Waste management firm acquires Bristol base for new regional centre

A waste management company is set to establish a new regional centre for the West of England after acquiring the lease of a huge new facility in Bristol for an undisclosed sum.

Grundon Waste Management will occupy a 186,000 sq ft unit at the Access 18 industrial development in Avonmouth on a longterm deal. The site was formerly occupied by New Earth Solutions.

Prior to the agreement Grundon had been operating two sites in Bristol, one at the nearby Severn View industrial estate and another location at St Philips Marsh.

Philip Atkinson, Grundon estates director said: "We are pleased to have concluded this acquisition which unifies our existing holdings in the area into a single, ring-fenced, 13-acre waste, energy, and recycling estate.

"Importantly for us, it offers us the space to develop new service offerings and incubate our early-stage technologies and processes."

The site was previously constructed and operated by New Earth as a mechanical and biological treatment facility, for the sorting, recycling, and composting of residual black bag waste on behalf of local authorities.

The company <u>officially stopped operating in Avonmouth in April 2020</u> after its nine-year waste contract with the West of England Partnership came to an end.

Paul Hobbs, director at Avison Young in Bristol, who secured the sale, said: "The closure and availability of the building

reflected a fast-changing picture in the South West where waste to energy facilities have massively increased in size and potential throughput.

"Two recently built facilities in Avonmouth now produce up to 68MW of power (serving up to 100,000 homes) vs the original 11MW capability of this site."

Mr Hobbs added there appeared to be "no slow-down" in the demand for well-located industrial premises, with Avonmouth continuing to "hold the key" for many firms in and around Bristol.

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