

THE NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

At a meeting of the **NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY** held on **WEDNESDAY 11TH APRIL 2007** at 3.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE.

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor George Allan – London Borough of Islington
Councillor Robert Belam – London Borough of Waltham Forest
Councillor John Boast – London Borough of Enfield
Councillor Brian Coleman – London Borough of Barnet (Chairman)
Councillor Brian Haley – London Borough of Haringey
Councillor Chris Knight – London Borough of Camden
Councillor Eric Sizer – London Borough of Waltham Forest
Councillor Vincent Stops – London Borough of Hackney
Councillor Lucy Watt – London Borough of Islington

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councillor Melvin Cohen – London Borough of Barnet
Councillor Allan Laing – London Borough of Hackney
Councillor Jayanti Patel – London Borough of Haringey
Councillor Eleftherios Savva – London Borough of Enfield
Councillor Alexis Rowell – London Borough of Camden.

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

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cohen, Laing, Savva, Patel and Rowell.

Apologies for absence were also received from Moira Gibb, Clerk to the Authority and Niall Bolger, Technical Adviser to the Authority.

There were no other apologies.

2. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Proposed Single London-Wide Waste Disposal Authority: The Chairman advised that he had received a copy of a letter from the Mayor of London to London

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Councils (formerly the Association of London Government) on his latest proposals for a single London-wide waste disposal authority, and also the response from Councillor Merrick Cockell, the Chairman of London Councils, which confirmed the position of the organisation that it wished to see no change in the current arrangements. Councillor Coleman, with the agreement of Members, undertook to write to the London Mayor advising that the Authority's position remained unchanged.

ACTION BY: Councillor Coleman

The West London Waste Authority: The West London Waste Authority (WLWA) had appealed against a direction from the Mayor of London on a contract it had let in relation to a relatively small proportion of its residual waste. The Mayor had objected to the proposal as he had concerns with the Authority's potential subsequent use of an incinerator and also because he had wished to see the WLWA conclude a joint waste strategy. The WLWA had appealed successfully against the Mayor's direction, and in turn, although the Mayor had been refused the right of further appeal, he had been given the right to appeal against this refusal. Officers undertook to keep Members informed of progress on this case.

There were no other announcements.

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

Members noted the standing declarations recorded in the agenda.

Following advice from Ms Melanie Field, Legal Adviser to the Authority, Councillors Boast, Haley and Sizer declared personal but non-prejudicial interests in respect of Agenda Item 13, Procurement Programme – Procurement of Named Consultants, and Agenda Item 14, NLWA Procurement Capacity and Officer Support.

There were no other declarations.

5. MINUTES

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 7th February 2007, having been confirmed as a correct record, be signed by the Chairman.

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

There were no such notifications.

7. MEMBERS' QUESTIONS

Members considered a report by the Deputy Clerk.

Members noted that there had been no questions and so it was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

8. BUDGET UPDATE

Members considered the report by the Financial Adviser, which was introduced by the Finance Officer.

At the request of the Chairman, Officers undertook to write to Members with details of the economic basis for the continued use of the Hendon waste collection site, which transferred the waste that it dealt with to landfill sites, and also operating alternatives that might exist.

ACTION BY: Finance Adviser

Councillor Allan noted that private sector organisations had waste related taxes partially offset by reductions in Corporation Tax and expressed concern that similar offsets promised for local government were not lost in the annual Revenue Support Grant negotiations with the Government. In response, the Chairman undertook to write to the Local Government Association (LGA) to ask it to help ensure that this did not happen.

ACTION BY: Councillor Coleman/Finance Adviser/Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

It was then

RESOLVED -

THAT the report be noted.

9. JOINT WASTE STRATEGY UPDATE

Members considered the report by the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts who introduced the Item.

It was agreed that officers should draft a response to the Communities and Local Government Select Committee Enquiry into refuse collection, advising it of the Authority's concerns about the proliferation of materials in waste that councils were obliged to collect and the immense difficulty this created in identifying viable markets for the genuine recycling of these materials. The draft response should be circulated to all political group leaders for comments before being sent to the Select Committee.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

Councillor Haley requested that Councillor Coleman represent the NLWA at the Select Committee in person to help increase the profile of the Authority.

