



NLWA's role and operation

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NLWA (the Authority) is the statutory joint waste disposal authority for north London and is responsible for the disposal of waste collected by seven north London local authorities: Barnet, Camden, Enfield, Hackney, Haringey, Islington and Waltham Forest councils.

The Authority has a membership of 14 councillors, with each borough appointing two councillors. Meetings are normally held five times a year, with extraordinary meetings if required. A Programme Committee oversees the North London Heat and Power Project and meets as needed in addition to Authority meetings.

At the Annual General Meeting in June 2023, Cllr Clyde Loakes (Waltham Forest) was appointed as Chair and Cllrs Rowena Champion (Islington) and Mete Coban (Hackney) as Vice Chairs for 2023/24.



Clyde
Loakes



Rowena
Champion



Mete
Coban

The Authority is mainly funded by a levy it places on its constituent boroughs for waste services and by specific charges for the management of some types of waste.

The Authority does not employ any staff directly, but makes cross-borough arrangements for support services, involving Camden, Enfield and Haringey councils. The principal officer support and managers in post as of 31 March 2024 are:

- Clerk – Jenny Rowlands (part-time NLWA)
- Financial Adviser – Jon Rowney (part-time NLWA)
- Legal Adviser – Andrew Maughan (part-time NLWA)
- Environment Adviser – Doug Wilkinson (part-time NLWA)
- Managing Director and Deputy Clerk – Martin Capstick
- Director of Corporate Services – Nikesh Shah
- Head of Strategy and Services – Michael Clarke
- Head of Strategic Communications – Joe Sheeran

LondonEnergy Ltd

The Authority is the sole shareholder of LondonEnergy Ltd (LEL). LEL and NLWA continued to work closely together to provide a coordinated service which ensured boroughs benefited from the public ownership of the company.

LEL operates the energy from waste facility at Edmonton, which manages most of north London's residual waste and produces over 200,000 megawatt hours of electricity in a year. LEL benefitted from high electricity prices in the winter of 2022/23 and was able to provide funding from these gains to the Authority. In turn this benefitted constituent boroughs. When the Government introduced the Electricity Generator Levy in 2023, no exemption was provided for companies in public ownership. LEL estimates that its liability for payments under Electricity Generator Levy rules (which run to March 2028) could amount to over £20 million over the applicable period. This will affect money which would otherwise be available to help reduce pressure on council tax payers.



Energy from waste facility at Edmonton EcoPark

In 2023, LEL considered the results of a condition survey which was undertaken on the existing energy from waste plant. The survey was intended to assist in identifying and prioritising investment needed to secure the operation of the plant until it reaches the end of its operational life. Taking account of the condition survey, the LEL Board approved an increased investment of some £8 million in 2024 on elements of the facility. This is being funded by increased payments from the Authority to the company.

In 2023/24, LEL and NLWA successfully coordinated plans for operating and managing the new assets created through the North London Heat and Power Project. Transitioning of services into the new resource recovery facility started in March 2024.