

NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

At a meeting of the **NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY** held on **MONDAY, 29TH SEPTEMBER, 2014** at 10.00 am in the Committee Room 2, Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY PRESENT

Councillors Bond, Cohen (Vice-Chair), Demirci, Gimson, Greening, Loakes (Chair), McNamara, Meehan (Vice-Chair) and Taylor

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY ABSENT

Councillors Blackwell, Hull, Limbajee, Shooter and Stafford

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of the North London Waste Authority.

MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were submitted by Councillor Mark Shooter and Councillor Andy Hull.

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY AND ANY OTHER INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

Councillors George Meehan and Stuart McNamara declared for the purposes of transparency that they were Members of the London Borough of Haringey, which is the planning authority for the Pinkham Way site.

Councillor Feryal Demirci declared for the purposes of transparency that her brother was the Cabinet Member for Planning at the London Borough of Haringey.

3. DEPUTATIONS (IF ANY)

There were no deputations.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED

THAT the public minutes of the meeting held on the 26th June 2014 be approved as a correct record and signed.

5. 2013/14 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS (COVER REPORT FINAL) & REPORT TO THOSE CHARGED WITH GOVERNANCE (ISA 260)

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Adviser.

The Head of Finance outlined the purpose of the report and invited Mr Johnstone from the Authority's auditors KPMG LLP to present his Governance report to Members. The auditor advised that the Authority had sound processes in place for the production of the accounts and good quality working papers. He further advised that officers had dealt efficiently with audit queries and enabled the audit process to be completed within the planned timescales. Although he anticipated issuing an unqualified audit opinion it would not be possible to issue a final Value for Money conclusion by 30th September owing to the ongoing work on the procurement project. He also indicated that it would not be possible to formally conclude the audit and issue an audit certificate until matters raised by local government electors had been resolved.

A Member stated that it was important that settlements arising from the procurement process were available to the public for the purposes of transparency and to be clear that decisions taken were in the best interests of the Authority.

RESOLVED

1. THAT the report be noted;
2. THAT the Authority's response to the recommendation concerning the landfill tax documentation be agreed and to not amend the Authority's group financial statements for the unadjusted misstatement in the accounts of LondonWaste Ltd;
3. THAT the Financial Adviser be authorised to sign the 2013/14 management representation letter;
4. THAT the Authority's 2013/14 Statement of Accounts and Annual Governance statements be approved and the Chair authorised to sign those documents and agree any changes that may subsequently arise.

6. SECOND REVIEW OF BUDGET 2014/15

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Adviser.

The Head of Finance reported that the operational changes outlined in the June 2014 report had been successfully implemented by LondonWaste Ltd and that there was now a good prospect of the Authority's costs reducing by some £3.8m in the current financial year. These changes should also help reduce the Authority's cost

base in future years. Total revenue balances at year-end were currently forecast to be in the region of £6.5m.

The Head of Finance also indicated that in the light of decisions to be made later on the agenda in connection with the award of the new main waste contract the December meeting would be provided with both a further update on the current year's budget and detailed assessment of the Authority's 2015/16 budget and resource requirements.

RESOLVED

1. THAT the second review of the 2014/15 revenue budget be noted;
2. THAT it be noted that a third review of the 2014/15 budget was to be reported to the Authority at its December 2014 meeting together with an up to date assessment of the budget and resource requirements for 2015/16.

7. RISK REPORT

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director. The Managing Director stated that the detailed registers had been reviewed by the Finance Working Group. It was added that officers had also reviewed the LondonWaste Ltd registers and were satisfied that risks were identified through the high level register. The Authority would continue to work with LondonWaste Ltd to refine the interface between respective registers. The intention was to produce a new LondonWaste Ltd high level register in a similar format to the Authority register once new contract arrangements were in place.

Members agreed that the format of the High Level Risk Register made it difficult to read due to the small print size. The Managing Director apologised for the printing error and stated that this was normally provided at A3 size, however it was noted that large version copies were available at the meeting and had been available to the Finance Working Group. Officers agreed to review the Risk Register to see if a better format could be developed.

RESOLVED

THAT the report and the High Level Risk Register be noted.

