

THE NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

At a meeting of the **NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY** held on **WEDNESDAY 15th DECEMBER 2004** at 3.00 p.m. at LondonWaste Limited, Advent Way, London, N18 3AG

MEMBERS PRESENT

Councillor George Allan	-	London Borough of Islington
Councillor David Blunt	-	London Borough of Waltham Forest
Councillor John Boast	-	London Borough of Enfield
Councillor Ray Dodds	-	London Borough of Haringey (Chair)
Councillor Brian Haley	-	London Borough of Haringey
Councillor Bill Price	-	London Borough of Enfield
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 Melvin Cohen	-	London Borough of Barnet
Councillor Brian Coleman	-	London Borough of Barnet
Councillor Bridget Fox	-	London Borough of Islington
Councillor Bill Hodgson	-	London Borough of Hackney
Councillor Heather Johnson	-	London Borough of Camden

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

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Cohen, Coleman, Fox, Hodgson and Johnson. There were no other apologies.

2. DEPUTATIONS

There were no deputations.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS

LondonWaste Limited 1994-2004

The Chair noted that the meeting of the Authority was being held at the offices of LondonWaste Limited in order to celebrate its first ten years of existence, the date being exactly ten years since the Company had been established as a public/private

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partnership between the North London Waste Authority and SITA. The Chair thanked the Company for allowing the Authority to hold its meeting at the premises and for the award that had been given to him on behalf of the Authority from the Company. Councillor Brian Haley, speaking as Chair of the Company, then returned thanks and presented all officers and Members of the Authority with a commemorative pen set.

There were no other announcements.

4. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PERSONAL OR PREJUDICIAL 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 an NLWA alternate A-Director on the board of LWL.

There were no other declarations of interests.

5. MINUTES

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the minutes of the North London Waste Authority held on 13th October 2004, having been confirmed as a correct record, be signed by the Chair.

The Chair advised that in respect of the minute on agenda Item 12, Joint Waste Management Strategy Development Update (page 5/6 of the minutes), he was still continuing to arrange the schedule of meetings with Executive Members for Environment in each of the seven constituent boroughs in order to help develop a systematic approach to liaison.

In respect of the minute on agenda Item 13, Update on Corporate Governance in the North London Waste Authority (Page 5/7 of the minutes), Councillor Boast suggested that the proposed training in respect of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme be offered to all Members. This suggestion was supported by Councillor Stops.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

There were no other matters arising.

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

There was no notification of urgent business.

7. 2004/5 THIRD BUDGET REVIEW AND 2005/6 BUDGET FORECAST

Members considered a report by the Finance Adviser, and noted the introduction to the report by Mr Bob Bench, the Finance Officer.

During discussion on the issue of increasing non-household charges in 2005/6 to reflect the opportunity costs to the Authority of using Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) allowances for trade and commercial wastes, Councillor Robinson expressed strong concerns on behalf of the London Borough of Camden and requested that detailed investigations into the proposals be carried out before any decision be made. He also expressed concern with the timescale being proposed on this issue. Councillor Stops noted that commercial waste disposal organisations did not have to bear the Landfill Allowance costs, which purely related to the public sector. He suggested that the NLWA lobby the Government to ensure that the law was changed to incorporate all waste disposal organisations in whichever sector. It was agreed that a letter to this effect would be sent.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Management and Strategy

Councillor Stops also expressed concern that there was an underlying increase of 2.9% in the waste stream expected despite all efforts to reduce waste. He suggested that the Authority write to the Government on this matter expressing its concerns and strongly recommending the introduction of measures to encourage recycling, such as bottle return schemes, carrier bag taxes, etc. It was agreed that officers should write a letter on this matter and that it be circulated to all constituent authorities for their views which could then be incorporated into the final response.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

Councillor Allan expressed his support for the proposed Parliamentary bill removing the prohibition on waste collection authorities charging for domestic waste.

