>
<p>Consultation should be planned in a culturally sensitive way; for example, being aware of religious festivals and dietary requirements</p>	<p>This was noted. Mid-week days were chosen where possible.</p>
<p>Involvement should be at an appropriate scale depending on the impact the decision or policy will have. This needs to be carefully considered, it should not result in less involvement</p>	<p>10 public exhibitions were held in different parts of the region with a focus of 5 in Plymouth itself. MVV had originally intended to hold 8 exhibitions, however 2 more dates and venues were added to ensure as wide a coverage as possible.</p>
<p>Accessible venues should be used wherever possible. Consideration needs to be given to physical access, proximity to those most affected by a decision, and access to services such as buses and</p>	<p>Local community venues were used wherever possible. These were generally accessible with public transport and had disabled access. Exhibition times were targeted to</p>

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childcare.	enable people to attend after work and school opening hours.
Use a range of methods to inform, consult and involve people (see table of methods)	Made use of printed and broadcast media, dedicated website, posters in local shops and public centres, adverts in Plymouth Herald, exhibitions, press and councillor briefings, responses to requests via email and phone, Local Liaison Committee.
Creative and interactive methods should be used where possible to encourage people to take part, particularly seldom heard groups	Static display boards were used together with drawings and computer generated displays of the proposed facility. Feed back forms were available for visitors to make comments. Visitors were offered assistance in completing the feedback forms. Visitors were also able to make their comments directly to members of MVV's staff and have these comments noted down at the exhibition. Further comments were invited to be sent to a dedicated email address, and a postal address, plus a phone line. MVV is currently preparing a physical 3D model for a second set of exhibitions to be held in June 2011
What happens to the results	MVV Response
Agree how results will be reported on and when.	MVV has discussed the reporting of the results with SWDWP and its communications advisor. This SCI contains the results of the consultation.
Be clear how you have met the values and standards in this statement.	This SCI sets these out

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Show how results have been used to influence final decisions.	This SCI sets these out in section 4 and section 7 below.
Any consultation or involvement does not finish until the results and the decisions are fed back to those who took the time to get involved.	Feedback on the exhibitions held in February 2010 was given in a press release on 23rd March and further feedback has been included in MVV's first newsletter to the local community, issued during the week commencing 18 th April 2010. Consultation with the local community and other stakeholders will continue through the planning consideration period.

In order to understand the local imperatives for consultation, a meeting was held on July 23rd 2010 between representatives of MVV and representatives of Plymouth City Council, including the Community Planning and Partnership Co-ordinator, to discuss, and obtain feedback on, MVV's proposed forward programme of community engagement prior to submission of a planning application.

MVV outlined its programme, stating who it proposed to consult, consultation methods to be used, including newsletters, exhibitions, media relations, a reference site visit, a website with online response, and a Local Liaison Committee, as well as working with potential supporters at MOD and Babcock. MVV explained that it would also work closely with SWDWP during the whole process.

In response, the Community Planning and Partnership Co-ordinator commented that the proposed programme was comprehensive, and broadly in line with the Council's requirements, as outlined in its SCI. A number of helpful suggestions were made as to potential other venues for exhibitions, and potential locations for static displays, in view of the low internet usage in some of the local communities. Other methods for disseminating information were supplied and it was suggested that MVV should contact Planning Aid who would be able to provide free advice to Incineration is Wrong (liW) and local residents' groups who might otherwise not have access to professional planning advice.

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In terms of public consultation, it was stressed that it was important to make clear what was being consulted on, so that people would be aware of what they could or could not influence as the project moved forward.

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3. PROGRAMME OF CONSULTATION

MVV's programme of consultation has encompassed several elements, in line with Plymouth City Council's requirements as set out in its SCI and incorporating established best practice.

This has involved:

- A series of public exhibitions
- Meetings and briefings with politicians and other interested parties
- Dissemination of information
- Review of feedback received
- Details of how this feedback has influenced the proposals
- Setting out the next stages of consultation

3.1 Public exhibitions and feedback

A series of exhibitions have been held by either SWDWP or MVV (or jointly) since 2009. A map showing the location of the exhibition venues detailed below is shown in Appendix 14.

3.1.1 Exhibitions February 2010

In February 2010 MVV, as one of the two companies shortlisted for the SWDWP contract, held two preliminary public exhibitions in order to gain feedback on its initial proposals. The exhibitions were organised in conjunction with SWDWP and complemented a previous series of exhibitions held by the Partnership in the previous year.

At the exhibitions MVV set out some background information on the company's initial plans for the development of an Energy from Waste plant at sites in Ernesettle and North Yard, Devonport. MVV stated that if it were selected as preferred bidder, it would only develop a facility at one of the sites.

The exhibitions were held at Parkway Sports and Social Club, Ernesettle Lane, Plymouth on Monday 8th February 2010 from 4.00 pm – 8.00 pm, and at Weston Mill Community Primary School, Ferndale Road, Plymouth on Tuesday, 9th February 2010, from 5.00 pm – 8.30 pm.

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The exhibitions were advertised in the Plymouth Herald on Wednesday 3 February and Friday 5 February (see Appendix 2). Press releases announcing the public exhibitions were also sent to the Plymouth Herald, the Western Morning News, the Cornish Times, the Cornish Guardian, BBC TV Spotlight, BBC Radio Devon, Heart FM and ITV. Posters advertising the events were sent to Ernesettle Public Library, St Budeaux Public Library, Stifle, Saltash Town Clerk and Saltash Environmental Action (Appendix 3).

Prior to each exhibition, stakeholder preview sessions were held at the same venues before the public exhibition opened, to enable stakeholders to view and comment on the proposals and ask any questions they might have of the project team. Letters of invitation to the previews (Appendix 4) were mailed to all members of Plymouth City Council, Devon County Council and Torbay Council. Letters were also sent to Alison Seabeck MP, Gary Streeter MP and Linda Gilroy MP, and the respective Conservative, Labour and Liberal Democrat prospective parliamentary candidates for those seats. Invitations were also emailed to all Plymouth City Councillors. Several local councillors attended the sessions.

Representatives of MVV from the UK and Germany and members of the project team were in attendance on both days, allowing members and residents to ask any questions they might have on the scheme. Representatives of SWDWP also attended the events and had a display.

