

**NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY**

**REPORT TITLE:**

**JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTES MANAGEMENT  
STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE**

**REPORT OF:**

**HEAD OF WASTE STRATEGY AND CONTRACTS**

**FOR SUBMISSION TO:**

**AUTHORITY MEETING.**

**DATE:**

**11 February 2004**

**SUMMARY OF REPORT:**

This report brings Members up to date with progress on the development of a joint municipal wastes management strategy for the Authority area. The report also proposes that the Authority support forthcoming joint bids to the London Recycling Fund and the Community Recycling and Economic Development Fund. The Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts will give a verbal update on the North London Recycling Forum.

**RECOMMENDATIONS**

The Authority is recommended to: -

- (i) consider the outcomes of the Cabinet Member Seminar held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2004;
- (ii) note the outcomes of the North London Recycling Forum held on 2 February 2004;
- (iii) delegate authority 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) delegate authority 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 is also given for the bid.

**Signed Head of Waste Strategy &  
by: Contracts**

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**Date:**.....

## **1. BACKGROUND**

- 1.1 The Government published guidance in March 2001 indicating that it expected a Joint Municipal Wastes Management Strategy to be developed between Waste Disposal Authorities and their constituent Waste Collection Authorities.
- 1.2 The Mayor's Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2003) states that the four statutory waste disposal authority areas should each produce a joint strategy by September 2004, demonstrating how the authorities within the area will work together and work with other key stakeholders to deliver the Mayors' strategy.
- 1.3 The Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003, requires (amongst other things) the production of a joint municipal waste management strategy in two tier areas i.e. where there are Waste Collection Authorities and a Waste Disposal Authority, as is the case in North London, within eighteen months of the passing of the Act unless the Secretary of State directs otherwise.
- 1.4 Between December 2001 and September 2002, the Boroughs and the Authority formally adopted joint Aims and Objectives, established a Strategy Project Board of Officers and began gathering information needed for the development of a Joint Waste Strategy.
- 1.5 Four Cabinet Member Seminars were held during 2003, during which Cabinet Members from each of the constituent Boroughs and the Chair of the Authority (or their nominated deputies) considered the strategic options for waste management in North London, agreed scenarios and evaluation criteria to conduct a Best Practicable Environmental Option appraisal, reviewed the results of this appraisal (commissioned by the North London Waste Authority and conducted by AEA Technology (Environment) Limited) and agreed draft wording for an internal draft of a strategy document.
- 1.6 Changes requested to the draft strategy document made by Cabinet Members at the 9 December Cabinet Member Seminar were incorporated in the internal consultation draft of the strategy and circulated to the constituent Boroughs and the Authority for consideration to formally request approval for the document to be used for an external stakeholder dialogue between February and April 2004.

## **2. RECENT PROGRESS**

- 2.1 Each of the Partner Authorities were given opportunity to review and consider the internal consultation draft of the strategy document between the 9 December Cabinet Member Seminar and a further meeting held on the 27 January 2004. In addition, the Cabinet Members agreed that the internal draft should be issued to the Greater London Authority, London Community Recycling Network and LondonWaste Limited to enable their initial comments to be taken into account before the stakeholder dialogue began. Different approaches have been taken to the review of the internal draft. Some authorities approving the draft for external consultation, whilst others noted the report permitting it to go for external consultation.
- 2.2 The Authority reviewed the draft document at its meeting on 17 December 2003, approving the draft and delegating authority to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts to agree any changes at the 27 January 2004 Cabinet Member Seminar in consultation with the Chair of the Authority.
- 2.3 The Cabinet Member Seminar on 27 January 2004 received the comments of all the individual Partner Authorities and received presentations from the Greater London Authority, London Community Recycling Network and LondonWaste Limited. Twenty-five issues were raised by the different parties. Following detailed discussion, resolutions were agreed for each to allow the external draft to be put forward for stakeholder dialogue. Minor wording changes were made to the document to reflect likely forthcoming changes in the local planning process and to clarify wording on three other actions in accordance with Partners' wishes. The Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts has also commissioned some additional financial analysis of the strategy implications to assist the Partner Authorities in assessing the financial impact of the Joint Waste Strategy in more detail.
- 2.4 The Cabinet Member Seminar also received proofs of the publicity documents designed for the stakeholder dialogue by a consultant working for the London Borough of Camden on behalf of the Authority. These included the strategy document, a summary, a promotional flyer and an outline design for the website. Various comments were passed on these documents, which will be incorporated in the versions that will be used in the stakeholder dialogue. A revised programme for the stakeholder dialogue was also presented for Cabinet Member consideration and was agreed.
- 2.5 The stakeholder dialogue commenced with a presentation by the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts and the Authority's Stakeholder Dialogue consultant MORI to the North London Recycling Forum on 2 February 2004. The Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts will provide a verbal update on the Forum presentation at the meeting.

- 2.6 The provisional results of the stakeholder dialogue will be presented to the Authority at its meeting on 28 April 2004. A Cabinet Member Seminar will be organised for early May to review the stakeholder dialogue and to propose any changes that may be necessary to the document.

### 3. PROJECTS

#### Joint Projects funded by the London Recycling Fund

- 3.1 The London Recycling Fund has secured a further £20.55 million to support local authority recycling and composting projects in London. The funding is to be split over the next two financial years with £13.7 million being made available in 2004/5 and £6.85 million in 2005/6. The Fund coordinators - London Waste Action - have proposed in a consultation paper that the following priority areas and split of funding should be considered.

