

Date received:	10 th March 2024
Date responded:	4 th April 2024
Subject:	Eastern Civic Amenity Site (ECAS)

Questions and Responses:

1. Unscheduled ECAS Closure

a. On how many occasions between 29 June 2023 and 09 March 2024 was the current ECAS (the site located at Middle Park Industrial Estate) not open during scheduled Opening Hours (specified on the Eastern Household Waste Recycling Centre web page). For each occasion please provide the:

- (i) Date**
- (ii) Duration of closure e.g. half day, full day**
- (iii) Reason for closure e.g. skips full, high wind**

Site diary extract below.

Date	Time closed	Time re-opened	reasons for closure	Max wind speed	Gantry No	Notes
13-Nov-23	08:00	closed all day	wind			
03-Dec-23	09:30	10:00	ice	N/A		opened as soon as regritted
16-Dec-23	13:00	15:00	wind			
17-Dec-23	08:00	11:00	wind			
17-Dec-23	14:00	16:00	wind			
20-Dec-23	12:30	16:00	wind	29.0	7	
21-Dec-23	08:00	16:00	wind	28.0	4	Very strong gusts blowing fridges about
22-Dec-23	08:00	16:00	wind	27.7	4	Public complained waste blowing out of skips
27-Dec-23	10:30	13:00	wind			
28-Dec-23	12:00	16:00	wind	26.8	1	
30-Dec-23	09:15	13:00	wind	26.1	4	
08-Jan-24	08:00	09:00	ice			site gritted and cleared opened by 9am
20-Jan-24	08:00	16:00	wind	27.3	5,6,7	had occasional gusts of 29-30 mph
21-Jan-24	1250	1600	wind	31.2	6	frequent gusts of 29-31 mph
28-Jan-24	13:00	16:00	wind	32.3	4	all household skips full , V strong winds
31-Jan-24	14:15	16:00	wind	31.2	4	

b. On how many occasions between 29 June 2022 and 09 March 2023 was the former ECAS (the site located Middle River Pulrose) not open during scheduled Opening Hours (specified on the Eastern Household Waste Recycling Centre web page). For each occasion please provide the:

- (i) Date**
- (ii) Duration of closure e.g. half day, full day**

(iii) Reason for closure e.g. skips full, high wind

This information is not held by the Council.

2. Assessment of meteorological (climate/weather) conditions – ECAS site selection process. Please provide:

a. Copies of the meteorological reports or assessments provided to, and considered by, the Eastern Civic Amenity Site Committee, to advise the new ECAS site selection process.

The reports were not requested or submitted. An Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) of the Site was undertaken, however meteorological reports were not requested or included in this assessment. The EIA can be viewed at <https://services.gov.im/planningapplication/services/planning/planningapplication/details.iom?ApplicationReferenceNumber=22%2F01507%2FB>

b. Copies of the meteorological reports or assessments submitted as part of the planning application for the new ECAS and the application for a ECAS Waste Disposal Licence (WDL).

The reports were not requested or submitted.

3. ECAS operation - weather conditions

a. What condition(s) are appended to the ECAS planning permission and/or WDL requiring the site to be closed during adverse/specified weather conditions. Please provide copies.

No conditions are appended to the planning approval or WDL regarding closure due to weather conditions.

b. Formal risk assessments on the operation of the ECAS. Please provide copies of

(i) The risk assessment and report, including recommendations

See appended risk assessment. Appendix 2.

(ii) Minutes/notes of meetings of the ECAS Committee where the risk assessment was discussed

There is an expectation from Committee that the Contractor produces and maintains Risk Assessments as part of the Site Operational Working Plan. However individual Risk Assessments are operational documents and would not ordinarily be scrutinised by the Committee.

Below is an extract from the Contractor's report provided to the Committee on 19th September 2023: -

"Acquisition of Anemometer for measuring wind speed and the implication for safe use of the site: A simple measurement of wind speed would not be sufficient to decide whether to close. Factors that present dangers to the public include:

- *Wind speed*
- *Wind direction*
- *Speed of gusts*
- *How wet the waste is in the skips*
- *Level of waste in the skips*
- *Material in the skips*

The anemometer while useful for gathering data cannot be a simple level for closing the site due to all other variables. The guideline has always been that if material is being blown out of skips that could cause a danger to the public, or if the public would be in danger due to the lifting of items into the skips due to the wind, e.g. lifting wooded sheets or furniture, then the site would close."