At the exhibitions, eight panels were displayed outlining key elements of the schemes (Appendix 5). Exhibition attendees were given feedback forms (Appendix 6) and asked for their feedback regarding the proposals on display. Specifically, attendees were asked:

- Do you have any comments on the proposal for Ernesettle?
- Do you have any comments on the proposal for North Yard?
- Community Benefits: if the scheme goes ahead, what benefits do you think would be important for the local community?
- Do you have any other comments?

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Around 135 people attended the exhibitions over two days (122 at Ernesettle and 23 at Weston Mill Community Primary School) and 100 response forms were completed during the events. A further 14 comments were received later via email and post. Copies of the original response forms were, without releasing any personal data, provided to SWDWP.

3.1.2 Feedback received

Of those who attended, some 80 per cent opposed the choice of Ernesettle, while 6 per cent expressed support, or qualified support. The main reasons given for opposing the choice of Ernesettle were concern about traffic, adverse effect on the Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty or damage to visual amenity, worry about locating an EfW facility in close proximity to an existing 'armaments depot', concern that local atmospheric conditions would exacerbate emissions, that the proposal was too close to a residential area and long-term health implications as a result of emissions produced by the plant.

Comments from those opposing the Ernesettle proposal included the following:

- *'I am concerned about the impact on the community, through traffic movements, potential health issues, and visual impact to residents.'*
- *'This is not a suitable site due to its proximity to the River Tamar and MOD facilities, also an "unknown" old dump.'*
- *'An eyesore – terrible design, why does such an intrusive colour scheme have to be used – ever heard of camouflage?'*
- *'Not an acceptable method of dealing with waste. In the present environmentally sensitive times we live in – an old technology that many countries are withdrawing. Inability to filter smaller particles (PM 2.5 and below).'*

Some 27 per cent of respondents supported the choice of North Yard, on the grounds that it was preferable to Ernesettle, while 29 per cent opposed it.

It was felt that the North Yard proposals were in keeping with the existing industrial area, and the site would make better use of reclaimed heat than Ernesettle. Those

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who opposed it thought it was too close to housing, and were concerned about traffic and emissions from the plant.

Respondents were asked if they had any other comments. Many respondents reiterated comments they had made previously these included:

- 'We will employ any means to safeguard our health. We do approve of energy from waste.'
- 'I am against location of waste incinerators in large urban communities. There are too many people at risk if something goes wrong.'
- 'The plant is not the problem, the site is'

Comments from those who supported the development at North Yard included the following:

- 'The North Yard proposal looks tailor made as it is already a heavily industrialised area.'
- 'North Yard would seem the better option of the two sites. There is more infrastructure in North Yard to use the heat and power produced.'

A report summarising the consultation and the feedback received was prepared and submitted to SWDWP (Appendix 7).

3.1.3 MVV response to feedback received

Following the public consultation, MVV reviewed its proposals for both sites, and in March 2010 announced that it would henceforward be concentrating its proposals solely on the North Yard, HM Naval Base Devonport site. The main advantage of the North Yard site was its location in the Dockyard which meant that heat and steam could be supplied direct to the Naval Base, thus significantly improving the plant's efficiency and cost-effectiveness for SWDWP.

Amongst the key concerns expressed to MVV staff, by the public at the exhibitions were noise, dust, visual impact and proximity to housing. In response to these concerns MVV reviewed its plans for the development at the North Yard. As a result of this review MVV redesigned the plant both re-orientating the building so that the lowest point was closest to the nearby housing and moving the building further northward on

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the site. As a result the visual impact was lessened and the operational side of the plant now faced away from houses in the Barne Barton area.

MVV also decided to move the Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) re-processing facility off-site, to further reduce any potential impacts from the proposed facility.

3.1.4 Exhibitions June 2010

Following MVV's decision in March 2010 to concentrate on its scheme at North Yard, SWDWP organised a further series of exhibitions in June 2010 in areas which had not previously been covered by consultation events. MVV was invited to take part. Venues were selected in areas close to the site, in potentially affected communities, accessible and in well known locations.

Accordingly, the company attended public exhibitions at Weston Community Primary School, Ferndale Road, Plymouth on Monday, 14th June 2010, from 4.00 pm – 8.00 pm and St Budeaux Community Centre, Wolseley Road on Tuesday 15th June 2010, from 4.00 pm to 8.00 pm.

MVV presented updated plans of its proposals for North Yard, HM Naval Base Devonport (Appendix 8), and reported on the feedback from the previous exhibitions. Its representatives from the UK and Germany were again in attendance on both days, to discuss the scheme and answer questions from members and residents. Representatives of SWDWP also attended and displayed exhibition panels. Representatives of the Environment Agency and the Health Protection Agency were also present. Members of Incineration is Wrong (liW), a local interest group opposed to MVV's plans to build an EfW plant at Devonport Northyard, attended both events, and mounted their own display.

As the events were organised by SWDWP, MVV did not explicitly seek further public feedback at these events. However, at the exhibition MVV explained that in addition to the changes already made, it was continuing to consider the issues previously raised as it developed its proposals and would address them in detail if selected as preferred bidder. It would then further refine its proposals.

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MVV also committed itself to undertake full public consultation, before submitting a detailed planning application to Plymouth City Council, to enable local residents to consider the proposals and to provide their comments. At that stage, the company would also discuss with the local community what community benefits could be provided.

The company stressed that it remained keen to hear what local residents thought of the proposal as it developed and undertook to listen to their views and comments and respond where possible. A web link to the exhibition boards was provided and an email address for contact and feedback was given.

3.1.5 Exhibitions February 2011

Following the selection of MVV as preferred bidder by SWDWP on 6 January 2011, the company held a further series of exhibitions in association with SWDWP in February 2011. At these events MVV presented its latest proposals for the North Yard site to gain further public feedback prior to submitting a planning application.

The exhibitions were held by MVV in association with SWDWP. Initially, eight events were programmed (listed below). Subsequently, two additional events were added at Saltash, and the HM Naval Base, Devonport Dockyard.

