





# **Meeting record**

Subject	Eco Park Community Liaison Group
Date	Monday 03 February 2025
Location	Eco Park, 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor
Recorder	Will Hamill

#### **Present**

Name	Initials	Organisation	Title / Role
Ken Snaith	KS		Resident, CLG Chair
Jason Benfield	JB	SUEZ	Plant Manager
John Seaman	JS		Resident
Richard Watkins	RW	SUEZ	Environment and Industrial Risk Manager
Sandra Dunn	SD	Spelthorne Borough Council	Cllr., Halliford and Sunbury West
Karen Howkins	КН	Spelthorne Borough Council	Cllr., Laleham and Shepperton Green
Gareth Swain	GS	SUEZ	Regional Manager
Will Hamill	WH	SUEZ	Regional Communications Manager
Emma Smyth	ES	SUEZ	Senior Planning Manager
Carl Philips	СР	Shepperton RA	Chair
Nigel Spooner	NS	LOSRA	
Andrea Koskela	AK		Resident
Derek Ferguson	DF	CVRA	Chair
Richard Parkinson	RP	Surrey County Council	Environmental Delivery Group Manager

1.0	Welcome and apologies		
	KS welcomed the group and opened the meeting.		
	Apologies for absence were received from Malcolm Robertson.		
2.0	Approval of minutes from previous meeting and matters arising		
2.1	The minutes of the meeting held on 7 <sup>th</sup> October were approved.		
	Actions from the last meeting were noted as complete, including a letter sent to former member, Peter Hughes, thanking him for his service to the group.		
	Members expressed a desire to discuss the site's two associated footpaths further. It was noted that ES was in attendance at the meeting to provide clarity on outstanding questions, as per the action from the meeting in October 2024.		
3.0	Operational update		
3.1	Gasification		
	Suez Materials KPIs - Gasification Eco Park Surrey		
	Last Month Tonnes Received MSW Buliked Out Ferrous Despatched 134 1,022 270  179 134 1,022 270  Non-Ferrous Despatched Despatched 227  Tonnes Processed Tonnes RDF Produced# 40 Fines Despatched 227  Tonnes RDF Produced# 492 73  Non-Ferrous Despatched 227  Boiler Ash Despatched 306  Boiler Ash Despatched 306  Fines Despatched 307  Tonnes RDF Produced# 492 73  Non-Ferrous Despatched 307  APCr Despatched 307  Tonnes RDF Produced# 40 Boiler Ash Despatched 306  Fines Despatched 307  Tonnes RDF Produced# 492 73  Notes:  * All values are in Tonnes 400 Processed Turgs is 200 Processed Angels Turget is 200 Processed Turgs is 300 Processed Angels Turget is 300 Processed Turgs is 300 Processe		
	Last 12 months  Tonnes Received MSW Bulked Out Ferrous Despatched 1,472 13,472 2,404  Tonnes Processed Tonnes RDF Produced# 432 Fines Despatched 8 Boiler Ash Despatched 9,56.330 15,460 1000 1000 1000 1500 1500 1500 1500 15		
	Figure 1		
	GS introduced JB as the new Plant Manager, stating that John Flounders had moved on to become Plant Manager of SUEZ's Suffolk EfW facility.		
	JB shared that he joined SUEZ in 2017 and has progressed through various roles at the Eco Park, noting that he has over 20 years' experience in the industry.		
	JB said that the gasification facility received just over 6,000 tonnes of waste last month and processed 5,700 tonnes.		
	Pretreatment performance continues to improve, contributing to the greater reliability of the facility.		

Over the past 12 months, the facility has processed 56,000 tonnes of waste.

#### **Emissions**

RW provided an overview of limits against actual emissions noting monthly average compliance in relation to:

- Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx)
- Sulphur Dioxide (SO2)
- Hydrogen Chloride (HCI)
- Total Organic Carbon (TOC/VOC)
- Carbon Monoxide (CO)
- Ammonia (NH3)
- Total Particulate Matter (Dust)

#### **Emissions Monitoring – Total Particulate Matter (Dust)**

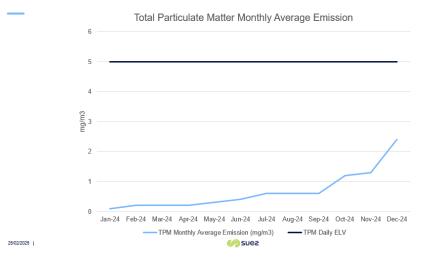


Figure 2

When covering Total Particulate Matter, RW explained that despite an increasing trend in dust (TPM) over October/November/December 2024, levels remained compliant with ELVs.

