

THE NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

At a meeting of the **NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY** held on **WEDNESDAY 11TH FEBRUARY 2004** at 3.00 pm in the Council Chamber at Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor George Allan	-	London Borough of Islington
Councillor John Boast	-	London Borough of Enfield
Councillor Melvin Cohen	-	London Borough of Barnet
Councillor Brian Coleman	-	London Borough of Barnet
Councillor Ray Dodds (Chair)	-	London Borough of Haringey
Councillor Bridget Fox	-	London Borough of Islington
Councillor Brian Haley	-	London Borough of Haringey
Councillor Bill Hodgson	-	London Borough of Hackney
Councillor Heather Johnson	-	London Borough of Camden
Councillor Narinda Matharoo	-	London Borough of Waltham Forest
Councillor Roger Robinson	-	London Borough of Camden
Councillor Eric Sizer	-	London Borough of Waltham Forest
Councillor Vincent Stops	-	London Borough of Hackney

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councillor Bill Price	-	London Borough of Enfield
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The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting.

1. APOLOGIES

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Bill Price and an apology for lateness was received from Councillor George Allan.

There were no further apologies.

2. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Chair, on behalf of the Authority, welcomed Ms Moira Gibb as the new Clerk to the NLWA.

Councillor Heather Johnson advised that prior to the next meeting of the Authority she would be abseiling down Camden Town Hall on behalf of the Mayor of Camden's Charity and asked those present to consider sponsoring her.

There were no other announcements.

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

Councillors Haley, Matharoo and Robinson declared personal interests as NLWA appointed A Directors on the Board of LondonWaste Limited (LWL).

Councillor Dodds declared a personal interest as an NLWA appointed alternate A Director of LondonWaste Limited.

Councillors Coleman and Cohen declared personal interests in respect of Agenda Item 8, Joint Municipal Wastes Management Strategy Update, and Agenda Item 15, Hendon Re-location – Update, as representatives of the London Borough of Barnet which was in receipt of London Recycling Fund monies and developing the Cricklewood, Brent Cross and West Hendon Development Framework. Councillor Boast also declared a personal interest in respect of Agenda Item 8 as a representative of the London Borough of Enfield which was also in receipt of London Recycling Fund monies.

There were no other declarations of interests.

5. MINUTES

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the minutes of the meeting of the North London Waste Authority held on 17th December 2003, having been confirmed as a correct record, be signed by the Chair.

Councillor Coleman advised that in respect of Agenda Item 15 of the minutes, LondonWaste Limited Board Minutes, he had not received a copy of the letter from Councillor Haley requested at the meeting. Councillor Haley apologised that he had sent the letter only to Councillor Price in response to the latter's question rather than send a copy to all Members. He undertook to ensure that a copy of the letter was therefore sent to all Members of the Authority.

ACTION BY: Councillor Haley

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

There was no such business.

7. ECOPARK PRESENTATION FROM LONDONWASTE LIMITED

Members received a presentation on the proposals of LondonWaste Limited in respect of the Ecopark to be based in the grounds of LWL's Edmonton Site. The talk was given by Mr David Sargent and Mr John Bunnett of LondonWaste Limited. A copy of the presentation is attached to these minutes.

At the conclusion of the presentation Mr Sargent and Mr Bunnett answered questions from Members.

In response to a question on the co-ordination of collection and treatment of mechanical and biological recycling materials, Andrew Lappage, Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts, undertook to report to a future meeting of the Authority on this matter.

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

The Chair also asked the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts to arrange discussions on the issue of emerging waste disposal technologies between Members and relevant people to take place either at LondonWaste Limited premises or prior to meetings of the North London Waste Authority.

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

The Chair then thanked Messrs Sargent and Bunnett for their presentation.

8. JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTES MANAGEMENT STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Members considered a report by the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts who introduced the item and updated Members on the discussions of the North London Recycling Forum meeting held on 2nd February 2004; participants, who were from voluntary, local authority and contracting organisations, all accepted the proposed stakeholder dialogue process and sought also to emphasise the importance of the detailed sessions with representative residents, the need for a good cross-section at the follow up event and the opportunity to "signpost" the draft strategy in their other work.