All the exhibitions were widely advertised in local media, including in the Plymouth Herald, the Torquay Herald and the Western Morning News (Appendix 9). As the events were run over several weeks, the advertisements were updated as events had taken place, or when a new venue was added. News releases were sent to broadcast and print media and received extensive coverage. Members of the SWDWP councils were informed of the events and invited to attend. Posters were also distributed in local libraries, shops and other public venues (Appendix 10). A record was kept of places where posters were distributed (Appendix 11) however some locations refused to accept posters.

At the events, a series of exhibition panels were on display giving details of the project.

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The information included:

- MVV – Who we are
- Why Energy from Waste?
- An Energy from Waste Plant for South West Devon
- Why we have chosen North Yard, Devonport
- Where the plant would be sited
- Evolution of the design
- The Energy from Waste process in North Yard
- Where the waste comes from
- EfW and health
- Visual impacts
- Environmental impacts
- Photomontages
- What happens next
- Previous and further consultation
- Tell us what you think

In response to comments and queries raised during the first week of the events, a further board on District Heating was added during the second week of the exhibitions. The exhibition boards are attached as an Appendix to this report (see Appendix 12).

An A4 handout of the exhibition boards was provided for those attendees who wished to retain a hard copy of the information on display. The exhibition boards were also made available on MVV's website, along with a form for people to respond directly to MVV, to make comments or ask questions. The website address was included in the exhibition materials and in newspaper advertisements.

In addition to the boards, a 3D computerised flythrough simulation of the proposed plant showing its location in the context of the local topography was displayed. The display also included a speeded-up simulation of the construction of the plant. Large-scale maps of the Plymouth area were available, to assist people in identifying the location of the plant in relation to the surrounding area.

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Additional information provided included:

- a corporate exhibition display giving information about MVV;
- copies of MVV's corporate brochure
- leaflets on Energy from Waste produced by the UK and German Environment Agencies and the Health Protection Agency
- Technical drawings of the facility taken from MVV's proposals to SWDWP

Representatives of MVV and its consultants were present at all events to explain the scheme and answer questions. There were at least 4 MVV representatives and often 6. Representatives of SWDWP also attended the exhibitions and displayed exhibition panels giving details of the procurement process and the need to find alternatives to landfill. Members of Incineration is Wrong attended all events (except that held on the Naval Base) with a display setting out their objections to the proposal.

At the exhibition at Tamar View Community Complex, a preview session was held for pupils from the local primary school. Representatives of SWDWP and MVV spoke to pupils about the scheme and answered questions.

Those attending the events were handed a feedback form which they were invited to complete at the event, or to return subsequently (see Appendix 13). Where requested, assistance was provided by members of MVV's staff to enable attendees to complete the feedback form. The form asked for the respondent's name and contact details, an opt out box was included for those people who did not wish to have any further contact from MVV, in line with Data Protection legislation.

On the reverse of the form, visitors were asked to give their comments on the proposed EfW scheme at North Yard. They were asked to state:

- which event they had attended;
- any aspects of the plan on which they would like more information (e.g. health, traffic or other);
- what benefits they thought would be important for the local community if the scheme were to go ahead;
- the issues that were most important to them (e.g. health, the environment or other points they wished to make), and finally

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- to indicate if they would be interested in taking part in the proposed Local Liaison Committee.

Attendees were also able to make their comments directly to members of MVV's staff and have these comments noted down at the exhibition.

The question about community benefits was intended to elicit from respondents suggestions about any form of mitigation that they considered should be offered via a Section 106 agreement were the scheme to go ahead (a Section 106 Agreement is a legal agreement between the Planning Authority and an applicant, in this case MVV, to secure community infrastructure to meet the needs of residents in new developments and/or to mitigate the impact of new developments upon existing community facilities). However, the question about community benefits was interpreted by some attendees to mean, what benefit would be provided to the community by the plant itself. This was not MVV's intention. MVV will clarify this point in discussions with the LLC. Additionally, as some attendees advised that people should not complete this section, the level of response was such that no robust conclusions can be drawn.

At or following the exhibitions, 357 feedback forms were completed and MVV received 13 e-mails and letters requesting further information or giving feedback. This represents the status as of 15th April 2011. A summary of the events and number of people who attended is given below. A summary of feedback received in response to specific questions relating to further information, community benefits and issues of importance is given at paragraph 3.1.7 below.

3.1.6 Details of Public Events February 2011

Date	Venue	Number of Attendees	Feedback forms completed
8 February	Torbay Town Hall, Castle Circus, Torquay: 2.30 -6.30pm	31	7
9 February	Weston Mill Community Primary School, Ferndale Road, Plymouth: 4.30-7.30pm	96	22
10 February	Tamar View Community Complex, Miers Close, St	79	24

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Date	Venue	Number of Attendees	Feedback forms completed
	Budeaux, Plymouth: 2.30-6.30pm		
11 February	Drake Primary School, Johnstone Terrace Ope, Keyham, Plymouth: 4.30-7.30pm	51	6
15 February	St Budeaux Community Centre, Wolseley Rd, Plymouth: 2.30-6.30pm	215	91
16 February	Watermark, Leonards Road, Ivybridge: 4.30-7.30pm	40	12
17 February	The Main Hall, Torpoint Town Council, Torpoint: 4.30-7.30pm	50	8
25 February	Sails Restaurant, Devonport Dockyard: 11am-2pm	67	7
25 February	Burraton Community Centre, Saltash: 4.30-7.30pm	40	6
26 February	Guildhall, Plymouth: 10.30am-1.30pm	339	82
	Totals	1,280	357

3.1.7 Feedback and comments from Exhibition form

A wide range of comments were received, as well as a number of queries to which MVV has responded, either directly or via information provided on the website. These are set out below. Many comments were raised only verbally in discussions with MVV's representatives at each exhibition.

Further information requested

Question: Would you like more information from MVV on aspects of the plan? (eg health, traffic or other)

Of the 118 people who said they would like more information from MVV on aspects of the plan, the main topics on which they wanted further details were:

- Health
- Emissions

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- Traffic
- Safety
- Alternative technologies
- House values and compensation
- Ash disposal
- Noise
- Environment

MVV will be providing further information via its website on issues raised by respondents. A section on Frequently Asked Questions has been added, which aims to address topics raised during the exhibitions. MVV will develop this further to provide responses to all the main issues raised.

Community Benefits

Question: If this scheme goes ahead, what benefits do you think would be important for the local community?

