

**NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY**

**REPORT TITLE:**

**WASTE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT UPDATE**

**REPORT OF:**

**HEAD OF WASTE STRATEGY AND CONTRACTS**

**FOR SUBMISSION TO:**

**AUTHORITY MEETING**

**DATE:**

**7<sup>th</sup> February 2007**

**SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

This report updates members on progress on the implementation of the Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Directive into UK legislation and the timetable and implications of the same.

More information regarding the detail of the implementation of the Directive into UK legislation is forthcoming rapidly; accordingly a further verbal update will be provided at the Authority meeting. Information contained in this report is correct as of 23rd January 2007.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Authority is recommended to:

- i) To register all the seven constituent borough councils' re-use and recycling centres and bulking facilities as designated collection facilities for waste electrical and electronic equipment by the end of March 2007 subject to borough's continuing agreement.
- ii) To register appropriate contractor's facilities as designated collection facilities for waste electrical and electronic equipment by the end of March 2007 and to agree any handling fees that may result on terms to be agreed by the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts in consultation with the Chairman.
- iii) To delegate authority to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts in consultation with the Chairman to:
  - agree with the constituent borough councils whether or not to pool any upgrade funding which is made available for publicly accessible sites; and
  - choose and appoint a compliance scheme instead of waiting to be allocated a scheme if this is in the Authority's interest.

**Signed by Head of Waste Strategy  
and Contracts**

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**Date:** .....

## 1. **BACKGROUND TO THE WASTE ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT (WEEE) DIRECTIVE**

- 1.1 The European Union WEEE Directive aims to address the environmental impact of electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) and to promote its separate collection when it becomes waste<sup>1</sup> and then to encourage and set targets for WEEE recycling and recovery rather than disposal. WEEE is a 'priority waste stream' for the EU because of its growing volume in the municipal waste stream and its potential hazardousness following disposal. The WEEE Directive became European law in February 2003, although, following a number of delays, the regulations to bring the WEEE Directive into force in the UK, (UK WEEE Regulations (SI 2006 No. 3289)) were not laid before parliament until 12<sup>th</sup> December 2006. Accompanying the WEEE Directive, the Restriction on Hazardous Substances (RoHS) Directive bans the use of heavy metals and brominated fire retardants in the manufacture of electrical and electronic equipment.
- 1.2 The WEEE Directive introduces 'producer responsibility' for waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). From 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007, producers will have to finance treatment and recycling/recovery of separately collected WEEE in the UK to specified treatment standards and recycling/recovery targets. Retailers also have an obligation as a result of the Directive to offer a take-back service to householders. The Directive does not place any obligations on householders and they will not be prohibited from throwing WEEE away with general domestic rubbish as a result of the new regulations. However, because the implementation of the WEEE Directive in the UK will encourage more WEEE to be re-used, recycled and recovered and by ensuring that there is a network of facilities in place where householders can return their used electrical and electronic equipment (EEE) free-of-charge there are both potential practical and cost implications for the Authority and the constituent borough councils as a result of this legislation being implemented in July 2007.
- 1.3 The detailed timetable for the implementation of the regulations is as follows:
- 31<sup>st</sup> January 2007      Deadline for compliance schemes to apply for approval (see below for explanation)
  - 28<sup>th</sup> February 2007      Deadline for compliance schemes to be approved
  - 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007      Deadline for producers/schemes to register
  - 1<sup>st</sup> July 2007      Full producer responsibility for WEEE begins
- 1.4 In terms of targets the WEEE Directive sets out the following targets which should have been reached by the end of 2006. It has been suggested that the UK is already reaching these targets, however, with the delayed implementation of the Directive into UK regulations the accompanying data collection systems are not yet in place to verify this.

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<sup>1</sup> Notes to DTI press release about the WEEE Directive issued on 12<sup>th</sup> December 2006 – 'Caring about electrical waste needn't cost the earth'.

	Type of item	Recovery target	Re-use/ Recycling Target
1.	Large household appliances	80%	75%
2.	Small household appliances	70%	50%
3.	IT and telecommunications equipment	75%	65%
4.	Consumer equipment	75%	65%
5.	Lighting - gas discharge lamps	70%	50% 80%
6.	Electrical tools	70%	50%
7.	Toys, leisure/sports equipment	70%	50%
8.	Medical devices	Exempt	Exempt
9.	Monitoring/control instruments	70%	50%
10.	Automatic dispensers	80%	75%

- 1.5 The DTI is responsible for transposing the WEEE Directive into UK law, working in partnership with the Devolved Administrations. DEFRA is responsible for ensuring the permitting of Authorised Treatment Facilities with the WEEE Directive. The Environment Agency is the enforcement agency for the WEEE Directive.

