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## **South Dublin County Council**

**Licence Register Number: W0003-03**

### **Bulk Transfer of Waste**

**Prepared For:**

South Dublin County Council  
Tallaght  
County Dublin

**Prepared By: -**

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## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

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### 1.1 Current Activities

The installation is used to process residual black bin waste to produce a refuse derived fuel (RDF). The use of non-recyclable waste as RDF in cement kilns and waste to energy plants is now well established; however due to the shortfall in indigenous capacity the majority of these waste fuels, including those produced at the Ballymount Baling Station, are exported.

The Baling Station currently accepts between 550-600 tonnes of municipal solid waste (LoW 20 03 01) daily. Bulky items are initially segregated and the residual waste is then shredded to reduce the size to 200 - 250mm, after which it passes through a trommel and where organic materials are removed and the beneath an over-band magnet that removes ferrous items. The remaining materials are fed into one of two Flexus Bala System balers and are wrapped.

They are then loaded onto curtain side trailers inside the building and sent off site for export to overseas waste to energy recovery plants. On arrival at the plants the bales are broken open to allow the materials to be fed into the grates.

All the wastes that arrive are baled and wrapped that day and loaded onto trucks to be dispatched to the port. Unprocessed wastes are not stored at the Baling Station. The floor of the Waste Reception Area is cleaned on a nightly basis and no waste remains on the floor overnight.

The installation is authorised to accept 324,000 tonnes of municipal solid waste annually. In 2015 the Baling Station accepted 161,720 tonnes of waste while the Civic Amenity Area accepted 13,858 tonnes. The average weekly run-rate at the Baling Station was 3,109 tonnes.

### 1.2 Proposed Operations

In early 2017, when the Dublin Waste to Energy Ltd plant at Poolbeg is commissioned, there will be a very significant increase in the indigenous waste to energy recovery capacity. In this context the option of sending the waste from the Baling Station to the Poolbeg plant is being considered.

As road transport does not require the waste to be baled, it is proposed to stop operating the balers. The waste will be bulked up and transported to Poolbeg in articulated trailers. This is the same method by which solid recovered fuel is currently transported to cement kilns located in Ireland.

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## 2.0 METHOD OF OPERATION

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### 2.1 Waste Handling

It is proposed to accept an average of 2,000 tonnes per week of municipal solid waste comprising residual black bin waste domestic and commercial (LoW 20 03 01). The sources of the waste will be kerbside collection vehicles and from authorised waste management facilities. There will be no change to the hours of waste acceptance and operation.

The waste will be delivered to the Waste Reception Area by Panda waste collection/transport vehicles and by third party waste collectors that have an up to date Waste Collection Permit. Waste will not be accepted from either members of the general public, or from waste contractors that do not have a contract with Panda.

Panda has prepared documented waste acceptance procedures to ensure that only suitable wastes are accepted. Upon arrival, the waste is inspected on tipping. Any contaminants will be removed by hand or by a track machine excavator. Any non-conforming material will be segregated from the waste and dispatched to authorised facilities. Any non-conforming potentially hazardous waste will be quarantined and subsequently removed from the site.

The waste will be loaded onto trailers inside the building using either a loading shovel /tracked grab machine or the in-situ static compactors and sent to the Dublin Waste to Energy installation. The floor of the Waste Reception Area will be cleaned nightly with no waste remaining on the floor overnight.

### 2.2 Contingency

It is the intention to process and transfer all to the wastes on the day they are delivered. In the event that is not possible, the incoming waste will be diverted to Panda's other licensed installations in Dublin, including the nearby Ballymount Cross (W0039-02).

The bulk transfer of the treated waste is a simple process, only requiring the use of loading shovel and grab machine. In the event of a breakdown a replacement can either be readily hired in or redeployed from one of Panda's other waste management installations in the Dublin Region.

As a precaution the Flexus balers will not be decommissioned, but will be 'mothballed' and maintained as a contingency against future possible disruption to the operation of the Poolbeg plant that may require the wastes to be exported.

## **2.4 Emissions and Control Measures**

The proposed change will not result in any new emissions or emission points and will not require any new or additional environmental control measures.

## **2.5 Resource Consumption**

The cessation of the use of the balers will result in a reduction in energy consumption.

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### 3.0. CONFORMANCE WITH CURRENT LICENCE REQUIREMENTS

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It is OCM's opinion that the change can be accommodated under the current licence for the following reasons:

- The Baling Station was developed in conjunction with the Arthurstown Landfill to meet the long term objectives of the then Dublin Waste Management Plan. By sending the waste to the Poolbeg Plan the station will continue to be an integral part of the waste management infrastructure for the Dublin Local Authorities and will contribute to meeting the objectives of the Eastern and Midlands Region Waste Management Plan.
- The wastes were baled solely to comply with the licencing requirements of the Arthurstown Landfill, which uniquely in Ireland was designed to take baled waste only. The baling was not required to ensure the Station was operated in a manner that would not cause pollution.
- The wastes will continue to be handled in the part of the building provided with an odour control system that has been proven to be effective.
- The change will not result in any new emission point or cause of nuisance or impairment of the environment outside the site boundaries.
- Condition 9.5 (c) of the licence stipulates that no waste shall be accepted at the Baling Centre when both balers are inoperable. The objective of this condition was to prevent the build-up of waste at the site if both balers broke down. In this scenario the waste could not be sent to the Arthurstown Landfill, which as referred to above could only accept baled waste. In the context of the proposal to bulk transfer the waste to Poolbeg, as the balers will still be capable of operating this condition will not apply and does not prohibit the acceptance of waste at the facility.
- Condition 1.12 facilitates the alteration of the range of processes that may be carried out subject to the Agency's agreement.