Many people either stated that they thought that the project would be of no benefit, or did not complete the section. Of those who did, people tended to respond in terms of what benefits might accrue were the scheme to go ahead, rather than what community benefits they would like to see provided should the scheme go ahead. MVV will explain what it is trying to achieve more clearly in further dialogue with the community and will raise this topic at the Local Liaison Committee.

Of those people who mentioned specific projects or benefits, the topics raised most frequently were:

- District or local heating or electricity
- Regeneration of area/amenity improvements
- Local jobs

Most important issues

Question: What are your comments on the issues that are most important to you (eg, health, the environment or other points you wish to raise)?

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Many people raised several issues in the feedback forms. The most common issues mentioned (in order of frequency and number of times raised) were:

- Impact on health (119)
- Traffic (90)
- Emissions (86)
- Proximity to housing/schools (44)
- Effect on house prices (28)
- Environmental impact (25)
- Wrong site (21)
- Noise (16)
- Wrong technology (11)
- Concern about waste from outside Plymouth (11)
- Proximity to nuclear submarine base (10)

Other comments made verbally included:

- Concern about emissions under the fog conditions in the Tamar Estuary (during an inversion)
- Concern about the method of determining the chimney height
- Visual impact (architecture)

3.1.8 Comments by event location

A random sample of verbatim comments is given by location below:

Torbay residents:

- 'Great use of an old site in a shrinking dockyard.'

Weston Mill residents:

- 'Very concerned regarding emissions'.
- 'Traffic chaos outside a school'.
- 'It will hurt me!'
- 'I object strongly against incineration anywhere!'
- 'This is not the right solution to the problem'.

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- ‘Investment in transportation of waste and ash needs to be made as part of the project start up costs, to ensure the project is sustainable over the whole 25 year+ life of the project.’

Tamar View Residents:

- ‘Greatly opposed, incinerator will be very large in order to accommodate Torbay and South West Devon’s waste. Why should Plymouth be the ‘dump’ for Devon?’
- ‘Information is too technical for local individual who has little or no previous knowledge.’
- ‘Congestion at Camel’s Head junction.’
- ‘Don’t build it here in a populated area’.
- ‘Traffic issues concerned me but have been reassured’.
- ‘Concerns that in a socio economically deprived area that decisions are being made without consultation’.
- ‘My children’s health – how will it affect them?’
- ‘House prices falling in the area’.

Keyham residents:

- ‘I am worried about any health implications.’
- ‘No benefit to community that we can see of’.
- ‘Shouldn’t be in a densely populated area’.

St Budeaux residents:

- ‘Air pollution is not good for the environment and it is our health which is at risk, not yours.’
- ‘What proposal do you have for loss on property value?’
- ‘On the whole, the scheme looks really good. It would be welcomed in the area if local people gained employment from the project.’
- ‘Alternative transport – rail and water’.
- ‘I am concerned at how close to the submarine nuclear complex.’
- ‘I agree in principle with the idea but I do not agree with placing the site in the middle of a heavily populated area.’
- ‘This is a hazard to people and schools in the area.’

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Ivybridge residents:

- 'Health and the fact it's not S Hams rubbish'.
- 'I am generally in support. This is an industrial site with reasonable road access and good proximity to Plymouth city, which could benefit from residual heat/power'.
- 'Nanoparticles; traffic congestion'.
- 'Absolute madness to site an incinerator in city of 250,000 next to about 8/9 schools'.
- 'Why are we continuing to pursue plans for an incinerator rather than other, greener, sustainable technology?'
- 'Compensation for drop in house values'.

Torpoint residents:

- 'Sooner this facility is built the better. Long overdue.'
- 'I think it is appalling. The residents' voice will not matter as the deals were done behind closed doors! Backdoor politics!'

Devonport Dockyard employees:

- 'I fully support this project and its objectives'.
- 'I would recommend increased information circulation to local residents to counter the scaremongering that is currently happening'.
- 'Have you considered rail access?'

Saltash residents:

- 'Still far too close to homes! Please do not use silver/grey/white finish'.
- 'Traffic will be a huge drawback for Plymouth and South Devon. Can the A3064 handle it?'

Plymouth Guildhall:

- 'Health – will MVV pay for a truly genuine and independent health study at Barne Barton, Keyham and St Budeaux starting asap and continually publishing the results?'
- 'Why the secrecy over funding?'
- 'Heavy traffic in a residential area'.

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- ‘Well presented’.
- ‘Why you wanted steam to power dockyard? What would happen if the dockyard goes bust?’
- ‘This idea is beyond contempt. Until local people are in favour it should be scrapped’.
- ‘When this is underway will Cornwall be included for disposal of their waste?’
- ‘I am concerned at the lack of independently verified prediction of emissions’.
- ‘What if incinerator breaks down?’
- ‘Wrong scheme, wrongly sited’.
- ‘Waste of recyclable resources’.
- ‘The smell emitted by processing’.
- ‘I believe the impact on the city will be damaging’.

3.2 Additional Consultation

The exhibitions described above were primarily targeted towards local residents and the wider local community. In addition to these MVV undertook a number of other actions to engage and consult with the stakeholders identified during the initial planning stages of consultation.

3.2.1 Local Councillors and Members of Parliament

During the procurement phase of the project, MVV engaged with local politicians. MVV notified local Members of Parliament and local councillors of its proposals, responded to written or verbal requests for information and offered meetings or briefings.

All such contact has been undertaken after discussion with the South West Devon Waste Partnership (SWDWP) and with the consent of SWDWP.

A briefing for Members of Parliament was organised by SWDWP on 21 January 2011 following the announcement of preferred bidder. The two Plymouth Members were unable to attend but the member for South West Devon was present for the briefing from SWDWP and MVV.

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On 21 January 2011, MVV and SWDWP also attended a briefing for members of SWDWP representative councils. This was attended by approximately 17 councillors plus council officers, including the Chief Executive. Following PowerPoint presentations, representatives of the company and the partnership answered questions from members. These ranged over a variety of topics, including the potential for delivering waste by sea, the possibility of the application being called in and the subsequent effect this would have on project timescales, the Environmental Permit application process, how feedback from public consultation would be considered, the lack of opportunity for members of the council to be involved in the procurement process, and the benefits to the SWDWP of the scheme going ahead.