## 2.0 KEY ASPECTS OF THE UK'S WEEE PRODUCER RESPONSIBILITY SYSTEM

- 2.1 All companies who import, manufacture and re-brand electrical and electronics equipment will have to finance its treatment, recovery and environmentally safe disposal.

### Producers' Obligations

- 2.2 Producers of EEE must either join a collective 'compliance' scheme, an organisation which contracts with a number of producers to meet the necessary legislative obligations on the producers' behalf or establish a private compliance scheme to meet their own needs. There is an annual membership fee for joining a collective compliance scheme.
- 2.3 Producers must also register their WEEE obligations (tonnes of specific categories of EEE which they put into the market each year) with the Environment Agency.
- 2.4 Other obligations include a requirement to mark products with a 'crossed-out wheeled bin' symbol, to provide information to customers and provide free take-back for households (and 'consumer like' commercial customers).
- 2.5 Producers are also required to take back end-of-life products from non-households, achieve certain recycling rates as set out above and to apply certain recycling rules e.g. removal of batteries and hazardous materials.

## **Producer Compliance Schemes**

- 2.6 Producer compliance schemes will be set up to act on behalf of a number of producers and to meet the obligations of their members. Some of the existing *packaging* compliance schemes are expecting to extend their range of member services into WEEE.
- 2.7 Compliance schemes must arrange for the collection of their 'fair share' of WEEE, i.e. the amount they collect must be equivalent to the amount of EEE that their members put into the market place each year for which they are obligated.
- 2.8 Compliance schemes must arrange collection and recycling of WEEE from 'designated collection facilities' or DCFs. Local authority re-use and recycling sites can register to be DCFs and thereby attract free collection and reprocessing of WEEE from those sites.
- 2.9 The producer compliance schemes have also set up a forum (the WEEE Scheme Forum), which will discuss the allocation of DCFs to particular compliance schemes. It is likely that all the DCFs in a particular waste disposal authority area will be allocated to one compliance scheme. However, as some compliance schemes will be established to take on the responsibility for and arrange the collection of only a limited number of WEEE streams it is possible for DCFs to have more than one producer compliance scheme collecting from their site.
- 2.10 At the end of each year there will be a settlement process to ensure that producers are meeting their obligations – 'The Exchange'. This will ensure that if some compliance schemes have over-collected and others under-collected that these discrepancies are ironed out.

## **The Responsibilities of Electrical Retailers**

- 2.11 From July 2007 electrical retailers have choice of how to meet their obligations under the regulations, they can either join the national Distributor Take-back Scheme (DTS) or they can offer customers in-store take-back of old equipment.
- 2.12 Retailers who join the DTS pay a one-off joining fee based upon their sales figures for electrical and electronic products in 2006. The benefit for retailers of joining the DTS is that the DTS will be putting money into establishing a network of publicly accessible sites/DCFs (predominantly local authority re-use and recycling centres) to which the public can take their WEEE, as an alternative to providing in-store take-back.
- 2.13 Indirectly, via the DTS, retailers will pay for upgrading local authority re-use and recycling centres to DCFs and towards the ongoing costs of operating the system. A one-off sum of £10 million has been allocated by retailers to local authorities to provide facilities for the separate collection of WEEE at re-use and recycling centres.

- 2.14 WEEE will also be collected from non-publicly accessible bulking facilities/DCFs, although these will not be eligible for the retailer provided upgrade money that is being made available.
- 2.15 Retailers will be able to pass on the additional costs of WEEE compliance to the consumer through a 'visible fee' on the sale of new goods, although there will be no compulsion to do so and no fixed rate for charges set nationwide (as in the case of some other countries' WEEE Directive implementation).

### **The Distributor Take Back Scheme (DTS)**

- 2.16 The national Distributor Take-back Scheme will be administered by Valpak Retail WEEE Services. Its £10 million retailer funding will be made available to local authorities for upgrading their re-use and recycling centres to DCFs. The DTS will be responsible for establishing the network of DCFs as an alternative to in-store take-back. Valpak will also be responsible for registering sites as DCFs and for making sure that an adequate network of publicly accessible DCFs is in place. They will also be responsible for approving producer compliance scheme's DCFs.
- 2.17 The DTS will not charge for the registration of sites as DCFs.