NS asked whether members should be concerned about the trend in particulate levels, considering it is moving upwards. GS clarified that, while there was an upward trend, the facility remains well within monthly compliance limits and significantly below the threshold that would indicate a problem.

RW later explained that the average for January 2025 was lower than December 2024 with planned work in the March 2025 outage to address the dust levels.

A breach of the dioxin ELV occurred in July 2024 (0.07 nanograms above the limit). SUEZ subsequently carried out two retests in October and November of 2024. The first retest in October was compliant, the November retest was not (0.005 nanograms above the limit).

RW explained that we are due to carry out further retests in February/March 2025 in line with the EA dioxins monitoring protocol.

AK asked why the breach occurred. RW explained that it was due to a fault in the carbon dosing system, with contractors on-site for several days to assess and resolve the issue.

DF inquired whether monitoring was independent. RW confirmed that the monitoring is undertaken by a contractor but is paid for by SUEZ and subcontracted through the lab.

As an action, it was mentioned that a note would be added to the minutes explaining the ongoing actions taken to address these issues (information included above), with the latest emissions data shared at the next meeting.

RW/JB

#### 3.2 Anaerobic digestion

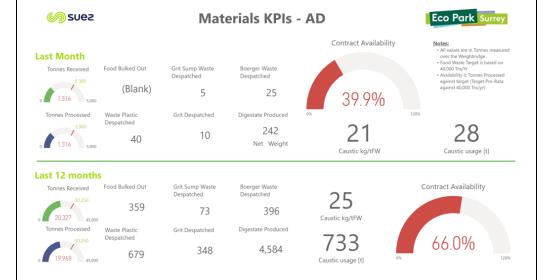


Figure 3

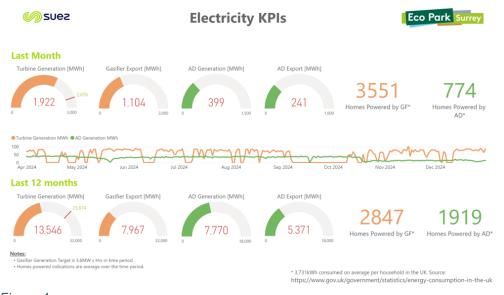


Figure 4

JB noted that the anaerobic digestion facility is currently operating on a temporary setup while repairs to the buffer tank are carried out, following the issues with the tank in October last year.

Full repairs are expected to take approximately six weeks, after which the facility will ramp back up to full capacity.

JB mentioned that the facility is still processing all of the local kerbside food waste from Surrey County Council but the additional food waste bulked up at the other Surrey transfer facilities is being processed in contingent facilities.

KS questioned why repairs had taken so long to arrange. GS explained that due to the bespoke nature of the components, the process has been complex and the investigation detailed to ensure the issue was fully understood before affecting any necessary repairs. Repairs are expected to be fully completed by May, after which 100% of Surrey's food waste tonnage will be processed at the Eco Park.

When covering the implications for energy production, KH asked whether the reduced tonnage of the anaerobic digestion facility would be in breach of the planning permission for the Eco Park.

ES confirmed that when it comes to the planning permission, the Eco Park is required to have an overall generating capacity of a certain threshold. GS however emphasised that there is also a financial element to getting the facility running at its full potential again, with generation levels that SUEZ is obligated to achieve.

KS asked about the permit to increase processing tonnage at the Eco Park. RW confirmed that the permit was granted on 27 June 2024 and GS confirmed that it had been raised at the last CLG meeting in October.

## 3.3 Complaints

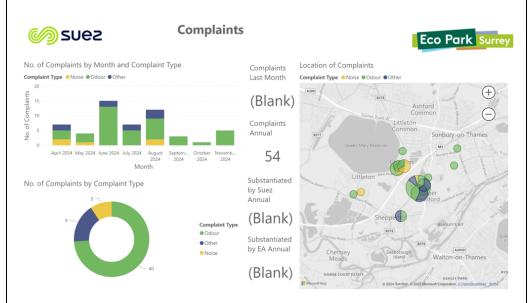


Figure 5

JB reported one complaint last month and 54 annual complaints to date.

