

Sent: Tuesday, March 22, 2016 at 7:01 AM
From: "John Webb" **To:** "HertsWOW.info email" <hertswow.info@gmail.com>
Subject: 'Waste Management - The Way Ahead' - a letter to Herts. CC's CEO and the councillors

To: Transition-minded groups in Hertfordshire, f.y.i.
From: Herts. WithOut Waste, *seeking a transition toward a circular economy of materials [site](#)*

Dear all,

Today Herts. County Council will meet at 10am in County Hall, Hertford. In agenda item 6, Executive Report to County Council, Appendix C refers to the decision by Cabinet on 'Future Direction of the Residual Waste Treatment Programme'. That is the decision to go ahead in principle with a service contract with Veolia to dispose of the county's municipal, residual waste via incineration.

Please note that the revised Contract would allow the Council to raise the levels of re-use, recycling and composting to 75% and beyond without penalty for unused capacity; and probably beyond that level since it would be up to Veolia in the first instance to source waste streams to make up the shortfall. Herts. CC would take part in profit sharing from Veolia's use of the remaining capacity as a merchant facility on the open market. As a power plant, it would probably consume more energy embedded in the waste, plus its own electrical requirement, than it would generate for local use or the National Grid. So the focus of our concern is the possibility that such a plant could be built and run toward its capacity until the 2060s, regardless of whose waste would be incinerated.

We have sent a letter (as attached) to the Chief Executive, copied to the relevant officers and to all county councillors, so as to raise questions at the strategic level that is appropriate to a Council meeting, especially in terms of risks to the delivery and running of the proposed service. We hope that councillors will raise such questions to provoke discussion, not just accept the report of the Cabinet's decision 'on the nod'. We will record the discussion (as will the Council), in our case to review the extent to which informed discussion takes place beyond the waste industry's 'spin' about how good the proposal would be for Hertfordshire!

Thank you for all your inputs to date,

John Webb
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for HertsWOW
