

Business groups give backing to eco park

PLANS for a multi-million pound recycling plant in Monton have been given the backing of two leading business organisations.

Both the Greater Manchester Chamber of Commerce and the North West Institute of Directors (IoD) have written to Salford City Council to back the plans submitted by Sky Properties for the Green Lane Eco Park.

The eco park would be built on land off Green Lane, Monton, the site of the former Mitchell Shackleton engineering works and plans to treat and manage about 240,000 tonnes of local business waste each year.



PLANS: Anthony Hirsch

by Ailsa Cranna

Manchester Chamber of Commerce's letter says: "These proposals have the potential to deliver £70m of private investment, creating 60 permanent jobs at a time of high unemployment and low economic growth."

Sky Properties claim the facility would significantly reduce the amount of business waste being transported to landfill sites across the region.

The IoD's letter adds: "There is a sound environmental conclusion that limiting the travelling distances benefits all and is a long term investment, and the sensible use of an existing site."

Anthony Hirsch, of Sky Properties, said: "The Green Lane Eco Park offers the opportunity to regenerate disused employment land through an investment of £70m in the local community, creating jobs and training placements and supporting local business-

es by offering a more cost-effective and environmentally responsible way of managing local business waste."

However, Hani El-Qasem, spokesperson for the Say No to Green Lane Incinerator Campaign, said that many local firms were against the development.

He added: "Local estate agents are also feeling the pinch as house sales are falling through and others are on hold until the application has been decided. Finally, the jobs created by such a plant are a drop in the ocean in relation to the jobs which will be lost as businesses and people move to leave the area."

The applications can be viewed at Emerson House, Albert Street, Eccles, M30 0TE and online at http://publicaccess.salford.gov.uk/publicaccess/tdc/DcApplication/application_searchform.aspx.

For further information, visit www.greenlaneecopark.com or telephone 0800 107 1020.