3.2.2 General public

MVV has further developed and maintained its website to ensure that full information about the project is made widely available (www.mvvuk.co.uk). The website includes public consultation material, such as copies of exhibition boards, press releases and information about the company. It incorporates an online response form to enable people to comment or submit questions electronically. All responses, both by telephone, email, completion of a feedback form at public exhibitions or via the website, are being recorded on a database and will be responded to. In total there have been 8570 visits to the website up to the middle of April 2011. An overview on the number of people who have given feedback via feedback forms or email following the exhibitions in February 2011 is given in chapters 3.1.5 and 3.1.6.

The planning application together with associated documents will be published on the website after it has been submitted and formally recorded by Plymouth City Council. The planning application will also be made available in MVV's local office (see 4.2 below), copies will be made available to local libraries, organisations and community centres and CD copies will be provided to those who request them.

MVV's website is being further revised and developed to improve navigation around the site and access to information.

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3.2.3 Media

MVV, in association with SWDWP, has developed contact with local broadcast and print media, to ensure widespread coverage of its activities. This has involved building up a database of local media, with an interest in developments in the Plymouth area, as well as the wider partnership area.

MVV has endeavoured proactively to inform the media of significant events in its programme development, to provide spokesmen to be interviewed or comment where appropriate, or to respond reactively to requests for information, interviews or comments. MVV has given interviews to BBC Devon TV and Radio, Radio Plymouth, Heart Radio, Plymouth Herald and other local newspapers. The Plymouth Herald had coverage of almost all the exhibitions in Plymouth. Radio Plymouth and Heart Radio also covered the exhibitions.

Press Briefings

A press briefing was organised on 6 January at Plymouth City Council's Civic Offices, which was attended by representatives of BBC TV Devon, ITV, BBC Radio Devon, Radio Plymouth, Heart Radio and the Plymouth Herald. Representatives of SWDWP detailed the background to the award of MVV as preferred bidder and outlined the proposal for North Yard. Representatives of MVV outlined their proposals and the intention to hold exhibitions in February. Following a question and answer session, a number of radio, television and newspaper interviews took place.

MVV will hold further press briefings as appropriate, in association with SWDWP.

Press releases

MVV has endeavoured to keep the local media well informed of its proposal through the regular issue of press releases. To date (late April 2011) nine press releases have been issued, by MVV, following which further interviews have been requested and provided. MVV has provided contact details for the media via Green Issues Communications so that journalists have a point of contact for requesting further information or interviews. Good contact has been established with local correspondents and MVV endeavours to respond promptly and positively to all requests.

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3 February 2010 - Initial public consultation

Following the announcement that MVV had been shortlisted by SWDWP for its residual waste contract, the company issued a press release in which it announced that it would be holding two public exhibitions to publicise its initial proposals and seek feedback (Appendix 15).

15 March 2010 - Focus on North Yard

In March 2010, MVV issued a press release in which it announced that, although it had put forward two Energy from Waste proposals for the SWDWP's waste treatment and disposal contract, it would now concentrate on its scheme at North Yard, Devonport only (Appendix 16).

MVV stated that the North Yard site would offer the possibility of providing cost-effective environmentally sustainable heat and electricity for HM Naval Base Devonport which in turn would offer a significantly more cost-effective solution for SWDWP and Council taxpayers.

21 June 2010 - Scoping Report

In June 2010 MVV issued a press release in which it announced that it had moved forward with its plans for an Energy from Waste plant at North Yard, Devonport Royal Naval Base. The company had submitted a Scoping Study to Plymouth City Council which outlined its plans in more detail and confirmed the subject areas that would be addressed in a planning application (Appendix 17).

1 July 2010 - Site investigation Work

In July 2010, MVV issued a press release in which it reported that it was undertaking preliminary site investigations at North Yard, HM Naval Base Devonport. The work, which was expected to take three weeks, involved the drilling of a number of test boreholes and the digging of trial pits to check the condition of the ground where MVV was proposing to develop an Energy from Waste plant. This followed earlier site maintenance carried out by MOD in Blackies Wood which was not connected with the EfW proposal (Appendix 18).

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6 January 2011 - SWDWP announcement of preferred bidder

Following the announcement of the award of preferred bidder status to MVV in January 2011, MVV issued a press release in which it welcomed the decision, stated that it would be carrying out public consultation in February and provided facts and figures about the scheme it would be bringing forward (Appendix 19).

13 January 2011 - Public consultation

On 13 January 2011, MVV issued a press release in which it announced dates and venues for the programme of public consultation that would be launched in February. The company also stated that it would be setting up a Local Liaison Committee, and invited those interested in taking part to contact the company (Appendix 20).

21 January 2011 - Further drawings published

On 21 January, following a meeting with councillors from the SWDWP, MVV issued further plans and drawings, giving more details of its proposals for an Energy from Waste plant at North Yard, HM Naval Base Devonport. These included additional elevations and landscape drawings to give people a better idea of what the plant would look like, and photomontages to show how it would sit in the site (Appendix 21; only the press release is shown without the plans and drawings which are now superseded by the documents that are part of the planning application).

23 March 2011 - Exhibitions report

On 23 March, MVV issued a press release in which it reported on the hundreds of people who had attended the ten exhibitions throughout the SWDWP area. The company stated that it was in the process of reviewing all the comments it had received. Where practicable, it would take these into account as it finalised its proposals before submitting a planning application to Plymouth City Council.

The press release also reported on the response to requests for volunteers to put their names forward to take part in a Local Liaison Committee, and gave details of the inaugural meeting (Appendix 22).

25 March 2011 - Financial Close

On 25 March MVV issued a press release, stating that the company had achieved financial close on the project with SWDWP (Appendix 23).

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3.2.4 Business Community

SWDWP Stakeholder Organisations – 24 February 2011

On 24 February 2010, MVV and the SWDWP attended a Stakeholder Event at the Council House, Plymouth, organised by SWDWP. Those invited included representatives of the Partnership councils, housing associations, NGOs, employers and business organisations, educational bodies and Members of Parliament. Approximately ten members of the stakeholder organisations attended. Following a presentation by MVV and SWDWP on the procurement process and the EfW project, representatives of the company and the partnership answered questions from attendees. These covered a range of topics, including the choice of site, the impact of the continuing supply of steam to the Dockyard on the viability of the project, traffic volumes and routing, hours of operation, landscaping, air quality and monitoring, and compensation for the local community.