<b>Priority</b>	<b>Indicative allocation (£ million)</b>
Kerbside recycling and composting operations	5.00
Recycling on Estates	2.65
On and off street recycling bank facilities	0.20
Developing Re-Use & Recycling Centres,	3.00
New waste infrastructure facilities	7.50
Awareness, Information, education, publicity and feedback initiatives	3.50
Waste Reuse, Reduction & Minimisation Projects	0.10
Community projects	0.10
<b>Total</b>	<b>22.05</b>

- 3.2 London Waste Action proposes that there will be three funding rounds, the first at the end of February or early March, the second in Mid May and the final at the end of July or early August. Each local authority be limited to two bids and partnership bids are again favoured as in previous London Recycling Fund bid rounds. A consultation event will be held on Wednesday 4<sup>th</sup> February and the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts will provide a verbal update for Members with any changes to the fund that result from this event.
- 3.3 The North London Recycling Fund Officer Project Team meets on a monthly basis to manage the projects that have so far received funding, to share best practice and to propose future joint bids. At the January meeting, officers suggested that two priorities for joint bids were for organic waste collections (thought to be essential for achievement of higher recycling rates) and for awareness raising to increase participation in existing recycling services.

- 3.4 The Authority has been asked to consider bidding for an in-vessel organic composting plant to be sited at Edmonton as part of a joint North London organic composting bid. All the constituent Boroughs have expressed interest in using such a facility and several are considering bidding for collection infrastructure to begin collections as part of the joint bid. The Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts has therefore asked the Partner Authorities to indicate what tonnage of organic materials they wish to feed in to such a facility and has asked LondonWaste Limited to provide proposals for a suitable facility. Details of the likely input are currently being collated to enable a detailed draft bid to be developed and considered by the Boroughs and the Authority.
- 3.5 The Director of Waste Services at LondonWaste Limited has therefore been invited to present to the Authority on the companies outline proposals for such an in-vessel composting plant and provide an update on other facilities proposed for the EcoPark development at Edmonton in response to the developing North London Joint Waste Strategy.
- 3.6 Provided that proposals for a suitable facility, with sufficient capacity to meet future demand, can be agreed between the Authority, LondonWaste Limited and the constituent Boroughs it is proposed that a bid for this facility be submitted to the London Recycling Fund. Members are requested to delegate authority to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts to develop and submit a bid in consultation with the Chair of the Authority.
- 3.7 The constituent Boroughs have identified awareness raising as the other priority suitable for a joint bid to the London Recycling Fund. This bid may be one of many from across London and there is a possibility that wider joint working may be advantageous. The Authority has also been approached by the London Community Recycling Network to lead on a bid to the London Recycling Fund supporting their work in increasing awareness and capacity of community groups in the North London area. As this is a priority identified within the North London Joint Waste Strategy, members are requested to delegate authority to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts to submit or support a suitable bid to the London Recycling Fund in consultation with the Chair.

#### Community Recycling and Economic Development (CRED) Fund

- 3.8 The Authority recently supported a Restore Community Projects bid to the Community Recycling and Economic Development (Transforming Waste) Fund to continue and expand the existing collections of furniture and waste electrical goods from North London civic amenity sites. This bid has been successful and collections will now be provided between 1 April 2004 and 31 December 2006. The total bid was for some £230,000 and the estimated contribution from the Authority is expected to be £26,300 to support the equivalent to the avoided cost of disposal for each tonne of waste re-used over the period of the project.

- 3.9 The London Community Recycling Network has requested the support of all the North London Boroughs and the Authority for a further bid to the CRED Fund to support a project to develop, co-ordinate and provide re-use collection services tailored to divert re-usable items from individual Borough special collection services across London. Technical Officers considered the business plan for the bid at their January meeting and were broadly in favour of the proposal. Members are therefore requested to delegate authority to the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts to support a suitable bid, provided there is Borough support, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority.

#### **4. RECOMMENDATIONS**

Members are therefore recommended to:

- (i) note the outcomes of the Cabinet Member Seminar held on 27<sup>th</sup> January 2004;
- (ii) note the outcomes of the North London Recycling Forum held on 2 February 2004;
- (iii) delegate authority 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) delegate authority 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 is also given for the bid.

#### **5. COMMENTS OF THE FINANCE OFFICER**

- 5.1 The proposed bids to the London Recycling Fund and to the Community Recycling and Development (CRED) Fund will all, if successful, be funded from revenue at a level limited by the recycling credit already provided for in the 2004/05 draft budget; i.e. there will be no additional cost to the Authority.
- 5.2 Work undertaken by AEA Technology to assist the Authority and its Partner Authorities to determine the Best Practicable Environmental Option also indicated that the costs of waste management were likely to at least double in real terms over the life of the Strategy. To assist the Partners in identifying the potential financial impact on their budgets AEA have also been commissioned to undertake some further financial analysis of the strategy implications. This will form the basis of a future report to the Authority.

5.2 The report also lists the additional funding that will be made available to assist the Partners with their recycling and composting initiatives. Additionally, on 6 January 2004 DEFRA confirmed, following an initial announcement in the local government finance statement on 19 November 2003, that an additional targeted recycling grant of £20m will be made available to local authorities in 2004/05 to help ensure that local authorities meet their Statutory Performance Standard for recycling and composting in 2005/06. Boroughs in the North London area will receive a total grant of £533,474 as follows:-

Barnet	£95,277
Camden	£96,582
Enfield	£79,128
Hackney	£69,527
Haringey	£63,180
Islington	£67,220
Waltham Forest	£62,560
Total	£533,474

## 6. COMMENTS OF THE LEGAL ADVISER

6.1 The Legal Adviser has been consulted on the report and has no further comments.

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

Guidance on Municipal Waste Management Strategies, DETR, 13/03/01

Authority report of: 17/12/03

DEFRA News Release 2/04, 6<sup>th</sup> January 2004

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