



REPORT TO: **NWRWTP JOINT COMMITTEE**

DATE: **4th MARCH 2022**

REPORT BY: **CONTRACT MANAGER**

SUBJECT: **SERVICES UPDATE REPORT**

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To update the Joint Committee on progress on the operational aspects at Parc Adfer.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. Parc Adfer has been fully operational for 2 years, having reached full services in late December 2019. Services at Parc Adfer have continued uninterrupted throughout the Covid-19 Pandemic.
- 2.2. This report provides a summary of the operational performance of Services at Parc Adfer for the Services period.

3. CONSIDERATIONS

Operations

- 3.1. Since the last Joint Committee meeting in June 2021, services have continued uninterrupted with no disruptions to authority deliveries.
- 3.2. Whilst the continuing Covid-19 pandemic has understandably placed pressure on Parc Adfer, the protocols and processes put in place on site have ensured that the site has remained fully operational throughout the Covid pandemic to treat partner authority waste. Some limited site visits have now restarted on site (key meetings etc), with additional measures in place for those meetings.
- 3.3. The Partner Authorities delivering circa 800 vehicles per month (around 200 per week) to Parc Adfer, with the majority of the tonnage coming in via Heavy Goods Vehicles (HGV's), along with Flintshire's various collection vehicles delivering to the site.
- 3.4. The plant also continues to perform very well in terms of its efficiency, emissions etc with emissions well below permitted levels (see paras 3.9 – 3.11 below for further detail).



Tonnage throughput and the impact of Covid-19

- 3.5. It has been reported to the Joint Committee since the start of the Covid-19 pandemic that tonnages from the Partner Authorities had increased during 2020 and 2021. That increase in tonnages has continued with tonnage levels in 2021 being higher than their equivalent months in 2020, with those, in turn, being higher than their equivalent tonnages in 2019. That pattern does, however, appear to be slowing a little with the most recent months (December 2021 and January 2022) being lower than the previous year.
- 3.6. Tables showing the comparative monthly tonnage throughput into Parc Adfer for January to April 2020 and the same months in 2021 are included in Appendix 1 below.

Annual Maintenance Shutdown

- 3.7. Parc Adfer's annual maintenance shutdown for 2022 is planned for the two weeks commencing the 11th June 2022. No waste diversions were required for the 2021 shutdown, and as with 2021 the intention is to ensure this by reducing bunker levels prior to this date by reducing the commercial waste inputs in the lead up to the shutdown. This will ensure the bunker is able to accept Contract Waste from the Authorities at Parc Adfer throughout the shutdown period. Contingency plans are in place should any issues occur during the planned maintenance period that require Authority waste to be diverted from Parc Adfer.

Emissions Monitoring

- 3.8. Monitoring of emissions from any Energy from Waste facility is a critical part of its operation and compliance with its environmental permit, as issued by Natural Resources Wales (NRW) in Wales. There are stringent regulations in place for the monitoring and the levels of all emissions which plant operators must comply with.
- 3.9. In the summer / early autumn 2021, NRW issued a formal permit Notice to Enfium Parc Adfer (known as a Regulation 61 Notice), requiring completion of an assessment against an updated suite of guidance in relation to emissions from Energy from Waste Plants. Essentially this notice required Enfium to undertake a gap analysis against the requirements of the revised regulations which were published in December 2019.
- 3.10. Enfium completed this review in late November 2021, which concluded that Parc Adfer already meets most of the new guidance requirements, without making any major changes or modifications to the plant, processes, or procedures. The assessment was submitted to NRW in December 2021. This is positive news and demonstrates that Parc Adfer is operating to the highest possible and most modern (and even incoming) monitoring and emissions standards.