KS stated he had not heard of any complaints recently.

DF asked for clarification on the "other" category of complaints. RW explained that "other" relates to flies.

NS asked if "blank" means zero, to which JB confirmed it does.

4.0	RBF and CRC Operations	
4.1	CRC	
	GS asked if anyone had visited the CRC over Christmas - no members had. GS mentioned there was quite a bit of sickness during that period and that he had spent a day on site working on site and observing operations.	
	GS noted that the site was running well, and residents were making a real effort to recycle. The most common challenge was recycling wrapping paper, especially when mixed with glass bottles.	
	GS completed a full six-hour shift and was struck by just how much residents care, particularly younger people. He said he gained firsthand insight into the site team's daily work and saw residents' appreciation for the service despite occasional frustrations.	
	CP confirmed that no complaints had been raised about the CRC at recent meetings.	
	KH shared anecdotal feedback about the Revive shop, saying she had heard of resident attempts to bring items for re-use, but they had been discarded instead, leading to frustration.	
	GS emphasised that no one making an effort to promote re-use should be discouraged and that he would raise it with the site team.	GS
	KH asked if there were plans to improve the site layout for better usability. GS confirmed SUEZ would review this.	GS
4.2	<u>RBF</u>	
	GS acknowledged complaints about vehicles turning right and going through Charlton Village.	
	Clarifying the actions taken to address this, GS confirmed that SUEZ:	
	<ul> <li>Has installed a large new sign instructing hauliers on the correct route.</li> <li>Continued to educate hauliers, issuing warnings/bans for non-compliance when necessary.</li> </ul>	
	Reminded all hauliers in writing to adhere to the designated route.	
	GS highlighted that amongst approximately 5,500 monthly vehicle movements the vast majority comply. However, occasionally we are aware that very few fail to follow the route, especially new drivers due to satnavs sometimes directing them incorrectly.	
	DF recalled multiple instances of vehicles breaching the route before Christmas, estimating at least 10 violations since October.	
	DF suggested implementing ANPR or CCTV to actively monitor compliance rather than relying on resident complaints.	
	GS re-iterated that SUEZ continues to meet planning and routing requirements and will continue to educate drivers and measure the impact of the new signage.GS acknowledged the concerns and committed to ongoing management of the situation.	
	On the subject of bulking lorries, SD asked for an update on the investigation into the lorry that spread bottom ash in September last year. GS confirmed the issue was	

ı	addressed as soon as it was reported with members updated on the outcome shortly	
	after the incident at the October CLG meeting.	
	SD also saked for an undets an when 2025 stickers would be issued for CDC visitors	

SD also asked for an update on when 2025 stickers would be issued for CRC visitors. GS said members should have received them by now but will follow up with colleagues to ensure this is happening.

GS

### 5.0 Footpath

#### **FOOTPATH UPDATE**

- Footpath 70 Is the footpath which runs alongside the M3 and around the northern edge of the Eco Park; to the railway line to the east. This was diverted from its original route as a result of the Eco Park development.
- Footpath 86 Is the footpath which runs north-south through the new landscaped area, within the Eco Park planning application boundary.
- Footpath 86 is currently closed. We are looking to open the site this spring.
- Actions on site currently include:
- Tree planting
- Ongoing landscaping maintenance
- Bee hives/associated activity
- Signage for footpath users





#### Figure 6

ES provided an update regarding the two footpaths associated with the Eco Park, explaining the planning history.

ES explained that Footpath 86 is the new formal footpath which is being created and is currently closed. ES explained that SUEZ is looking to open it in the spring.

AK questioned its legal status and why it had been closed nine times. After confusion at the October meeting, ES clarified that it is officially recognised as a Public Right of Way, confirmed by Surrey County Council, but that it had been continuously closed due to using the area for cabins and a laydown area during construction of the Eco Park, followed by earthworks, creation of the surface water pond, construction of the footpath and tree planting/landscaping works. All of these works have been necessary to create the landscape area and footpath.

KH asked if the opening would happen by this time next year (2026). ES clarified that there is still work to do; i.e. review and implementation of signage, with spring this year being a best-case scenario.