### **Authorised Treatment Facilities**

- 2.18 Existing and potential new WEEE treatment facilities will need to be authorised. Authorised treatment facilities will process WEEE and provide evidence notes to compliance schemes that they have done so.

## **3.0 LOCAL AUTHORITY CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING DCFs**

- 3.1 Across the Authority area, WEEE is collected directly from residents via bulky waste collection services where the waste is directly collected from the householder and then bulked up by the Authority's contractor such as at LondonWaste's facility at Edmonton and secondly it is collected through re-use and recycling centres where residents bring their WEEE for recycling/disposal. A small amount of bulky WEEE is also extracted from the general waste stream by the Authority's contractor LondonWaste Ltd. at its bulky waste transfer station at Edmonton.
- 3.2 All the re-use and recycling centres in North London are operated by the constituent borough councils and not by the waste disposal authority, as is the case in other parts of the country. In deciding whether to register the North London re-use and recycling centres as DCFs the following considerations need to be taken into account:
- Registering a site as a DCF means that all the WEEE on site will be collected and reprocessed free of charge
  - The relevant compliance scheme will provide the necessary containers to collect the WEEE and also organise collections and reprocessing

- If a compliance scheme has not organised to collect from a DCF by the end of March 2007, then the registering authority will incur the costs of collection and treatment of that WEEE from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2007, but can claim back these costs from a central Exchange
- Potentially more streams of WEEE could be collected on-site than is currently the case
- The material collected will be accurately recorded and make a contribution to recycling targets
- Publicly accessible DCFs will also be eligible for a one-off payment of £6,000 and a further ring-fenced £3,000 capital grant.

3.3 Additional considerations regarding registering the North London re-use and recycling centres as DCFs are:

- A potential loss of scrap revenue from those streams currently generating scrap income, although this will be subject to further negotiation with schemes
- Extra segregation of wastes and potentially increased operating costs as a result
- Potential implications for site licensing
- Extra collection operators coming on-site to collect the WEEE on behalf of the compliance scheme(s).

3.4 A further consideration is that currently all the constituent North London boroughs are in receipt of additional New Burdens money from the DTI to cover the unforeseen costs of handling hazardous WEEE. This money was made available to authorities because of the delay in implementing the WEEE Directive in the UK. It had originally been planned that when the additional costs for hazardous WEEE started to arise as a result of the implementation of the EU Hazardous Waste Directive, that the WEEE Directive would also be implemented at the same time and thereby provide the public sector with a free collection and reprocessing service for this material. However, because the Hazardous Waste Directive was unexpectedly implemented prior to the WEEE Directive, authorities have been incurring additional and unforeseen hazardous WEEE collection and treatment costs.

3.5 Once the WEEE Directive is fully implemented in the UK however, the DTI will no longer pay New Burdens money to local authorities for hazardous WEEE collection and treatment. This means that if the Authority does not have all the borough re-use and recycling centres and its contractors facilities registered as DCFs, the Authority (and through the levy, the constituent boroughs) will pick up the cost of collection and treatment of hazardous WEEE (which is funded by the DTI until that point). This means that it is financially prudent to register sites as DCFs as soon as possible so that a producer compliance scheme can take over the cost of collection and treatment, currently paid by the DTI.

## **Authority registration of DCFs on boroughs' behalf**

- 3.6 At officer level all the constituent borough councils have indicated that they would be pleased for the Authority to register their re-use and recycling centres as DCFs on the boroughs' behalf. Valpak, the DTS operator has indicated that they would be pleased for the Authority to do this too. The Legal Adviser has confirmed that this could be carried out by an exchange of letters between the constituent borough councils and the Authority.
- 3.7 The Authority should also be able to register waste transfer stations run by the Authority's contractors, in addition to some of the constituent borough councils' bulking stations within the Authority's area, as this situation was always envisaged.
- 3.8 Registrations will be submitted by the Valpak DTS to the Secretary of State for final approval. Valpak DTS has informed the Authority that it should only register sites for the WEEE streams they will, initially, be able to collect. This will give the producer compliance schemes a realistic idea of what they will be collecting from the sites in the early days of the scheme. The registered streams also have to be put before the Secretary of State for approval and additional streams can be added as necessary by application to Valpak DTS. The Authority will need to enter into a formal agreement with Valpak DTS to verify the information provided to them and assure them that the necessary authority to act on the boroughs' behalf is in place. Valpak DTS is not ready yet to allow registration of DCFs but anticipate that this will be able to be carried out online and possibly very soon.
- 3.9 It is proposed that the Authority acts on behalf of the seven constituent borough councils in registering all the re-use and recycling centres as designated collection facilities for waste electrical and electronic equipment by the end of March 2007 should boroughs be in agreement formally.