8. CONSULTATIONS AND POLICY UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Operations.

The Head of Operations outlined the report and invited Members to comment. While the draft response was broadly supportive, it was suggested that a note be added to the draft response to the Mayor's Infrastructure Plan questioning the Mayor's

analysis that there was no funding gap in relation to new waste treatment facilities and that the new facilities would be up to 28% cheaper than existing facilities, which appeared counter-intuitive.

Members observed the multiplicity of consultations and sought assurance that borough officers were engaged where appropriate as this may assist with wider public engagement. The Chair noted established officer arrangements for liaison and added that if there were consultations where the North London Waste Authority was able to provide strategic clarity, assistance or direction across borough boundaries, then this would be looked at. The Managing Director also noted the Authority's status as a separate statutory body.

In response to a query from Members seeking to find whether feedback was given by bodies to which the Authority had provided a consultation response, it was stated that consultation reports were often published and that there were times where the Authority's feedback had been influential.

RESOLVED

1. THAT the Authority approve the responses to:
 - a. The Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) technical consultation on planning.
 - b. The consultation on the London Mayor's Infrastructure Plan, including an additional note regarding the funding gap analysis.
2. THAT the Authority notes the officer comments in relation to the DEFRA consultation on the Packaging Recovery Note system and EU proposals to increase packaging waste recycling targets.

9. FORWARD PLAN OF DECISIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED

THAT the report be noted.

10. CHANGES TO APPOINTED MEMBERS OF WORKING GROUPS

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED

1. THAT Councillor Mark Shooter replace Councillor Dean Cohen as a member of the Members' Finance Working Group;

2. THAT Councillors Clyde Loakes, Richard Greening and Stuart McNamara be appointed as additional members of the Members' Recycling Working Group.

11. AWARD OF NEW MAIN WASTE CONTRACT

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED

THAT authority be delegated to the Head of Operations to finalise the terms of the proposed contract with LondonWaste Ltd for waste management services as set out in the report and for the Managing Director to award and seal the contract.

12. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - ACCESS TO INFORMATION

RESOLVED

THAT the press and public be excluded from the proceedings of the North London Waste Authority on 29th September 2014 during consideration of the items listed on Part II of the agenda, on the basis that, were members of the public to be present, there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972, as amended.

Specifically:

Exempt Information Category 1 - Information which relates to an individual: the reason why the public interest favours withholding the information is that the release of such information could constitute or facilitate an unwarranted interference with the individual's privacy.

Exempt Information Category 3 – Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the authority holding that information, and not required to be registered under various statutes: the reasons why the public interest favours withholding the information are that the release of such information would prejudice the Authority's conduct of a commercial operation OR because the disclosure of the information is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Authority and organisations engaged in commercial activities as the information related to commercial activities that are conducted in a competitive environment.

Exempt Information Category 5 - Information in respect of which there is a claim to legal professional privilege: the reasons why the public interest favours withholding the information are that the release of such information could prejudice the safeguarding of openness in all communications between client and lawyer and the Authority's ability to ensure access to full and frank legal advice.

13. WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT REPORT PART II

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED

THAT the recommendations set out in the report be agreed.

14. GOVERNANCE OF LONDON WASTE LTD

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED

THAT the recommendations set out in the report be agreed.

15. WASTE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT CONTRACT

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Operations.

RESOLVED

THAT the recommendations set out in the report be agreed as amended by the Authority.

16. FURTHER INFORMATION ON AUTHORITY'S RESIDUAL WASTE ARRANGEMENTS - REPORT 1

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director

RESOLVED

THAT the recommendations set out in the report be agreed.

17. FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE AUTHORITY'S FUTURE WASTE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS - REPORT 2

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED

THAT the recommendations set out in the report be agreed.

18. FURTHER INFORMATION ON THE AUTHORITY'S FUTURE WASTE MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS - REPORT 3

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED

THAT the recommendations in the report be agreed, as amended by the Authority.

19. PRIVATE MINUTES

RESOLVED

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on the 26th June 2014 be agreed and signed as a correct record.

20. ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

There was no urgent business.

The meeting ended at 11:20am

CHAIR

Contact Officer: Richard Stratford

Telephone No: 020 7974 6884

E-Mail: richard.stratford@camden.gov.uk

MINUTES END