The Chairman instructed officers to consider developments in waste at a national level when developing its Joint Waste Strategy, and that this be tied to the Authority's work in raising its profile in national affairs as the second largest waste disposal authority in the country. Officers were asked to write to Members periodically on national waste matters in order to keep them informed.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

Officers undertook to provide details to all Members of the Community Compost Fund if there was any remaining money in 2007/8 so that the latter could encourage local organisations could be encouraged to apply. This would help ensure that all the available monies were allocated and that the spread of such spending would be located across all NLWA Boroughs.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

It was noted that officers had recently undertaken a round of advertising in relation to the Community Compost Fund and would report back to Members on the outcomes. In addition, they were asked to investigate placing a link to the Community Compost Fund (if there was any money remaining in 2007/8) and to the Authority's Third Party Re-Use and Recycling Credit Policy and information of how to apply for funding on the websites of the constituent boroughs.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

It was then

RESOLVED –

THAT the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts provide a submission to the forthcoming enquiry by the Community and Local Government Select Committee into refuse collection in consultation with the Chairman.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

10. BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2007

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

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the draft Best Value Performance Plan as attached to the agenda be approved and authority be delegated to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts in consultation with the Chairman, to make all necessary changes as full year end data and audit clarification become available, and to publish it before the statutory deadline of 30th June 2007.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

11. HERTFORDSHIRE JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

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

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the response to the draft Hertfordshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, as attached to the agenda, be approved.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

12. REVIEW OF THE IN-VESSEL COMPOSTING SERVICE

Members considered the report by the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts who introduced the Item.

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Members noted the low take-up of free deliveries of compost by councils and asked officers to pursue this service further to encourage greater usage. Officers were also asked to investigate any composting needs that might be required by the Lee Valley Regional Park Authority and those boroughs involved in the 2012 Olympics.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

It was

RESOLVED -

THAT the report be noted.

13. PROCUREMENT PROGRAMME – PROCUREMENT OF CONSULTANTS

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

Councillor Coleman advised the Authority of a trip to the Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority he had undertaken with Councillors Belam and Haley to investigate how that body had undertaken its now nearly completed procurement process.

After discussion, it was

RESOLVED –

THAT the list of organisations set out in Section 8.1 of the report be appointed under the framework agreement.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

14. NLWA PROCUREMENT CAPACITY AND OFFICER SUPPORT

Members considered the report by the Clerk to North London Waste Authority, which was introduced by the Chairman.

Members had a brief discussion on the practicalities of an increase in staff relating to the procurement process, and in particular office location and line management issues. Councillor Stops requested that, wherever possible, any new staff be housed in the same building to ensure maximum cohesion.

It was noted that solutions would need to be practical and convenient as far as possible. It was also noted that this was a matter that would be considered further by officers and Members.

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The Chairman requested that officers investigate a newly designed logomark for the Authority.

ACTION BY: Deputy Clerk

After discussion, it was

RESOLVED -

- (i) THAT NLWA Advisers be instructed to proceed with the recruitment of a Procurement Director as set out in paragraphs 5.5 to 5.7 of the report;
- (ii) THAT NLWA Advisers be instructed to proceed with the recruitment of financial support as set out in paragraphs 5.8 to 5.10 of the report;
- (iii) THAT NLWA Advisers be instructed to proceed with the recruitment of legal support as set out in paragraphs 5.11 to 5.12 of the report;
- (iv) THAT NLWA Advisers be instructed to resolve capacity issues as set out in paragraphs 5.13 of the report, and report steps taken to the Authority; and
- (v) THAT the governance model for procurement, as set out in section six of the report, be adopted.

ACTION BY: Clerk

15. FUTURE REPORTS

Members considered the report by the Deputy Clerk.

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

It was noted that the date of the next meeting was scheduled for Wednesday 27th June 2007 and this would be the Annual Meeting of the Authority. The meeting would commence at 3.00 pm and be held in the Council Chamber, Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE.

17. ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIRMAN DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

There were no such Items.

18. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - ACCESS TO INFORMATION

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the press and public be excluded from the proceedings of the North London Waste Authority on 11th April 2007 during consideration of items 19 – 21 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 items 20 - 22 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 Council's conduct of a commercial operation OR because the disclosure of the information is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Council and organisations engaged in commercial activities as the information relates to commercial activities that are conducted in a competitive environment.

19. REVIEW OF THE IN-VESSEL COMPOSTING SERVICE – CONFIDENTIAL GATE FEE

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

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

20. PROCUREMENT PROGRAMME – PROCUREMENT OF NAMED CONSULTANTS

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

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted in the context of the report in part one of the agenda entitled "Procurement Programme – Procurement of Consultants".

21. LONDONWASTE LIMITED BOARD MINUTES

Members considered the report by the Deputy Clerk.

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

22. ANY OTHER BUSINESS THE CHAIRMAN CONSIDERS URGENT AND IS EXEMPT WITHIN THE MEANING OF SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972

There was no such business.

The meeting ended at 4.00 pm

Chairman

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MINUTES END