## **The Code of Practice**

- 3.10 A single 'Code of Practice' is being drafted to ensure consistent service levels at DCFs. Contracts between local authorities and producer compliance schemes are likely to refer to this code of practice. The code of practice covers responsibilities, service levels, health, safety and environmental standards, reporting requirements and dispute resolution. The Code of Practice does not cover DCF allocation, DCFs operated by producers, the operation of the Distributor Take-back Scheme or the collection of business-to-business WEEE.

## **The Role of a DCF**

- 3.11 A (publicly accessible) DCF should:
- Meet all relevant licensing/exemption requirements.
  - Allow producers to arrange collection of WEEE from the site.
  - Be operated using best endeavours to prevent mixing of WEEE with other waste.
  - (Be accessible to members of the public with household WEEE.)

- (Have signs to direct the public to the relevant container or area.)
- Must subsist for a least one compliance year/ be registered as a DCF for a minimum of 3 years.
- Enable WEEE to be separately by the 5 discrete streams where possible.

3.12 The separate WEEE streams for separation at a DCF are:

- A - Large household appliances other than cooling appliances.
- B - Cooling appliances – fridges and freezers.
- C - Televisions, screens and monitors.
- D - Gas discharge lamps (minimum volume capacity of 3 cubic metres).
- E - All other 'mixed' WEEE e.g. toasters and hairdryers (minimum volume capacity of 1 cubic metre).

3.13 Where it is not possible to separate 5 discrete streams of WEEE because of the size, policy, layout or accessibility of the site, either:

- Fewer streams may be collected, provided that collected streams are segregated or
- Streams may be mixed, so long as C and D remain separate and B can be readily identified for handling separately.

3.14 As stated elsewhere in this report, because there are also a number of sites where WEEE is bulked up in North London, e.g. at LondonWaste Ltd., it is also proposed that that these sites will be registered as non-publicly accessible DCFs by the Authority. Further information on the registration of contractors' sites by an authority is anticipated shortly. In the meantime discussion will start with relevant contractors subject to Member approval.

## **4.0 WORKING WITH COMPLIANCE SCHEMES**

4.1 There are two potential routes by which compliance schemes and waste disposal authorities/DCF operators can be matched up:

- The first option is for a compliance scheme or a disposal authority/DCF operator to approach each other and contract directly with each other.
- Alternatively both parties can wait until the compliance schemes are allocated to particular waste disposal authorities/DCF operators.

Under either scenario it is likely that all parties will prefer that all the DCFs in a particular waste disposal authority area are allocated to one compliance scheme and the aim of the allocation system will be to prevent 'cherry picking' by the compliance schemes. So all compliance schemes will have a share of the more expensive to service DCFs, such as DCFs in more remote authorities.

- 4.2 There are still uncertainties regarding which of the above two routes would be better for the Authority.

#### **Direct contracting**

- Direct contracting has the advantage that it sets up a system, quickly in time for the legislation to be implemented.
- However, DTI legal opinion as yet is uncertain regarding whether local authority procurement rules will apply to this process, because the contract is 'zero value', i.e. the service offered by the compliance scheme is free-of-charge to the Authority. The Authority's legal advice is clear that the Authority does not have to tender, as outlined in paragraph 4.3.
- If the normal procurement procedures had applied this potentially would have delayed the start date for collections of WEEE from the Authority's designated collection facilities, thereby effectively imposing a cost onto the Authority.

#### **Allocation**

- Allocation carries the possibility of being allocated to more than one producer compliance scheme, which increases the complexity of operational arrangements.
- There is no choice for an authority if it waits to be allocated a producer compliance scheme.
- As yet there is no agreed formula for allocation or operator of the allocation system.
- Allocation cannot happen until May 2007.

