

ELIZABETH TRUSS MP

Constituency Office:
The Limes
32 Bridge Street
Thetford
Norfolk IP24 3AG
Tel: 01842 757 345



HOUSE OF COMMONS

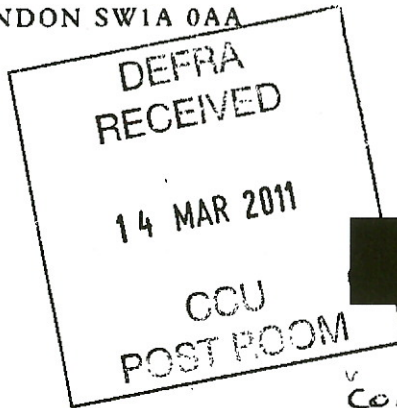
LONDON SW1A 0AA

Westminster Office:
House of Commons
Westminster
London SW1A 0AA
Tel: 020 7219 7151

The Rt Hon George Osborne MP
Chancellor of the Exchequer
1 Horseguards Road
London
SW1A 2HQ

1st March 2011

CC: [REDACTED]



PFI

com sec

1/

Dear Chancellor,

I am concerned about the award of £169 million in PFI credits to the construction and maintenance of a waste-to-energy plant in King's Lynn and West Norfolk which has been allocated by DEFRA. The project name is *Norfolk Waste Management Project* in the list of 'PFI Projects in Procurement' on the Treasury's website. This proposal is in [REDACTED] constituency and is quarter of a mile from the boundary with my South West Norfolk constituency.

The project is deeply unpopular; this week 93% of residents voted against the proposal in a 61% turnout referendum (a total of 65,000 people voted). I also do not believe that this proposal represents value for money for taxpayers.

I am concerned about Government departments offering large incentives to local councils to take specific courses of action. This is against the principle of localism. I am also concerned about the taxpayer being tied into a 25 year PFI contract effectively taking the risk on whether an alternative disposal method is found. I understand that DEFRA is obliged by EU targets to reduce landfill, however surely in economically straightened times these sorts of targets that should be revised.

I am asking for the Government to withdraw this funding and believe this could help contribute to lowering spending as well as being a popular decision locally.

Elizabeth Truss MP