

## **THE NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY**

At a meeting of the **NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY** held on **WEDNESDAY 27<sup>TH</sup> APRIL 2005** at 3pm in the Council Chamber at Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE

### **MEMBERS PRESENT**

Cllr George Allan	-	London Borough of Islington
Cllr David Blunt	-	London Borough of Waltham Forest
Cllr Melvin Cohen	-	London Borough of Barnet
Cllr Brian Coleman	-	London Borough of Barnet
Cllr Ray Dodds	-	London Borough of Haringey (Chair)
Cllr Brian Haley	-	London Borough of Haringey
Cllr Bill Hodgson	-	London Borough of Hackney
Cllr Heather Johnson	-	London Borough of Camden
Cllr Bill Price	-	London Borough of Enfield
Cllr Roger Robinson	-	London Borough of Camden
Cllr Eric Sizer	-	London Borough of Waltham Forest

### **MEMBERS ABSENT**

Cllr John Boast	-	London Borough of Enfield
Cllr Bridget Fox	-	London Borough of Islington
Cllr Vincent Stops	-	London Borough of Hackney

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

#### **1. APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Boast, Fox and Stops.

An apology for absence was also received from Mr Bob Bench, Finance Officer of the Authority.

There were no other apologies.

#### **2. DEPUTATIONS**

There were no deputations.

**3. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Mr Bob Bench**

The Chair, on behalf of the whole Authority, sent sympathies to Mr Bob Bench following the death of his mother. The Chair advised that he would write a letter to Mr Bench on this matter expressing the condolences of all Members.

**ACTION BY: Chair**

There were no other announcements.

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

Councillors Haley, Robinson and Sizer each declared a personal interest as NLWA appointed A-Directors on the Board of LondonWaste Limited (LWL). Councillor Dodds declared a personal interest as a NLWA alternate A-Director on the Board of LWL.

There were no other declarations of interest.

**5. MINUTES**

Ms Moira Gibb, the Clerk of the Authority, advised that the search by the London Borough of Camden for a new Director of Finance had so far been unsuccessful; Mr Peter Ingham would therefore continue as Acting Director of Finance for the Borough and as Acting Finance Adviser for the North London Waste Authority. She assured Members that Officers were making efforts to ensure that new interviews for this position took place soon.

It was then

**RESOLVED -**

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the North London Waste Authority held on 9<sup>th</sup> February 2005, 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**

There were no such items.

**7. COMPOSTING INITIATIVES IN THE LONDON BOROUGH OF HACKNEY**

Members received a presentation from Mr Cam Matheson, the Project Manager of the East London Community Recycling Partnership (ELCRP), who was joined by Mr Mark Griffin, Acting Head of Waste Services (Client) of the London Borough of Hackney. Members noted the local success of the ELCRP in relation to composting at certain housing estates within the London Borough of Hackney; the scheme had won several awards, and had benefited the community as a whole in various ways. A copy of the presentation delivered by Mr Matheson and supplementary documents are attached to these minutes.

At the conclusion of the presentation Mr Matheson and Mr Griffin answered questions from Members and then the Chair, on behalf of the Authority, thanked them for their attendance.

**8. REVIEW OF STRATEGIC RISK MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS**

Members considered the report by the Finance Adviser.

Councillor Robinson sought clarification on the methodology used for assessing risk in relation to the Authority's functions, particularly in the light of current concerns over terrorist activity. Members had no other comments on the report.

It was therefore

**RESOLVED -**

- i) THAT it be noted that Members had no additional comments on the risk register;
- ii) THAT the risk register be agreed;
- iii) THAT the suggested approach to risk management in the NLWA, as set out in paragraph 6 of the report, be endorsed and supported;
- iv) THAT the progress to date and the future planned activity to achieve delivery of a risk aware culture within the NLWA and the achievement of compliance with the accounts and audits regulations 2003 be noted; and
- v) THAT it be noted that the Finance Adviser will report back to Members with an annual review each year to assist Members with their assessment of the Authority's internal control arrangements.

**ACTION BY:** Finance Adviser  
**TO NOTE:** Deputy Clerk

**9. BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN 2005**

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

Members suggested that the colour scheme used for some of the graphs in the report should be changed to ensure greater clarity; they highlighted in particular the similarity of the shades of green used in the original being difficult to distinguish between.

It was then

**RESOLVED –**

THAT, subject to the comment detailed above, the draft best value performance plan be approved and that authority be delegated to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts in consultation with the Chair, to make the necessary final changes as full year-end data becomes available.

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

**10. NON-HOUSEHOLD WASTE CHARGING REVIEW**

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

Members expressed concern that the new proposals for assessing the amount of non-household waste delivered for disposal by each borough might not be concluded in time to allow them to feed into the next financial year. In addition, Councillor Cohen suggested that the proposals include the timetabling of a regular review of the figures over five years. In response, Officers agreed that they would be bringing back proposals, prior to Christmas, to allow them to feed into the budget setting arrangements for each Authority for 2006/2007. The Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts also undertook to include a five-year review timetable in the proposals.

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

It was then

**RESOLVED –**

- i) THAT, subject to the comments above, the recommendations of AEA Technology for a new method of assessing the amount of non-household waste from each borough be noted; and
- ii) THAT it be noted that the Authority will raise the matter with a suitable discussion paper at the next meeting of the Strategy Implementation Board and also include its relation to a potential voluntary move to a tonnage based levy and to the Landfill Allowances Trading Scheme as discussed elsewhere on the agenda.

