

## **THE NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY**

At a meeting of the **NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY** held on **WEDNESDAY 10<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2008** at 2.00pm in Committee Room 1, Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, London, WC1H 9JE

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Councillor Robert Belam - London Borough of Waltham Forest  
Councillor Greg Foxsmith – London Borough of Islington  
Councillor John Gilbert – London Borough of Islington  
Councillor Andrew Harper – London Borough of Barnet  
Councillor Ertan Hurer – London Borough of Enfield  
Councillor Chris Knight – London Borough of Camden  
Councillor Alan Laing – London Borough of Hackney  
Councillor Clyde Loakes – London Borough of Waltham Forest (Chair)  
Councillor George Meehan – London Borough of Haringey  
Councillor Keith Moffitt – London Borough of Camden (Vice-Chair)

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Councillor Jamie Carswell – London Borough of Hackney  
Councillor Mike Freer – London Borough of Barnet  
Councillor Brian Haley – London Borough of Haringey  
Councillor Michael Lavender – London Borough of Enfield (Vice-Chair)

**The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting.**

### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were reported from Councillors Carswell, Freer, Haley and Lavender.

### **2. DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations.

### **3. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councillor Loakes reported that the Council of the London Borough of Islington had appointed Councillor John Gilbert to replace Councillor Andrew Cornwell on the Authority for the remainder of the Municipal Year. He welcomed Councillor Gilbert to his first meeting of the Authority.

He also announced that Councillor John Boast, Chair of LondonWaste Limited, was present and would be available to answer questions on Item 20 – LondonWaste Limited minutes.

**4. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA**

In relation to Item 14, Councillor Loakes declared a personal non-prejudicial interest arising from his membership of the London Waste and Recycling Board.

In relation to Item 23, Councillor Harper declared that the London Borough of Barnet was the planning authority for Hendon. However, he did not consider this to be a prejudicial interest and took part in consideration of the item.

**5. MINUTES**

**RESOLVED -**

THAT the minutes of the ordinary meeting on 26<sup>th</sup> September 2008 and the Part I minutes of the extraordinary meeting on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2008 be confirmed and signed as a correct record.

**6. NOTIFICATION OF ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT**

There were no such items.

**7. MEMBERS QUESTIONS**

No questions were submitted.

**8. RESOURCES AND GOVERNANCE**

Members considered a report of the Clerk.

The Chair proposed that the appointment panel should comprise one member from each group on the Authority. Members concurred with this suggestion.

**RESOLVED -**

- i) THAT the recruitment of a Managing Director, as set out in paragraphs 2.1 to 3.2 of the report, be approved and authority be delegated to the Clerk of the Authority to set the exact level of remuneration and other employment terms and conditions;

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- (ii) THAT an appointment panel comprising one member from each political group on the Authority be established as detailed in Section 4 of the report and that authority be delegated to the Clerk to establish the panel who will thereafter made the appointment and to make interim arrangements if necessary; and
- (iii) THAT a budget of £0.5m in 2009/10 and a provision of £0.075m for costs that arise in 2008/9 be agreed.

**ACTION BY:           The Clerk**

**9.   IMPROVEMENT PROGRAMME**

Members received a report of the Director of Procurement and the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts.

Members sought assurances that, where constituent boroughs had already conducted waste collection efficiency exercises, they would not be required to undertake a further exercise of this nature. Officers confirmed that there was no intention to instruct boroughs to conduct waste composition exercises and that there would be extensive discussions with Directors of Environment to ensure that boroughs were working together.

Councillor Hurer expressed concern about the potential for additional vehicles going to Edmonton as a result of Workstream C and suggested that this should be deferred until after improvements to the North Circular Road were complete.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT it be agreed that the waste composition study, as set out in section 3 and Appendix B of the report and in the separate budget report, be undertaken;
- (ii) THAT the advice on resources in Section 4 of the report and in the separate budget report be noted; and
- (iii) THAT, subject to the comments set out above, approval be given for the programme being taken forward.

**ACTION BY:           Director of Procurement/Head of Waste  
Strategy & Contracts**

**10.   COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Clerk who invited Members to submit comments either at the meeting or later by e-mail.