Other operational matters

- 3.11. As noted in 3.3 above, waste deliveries have continued to site with no significant or recurring issues, with the site performing within its required parameters. Turnaround times of vehicles on site have been well below contractual limits throughout the period.
- 3.12. Following several months of discussions with Enfinium and directly with NRW, Parc Adfer's permit was amended (as approved by NRW) to be able directly accept Flintshire's litter and cleansing vehicles and the vehicles that carry out Flintshire's newly started household Absorbent Hygiene Products (AHP) collection service.
- 3.13. As part of their regulatory role, NRW carry out regular Compliance Assessment Report on all waste sites such as Parc Adfer, which assess how the site is performing in relation its permit obligations. The assessment looks at the following activities:-
- Emissions – Air
 - Emissions – Waste
 - General Management - Management system and operating procedures
 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Monitoring of emissions and environment
 - Monitoring and Records, Maintenance and Reporting - Reporting and notification to Natural Resources Wales
 - Resource Efficiency - Energy efficiency

Parc Adfer were given an "Assessed (A)" result for all of the above categories, which states that all of the categories were assessed and no evidence of non-compliance was found. This is the highest any site can score on the assessment, and is, of course, extremely positive. Enfinium Parc Adfer should be commended for their management and operation of the site which is clearly demonstrated to be of the highest standards.

- 3.14. The Partnership have worked constructively with Parc Adfer to resolve small day to day issues that inevitably occur during the operation of a plant such as Parc Adfer including waste acceptance criteria, vehicle entry to site, staffing etc, with the constructive approach ensuring the continuation of the safe treatment of partner authority waste at Parc Adfer.

Recycling and waste diversion performance

- 3.15. Parc Adfer contributes to the Partner Authorities' recycling and landfill diversion figures through the recycling Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA), which includes metals. For the 2021/22 year to date, the overall recycling levels sites at 22.1%, which is entirely in line with expectations.
- 3.16. It is also worth noting that Air Pollution Control Residues (APCR), a by-product of the emissions cleaning process, is now going to a recovery / recycling operation. This is a very small tonnage (typically less than 1%), however has traditionally been



going to specific landfill sites for disposal. The technology for treating this material has developed considerably over the last few years to the point where it is now a viable option for sites such as Parc Adfer. This development is welcomed by the Partnership and ensures that the site operates to the highest environmental performance possible, successfully diverting material from landfill.

Heat Study

- 3.17. Following the award of the Parc Adfer contract and during the Commissioning / early operations, the Partnership were successful in being awarded a grant of £46,900 for specialist consultants to carry out a study into the use of heat from Parc Adfer for nearby buildings within DIP. The grant was awarded by the Heat Network Delivery Unit (HNDU) of the Department for Business, Energy and Industrial Strategy (BEIS) of the Westminster Government.
- 3.18. Following an extensive tender process to secure specialist consultants to carry out the study, the tender has been awarded to Ramboll UK Ltd, with work on the study to commence imminently.
- 3.19. The objective of the study is to verify whether a heat offtake arrangement for Parc Adfer is environmentally beneficial and theoretically possible, based on an assessment of likely user demand, offtake revenues, capital expenditure and operational.
- 3.20. The study will be split into two phases. The first phase would conclude by setting out where certain options would be impractical or unachievable and ranking any remaining options based on economics and environmental benefit. The second part of the study - the feasibility stage - would only proceed if the above indicates that there is one or more viable opportunities to be pursued.
- 3.21. The approval to award the Tender was given by the Project Board at their January meeting, noting that the cost of both phases is above the grant amount (as noted above, this full cost would only be borne should the conclusion of the phase 1 study show it warrants proceeding to the second phase). The cost of the 1st phase is comfortably within the grant amount.
- 3.22. Prior to starting the procurement, it was agreed that any costs in excess of the grant would be split equally between Enfinium and the Partnership. This would mean that should the phase 2 study be completed, the Partnership would need to cover costs above the grant amount, which would be split between the five authorities as per overall principle of the Inter Authority Agreement. This was approved by the Project Board.
- 3.23. It is worth noting that should it be identified that the second phase of the study is worth pursuing it would, by that stage, it will have shown that it does have at least potential for realising benefits utilising the heat from Parc Adfer. Those phase 2 costs would be therefore viewed as an investment at that point.
- 3.24. Regardless of the above, the Contract Manager believes that there would be merit in putting a case together to the HNDU for an additional grant amount to cover any costs above the original grant to cover phase 2 costs.



3.25. Progress on the study will be reported to the Joint Committee.

Operational Summary

3.26. In summary, operations and performance at Parc Adfer have continued to do well, despite the on-going Covid pandemic. There have been no disruptions to Partner Authority deliveries, low overall turnaround times with minimal delays to deliveries, emission levels have been well below permitted levels and other performance measures have been good.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1. The Joint Committee is asked to:-
- Note the content of the report.

