

THE NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

At a meeting of **THE NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY** held on **WEDNESDAY 20TH SEPTEMBER 2006** at 3.00pm in the Council Chamber, Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor John Boast – London Borough of Enfield
Councillor Melvin Cohen – London Borough of Barnet
Councillor Brian Coleman – London Borough of Barnet (Chairman)
Councillor Chris Knight – London Borough of Camden
Councillor Jayanti Patel – London Borough of Haringey
Councillor Alexis Rowell – London Borough of Camden
Councillor Eleftherios Savva – London Borough of Enfield
Councillor Eric Sizer – London Borough of Waltham Forest

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councillor George Allan – London Borough of Islington
Councillor Robert Belam – London Borough of Waltham Forest
Councillor Brian Haley – London Borough of Haringey
Councillor Alan Laing – London Borough of Hackney
Councillor Vincent Stops – London Borough of Hackney
Councillor Lucy Watt – London Borough of Islington

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

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Allan, Belam, Haley, Laing, Stops and Watt. An apology for lateness was received from Councillor Rowell.

There were no other apologies.

2. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Agenda Item 8: Procurement Plan – Development Update: The Chair advised that officers had withdrawn this report.

There were no other announcements.

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

Members noted the standing declarations as recorded in the agenda and also the following:

- Councillor Brian Coleman declared a personal interest as a member of the Greater London Assembly in relation to Agenda Item 13, Additional Powers And Responsibilities For The London Mayor And Assembly.
- Councillor Sizer advised that he was not a member of the organisation London Recycling and therefore asked for this standing declaration to be removed.
- Councillors Boast, Cohen and Sizer made declarations that they had a prejudicial interest in Agenda Item 24, Request By LondonWaste Ltd For Approval Under The Acquisition And Collaboration Agreement, as they were A-Directors or Alternate A-Directors of LondonWaste Ltd and stated that they would withdraw from the Council Chamber during consideration of this item.
- Councillor Cohen also advised that he had a personal interest in relation to Agenda Item 15, Hendon Relocation – Update, as the cabinet member for Planning in Barnet.

There were no other declarations.

5. MINUTES

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the Authority held on 28th June 2006, having been confirmed as a correct record, be signed by the Chair.

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

The Chair advised that a supplementary agenda had been circulated to Members of the Authority containing an urgent item entitled, Request By LondonWaste Ltd For Approval Under The Acquisition Agreement. It was noted that this was a part II item and he proposed, and it was agreed, that this be accepted for consideration.

There was no further notification of urgent items of business.

7. 2005/06 STATEMENT OF ACCOUNTS

Members considered the report by the Financial Adviser.

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Members noted that Mr Greg Comninos of Deloitte and Touche, the Authority's external auditor, was in attendance at the meeting. Mr Comninos gave a brief introduction to the report and in particular the statement of accounts. He also advised that he was happy to sign a clear opinion of the accounts and added that there was nothing to draw out since the publication of the report as there were no adjustments.

Councillor Boast thanked Mr Bob Bench, Finance Officer, for his work in relation to the Authority's finances and congratulated him on there being no adjustments to the statement of accounts.

Members then asked questions of officers and Mr Comninos.

It was then

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the Auditors' report be noted;
- (ii) THAT the Financial Adviser be authorised to sign the letter of representation; and;
- (iii) THAT the authority's 2005/6 Statement of Accounts be approved and that the Chairman be authorised to sign it accordingly.

ACTION BY: Financial Adviser

8. PROCUREMENT PLAN – DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

This item was withdrawn.

9. LANDFILL ALLOWANCE SCHEME – TRADING STRATEGY

Members considered a report by the Financial Adviser.

The Chair advised that the recommendation should be amended to read

- “(i) Note the contents of this report; and
- (ii) Officers be instructed to convene a meeting of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) Working Group with a view to reporting to the February meeting of the Authority.”

Following a short discussion, it was then

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the contents of the report be noted; and
- (ii) THAT officers be instructed to convene a meeting of the LATS Members Working Group with a view to reporting to the February meeting of the Authority.