The following comments were made:-

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- There needed to be a greater focus in the lobbying programme on costs and funding issues.
- Reassurance was needed that the lobbyists that had been appointed had access to the target audience that the Authority had identified.
- Members would like at some point to see more detailed information on lobbying activity.
- There was some concern about the proposed cost of the bidders' day referred to in paragraph 1.5 of the report.
- A formal update on lobbying activity was requested to each ordinary meeting of the Authority.
- 60% positive media coverage seemed to be a rather low target.
- The impact of a potential scrutiny review by the London Borough of Hackney would need to be addressed.
- Reference should be made in the key messages to carbon impacts, particularly as this was a Local Area Agreement target for some of the constituent boroughs.
- Each borough's Local Area Agreement should be examined to see if any of the targets needed to be referred to in the Communications Strategy.

### **RESOLVED -**

THAT the report be noted, subject to the comments set out above.

**ACTION BY:           The Clerk**

## **11. JOINT WASTE STRATEGY UPDATE**

Members considered a report of the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts.

### **RESOLVED -**

THAT the Strategic Environmental Assessment of the North London Joint Waste Strategy SEA Post Adoption Statement, as attached at Appendix 1 to the report, be approved subject to no further changes arising from constituent borough approvals of the Equalities Impact Assessment changes to the Strategy.

**ACTION BY:           Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts**

## **12. 2008/9 THIRD BUDGET REVIEW AND 2009/10 BUDGET FORECAST**

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Adviser who remarked that officers would welcome the establishment of a cross party working group to examine the budget proposals for 2009/10.

Members agreed that a cross party working group should be established and that Members should feed in queries on the budget proposals through their party representative on that working group. They could also send enquiries directly to the Financial Adviser.

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT the third review of the 2008/09 revenue budget be noted;
- (ii) THAT the current assessment of the budget and resource requirements for 2009/10 be noted;
- (iii) THAT the arrangements that have been made to establish the levy apportionment arrangements for 2009/10 be noted;
- (iv) THAT the issues that will need to be addressed at the budget and levy meeting on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009 be noted; and
- (v) THAT a budget working party be established to examine the proposals for the 2009/10 budget, that working party to comprise one Member from each political party represented on the Authority, the names to be notified by Group Leaders to the Deputy Clerk of the Authority.

**ACTION BY: Finance Officer/Deputy Clerk/Group Leaders**

**13. EXTERNAL AUDITOR'S ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER TO MEMBERS  
NOVEMBER 2008**

Members considered a report of the Financial Adviser.

**RESOLVED -**

THAT the findings and recommendations of the Annual Audit Letter be noted.

**14. WASTE PREVENTION UPDATE**

Consideration was given to a report of the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts.

Members made the following comments:-

- Thought needed to be given to how to ensure the continuation of the recent reduction in the amount of waste going to the Edmonton plant.
- Efforts should be made to tap in to the funding available from the London Waste and Recycling Board and to dovetail waste reduction efforts with the initiatives being funded by the Board.
- Constituent borough councils may need support in developing residents' understanding of what materials they could and could not put out for recycling due to the importance of the quality of recyclable materials.
- By co-ordinating initiatives like the Watch Your Waste Week with initiatives being undertaken by the boroughs, it would be possible to get more people involved and have a greater impact.

**RESOLVED -**

THAT, subject to the comments set out above, the report be noted.

**ACTION BY:           Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts**

**15. CONTRACTS ACTIVITY**

Members considered a report of the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts.

**RESOLVED -**

THAT the report be noted.

**16. FORWARD PLAN OF DECISIONS**

Consideration was given to a report of the Clerk.

Members requested an update report to the next meeting on all options being explored in relation to the procurement exercise and any opportunities available to the Authority regardless of the outcome of the Outline Business Case submission.

**ACTION BY:           Director of Procurement**

The Director of Procurement reported that Members of the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority had indicated that they would be willing to share their experiences of a major procurement exercise with Members at a future meeting. It was agreed that this would be useful.

**ACTION BY:           Director of Procurement**

**RESOLVED:**

THAT, subject to the comments set out above, the report be noted.

**17. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next ordinary meeting of the Authority would take place on 11<sup>th</sup> February 2009.

**18. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT**

There was no such business.

**19. 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 10<sup>th</sup> December 2008 during consideration of the following items on part 2 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:

Publicity in respect of these Items would be likely to lead to disclosure of information relating to 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 disclosure of the information was likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Authority and organisations engaged in commercial activities as the information relates to commercial activities that are conducted in a competitive environment.

**END OF PART I MINUTES**

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**EXEMPT INFORMATION – NOT FOR PUBLICATION**