



## MINISTRY OF HEALTH & CULTURE

A report commissioned by the Cayman Islands Government, which was prepared by environmental consultancy firm Amec Foster Wheeler, is now available to the public for review and comment. The draft outline business case can be read on [www.ministryofhealth.gov.ky](http://www.ministryofhealth.gov.ky)

# Proposed Integrated Solid Waste Management System FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

### Why is there an Outline Business Case (OBC)?

The OBC assesses the overall affordability, implementation and delivery options for the Integrated Solid Waste Management System (ISWMS) project. The OBC was prepared in accordance with UK Treasury Green Book standards, which set out the guidelines by which outline business cases are compiled. The OBC builds upon the now-approved National Solid Waste Management Policy and the National Solid Waste Management Strategy (NSWMS) which were published over the last two years. This is an ongoing process in which the publication of the business case is the latest part. Inevitably, it draws heavily on the two preceding documents, as the business case represents the means by which the previously developed strategy will be delivered and implemented.

### What are the recommendations of the OBC?

The OBC concludes that national solid waste management in the Cayman Islands would be best dealt with through a public private partnership (PPP) and that the PPP arrangement to “design, build, finance, operate and maintain (DBFOM) contract” offers the best value for money.

### What exactly is an Integrated Solid Waste Management System (ISWMS)?

According to United Nations Environmental Programme, *“Integrated Solid Waste Management refers to the strategic approach to sustainable solid wastes covering all sources and aspects, covering generation, transfer, sorting, treatment, recovery and disposal in an integrated manner, with an emphasis on maximising resource use efficiency”*.

### What is the main objective of the ISWMS?

The main objective is to have a national system in place that will incorporate the waste hierarchy as outlined below in the following diagram:



**Reduce, Reuse, Recycle,  
Recover, and Dispose**  
**WASTE MANAGEMENT  
IN THE CAYMAN ISLANDS**

The waste hierarchy is at the heart of the modern approach to managing waste. The hierarchy firstly focuses on waste reduction, and then examines each subsequent option before disposal as follows:

- **Reduction:** Using less material in design and manufacture, keeping products longer; re-using and using less hazardous materials;
- **Re-use:** Checking, cleaning, repairing, refurbishing, repair, whole items or spare parts;
- **Recycling:** Turning waste into a new substance or product, including composting;
- **Recovery:** Energy is recovered from waste through a variety of methods such as thermal treatment and gasification; and
- **Disposal:** Landfill

### When will the George Town landfill reach maximum capacity and then, after that, will a new landfill need to be constructed elsewhere on Grand Cayman?

The existing George Town landfill is likely to run out of capacity in 5-6 years at current rates of infill. Implementing the proposed new arrangements will slow down current rates, whereby the life of the existing landfill can be extended through early implementation of recycling and composting initiatives. Thereafter, the waste-to-energy facility will reduce the landfill requirement still further as it is only necessary to landfill about 3% of the total waste it treats.

Some on-going provision for landfill will still be required but the large reduction means no new site will be required and, instead, the landfill requirement will be met by the design of a new engineered landfill that can be accommodated within the present boundary of the George Town landfill.

### Why was mining of waste at the George Town landfill not included in the future ISWMS project moving forward?

The potential of long-term nuisance conditions from mining waste, such as odours, outweigh the benefit of gaining back the small area of the existing landfill space. Therefore a policy decision has been made to exclude mining of waste from the ISWMS project.

### Is Government looking to partner with the private sector because it does not have the resources to pay for the construction or operation of the ISWMS project?

The OBC recommends that the project should be delivered through a partnership with the private sector and it has nothing to with whether or not the Government has the resources. Rather, it is because that approach gives better value for money than the Government seeking to deliver the project itself, largely because it allows significant risk transfer to the private sector.

### Why was this OBC report released? It seems as though it brings Cayman no nearer to solving our country's waste management problems than we were three years ago?

The OBC report is the basis on which a permanent, sustainable solution can be procured. Following the consultation, an updated business case including proposed solutions to issues such as bridging the affordability gap will be presented to Cabinet. At that point, a request for proposals will be issued and procurement of the project will commence. The procurement process may take around a year to from commencement to ground-breaking. Three years ago, the country had no solution on the table except for a proposed new landfill site - something which was environmentally unsustainable and unacceptable to our communities. We now have a long-term, sustainable solution which has been assessed for feasibility using the UK Treasury 5-case model. This assessment has confirmed that the proposed solution is feasible, addresses the guiding principles and goals identified in the National Solid Waste Management Policy, represents value for money, and can be delivered to address the long-term needs of the country.

### How can the ISWMS deliver up to a 95 percent diversion of waste from landfill?

With integrated waste management, recyclable and compostable materials will be treated first and then remaining waste materials will be treated at a waste to energy facility, where much of the ash left over after burning is inert and therefore can be utilised for activities such as road building. By treating waste in an integrated manner, following the approved waste hierarchy, Cayman can achieve diversion rates of up to 95 percent.

A questionnaire will be provided at the open house sessions. We invite the public to complete the questionnaire on or before 7 October 2016.

For more information visit [www.ministryofhealth.gov.ky](http://www.ministryofhealth.gov.ky) or call (345) 244-2369 or visit us on [www.Faebok.com/MinistryHealthCultureCaymanIslands](https://www.facebook.com/MinistryHealthCultureCaymanIslands).

### Join us for Open House sessions

To learn more about the outline business case recommendations

**Tuesday, 4 October**

Government Administration Building - 5p.m. to 7p.m.

**Wednesday, 5 October**

National Trust House - Little Cayman - 11.30a.m. to 1.30p.m.

**Wednesday, 5 October**

Aston Rutty Civic Centre - Cayman Brac 5p.m. to 7p.m.