Plymouth Chamber of Commerce – 11 April 2011.

On 11th April 2011 MVV together with SWDWP gave a presentation about the project to the Plymouth Chamber of Commerce.

3.2.5 Other local interest groups and organisations

Incineration is Wrong (liW) – 12 January 2011

MVV noted the formation of a local group, liW in 2010, who were opposed to the siting of an Energy from Waste facility in North Yard, HM Naval Base, Devonport. MVV offered to meet liW informally, making contact via the group's website at SWDWP's suggestion. liW did not respond. However, at the second series of public exhibitions, organised by SWDWP in June 2010, which MVV attended, members of liW were also present with an exhibition stand. Representatives of MVV took the opportunity to discuss the group's concerns and offered further dialogue.

Following the announcement of preferred bidder in January 2011, and following an approach from SWDWP, liW agreed to a meeting with MVV and SWDWP. This was held at the Civic Centre on 12 January 2011. MVV and SWDWP outlined the procurement process and MVV's proposed solution, and liW expressed a number of

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concerns. It was agreed that further meetings would be held, and liW expressed an interest in being represented on the Local Liaison Committee and attending a reference site visit to see a similar operating plant.

Affinity Sutton Housing Associations – 10 March 2011

Following the briefing to SWDWP stakeholder representatives on 24 February, MVV and SWDWP were invited to attend a meeting of Affinity Sutton Housing Association officers on 10 March 2011 to give a presentation on the scheme and answer questions. The event was held at Tamar View Community Centre. Following a PowerPoint presentation by SWDWP and MVV, there was a question and answer session.

Educational establishments

MVV has, since being appointed as preferred bidder for the SWDWP project, met with different stakeholders to explore opportunities for cooperation and to promote local employment in the project. The meetings are briefly summarised in the table below. In addition to those shown MVV intends to contact the Devonport Labour in Construction project and the Regular Forces Employment Association to arrange meetings to discuss employment opportunities with them

Date	Organisation	Attendees	Topics
16.03.11	Plymouth City Council	Jeffery Kenyon, Economic Development Coordinator, PCC Mark Looker, Worklessness Coordinator, PCC Armin Reinemuth, MVV Gerran McCrea, MVV Jan Grotmann-Höfling, MVV	Introduction to MVV and the SWDWP project Receive advice from PCC with regards to local employment opportunities and useful contacts in this field
17.03.11	City College Plymouth	Alison Lewis, Director of Local Employment; Mike Jones, Business	Introduction to MVV and the SWDWP project Receive advice from CCP with regards to

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Date	Organisation	Attendees	Topics
		Skills Advisor; Sue Reed, Programme Area Manager Armin Reinemuth, MVV Gerran McCrea, MVV Jan Grotmann-Höfling, MVV	local employment opportunities and useful contacts in this field Cooperation in the field of training MVV's employees and providing classrooms Enabling internships, holding lectures at the college, conducting student tours at the EfW plant Exchange of German and British apprentices
Proposed dates 21.07.11	City College Plymouth	Alison Lewis, Director of Local Employment; Armin Reinemuth, MVV Mrs Johanna Emrich, MVV Energie AG Mr. Hans Joachim Mayer, MVV Energie AG	Follow up meeting in Mannheim to explore areas for joint working in more depth.
11.05.11	University of Plymouth	Richard Shepherd, Knowledge Transfer Kellie Smith, Careers Advisor Gerran McCrea, MVV Jan Grotmann-Höfling, MVV	Introduction to MVV and the SWDWP project Identify areas for joint working.

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4. MVV RESPONSE TO FEEDBACK.

MVV has recorded all the feedback and reviewed all the comments it has received, to assess how these can be accommodated and has responded to requests for further information, as it finalised its planning application before submission in May. In summary the key issues raised, together with MVV's responses, are shown in the table below.

Issue raised	MVV response
Impact on health	MVV has listened to the concerns of local residents regarding impacts on health and has sought to respond to these concerns by being transparent and open in the information that it has provided at public exhibitions as well as via other communications routes. The Environmental Statement (ES), which will be submitted together with MVV's planning application contains a chapter on Health and Well Being which demonstrates no significant impact on health. The ES will be made publicly available. MVV will continue to be open and transparent in its communications about all aspects of the facility.
Traffic	MVV has conducted detailed traffic assessments and these will be made publicly available as part of the ES, which demonstrates no significant impact on traffic. The S.106 agreement for the facility includes an offer to make an appropriate contribution to the Weston Mill Drive / Carlton Avenue junction improvement following the development of the Weston Mill Local Centre (see below).
Emissions	MVV has undertaken detailed modelling of emissions from the proposed facility and this will be included in the ES, which demonstrates no significant impact on air quality. Additionally MVV has committed to on-going air quality monitoring and to publishing the results in accordance with its aims of openness and transparency.
Proximity to housing/schools	The ES demonstrates no significant impact on local schools.

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Issue raised	MVV response
Effect on house prices	MVV has sought to address such concerns directly, with attendees of the exhibitions who raised this question, through explanation of its experience in Germany. The issue is also covered in the ES, which demonstrates no significant impact on house prices in the longer term.
Environmental impact	Detailed and wide ranging analysis of the potential environmental impacts of the facility has been undertaken. MVV gave information about the assessments undertaken at the public exhibitions in February 2011. These assessments will form part of the ES, which will be made publicly available and which demonstrates no significant impact on the overall environment.
Wrong site	MVV believes the chosen site is the best in terms of sustainability and supporting the local economy. MVV has sought to inform stakeholders of the reasons for its choice of the Devonport site and to clearly explain the benefits of the site.
Noise	MVV redesigned the plant in 2010, re-orientating it and re-locating it within the site to ensure that the noise impact from the facility and traffic visiting it is minimised. The ES demonstrates no significant impact on noise.
Concern about waste from outside Plymouth	MVV has given information about where the waste will come from and has sought to demonstrate that it will apply the proximity principle to commercial and industrial waste so that the majority is sourced from the Plymouth area.
Proximity to nuclear submarine base	MVV has sought to address such concerns directly, with attendees of the exhibitions who raised this question However, MVV considers that this is not an issue and that the MOD has sufficient measures in place to avoid any impacts either on, or of, the proposed facility.

