

**Foresight boosts waste processing to over 2 million tonnes per annum with batch acquisition of operational Anaerobic Digestion and composting assets**

- **Foresight launches AD aggregation strategy**
- **20 Anaerobic Digestion plants under management across the UK**
- **40 waste projects generating 137MW of clean renewable energy**

**London, 09 January 2018:** Foresight Group LLP (“Foresight”) is pleased to announce the completion of the acquisition of an operational portfolio of two large scale Anaerobic Digestion (“AD”) plants and seven composting assets for an undisclosed sum.

The sites are located across East Anglia and the East Midlands. Between them, the AD plants provide 2.8MW of electrical power generation capacity (and related waste heat use), 450 Sm<sup>3</sup> (standard cubic metres) per hour of biomethane export capacity to grid (and related CO<sub>2</sub> sales) and capacity to process in excess of 95,000 tonnes per annum of energy crops, agricultural waste and industrial/commercial food waste whilst also benefiting from FIT and RHI revenue. The composting sites have a capacity to accept in excess of 155,000 tonnes per annum of primarily green waste to produce circa 100,000 tonnes per annum of high quality compost using open-windrow (green waste) and in-vessel (green mixed with ABPR food waste) methods. The additional processing capacity means Foresight’s portfolio of 40 waste projects boast a waste processing capacity of more than 2 million tonnes per annum.

Foresight has established a market leading position in AD having invested previously into 18 greenfield projects across the UK with a capacity of 16.7MWe and this secondary acquisition leverages off that experience to build upon Foresight’s existing footprint. The transaction demonstrates Foresight’s appetite to aggregate operational AD assets to enable it to consolidate its strong market position in the UK and to export its deep experience in the sector to Europe, Australia, North America and beyond.

The transaction has seen the formation of a partnership between Foresight and Material Change Ltd (“Material Change”) and its parent company Heathpatch Ltd (“Heathpatch”). As part of the deal, Material Change has entered into long term feedstock supply, digestate offtake and management & maintenance services contracts.

Foresight continues to nurture a strong global AD project pipeline of both operational assets and greenfield opportunities.

**Robert Guest, Foresight Group LLP said:**

*“We are very much looking forward to working with Material Change to optimise the performance of these AD and composting sites and to building on our strong relationship with Heathpatch to complete further acquisitions together as part of our wider AD aggregation strategy.”*

**Charles Course, Material Change Ltd and Heathpatch Ltd said:**

*“We are delighted to have entered into this partnership with Foresight and look forward to developing and enhancing the acquired sites and also to acquiring further sites and assets. We hope that the combination of Foresight’s expertise, and our knowledge and experience in agriculture, waste*

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*processing, AD development and operation will make us a first choice for anyone considering the sale, or enhancement, of AD assets."*

**ENDS**

### **For more information contact:**

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### **Notes for editors:**

#### **About Foresight Group LLP ("Foresight"):**

Foresight is a leading independent infrastructure and private equity investment manager which has been managing investment funds on behalf of institutions and retail clients for more than 30 years.

Foresight has £2.8 billion of Assets Under Management across a number of funds, including Listed Vehicles, Limited Partnerships, Enterprise Investment Schemes (EISs) and Venture Capital Trusts (VCTs).

As a global leading solar infrastructure investment manager, Foresight currently manages more than £1.5 billion in some 105 operating Photovoltaic ("PV") plants with a generating capacity of over 1.2GW in the UK, Southern Europe, Australia and North America.

In Bioenergy, Foresight has mobilised £900m of capital investment into 40 waste projects, which when fully operational will have a waste processing capacity of over 2 million tonnes per annum, diverting some 1 million tonnes of waste from landfill every year and generating 137MW of clean energy, saving more than 750,000 tonnes of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions every year.

Foresight manages the A\$200 million Australian Bioenergy Fund ("ABF") which targets investments ranging from A\$2m to A\$50m into energy from waste projects across the continent backed by a cornerstone investment from the CEFC.

Foresight Group is headquartered in London, with international offices in Sydney, Rome and San Francisco and regional UK offices in Nottingham, Manchester and Guernsey.

[www.foresightgroup.eu](http://www.foresightgroup.eu)

#### **About Heathpatch / Material Change**

Heathpatch is a family owned, 4000 acre diversified Suffolk farm business. It employs over 250 people in its businesses involved in farming, organic waste recycling, supplying and servicing recycling machinery, production of thermal and acoustic insulation and sports products from recycled waste tyres, electronics and enclosure manufacture and property management. It has operations in the UK, Germany, Qatar, China and Hong Kong. Improvement of the natural environment, wildlife and habitats is a key objective, throughout the Heathpatch group.

Material Change has developed and operates 3 AD plants and 7 composting sites. It has an exceptional reputation and track record in the safe, compliant and efficient operation of organic waste processing sites.