There was a discussion about the implications of the Mayor of London's proposal for a single, London wide waste disposal authority and its potential effect on LATS matters. In relation to the LATS, Members agreed that there should be no decision on this matter for 2005/6, and that a meeting be organised of the Members Working Group to which all Members would be invited for LATS training and discussion. It was agreed that somebody from DEFRA (the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) should be invited to this meeting in order to explain the Government's position on the matter.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

It was then

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the third review of the 2004/05 revenue budget be noted;
- (ii) THAT the current assessment of the budget and resource requirements for 2005/06 be noted;
- (iii) THAT the comments detailed above on the proposal to increase non-household charges in 2005/06 to reflect the opportunity cost of the Authority of using LATS allowances for trading commercial wastes and the proposal to introduce a scheme of two reward boroughs to reduce the bio-degradable fraction of their waste stream, be noted;
- (iv) THAT appropriate training and debate take place with Members and letters be sent to the Government on the matters detailed above; and
- (v) THAT the issues that will need to be addressed at the budget and levy meeting on 9th February 2005 be noted.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

8. RECYCLING CREDIT CLAIMS 2003/2004

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

In response to a request from Members, it was noted that the figures detailed on Appendix One (Page 8/9) referred to tonnes.

It was then

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the payment of recycling credit payments to constituent boroughs for 2003/4 as set out in the report be approved;
- (ii) THAT the payments “on account” to constituent boroughs for 2004/05 as set out in the report be approved; and
- (iii) THAT the arrangements for third party recycling credits be noted and that constituent boroughs be encouraged to support claims where eligible.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

9. HENDON RELOCATION – UPDATE

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

After discussion it was

RESOLVED –

THAT officers should conduct further negotiations with Cricklewood Redevelopments Limited to establish the best replacement facilities for the Hendon Rail Transfer Station, giving full consideration to the Authority's obligations under the Waste and Emissions Trading Act and with liaison with the West London Waste Authority.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

10. ARSENAL RE-LOCATION – UPDATE

Report of the Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts who introduced the item.

Councillor Stops expressed concern that several of the five outstanding issues listed in the report related to health and safety matters. It was noted that LondonWaste Limited was accommodating these defects by not running the processes as efficiently as it could, to ensure the safety of staff. Councillor Stops recommended officers to ensure that this work was done as a top priority and if necessary to invoice Sir Robert McAlpine Limited, the building contractor afterwards. This position was supported by the Chair and by Councillor Boast.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

It was then

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

11. JOINT WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

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

It was noted that since the report had been written, the Strategy Implementation Board had met on 6th December 2004 and that the draft decision sheet of that body would be circulated to the appropriate Members.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

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Councillor Sizer commended the Joint Management Strategy as a useful basis for the Authority in the future, irrespective of any changing Governmental requirements.

At the request of the Chair, officers undertook to ensure that details of major projects be published on the North London Waste Authority website for public consumption.

ACTION BY: Head of Waste Strategy and Contracts

It was then

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

12. WASTE INCINERATION DIRECTIVE – UPDATE

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

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

13. FUTURE REPORTS

Members considered a report by the Deputy Clerk.

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

14. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next meeting of the North London Waste Authority was scheduled for Wednesday 9th February 2005 at 3.00pm in the Council Chamber at Camden Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE.

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

There were no such items.

16. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 – ACCESS TO INFORMATION

RESOLVED –

THAT the press and public be excluded from the proceedings of the North London Waste Authority on 15th December 2004 during consideration of Item 17 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 17 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).

17. LONDONWASTE LIMITED MINUTES

Members considered a report by the Deputy Clerk.

The minutes were introduced by Councillor Haley, the Chair of the LondonWaste Limited Board.

It was

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

18. 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 Chair thanked all Members and officers for their work over the last year and wished everyone a happy Christmas and a good new year.

The meeting ended at 4.00pm.

CHAIR

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MINUTES END