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Issue raised	MVV response
Concern about architecture	The design of the facility has evolved and improved through several iterations following consultation with stakeholders including the South West Design Review Panel (CABE) and Plymouth City Council.
Wrong technology	MVV considers that its proposed technology is the most appropriate to manage the residual waste which remains following kerbside recycling and has sought to fully explain its technology, processes and benefits to stakeholders through a variety of media, including the public exhibitions. MVV's technology is state of the art, proven and deliverable. MVV will continue to engage with stakeholders with the aim of imparting an understanding of the technology through a variety of media. This will include the proposed Community Area and associated waste education and awareness initiatives.

4.1 Section 106 Agreement

MVV has proposed entering into a Section 106 agreement with Plymouth City Council which will provide a number of benefits to the local community, including the development of Blackies Wood and the green space adjacent to Savage Road, plus a contribution of £52,000 per annum to a community fund. Outline terms of the Section 106 agreement are:

Topic	Description
Highway Improvements	<p>An offer to make an appropriate contribution to the Weston Mill Drive / Carlton Avenue junction improvement following the development of the Weston Mill Local Centre</p> <p>Contributions to local road safety and road noise reduction schemes</p> <p>Dropped kerbs and disabled crossing to Wolseley Road / Camels Head junction</p>

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Topic	Description
Travel Plan Initiatives	Proposals for a car sharing scheme for employees and the provision of cycle racks and shower facilities for those staff who cycle or walk to work
European Marine Site and sensitive habitats	Proposals to improve the condition of Weston Mill Creek and to provide managed access to the banks to allow school groups and other visitors to appreciate the habitat.
Reduced energy costs for some nearby residents of Barne Barton	Investigations are taking place on how to assist in delivering reduced energy costs to local residents
Contribution towards Greenspace	MVV are negotiating with the MoD to acquire land in the Barne Barton area for public open space
Provision and maintenance of off-site planting	In addition to the restoration of Blackies Wood and making it available for access, contributions could be made to suitable projects from the Community Fund that will be established
Contributions towards education and appreciation of the natural and historic environment	<p>The Visitor Centre and access to Blackies Wood and the frontage to Weston Mill Creek will be made available to local residents groups, schools and other organised visitor groups.</p> <p>Viewing platforms and explanatory boards will be developed on the roof of the Administration Building so that visitors can have improved views and understanding of the local setting of Blackies Wood, the Dockyard and the Tamar estuary.</p> <p>Contributions could be made to suitable</p>

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Topic	Description
	<p>projects from the Community Fund that will be established</p>
<p>Formation and maintenance of a Community Forum and Community Chest</p>	<p>A Local Liaison Committee (LLC) has already been formed from local people who have responded to the invitation made at the exhibitions and on the web site. An inaugural meeting of the LLC was held on 31st March 2011 with a second meeting scheduled for 19th May 2011. It is MVV's intention that the LLC should operate throughout the period of the contract.</p> <p>A Community Fund of £52,000 per year will be established and managed by SWDWP and MVV in consultation with the LLC to benefit local projects and improve local open areas, undertake tree planting and landscape improvement both locally and within the Zone of Visual influence.</p>
<p>Information sharing</p>	<p>A web site will be established to give up to date information on the operation and performance of the plant.</p> <p>Employ full time Community Liaison Manager</p>
<p>Job creation and employment opportunities</p>	<p>MVV will have a proactive approach to advertising all jobs locally and giving local residents every opportunity to apply for jobs.</p> <p>Discussions have taken place with Plymouth City College and Plymouth</p>

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Topic	Description
	<p>University about establishing training schemes to enable local residents to gain suitable qualifications to ensure that they can access jobs at the facility; make available work experience opportunities at the plant, and for the College and University to provide training programmes for existing employees.</p>
<p>Possible contributions towards business synergies and safeguarding local employment opportunities.</p>	<p>MVV have signed an Energy Supply Agreement with the MoD and Devonport Royal Dockyard Ltd to supply them with steam and electricity. This will allow them to place on “stand by” their existing fossil fuel fired power plants and to source more sustainable electricity. Should circumstances change with regard to energy demand within Devonport Dockyard the power could be made available to future developments.</p> <p>MVV have submitted an “expression of interest” to participate in the Plymouth District Energy Procurement Partnership and we have shared our initial thoughts on the project based on our experience as the 3rd largest operator of district heating in Germany.</p> <p>MVV are willing to supply heat and power to other local companies provided that they are able to enter into long term contractual arrangements.</p>
<p>Noise monitoring</p>	<p>Off-site noise monitoring during construction and first year of operation</p>

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5. FURTHER PLANNED PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

MVV will continue to engage with members of the local communities, and has planned a range of methods to support this engagement, which are described further below. In addition to this, further information will also be published on MVV's website, including the full planning application and Environmental Impact Assessment.

5.1 Local Liaison Committee (LLC)

MVV has established a Local Liaison Committee (LLC) to ensure efficient and effective communication and engagement with the local community. Those who attended the exhibitions were asked if they were interested in taking part. Around 30 people expressed an interest. Formation of the LLC was also covered in broadcast and print media, following which several people put their names forward. All those who had expressed an interest were invited to a preliminary membership selection meeting, held on 31st March 2011 at Tamar View Community Centre, Barne Barton (Appendix 24). A second meeting is scheduled for 19th May 2011.

Draft terms of reference of the LLC were circulated in advance for discussion and a chairman was chosen. The agenda and minutes of the Committee will be published on the dedicated EfW Facility website (www.mvvuk.co.uk).

The LLC will provide a vehicle for continued engagement with the local community throughout the period of the project. The first meeting is set for 19 May 2011.

5.2 Plymouth Local Office

MVV has established a staffed local office at Unit 10, Scott Business Park, Beacon Park Road, Plymouth PL2 2PQ, to act as an information and contact point for the project. The exhibition boards from the February exhibitions will be on display. Those who were unable to visit the exhibitions or to view the boards on the website (www.mvvuk.co.uk) will be able to drop in to the office to look at the exhibition at their convenience and leave comments. The office will be opening on 3rd May and will open from 10 am – 3 pm, Tuesday to Thursday.