It was

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the outcomes of the Cabinet Members' Seminar held on 27th January 2004 be noted;
- (ii) THAT the outcomes of the North London Recycling Forum meeting held on 2nd February 2004 be noted;
- (iii) THAT authority be delegated to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts, in consultation with the Chair, to submit a bid to the London Recycling Fund for an in-vessel compost facility and/or an awareness bid, possibly in partnership with the North London boroughs, LondonWaste Limited and/or London Community Recycling Network;
- (iv) THAT authority be delegated to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts, in consultation with the Chair, to support a London Community Recycling Network bid to the Community Recycling and Economic Development Fund to develop re-use services tailored to borough bulky waste collection services, provided support of boroughs was also given for the bid.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts
TO NOTE: All

9. PRUDENTIAL CODE FOR CAPITAL FINANCE IN LOCAL AUTHORITIES

Members considered a report of the Finance Adviser, which was introduced by Mr Bob Bench, Finance Officer.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the requirements of the new system of prudential borrowing be noted;
- (ii) THAT the amendments to the Authority's financial standing orders, set out in paragraph 11 of the report, be approved; and
- (iii) THAT the prudential indicators as set out in paragraph 12 of the report, be approved.

ACTION BY: Financial Adviser/Deputy Clerk

10. REVENUE BUDGET AND LEVY 2004/05

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

It was proposed by Councillor Sizer, and seconded by Councillor Stops, that the basis for apportioning the levy for the next financial year should be based on the default position of the Council Tax base of each borough to allow for the Authority to wait for the Government consultation on changing the default basis for the levy in the future which was expected later in the year (Option (i) as detailed in paragraph 6.4 of the report).

It was proposed by Councillor Fox, and seconded by Councillor Allan, that the apportionment of the levy be based on Option (ii) in paragraph 6.4 of the report, namely that it be based on the household tonnage for each constituent borough on the basis of "the polluter pays".

It was proposed by Councillor Coleman, and seconded by Councillor Cohen, that there be an amendment to the recommendations that, because of the consistent over-budgeting of the Authority's finances on an annual basis, in the year 2004/5 there be an increase in the levy for each Authority of no more than 2½ %. Councillor Boast explained that whilst it was correct for the Authority to err on the side of caution and over-budget for the year, it should do so on a holistic basis rather than on each item of expenditure which meant that the excesses became cumulative.

After discussion the Chair put the amendment by Councillor Coleman to the vote and subsequently the motion was declared lost.

Councillor Coleman, on behalf of the Conservative Group, expressed his support for the proposal by Councillor Fox.

After further discussion the Chair put the proposals by Councillor Fox and Councillor Sizer to the vote. Having counted the votes, the proposal by Councillor Fox was declared lost and the proposal by Councillor Sizer was declared won.

It was then

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the 2003/2004 revised budget and 2004/2005 proposed budget be considered and noted;
- (ii) THAT the requirements of the Local Government Act 2003 be noted and that the amendments to the Authority's Financial Standing Orders as identified in Appendix A of the report be approved;
- (iii) THAT being satisfied that the proposed budget is sufficient to meet the net expenditure requirements for the year ahead, the 2004/2005 budget be agreed;
- (iv) THAT the outlook for 2005/2006, 2006/2007 and 2007/2008 be noted;

- (v) THAT the 2004/2005 charge for non-household waste be agreed at £40.34;
- (vi) THAT the levy for 2004/5 be determined in accordance with the figures detailed in the report;
- (vii) THAT the basis for apportioning the levy be the 2004/2005 council tax base as notified by constituent boroughs (Option (i) in paragraph 6.4 of the report); and
- (viii) THAT the Financial Adviser be authorised to make arrangements for collection of the levy and charges for non-household waste.

ACTION BY: Financial Adviser
TO NOTE: Deputy Clerk

Councillors Coleman, Cohen and Boast dissented from resolution (iii).