NS asked who would be responsible for adopting the footpath. ES confirmed that Surrey County Council's Public Right of Way Team would adopt it.

SD questioned whether Footpath 70 had always been a right of way. ES confirmed that it had.

NS noted that Footpath 86 currently appears on the Surrey Footpath Map, raising questions about its status.

ES explained that Footpath 86 is a brand-new formal Public Right of Way created by the Eco Park planning permission, but it has not yet had the chance to officially open

	(due to the works identified above). Therefore, it appears as a new footpath on the Surrey Footpath Map, but is marked as closed for the reasons set out above.	
6.0	Communications	
6.1	WH provided an update on the latest communications developments within Surrey.	
	He noted that SUEZ and Surrey County Council are currently shortlisting recipients from the latest round of the Revive Community Fund, having narrowed down approximately 80 eligible matched projects with a total of £17,500 available.	
	DF noted that the Charlton Village Residents Association had applied for funding through the Revive Community Fund.	
	Since the meeting, it has been confirmed the funding will soon be awarded to the following recipients:	
	Samson Centre for Multiple Sclerosis – £4,000	
	Charlton Village Playpark – £4,000	
	<ul> <li>Woking &amp; Sam Beare Hospice – £3,808</li> </ul>	
	Gatton Trust – £2,950	
	Patchwork Garden Project – £2,742	
	WH also confirmed the partnership between SUEZ and HMP Downview regarding a furniture upcycling workshop, which has received praise following ministerial visits.	
	WH touched upon recent school outreach in Camberley inspiring the next generation of waste superheroes.	
	WH mentioned recent Sky News filming at Earlswood CRC to show best practice within the industry against the backdrop of waste crime in other areas. This can be viewed at: <a href="https://news.sky.com/story/lorries-dumped-waste-on-beach-as-sky-news-told-gangs-can-make-millions-from-illegal-tipping-13311352">https://news.sky.com/story/lorries-dumped-waste-on-beach-as-sky-news-told-gangs-can-make-millions-from-illegal-tipping-13311352</a>	
	In response to the community engagement updates, DF suggested reaching out to the Justice Team (Staines Probation Team) who could be a good partner from a social value perspective.	
	Outdated online information	
	KS raised concerns about outdated pages related to the Eco Park appearing in Google searches.	
	WH explained that search results depend on algorithms out of SUEZ's control but committed to:	
	<ul> <li>Removing outdated pages from the SUEZ website.</li> <li>Speaking with SCC about removing irrelevant pages from their website.</li> </ul>	WH
	AK asked if minutes from previous meetings of the CLG were available online. WH confirmed that they were at: <a href="https://suezsurrey.co.uk/community-and-education/community-liaison/">https://suezsurrey.co.uk/community-and-education/community-liaison/</a>	
7.0	Questions	
7.1	Prior to the meeting, NS had submitted a question clarifying the right of way status with regards to Footpath 86.	
	Members agreed that this had been covered via ES's footpath update.	
	Since the meeting WH has updated section 7.0 of the October minutes to correct the reference to Footpath 86. In the original iteration of the minutes, it was labelled as a	

	permissive footpath. A point of correction has been added in, noting its correct status as a Public Right of Way yet to officially open, with the updated version added to the SUEZ Surrey website.	
8.0	AOB	
8.1	BESS planning application	
	KS requested an update on SUEZ's assessment of the BESS application.	
	ES confirmed that SUEZ submitted a response to the planning application consultation, focusing on vehicle numbers/access roads, alongside potential involvement in the safety plan.	
	KH said that the applicant had withdrawn the application twice. KS understood it was withdrawn due to expected refusal by planning officers.	
	GS confirmed that we would circulate SUEZ's representation on the planning application to members.	ES/GS
8.2	Ivydene planning	
	SD asked for an update on the planning process associated with the Ivydene redevelopment. GS clarified that SUEZ is not involved - this is a matter for Surrey County Council.	
	JS asked who would operate it. GS again stated this was a question for Surrey County Council.	
9.0	Date of next meeting	
9.1	At the meeting it was mentioned that the next CLG would take place on 9th June.	
	However, due to staff availability, the new date will now be 23 <sup>rd</sup> June from 2-3pm in the 3 <sup>rd</sup> floor boardroom.	