



Cllr Adam McVey
Leader of the Council
City of Edinburgh Council
City Chambers
253 High Street
EDINBURGH EH1 1YJ

5 July, 2017

Dear Councillor McVey

Millerhill Recycling and Energy Recovery Centre

Congratulations on your appointment as Leader of the City of Edinburgh Council.

GMB Scotland and Unite the Union look forward to working with you and Depute Leader of the Council, Councillor Day.

You will both be aware that the Engineering, Procurement and Construction Contract for the above project, a partnership between Edinburgh and Midlothian Councils to be operated by FCC Environment, has been awarded to Hitachi Zosen Inova (HZI).

In other similar projects HZI have subcontracted much of the work to other Companies including Babcock & Wilcox Volund.

Our reason for raising this matter with you is due to concerns that have arisen elsewhere as a result of the practice of "social dumping", along with the undercutting of the NAECI Blue Book Agreement, which have occurred most recently at a similar facility in East Lothian.

Other Energy from Waste construction projects have also encountered other problems resulting from disputes arising between contractors.

For example; last year, both GMB Scotland and Unite unions were obliged to step in to assist our members, and other non-unionised workers, who were locked out of the Glasgow Recycling and Renewable Energy Centre site at Polmadie.

We know that you will be keen to ensure that the jobs which will be created in the construction of the Millerhill plant will as far as possible be available to local people, at industry agreed rates of pay and associated conditions of employment.

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Indeed, anything to the contrary would appear to us to be a clear conflict with the both the Scottish Fair Work Framework and Public Procurement Regulations, and serious concerns have already been raised with the Scottish Government and with the new Leader of Midlothian Council.

We would be grateful if, along with Cllr Day, you would be willing to meet with GMB Scotland and Unite the Union, to discuss a means of ensuring that the issues which have arisen elsewhere are not repeated at Millerhill.

As you will know, Union construction sites are safer sites and the presence of Unions is vital should things go wrong, as proved by what occurred at Polmadie. We would therefore also ask for your support and assistance in ensuring Trades Union access for the construction workers who are to be employed in this project.

To arrange a meeting please contact Gary Cook on 07712 677 594 or e-mail, gary.cook@gmb.org.uk.

Yours sincerely



Gary Cook
GMB Scotland Organiser

Scott Foley

Scott Foley
Unite Scotland Regional Officer

cc: Cllr Cammy Day, Depute Leader of the Council