11. EXTERNAL AUDITORS ANNUAL AUDIT LETTER TO MEMBERS 2003

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

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the findings and recommendations of the annual audit letter be noted.

12. BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE PLAN CONSULTATION

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

Members indicated that they were happy with the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts' suggestion that the Best Value Performance Plan be prepared along similar lines to previous years.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

It was then

RESOLVED –

THAT the response to the Government's consultation on Best Value Performance Plans, attached as Appendix 1 to the report, be approved.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

13. NORTH LONDON COMPLIANCE WITH RECYCLING AND COMPOSTING BEST VALUE PERFORMANCE INDICATOR STANDARDS

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

Members then discussed the report and its implications and noted that whilst all seven constituent boroughs were showing a shortfall on their recycling figures, the trend was improving and it was hoped that the final target for the year would be met. It was also suggested that examples of best practice in each of the boroughs should be identified and rolled out across the others.

TO NOTE: All

It was then

RESOLVED –

THAT the outcomes detailed in the report be noted and that the proposals detailed above be also noted.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

14. RECYCLING CREDITS 2002/2003 UPDATE

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

In response to a request from Councillor Coleman for assurances that more rigorous testing should not result in the increase of the administrative costs, a view that was echoed by the Chair, the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts undertook to ensure that this did not happen and to report back after a year.

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

The Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts also undertook to report to a future meeting on the possibility of implementing a scheme providing financial rewards for those organisations that assisted the Authority in deferring costs or were involved in third party recycling (for example, for organisations where the life of goods was extended, therefore delaying the Authority's disposal costs).

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

After discussion it was

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the payment of recycling credit payments to constituent boroughs for 2002/2003, as set out in paragraph 2.8 of the report, be approved;
- (ii) THAT the payment “on account” to constituent boroughs for 2003/2004, as set out in paragraph 2.8 of the report, be approved;
- (ii) THAT the payment of the third party recycling credit, as set out in paragraph 3.1 of the report, be approved; and
- (iv) THAT the proposed recycling credit claim verification process for 2003/4, as set out in paragraphs 2.4 to 2.6 of the report, be approved.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

15. HENDON RELOCATION – UPDATE

Members considered a report by Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts who introduced the report. He advised that there was an on-going dialogue with the London Borough of Barnet on this issue.

After discussion it was

RESOLVED –

THAT Section 3 of the report be used to provide guidance to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts in his continuing negotiations with the London Borough of Barnet and the developers involved in the formulation of proposals for the Cricklewood, West Hendon and Brent Cross area, with the final response to be submitted by the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts in consultation with the Chair.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

16. NLWA REPRESENTATION AT THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF LONDONWASTE LIMITED

Members considered a report by the Deputy Clerk who introduced the item.

Councillor Stops proposed, and Councillor Hodgson seconded, that Mr Bob Bench, Finance Officer, be the NLWA representative at the LondonWaste Limited annual meeting.

It was proposed by Councillor Boast, and seconded by Councillor Coleman, that Councillor Bill Price be nominated as the Authority’s representative.

After a short discussion the Chair put the two names to the vote and it was subsequently

RESOLVED -

THAT Mr Bob Bench, Finance Officer, be appointed as representative to vote on behalf of the Authority at the LondonWaste Limited annual general meeting to vote in accordance with his own wishes following consultation with the Financial Adviser to the Authority and the Chair.

ACTION BY: Finance Officer/Deputy Clerk

17. FUTURE REPORTS

Members considered a report by the Deputy Clerk. It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

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

There was no such business.

19. 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 held on 11th February 2004 during consideration of Item 20 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 to the Local Government Act 1972, specifically publicity in respect of Item 20 would be likely to lead to the disclosure of information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (other than the Authority).

20. LONDONWASTE LIMITED MINUTES

Members considered a report by the Deputy Clerk.

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

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

There was no such business.

The meeting ended at 4.25pm.

CHAIR

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Nlwa/minutes/mainauthority/2004/feb04

MINUTES END