- 4.3 As noted above, the Authority's Legal Adviser has advised on whether a direct contract with a producer compliance scheme can be entered into without the need to tender first. Following a review of the Authority's Contract Standing orders and the EU Procurement rules, she has advised that:

1. Authority Contract Standing Order SO 4.2 provides that where the contract has an estimated value of less than £25,000 an officer of the Authority may decide that formal tendering is not necessary in order to secure value for money for the Authority.
2. The EU Procurement Regulations provide that the estimated value of a public contract "shall be the total consideration which the contracting Authority expects to be payable under the contract". This does not clearly state that the value is the total consideration actually payable by the contracting Authority but the guidance supplied with the Regulations advocates this interpretation. The Authority expects the total consideration to be zero.
3. Legal advice is that there is nothing in the Regulations that would exempt this contract from the scope of the regulations.

- 4.5 As the consideration to be paid by the Authority is zero it would **not** be necessary for the Authority to go out to tender in procuring a compliance scheme. Moreover, as all the producer compliance schemes will be operating to the same Code of Practice as outlined in paragraph 3.10 it could be argued that the impact on the Authority should be the same whichever producer compliance scheme is adopted. However, it would be prudent for the Authority to be assured that it had reviewed a number of schemes to ensure that Best Value requirements have been met.
- 4.6 As none of the producer compliance schemes will be formally approved until 28<sup>th</sup> February 2007 and because the allocation system cannot start until the producer compliance schemes have registered all their members and therefore their tonnage obligations (31<sup>st</sup> March) the situation regarding direct contracting or allocation is still uncertain. In the light of the situation, approval is sought from the Authority to delegate authority to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts, in consultation with the Chairman, to choose and appoint a compliance scheme, instead of waiting to be allocated a scheme, if it is decided that this is appropriate in the light of subsequent information and guidance.

## **5.0 RE-USE OF WEEE**

- 5.1 The WEEE Directive aims to promote re-use of whole appliances and it is recognised that DCFs are likely to be the most appropriate point for re-useable items to be picked out. In developing the UK regulations it has also been noted that the typical routes for items to be taken for re-use are through the community sector, via private refurbishers or direct export of the items. DCF operators and producer compliances schemes need to make arrangements with the community sector and any of the other above routes to ensure that existing re-use relationships, where relevant, are maintained. Typical re-use percentages are likely to be in the order of 20% from retail DCFs, 12% from bulky waste collection services and 2% from re-use and recycling centres.<sup>2</sup> In the Authority's area there are a number of community sector re-use organisations operating door-to-door collection services or take-back schemes for re-use. It is recommended that these systems of service remain, although this will be a matter for the constituent borough councils in most cases.
- 5.2 Another aspect of re-use included in the legislation is that producers are banned from preventing re-use or recycling of products with 'clever chips'. However, printer cartridges are classed as consumables under the Directive and are therefore not within its scope.

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<sup>2</sup> Source: Presentation by Simon Hill, Commercial Manager – Recycling, Wincanton Group Ltd at 'Complying with the WEEE Directive', Conference, 5<sup>th</sup> October 2006.

## **6.0 BUSINESS-TO-BUSINESS (B2B) WEEE**

- 6.1 Electrical and electronic equipment which is sold by an electrical producer to a business, rather than via a retailer to a household consumer, is also included in the regulations. This means that when companies buy new electrical and electronic equipment there is an obligation on the producers to provide 'like-for-like' take-back. Large companies such as Hewlett Packard have also already established their systems for doing so. A number of producers – Hewlett Packard, Sony, Electrolux and Braun have also established a pan-European WEEE compliance scheme, the 'European Recycling Platform'.

## **7.0 IMPLICATIONS FOR THE AUTHORITY AND SUGGESTED NEXT STEPS**

### **Operational Implications**

- 7.1 For the Authority, the main implications of the implementation of the WEEE Directive are the issues around the registration of sites and collection of electrical and electronic equipment from re-use and recycling centres which are registered as DCFs as referred to in paragraphs 3.2 and 3.3 above.

### **Suggested Next Steps**

- 7.2 Following meetings with Producer Compliance Schemes several points have been raised which seem to indicate that it will be advantageous for the Authority to act on the boroughs' behalf in registering sites as DCFs and potentially choosing a producer compliance scheme.
- 7.3 The Authority has seven constituent boroughs that run their own re-use and recycling centers (RRCs) or have potential DCFs. There are currently nine RRCs in the area (and up to seven other potential DCFs including the Authority's 'disposal points' under the main waste disposal contract). The Authority currently arranges fridge disposal and cathode ray tube collection from those RRCs, so if the Authority registers these as DCFs on the boroughs' behalf this may have the following benefits:
- 7.3.1 The Authority would be able to make the necessary arrangements with a single compliance scheme and avoid confusion and duplication of work. All the sites are currently registered as hazardous waste producers.
  - 7.3.2 Operationally, it would also be helpful if the Authority could register other sites to which the public don't have access but which are currently used to bulk household WEEE deliveries from the boroughs for onward disposal e.g. our contractor's sites and some of the boroughs' contractors' sites. Bulking sites without public access will not be entitled to the funding available to sites having public access.

