

WASTE – PERSISTENT ORGANIC POLLUTANTS (POPs)

1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report provides an update on Persistent Organic Pollutants (POPs) and the worldwide concerns surrounding the release of POPs into the environment. The report specifically focuses on the implications of disposing of materials containing POPs and the likely cost implications associated with disposal should a landfill ban of the material be introduced in Scotland, in line with the draft guidance produced by SEPA – a copy of which is enclosed under **Appendix 1** of this report.
- 1.2 Following discussion at the Waste Strategy Project Board, the Board agreed to bring an information report forward to the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee in the first instance.

2.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 Members of the Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee are asked to:-
 - i. Consider and note the contents of this report; and
 - ii. Agree a further report is presented to a future Environment, Development and Infrastructure Committee when and if legislation is changed and that any additional costs brought about by new legislation are considered as part of future budget processes as necessary.

3.0 BACKGROUND

- 3.1 Historically POPs have been disposed of in landfill. It is anticipated that, in line with recent changes in England, landfilling of POPs will be banned in Scotland and that the material will need to be disposed of via Energy from Waste (EfW). POPs are generally found in items such as sofas and mattresses. Disposal of POPs via EfW will introduce cost pressures to the Council associated with the 14(ci)-27(a)-6(t)28(e)-6(d Tm【o)-6(u)56(n)

Persistent Organic Pollutants Regulation 2007. The regulation places strict controls over the management of the POPs products and determines how they should be destroyed. POPs are contained within fire retardant foam materials included in many soft furnishings made prior to 2019. POPs are

