



13 AUGUST 2020

Statement in response to investment news

Carole-Anne Davies, Chief Executive of the Design Commission for Wales recalling the Commission's comments on the early stages of the Viridor proposals said: "In a 2008 pre-planning application review we welcomed this as one of the earliest attempts to move away from the commonplace waste to landfill process. In doing so we strongly urged all parties to continue to work together to realise the added value of using the heat to help power proximate developments, homes and businesses. We knew that wouldn't happen overnight of course and whilst it's taken a good deal of time and effort this investment is welcome news.

"Reducing the amount of waste going to landfill is an important issue for us all as we try to reduce unnecessary waste, deal responsibly with what's left and reduce negative impacts on the environment. Technology and possibilities are changing all the time, but the Cardiff Heat Network Project from the Viridor Energy Recovery Facility will offset fossil fuel use elsewhere and represents another step towards meeting our goal of cutting Wales' greenhouse gas emissions.

"Importantly, it also offers lessons for similar facilities now more commonly proposed in Wales and across the UK. Locations and sites need to be strategically established along with tangible potential of a sufficient scale of development to maximise and realise the long-term benefits. And of course, the quality of the facilities and the proximate, associated development must be very high indeed."