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

**11. JOINT WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

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

Members also noted a late tabled paper entitled “North London Waste Authority 27<sup>th</sup> April 2005: Agenda Item 11 – Joint Waste Strategy Development Update: Revised Recommendation” in which recommendation (i) was revised to read:

“confirm that it agrees to amend the NLJWS policy statement on the levy apportionment to a form that has the formal unanimous agreement of the constituent boroughs and delegates authority to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts in consultation with the Chair to implement such a change and confirm it to the London Mayor, provided there is no detriment to the Authority and the Finance Adviser has received unanimous notification at least three weeks before the budget is set for the year in which the change is to occur”.

Members then had a discussion on the issue of joint working and support for the Joint Waste Management Strategy and how this was also tied to the commitment of the Authority and its partners to move to a tonnage based levy.

The Chair noted that there was a consensus amongst constituent boroughs that there should be a move to a tonnage based levy and he proposed that, to allow the process to move forward, help should be commissioned to identify different models which could be presented to the Executives of the constituent boroughs prior to Christmas 2005 to allow them to decide whether or not it would be possible to implement a tonnage based levy for the financial year 2006/7. He acknowledged that officers from the London Borough of Barnet had offered to assist in this process already but he requested that independent advice be used. However, he clarified that he wished to commit the Authority to doing the preparatory work although he could not guarantee that 2006/7 would be the year in which the move to a tonnage based levy took place. This proposal was welcomed by Members.

The Chair also advised that, given these circumstances, the Authority would not be in a position to provide information to the London Mayor on the NLWA Joint Waste Management Strategy until the preparatory work on the move to the tonnage base levy had been concluded as there would be no consensus before that point.

He suggested instead that the draft Joint Waste Management Strategy be submitted to the London Mayor with an explanatory note, explaining that Members had hopes of resolving the remaining issue and the proposals for how this was to be achieved. This was agreed.

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

It was then

**RESOLVED –**

- (i) THAT the North London Joint Waste Management Strategy be submitted to the London Mayor with an explanatory note to explain the proposals for achieving a solution to the disagreement over the working in respect of the move to a tonnage based levy;
- (ii) THAT independent work be commissioned by the Authority to identify methods by which the Authority and its partners could move to a tonnage based levy basis to be reported prior to Christmas 2005 to the individual authorities;
- (iii) THAT the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts be permitted to agree to a broader input specification to the LRF (London Recycling Fund) funded composting facility provided that the gate fee remains equal to or less than the forecast recycling credit level for 2006/7; and
- (iv) THAT it be confirmed that the Authority needs to take a strategic lead on the delivery of a North London MRF (Materials Recycling Facility) and that the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts should therefore commence commissioning such a facility on the basis of letters of intent to use the facility from relevant boroughs (as opposed to formal commitments from boroughs to deliver specific tonnages of relevant wastes), subject to the conditions set out in paragraph 4.5 of the report.

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

**12. LANDFILL ALLOWANCE TRADING SCHEME UPDATE**

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

The Chair requested that Officers continued to keep Members up to date on the landfill allowance trading scheme as developments occurred.

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

It was then

**RESOLVED –**

THAT the report be noted.

**13. WASTE WATCH EDUCATION CAMPAIGN**

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

After a short discussion, it was

**RESOLVED -**

THAT the Authority confirm its support for the Waste Watch campaign for funding for strategic waste education.

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

**14. LONDONWASTE LIMITED – WASTE INCINERATION DIRECTIVE – PROGRESS**

Members considered a report by the Finance Adviser, who introduced the item.

It was

**RESOLVED -**

THAT the report be noted.

**15. FUTURE REPORTS**

Members considered a report by the Deputy Clerk.

It was noted that the report entitled “Assessment of the Amount of Non-Household Waste”, following discussions earlier in the meeting, should now be rescheduled so that it was considered by the Authority prior to Christmas 2005. It was then

**RESOLVED -**

THAT, subject to the above, the report be noted

**ACTION BY:** Deputy Clerk

**16. DATE OF NEXT MEETING**

It was noted that the next meeting of the North London Waste Authority was scheduled for Wednesday 6<sup>th</sup> July 2005 at 3.00 pm in the Council Chamber, Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE. It was also noted that this would be the annual general meeting of the Authority.

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

There was no such business.

**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 27<sup>th</sup> April 2005 during consideration of item 19 on part II 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 of the Local Government Act 1972, specifically;

Publicity in respect of item 19 would be likely to lead to disclosure of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the Authority).

**19. LONDONWASTE LIMITED MINUTES**

Members considered a report of the Deputy Clerk.

In relation to page 19/4 of the report, the minutes of the LWL Board Meeting of 15<sup>th</sup> December 2004, Members noted with some concern the reference to the level of detail that could be shared with the NLWA. As a result, the Chair requested that Alison Lowton, the Legal Adviser, provide additional guidance to Members of the Authority who were also LWL A-Directors explaining the differences in their respective roles.

**ACTION BY:** Legal Adviser

It was then

**RESOLVED -**

THAT the report be noted.

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

There was no such business.

The Chair, noting that this was the last meeting of the Authority of the municipal year, thanked all Members for their hard work and particularly any Members who might not be returning for the municipal year 2005/6. In response, Councillor Coleman thanked the Chair for his work for the Authority and in particular in the way in which he chaired meetings, a view then supported by all other Members.

The meeting ended at 4.00pm

**CHAIR**

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Minutes End