

Agenda Item No:

NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

REPORT TITLE:

DRAFT NORTH LONDON WASTE PREVENTION PLAN

REPORT OF:

HEAD OF WASTE STRATEGY & CONTRACTS

FOR SUBMISSION TO:

AUTHORITY MEETING.

DATE:

12th December 2007

SUMMARY OF REPORT:

This report outlines actions towards implementing the waste prevention objectives outlined in the North London Joint Waste Strategy. A new draft waste prevention plan is being developed which updates and replaces one approved by the Authority in December 2006.

RECOMMENDATIONS

The Authority is recommended to:

- (i) note that a draft North London Waste Prevention Plan is currently being developed and will include new and updated actions including;
 - running a “North London Waste Prevention Week”;
 - expanding trade waste prevention campaigns and support; and
 - expanding re-use capacity.
- (ii) note that a draft plan will be forwarded to Members for comment prior to a final draft being submitted for Authority approval in February 2008.

Signed **Head of Waste Strategy &**
by: **Contracts**

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Date:.....

1.0 NATIONAL CONTEXT

- 1.1 The recently updated Waste Strategy for England 2007 reinforced the position of waste prevention at the 'top' of the waste hierarchy. Within the hierarchy, waste prevention should be carried out in preference to recycling and composting, recovering energy from waste and disposing waste to landfill, the least desirable of actions.
- 1.2 While the Waste Strategy for England 2007 introduces 'reduction' targets for the first time, these are based on residual waste not recycled or composted. As such, these targets do not focus on total waste arising and therefore may provide an incentive to increase recycling and central composting without necessarily promoting actions to reduce the generation of waste in the first place.

2.0 WASTE PREVENTION OBJECTIVES IN THE DRAFT NORTH LONDON JOINT WASTE STRATEGY

- 2.1 The draft North London Joint Waste Strategy (NLJWS) sets a target to reduce municipal waste growth down from a predicted 3% growth per annum until 2010 and to a desired 2.5% from then onwards.
- 2.2 Background work for the procurement process indicates that municipal waste growth varies considerably year on year. Between 2003/04 and 2006/07, growth ranged between 1.90% and -0.54%. This has been a period of much lower growth than shown in earlier years, when 3% growth was more typical.
- 2.3 While these figures indicate that NLWA is currently well within targets for waste growth, predicted population increases in North London mean that total growth in waste could exceed the annual rates set out in the draft NLJWS in the future.
- 2.4 The draft NLJWS sets out a series of Strategy Implementation Actions which the partners have agreed in order to achieve the waste growth reduction targets.
- 2.5 As these Strategy Implementation Actions are 'high-level' actions, the *North London Joint Waste Strategy Waste Prevention Implementation Plan* was developed in 2006 to identify the shorter term, practical actions that were needed to achieve these high-level aims. This plan is due to expire in March 2008, so a replacement called the North London Waste Prevention Plan (NLWPP) is currently being prepared.
- 2.6 It is also anticipated that the NLWPP will play an important role in the procurement process. The cost of new waste management, recycling and disposal facilities post-2014 is likely to be very high, with these costs being primarily passed onto the constituent boroughs. Any reduction in waste arising due to waste prevention activities will help minimise these costs.

3.0 DRAFT NORTH LONDON WASTE PREVENTION PLAN PREPARATION PROCESS

- 3.1 The original *North London Joint Waste Strategy Waste Prevention Implementation Plan*, which was approved by the Authority in December 2006, was developed following extensive consultation with the Strategy Implementation Board as well as Authority and borough officers.
- 3.2 The new NLWPP will retain many of the actions and strategies first set out in the 2006 plan, adding new projects such as a proposed “North London Waste Prevention Week” and updating actions to reflect recent developments including expanding the trade waste prevention work and re-use capacity building.
- 3.3 The proposed “North London Waste Prevention Week” is expected to include a pan-North London waste aware shopping campaign along with roadshow events, a schools design competition, a family “zero-waste challenge” and with numerous local campaigns run across the boroughs.
- 3.4 The tentative budget for the draft plan is £75,000. It is anticipated that this will result in a significantly raised profile for waste prevention across North London, in turn contributing to a reduction in total waste arising.
- 3.5 This report highlights the principal areas of proposed activity so that Members can indicate any strategic preferences they may have before the final draft plan is presented to the February meeting of the Authority.

4.0 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 4.1 The Authority is recommended to:
- (i) note that a draft North London Waste Prevention Plan is currently being developed and will include new and updated actions including;
 - running a “North London Waste Prevention Week”;
 - expanding trade waste prevention campaigns and support; and
 - expanding re-use capacity.
 - (ii) note that a draft plan will be forwarded to Members for comment prior to a final draft being submitted for Authority approval in February 2008.

5.0 FINANCIAL ADVISER’S COMMENTS

- 5.1 The Financial Adviser has been consulted in the preparation of this report and advises that a budget provision of £75,000 has been allowed in the 2008/09 budget forecast to allow for this area of work.

6.0 LEGAL ADVISER’S COMMENTS

6.1 The Legal Adviser has been consulted in the preparation of this report and has no further comments to add.

Local Government Act 1972 – Access to information

Documents used: Household Waste Prevention Toolkit, National Resource and Waste Forum, August 2006

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