ACTION BY: Financial Adviser

10. NON HOUSEHOLD WASTE CHARGING REVIEW

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

The Chair advised a revision to the recommendation as follows:

“The Authority is recommended to approve a development of a full proposal for a new method for the assessment of the amount of non-household waste in each borough’s municipal waste stream based on borough trade waste records with a report to come back to the December cycle”.

Councillor Boast advised that in relation to paragraph 2.2.1 of the report, the reference to “tonnage rates” should be clarified to ensure that there was understanding that this related to the amount of waste in each container rather than the cost of the waste.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

It was then

RESOLVED –

THAT the development of a full proposal for a new method for the assessment for the amount of non-household waste in each borough’s municipal waste stream be approved based on borough trade waste records with a report to come back to the December cycle.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts
TO NOTE: Deputy Clerk

11. REVIEW OF RECYCLING CREDIT PAYMENT SCHEME

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

The Chair advised that the recommendation should be revised to read: "The Authority is recommended to approve the policy for implementation as proposed in paragraph 6.3 of the report with effect from 1st April 2007".

It was then

RESOLVED –

THAT the policy as proposed in paragraph 6.3 of the report be approved for implementation with effect from 1st April 2007.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

12. JOINT WASTE STRATEGY UPDATE

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

The Chair advised that recommendation (i) should be revised as follows: "Approve the postponement of the formal review of the North London Joint Waste Strategy for the reasons set out in paragraph 1.5 of the report."

After discussion, it was

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the postponement of the formal review of the North London Joint Waste Strategy be approved;
- (ii) THAT the continued involvement of the authority in the Pan London Working Group on a real nappy incentive scheme be endorsed and that agreement in principle be given to participating in the development of a Pan London voucher scheme subject to the further detail being provided for approval at a subsequent meeting; and
- (iii) THAT authority be delegated to Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts, in consultation with the Chairman, to make the final awards of funding to community composting groups from the North London Small Grants Fund.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

13. ADDITIONAL POWERS AND RESPONSIBILITIES FOR THE LONDON MAYOR AND ASSEMBLY

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

The Chair advised that the recommendations should be amended as follows:

"The Authority is recommended to:

- (i) agree the principles by which the Authority should lobby as the proposed London Waste and Recycling Forum is created; and

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(ii) authorise officers to draft a response to reflect the discussion and views of Members at the meeting to be finalised by the Chairman and submit it as a response to the consultation on changes to the Mayor of London Order 2000.”

The Chairman advised that, since the Government’s proposals had been published on 3rd July 2006, there had been further consultation on the Mayor of London’s planning powers. He advised that the Conservative Group on the Authority and also an all party group of the Association for London Government were opposed to the proposed planning changes outlined by the Government. He also advised that whilst Councils were happy to continue to use the wording in the current guidance that local planning decisions should be made “with regard to” the Mayor’s recommendations they did not support the proposal that this wording be changed to read that there should be “general conformity” to the Mayor’s view.

Councillor Knight confirmed that he did not think that the Mayor’s planning powers should be increased. Councillor Sizer argued that whilst each waste authority should have its own strategy, it was useful for the Mayor of London to provide guidance to ensure some consistency. Councillor Boast opposed the proposed change to the wording of guidance in relation to planning permission. He added that it was not only undesirable but had also not been a proposal in the original consultation and had been added later and he therefore opposed it.

The Chairman then summed up the discussion. In relation to the Authority’s view on the changing of the words “with regard to” to “general conformity”, he asked Members to vote and as a result it was agreed that the Authority should respond to the consultation that it did not wish to see this change. The Chairman then asked Members to vote on their views in relation to the proposed increased planning role for the London Mayor and it was unanimously agreed that the Authority was opposed to this.

It was then

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the Authority should lobby on the creation of the London Waste and Recycling Forum based on the comments above and in the report; and
- (ii) THAT officers be authorised to draft a response reflecting the discussion and views of Members at the meeting as detailed above to be finalised by the Chairman and to submit it as a response to the consultation on changes to the Mayor of London Order 2000.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

14. DRAFT FURTHER ALTERATIONS TO THE LONDON PLAN

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

It was

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the draft interim response of paragraph 4.2 of the report be approved; and
- (ii) THAT a submission of the draft response to the “further alterations to the London Plan” be approved in consultation with the Chairman with the response to be ratified at the next Authority meeting.

**ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts
TO NOTE: Deputy Clerk**

15. HENDON RELOCATION – UPDATE

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

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT officers should conduct further negotiations with Cricklewood Redevelopments Ltd to establish the best replacement facilities for the Hendon Rail Transfer station giving full consideration to the authority’s obligation under the Waste and Emissions Trading Act and having consideration to the procurement requirements set out in the North London Joint Waste Strategy.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

16. MEMBERS’ QUESTION TIME ARRANGEMENTS

Members considered a report of the Deputy Clerk.

The Chairman introduced the item and proposed that in relation to paragraph 2.1, the Authority should set the deadline for the submission of questions as two weeks before the meeting to allow the questions to be included as part of the agenda. Councillor Sizer agreed with this position.

There was a short discussion and it was then

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT a Members Question Time be introduced for future meetings of the Authority;
- (ii) THAT the proposals detailed in paragraph 2 of the report be agreed and that the deadline for the submission of questions should be two weeks before the meeting;

(iii) THAT the Standing Orders of the Authority be amended on the basis of the proposals in the report.

**ACTION BY: Deputy Clerk
TO NOTE: All**

17. 2006/2007 SECOND BUDGET REVIEW

Members considered a report by the Financial Adviser.

After a short discussion it was

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the second review of the 2006/7 revenue budget be noted; and
- (ii) THAT the third review of the 2006/7 budget be reported to the Authority meeting in December together with an up to date assessment of the budget and resource requirements for 2007/8.

ACTION BY: Financial Adviser

18. AWARD OF CONTRACTS BY OFFICERS UNDER DELEGATED AUTHORITY.

Members considered a report by the Deputy Clerk.

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the contracts awarded by officers under delegated authority be noted.

19. FUTURE REPORTS

Members considered a report by the Deputy Clerk.

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

20. DATES OF NEXT MEETINGS

Members noted that the dates of future meetings of the authority would be:

- Wednesday 20th December 2006
- Wednesday 7th February 2007
- Wednesday 11th April 2007
- Wednesday 27th June 2007 (the annual meeting of the authority)

21. ANY OTHER ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT.

There were no urgent Part I items.

22. 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 20th September 2006 during consideration of Items 23 and 24 on part II of the agenda on the basis, 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 23 and 24 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 release of such information would prejudice the Authority's conduct of a commercial operation or because of a disclosure of the information is likely to prejudice the commercial interest of the Authority and organisations engaged in commercial activities as the information relates to commercial activities that are conducted in a competitive environment.

23. LONDON WASTE LTD BOARD MINUTES

Members considered a report of the Deputy Clerk.

Councillor Boast advised that, in relation to page 23/11 and the complaints by local residents about odours believed to arise from the composting centre of LondonWaste Ltd, the three A-Directors on the board of LondonWaste Ltd and Councillor Sizer as the Alternate A-Director were determined to pursue this issue to ensure that it was resolved.

The Chairman thanked Councillor Boast for his statement and, on behalf the Authority, asked the A-directors to raise the Authority's concerns with the board of

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LondonWaste Ltd on this matter. It was noted that it affected the residents in the London Boroughs of Waltham Forest and Enfield in particular.

ACTION BY: A-Directors

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

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

REQUEST BY LONDONWASTE LTD FOR APPROVAL UNDER THE ACQUISITION AND COLLABORATION AGREEMENT

Members considered a report by the Financial Adviser.

It was

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the contents of the report be noted;
- (ii) THAT the proposed LondonWaste/Polkacrest acquisition be agreed in principle subject to satisfying the criteria set out in paragraph 5.2 of the report; and
- (iii) THAT authority be delegated to the Clerk of the Authority (or the Financial Adviser in her absence) in consultation with the Financial Adviser and Legal Adviser and the Chairman to give or refuse the Authority's consent.

ACTION BY: Financial Adviser

There were no other exempt urgent items.

The meeting ended at 3.35pm.

Chair

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MINUTES END