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. N/A

6. ANTI-POVERTY IMPACT

N/A

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

The environmental impact of the Parc Adfer facility has previously been reported to the Joint Committee.

8. EQUALITIES IMPACT

N/A

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.1. As described in the body of this report

10. CONSULTATION REQUIRED

None.

11. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.1. As outlined in the report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 1985

Background Documents:

None

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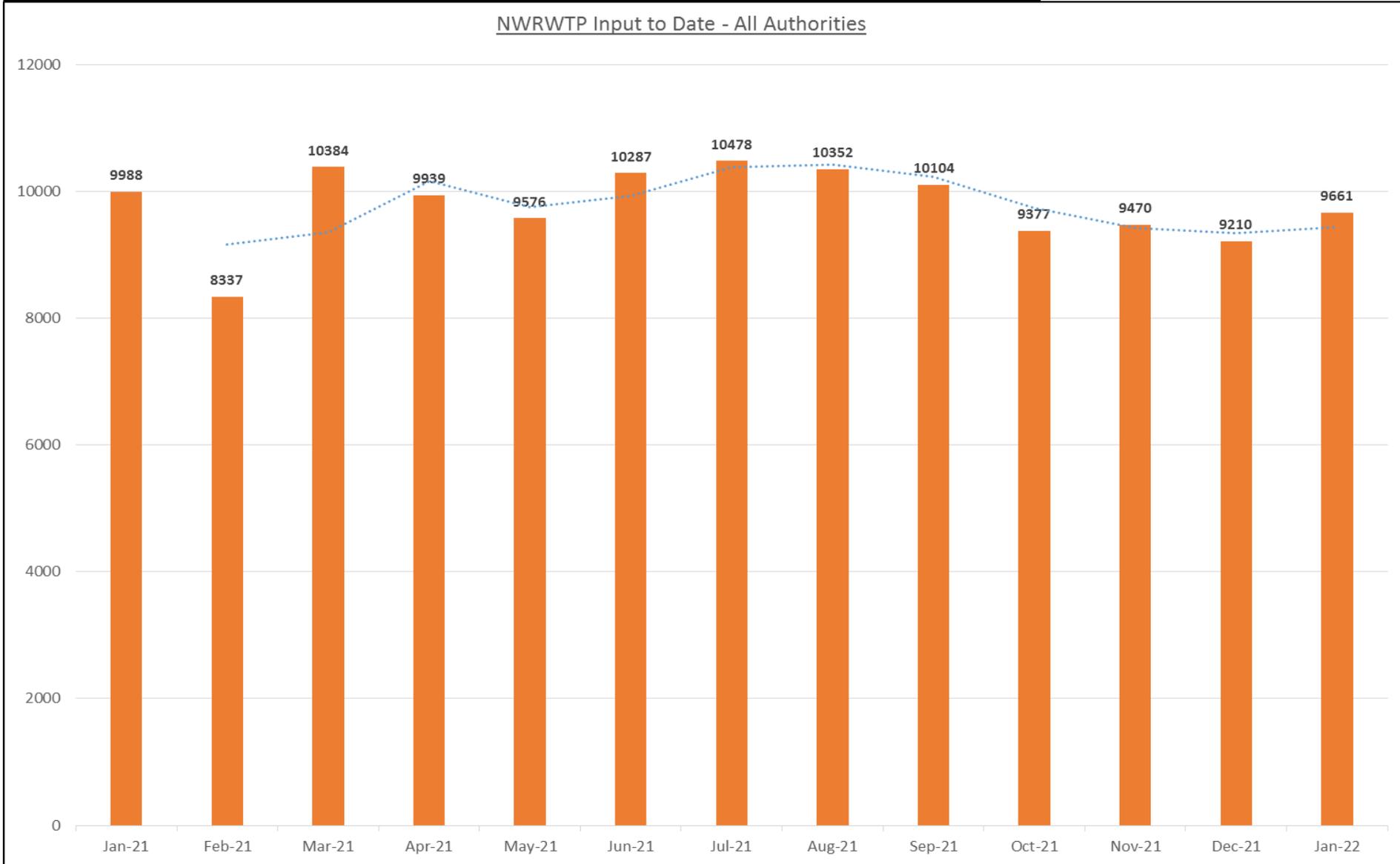
NWRWTP