Committee Resolution "Acquisition of Anemometer and Closure of the site – The Committee accepted the Contractors view and requested that better communications with the public is made when the site is closed and the reason for the closure stated".

c. ECAS Closure due to Weather Conditions. Please provide:

- (i) The ECAS Committee's approved policy/agreement/ criteria for site closure due to weather conditions e.g. high winds, low temperatures, high temperatures.**

The Contractor is unaware of a written policy per se. The Committee agreed to the criteria set out above in Q3 (b) for high winds. With regards to snow/ice the aim is to grit and clear the site in order to open as quickly as possible. For prolonged extreme winter weather conditions, the site would open as soon as safe to do so. There has been no scenario where the current or previous site needed to close due to extreme heat events.

- (ii) Details of meteorological monitoring equipment installed on the ECAS site.**

The Contractor uses a hand held Anemometer for taking wind speed readings, this is used as secondary verification to observed conditions and perceived risk to the public.

- (iii) Details of how the data from this equipment is monitored/recorded.**

The equipment is battery operated and used purely as a secondary means of verification, readings are recorded in a site diary.

- (iv) Details of which organisation and /or individual takes the decision to close the site due to adverse/specified weather conditions, and what information is used to advise this decision.**

The decision is taken by the Contractor’s supervisor on site, the decision is based on the criteria set out under Q3 (b) above.

(v) The following details about the contract for operating the ECAS:

1. The length of time Douglas Council has operated the ECAS acting as contractor to the ECAS Committee.

2011 – 2016 as contractor to the ECAS committee, 2016 – 2019 as contract to the ECAS committee (initially extended to 2021, subsequently further extended until March 2024). All extensions were agreed by the Eastern Civic Amenity Site Joint Committee.

2. The last date the contract was awarded following an open tender process.

2024 – 2029 Contract Awarded to Douglas City Council on 19/12/2023 to commence on 1/04/2024.

3. Clause(s) in the contract covering closure of the site during operating hours.

No specific clauses relating to site closure due to adverse weather.

(vi) The full contract cost per day for operation of the ECAS, and Douglas Council’s part of that cost as a member of the ECAS Committee.

Total contractor cost for 24/25 is £375,540 for the operation of the ECAS or £1,029 a day.

DBC budgeted share of Contractor cost for 24/25 is £234,450 per annum or £642 a day.

The annual income Douglas Council receives from the ECAS Committee as contractor for operating the ECAS.

As Contractor total budgeted revenue income for 24/25 is £506,550.

4. ECAS – Green Waste

a. Tonnage of Green Waste removed off Site to the Composting Facility: please provide the data by calendar month for the periods:

(i) 01 November 2021 to 31 October 2022

	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct
2021/22	87.23	38.71	61.36	29.98	102.34	124.98	179.12	181.87	160.83	166.58	132.76	91.16

(ii) 01 November 2022 to 01 December 2023

	nov	dec	jan	feb	mar	apr	may	jun	jul	aug	sep	oct	nov	dec
2022/23	82.94	26.96	39.8	71.42	39.62	119.1	194.27	130.33	138.36	147.52	137.6	114.02	52.8	27.94

b. Composting Facility: please provide the following

(i) Location

Middle Park

(ii) Details of Composting Facility process accreditation

The Company has advised that their operation is regularly inspected by DEFA and undergoes annual testing in accordance with BSI PAS 100:201. Test certificates have been supplied to the Council on demand. The company has stated that it does not re-sell the product to the public.

(iii) Cost per tonne (April 2021 to March 2022, and April 2022 to March 2023 prices) for composting.

2021/22 = £28 per tonne, 2022/23 = £35 per tonne.

(iv) Cost per tonne (April 2021 to March 2022, and April 2022 to March 2023 prices) for haulage from ECAS to the Composting Facility.

The cost of hauling garden waste is not currently separated from hauling other waste types.

5. ECAS Residual/incinerable waste

a. Tonnage of residual /incinerable waste delivered to the EfW from the ECAS by calendar months for the periods:

(i) 01 November 2021- 31 October 2022

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct
2021/22	236.66	238.42	260.28	222.42	250.96	291.6	274.5	265.38	256.24	285.46	245.78	286.5

**Includes 1033.14 tonnes of wood*

(ii) 01 November 2022 to 30 November 2023

	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov
2022/23	254.92	219.94	291.66	259.88	252.8	291.16	299.36	223.08	276.28	278.88	263.18	261.82	243.1

** Includes 365.5 tonnes of wood*

b. Cost per tonne for residual/incinerable waste disposal to the EfW

(i) April 2021 to March 2022

Domestic £95.66 per tonne, wood £35 per tonne.

(ii) April 2022 to March 2023

Domestic £97.53 per tonne, wood £35 per tonne.