

6 PROPOSED VISIT TO ECOTECH CENTRE, SWAFFAM, NORFOLK (AN481-2003)

Members will be aware that a planning application has been submitted by the Michelin Tyre Company Limited for the erection of three wind turbines within their site at Baldovie. This application has not yet been determined.

The application has generated a great deal of public interest and raises a number of complex technical issues. In order that appropriate officers and the members for Wards including and bounding the application site can become more familiar with the technical issues involved, arrangements have been made for the Convener, local elected members and officers of the Planning and Transportation Department and EHTS Department to visit the EcoTech Centre near Kings Lynn, Norfolk on 30 October 2003.

The centre is dedicated to the promotion of sustainability through learning, exploration, demonstration and involvement in technology. A wind turbine of the same scale as those proposed at Michelin is operational and is understood to be located at a similar distance from residences. Presentations will be received from centre staff and a planning officer.

The estimated total cost of the visit will be in the order of £900 and can be met from the Planning and Transportation Revenue Budgets.

Members are asked to approve these arrangements.