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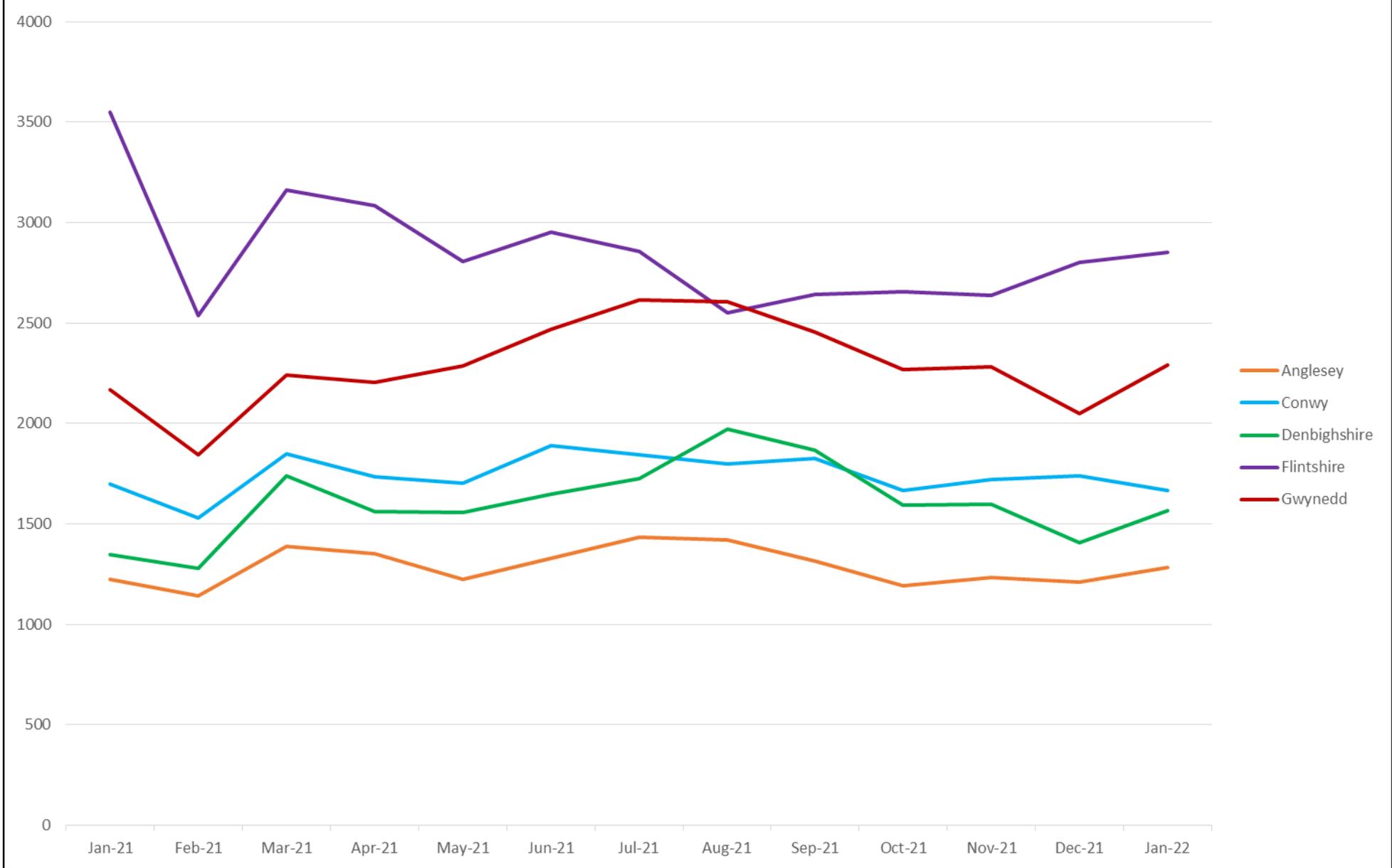


Appendix 1 – NWRWTP Partnership Tonnage inputs into Parc Adfer – year to date 2021/2022





NWRWTP Tonnages to Date - All Authorities





2019/20 – 2021/22 Monthly Comparison

