Neighbourhoods Regeneration and Sustainability Depot Strategy – Update noted.

6 There was submitted a report by the Executive Director of Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability providing an update on the Neighbourhoods, Regeneration and Sustainability Depot Strategy, advising

(1) of ongoing work being undertaken to review the existing property estate with a view to the development of the services provided and to consider their fitness for purpose in relation to current and emerging best practice;

(2) that the strategic review of the property estate had identified the need to redevelop and improve the assets at key operational locations, with the review identifying the existing facility at Easter Queenslie as a preferred property for redevelopment as a centre for recycling excellence;

(3) that the Depot Review Board had agreed that phase 1 of the long-term depot review would deliver a new Materials Recovery Facility, Material Transfer Station, reconfigured Household Waste Recycling Centre and much improved welfare and amenity facilities for frontline staff at Easter Queenslie;

(4) of engagement undertaken with the workforce at a series of workshops prior to the commencement of concept designs for a new depot at Easter Queenslie, with the views of statutory consultees and local residents being obtained during the pre-planning process;

(5) of the design focus for the new depot and of the phase 1 timeline, with construction of the depot commencing in the autumn of 2024 and completion planned for autumn 2026; and

(6) of further additional investments and interventions that were being undertaken by the Property Team that would improve the quality and effectiveness of the existing estate and of the consideration of future phases, with an update on the development of phase 2 to be reported to this committee at a future meeting.

After consideration, the committee noted the

(a) service-led strategic approach to the Depot Strategy; and

(b) progress made in the Easter Queenslie redevelopment, the interim interventions that were contributing to the ongoing improvement of the estate and the future phases of the review.