- 7.3.3 Early registration of the North London sites as DCFs (i.e. by the end of March 2007) means that the Authority will also be able to recoup costs of collection and disposal of nominated streams of WEEE as soon as possible and certainly prior to the New Burdens funds ceasing.
- 7.3.4 If boroughs register independently they may also then have to deal with subsequent operational issues directly e.g. choosing a compliance scheme or awaiting allocation of one or more schemes, entering into a contract with the scheme(s) and then making direct arrangements with those scheme for removal of their nominated WEEE streams. This would also mean monitoring the service/s and collecting and submitting the necessary data. The Authority currently acts on boroughs' behalf for much of the hazardous WEEE including cathode ray tubes in television screens for example and ozone depleting substances contained within refrigeration equipment. There are resource implications for the boroughs if boroughs decide to register their sites as DCFs and work with compliance schemes on an individual basis.
- 7.4 For these reasons it is recommended, that the Authority acts on behalf of the constituent borough councils in registering all the North London re-use and recycling centres as DCFs and all the WEEE bulking facilities of its main contractor.
- 7.5 Should this recommendation be approved Boroughs would still be entitled to the available individual funding, currently up to £6,000 per site plus up to £3,000 per site for capital improvements, on sites to which the public have access. There would alternatively be the possibility of 'pooling' some of the money to improve those sites that need it most. It is recommended that this be decided by the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts in consultation with the Chairman after discussion with the constituent borough councils.
- 7.6 Authority officers would source a compliance scheme, possibly choosing one rather than waiting for allocation, depending upon further information and guidance being made available. If approved, the Authority would hold the contract with the producer compliance scheme(s), monitor collection performance, troubleshoot and gather data. Authority officers would also undertake to ensure compliance with Duty of Care including checking waste management licences and waste carrier registrations. Boroughs would have day to day contact with the hauliers and ultimate control over access to their own sites.
- 7.7 Legal advice is that devolved responsibility could be arranged by letter between the Authority and the constituent borough councils.

## **8.0 RECOMMENDATIONS**

8.1 The Authority is recommended to:

- i) register all the seven constituent borough councils' re-use and recycling centres and bulking facilities as designated collection facilities for waste electrical and electronic equipment by the end of March 2007 subject to borough's continuing agreement;
- ii) register appropriate contractor's facilities as designated collection facilities for waste electrical and electronic equipment by the end of March 2007 and to agree any handling fees that may result on terms to be agreed by the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts in consultation with the Chairman; and
- iii) delegate authority to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts in consultation with the Chairman to:
  - agree with the constituent borough councils whether or not to pool any upgrade funding which is made available for publicly accessible sites; and
  - Choose and appoint a compliance scheme instead of waiting to be allocated a scheme if this is in the Authority's interest.

## **9.0 COMMENTS OF THE FINANCIAL ADVISER**

9.1 The early registration of borough and contractor sites as designated collection facilities (DCF) is of paramount importance if the Authority and constituent boroughs are to significantly reduce their exposure to treatment and disposal costs after 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007. Assuming registration takes place by 31<sup>st</sup> March 2007 it is envisaged that the Authority will remain fully responsible for the treatment and disposal of fridges, freezers and CRTs up until 30<sup>th</sup> June 2007. Thereafter, the Authority's financial liability should be limited to the payment of a handling fee for appliances that continue to be collected/bulked through the LondonWaste Ltd contract. On this basis, the cost to the Authority in 2007/08 is estimated to £0.300m. Compared with the December 2007/08 budget forecast this represents a budget saving of £0.430m. The 2007/08 draft budget elsewhere on this agenda allows for this reduction.

## **10.0 COMMENTS OF THE LEGAL ADVISER**

10.1 The Legal Adviser has been consulted in the preparation of this report and her comments are included within the body of the report.

**Local Government Act 1972 – Access to information**

**Documents used:** UK WEEE Regulations (SI 2006 No. 3289)

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**Report Ends**