

**Statement of Assurance 2008/09**

**Response to questions from Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority**

1. **Have the key risks to the achievement of the Company's objectives been subject to identification and review during the year together with the adequacy of related internal controls? Are these reflected in the Company's Corporate Risk Register?**

The key financial risks to the achievement of the company's objectives are identified and reviewed as part of its audit reviews and also as part of the daily and monthly management checks. Refer also to reply to Q3.

In operational terms, key risks are identified and reviewed on an ongoing basis by the executive team, in liaison with the company's management team and, where appropriate, reported to the main Board for approval to solutions on more strategic issues.

2. **Have agreed actions resulting from internal quality control reviews been implemented or are still subject to planned implementation?**

The company is accredited as an Investors In People, and in respect of ISO 9001 and ISO 14001. As part of these accreditations, the company's operations are subject to an annual external review by a duly qualified professional. Interim internal reviews are also undertaken. The findings of reviews are considered by the management team and action plans formulated to improve on any perceived 'weak' areas as part of our ongoing procedural reviews.

All agreed actions resulting from internal quality control reviews have been implemented, where possible. Action Points not undertaken are included in a planned implementation timetable which is ongoing.

It should also be noted that BDO Stoy Hayward (the company's Auditors) undertook a pre-audit systems review in September 2008 and reported no significant weaknesses within our financial controls.

3. **Have agreed actions of Auditor reports been implemented or are still subject to planned implementation?**

Our Auditors have made no recommendations or comments on the company's internal controls and procedures, hence no actions in respect of this are deemed necessary.

4. **Have agreed actions resulting from key external inspection agencies e.g. Environment Agency or any other relevant inspectorates, been implemented or are still subject to planned implementation?**

As far as I am aware, all agreed actions from key inspection agencies have been implemented.

5. In your opinion, are there any significant internal control issues that you consider should be brought to the attention of the Authority?

In my opinion, there are no significant internal control issues that I consider should be brought to the attention of the Authority.

*P. A. Hewitt*

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**P.A. Hewitt**  
**COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR**

*23/4/09*

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**Date**