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5.3 Further exhibitions

MVV proposes to hold further public exhibitions in early June 2011 to report on feedback from the previous round of public consultation, how the company has responded to the comments made and detail changes made to the scheme and to provide more information on the planning application, following its submission to Plymouth City Council.

MVV, subject to agreement from SWDWP, proposes holding exhibitions in the Guildhall, Plymouth; and at Ivybridge; Weston Mill; Barne Barton, Keyham, Saltash and Torpoint.

5.4 Planning Aid

Planning Aid is a service offering free professional advice and support on town and country planning matters (e.g. Development Plan Documents and planning applications) to community groups and individuals who cannot afford to pay the fees of a consultant.

Planning Aid is not part of central or local government but an independent source of advice and support which complements the assistance given by local authorities. Plymouth City Council's Planning Service works closely with Planning Aid to enable them to offer training opportunities and support wherever possible.

MVV is familiar with Planning Aid and was happy to accept Plymouth City Council's Community Planning and Partnership Co-ordinator's suggestion that the company should contact the organisation on behalf of local community groups. This would ensure that the local community could access professional advice in responding to the planning application, should they require it. MVV has been in contact with the RTPi Planning Aid about working with the community on developing its planning application and responding to public concerns which have been expressed at meetings, exhibitions and in the press. It has followed closely the advice contained in the RTPi's Planning Aid publication and will continue to follow all the relevant guidance. Funding for Planning Aid is in a state of flux and the Planning Minister issued a statement on funding for Planning Aid on 13 April 2011. The most recent press release on Planning Aid is available at <http://www.communities.gov.uk/news/corporate/1886583>.

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MVV will continue to engage with the local community and any advisers who they might ask to assist them following the recent announcement by the Minister for Planning.

5.5 Reference site visit

MVV is intending to organise a visit to a reference site for LLC members, representatives of the local community and media, to enable them to see a similar Energy from Waste plant in operation. It is proposed to visit one of MVV's EfW plants in Germany or a similar facility in the UK. This visit will offer the participants the opportunity to experience the operation of a modern EfW plant first hand. The tour of the plant will take in all stages of the process starting with the delivery of the waste. This information will give factual input into the discussions of the LLC, and inform any news coverage by the media.

5.6 Local newsletter

MVV prepared and distributed an initial newsletter in April 2011 to the local community in the St Budeaux, Barne Barton, Weston Mill and Keyham areas. Approximately 20,700 people have received the newsletter via direct mail or a leaflet drop. Copies have also been distributed to libraries, schools the media and other groups and organisations. MVV has discussed with Plymouth City Council and SWDWP the appropriate areas to be covered in the newsletter circulation.

The first issue, reported on the contract signature with SWDWP, public consultation and feedback received, the opening of the Plymouth local office, setting up of the LLC, plus general information on EfW and the need to divert waste from landfill. Further editions of the newsletter will be published on a regular basis and will also be included on the website. Further feedback will be invited either via the website or by telephone or a freepost address.

5.7 Local education

MVV will continue its discussions with local educational institutions, with a view to establishing links so that opportunities can be made available in the future for the

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development of the requisite skills or training programmes. MVV will also discuss with the local education authority what materials would be appropriate for schools in line with the national curriculum. If the Education Authority agrees, MVV will establish contact with local schools to provide appropriate information as the project develops.

In addition to its proposals for joint working with local educational establishments MVV will provide a Community Area within the administration building of the plant. This will be used to engage and educate the local community on waste issues and the operation of the plant. MVV will arrange site visits and appropriate literature will be provided to demonstrate and explain the principles behind energy recovery from waste incineration and the role that EfW plays as part of a sustainable waste management system.

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6. AREAS FOR IMPROVEMENT

Despite extensive publicity by MVV some local people commented that they were not aware of the exhibitions held in February 2011, or only found out through other sources, such as leaflets from local politicians or liW. MVV believes that there was widespread publicity about the exhibitions, and the number of events, plus the variety of locations gave opportunities for many people over a wide area to attend. However, MVV will review whether alternative methods should be used for publicising future consultation events, to ensure that all those who might be impacted by the scheme are given opportunities to review the proposals and to comment on them

With regard to the question posed by MVV on community benefits: *“If this scheme goes ahead, what benefits do you think would be important for the local community?”* MVV will explain what it is trying to achieve more clearly in further dialogue with the community and will raise this topic at the Local Liaison Committee to ensure that the purpose of the question is properly understood and future responses can be used to inform more robust conclusions.

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7. SUMMARY

In conclusion, MVV has engaged with, and consulted, a wide range of stakeholders from the early stages of the project. The company has provided information about the project, as it has evolved, through a variety of media channels, appropriately targeted to intended audiences.

MVV has listened to the views and comments that it has received from stakeholders, and has made significant changes to its initial proposals in response to public consultation and feedback. In particular:

Following public consultation in February 2010, MVV decided not to pursue the proposed development at the site at Ernesettle, but to focus on its proposals at the North Yard, HM Naval Base, Devonport.

The plant was redesigned, with the orientation of the plant revised so that the operational side of the facility was moved away from residential properties. The plant was also re-located within the site to lessen the visual impact.

To further address concerns expressed about visual impact, noise, dust and traffic, MVV decided to re-locate the Incinerator Bottom Ash Recycling plant off-site.

The design of the building has evolved through several iterations following engagement with stakeholders and taking on board comments received as a result of public consultation. As a consequence, the design has moved through 5 key iterations, starting with the initial design option, which was a simple curved form, moving through to a design incorporating simple box shapes with areas highlighted in strong colours, to the final design, which brings together all the comments received.

In formulating the draft terms of its S.106 agreement, MVV has taken account of the feedback it received at the public exhibitions, as well as via other stakeholder engagement fora.

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MVV will stay committed to continuous stakeholder involvement to ensure that the public is kept informed and able to communicate its views. MVV has shown this commitment by having set up a Local Liaison Committee (LLC) which enables members of the community to get involved and discuss with MVV those questions relevant to the local community. MVV will continue the dialogue with the local communities and their representatives, politicians and the media beyond the planning phase, be it through the LLC or other ways.

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8. APPENDICES

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