

MINUTES of the Meeting of the
WASTE COMMITTEE FOR BUCKINGHAMSHIRE
held on **11 JUNE 2010**
at **CHILTERN DISTRICT COUNCIL** at **10.30AM**

PRESENT:

Councillor:	B Lidgate	Chairman	South Bucks District Council (Cabinet Member)
Councillors:	Ms Jackie Phipps	Aylesbury Vale District Council	
	Sir Beville Stanier	Aylesbury Vale District Council	
	Martin Tett	Bucks County Council (Cabinet Member)	
	M Smith	Chiltern District Council (Cabinet Member)	
	C Harriss	Wycombe District Council (Cabinet Member)	
Officers:			
Bob Bryant		Aylesbury Vale District Council	
Martin Dickman		Bucks County Council	
Gill Harding		Bucks County Council	
David Sutherland		Bucks County Council	
Gill Gowing		Chiltern District Council	
Bob Wearing		Chiltern District Council	
Chris Marchant		South Bucks District Council	
Caroline Hughes		Wycombe District Council	
Roger Seed		Waste Partnership	

ALSO PRESENT: Alison Knight., Market Development Director, Recyclebank – for item 6.

APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE were received from Councillor Roger Emmet (Wycombe District Council,) Councillor Julie Burton (Chiltern District Council), Councillor Mrs Woolveridge (South Bucks District Council), Councillor D Carroll (Bucks County Council), Alan Goodrum, David Smedley, Sally Gordon, Ian Westgate and Bob Smith.

1 ELECTION OF CHAIRMAN

It was moved by Councillor M Smith, seconded by Councillor Sir Beville Stanier and

RESOLVED -

That Councillor B Lidgate be elected Chairman of the Waste Committee for 2010/11

2 ELECTION OF VICE-CHAIRMAN

It was moved by Councillor M Smith, seconded by Councillor B Lidgate and

RESOLVED -

That Councillor M Tett be elected Vice- Chairman of the Waste Committee for 2010/11.

3 AGREEMENT OF OFFICER ROLES

RESOLVED -

That the following officer roles be agreed:

- (a) Secretariat - Chiltern District Council**
- (b) Treasurer - South Bucks District Council**
- (c) Chief Technical Waste Officer - Aylesbury Vale District Council**

4 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest.

5 MINUTES

(a) Confirmation

The Minutes of the meeting of the Committee held on 12 March 2010, copies of which had been previously circulated, were agreed by the Committee and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

(b) Matters arising

There were no matters arising.

6 RECYCLE BANK INCENTIVE SCHEME

Alison Knight, Market Development Director, gave a PowerPoint presentation of the RecycleBank Incentive Scheme and copies of the slides are attached as an appendix.

During her presentation Alison Knight emphasised a number of points about the Scheme as follows:

- It was an opt in scheme and not compulsory;
- All recyclables were thrown into a recycling wheeled bin meaning no sorting was required;
- The amount recycled was converted into points;
- The points were redeemed from a great selection of local and

- national businesses; and
- Councils did not bear the cost of the rewards

As a result of the scheme recycling rates had increased significantly saving money on landfill and taxes. The scheme therefore represented value for money for residents.

Alison Knight concluded her presentation by describing the results of the trials carried out at The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead and Halton Borough Council.

During the question and answer session that ensued, Alison Knight clarified a number of issues including the following:

- the separation of materials was not done by residents and the separation could take place in any location including the kerb side
- garden waste was not currently included in the scheme but a green waste collection could be included if this were a requirement of a Council looking to participate;
- evidence from the trials indicated that the scheme did increase recycling rates but there was no information available to confirm that it impacted on waste reduction;
- in terms of financing the scheme, residents paid a fee whilst the capital costs in terms of purchasing equipment were borne by the Council;
- the scheme could work in areas where there were two tier authorities dealing with disposal and collection respectively but there would need to be a partnership agreement on how the savings/credits were allocated.

At the end of the question and answer session, Councillor Lidgate thanked Alison Knight for her attendance and presentation.

7 BUDGET SPEND PLANS FOR THE JWC 2010/11 AND CONTRIBUTIONS REQUIRED FROM EACH PARTNER/AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

The Committee at its meeting on 15 October 2009 had agreed the level of contribution that each partner authority should be required to make towards the budget for 2010/11 and the Committee now received a report setting out proposed expenditure for the year totalling £171,911. In recognition that the figures were estimates only, the report went on to set out a proposal for the Chief Technical Officer, in consultation with the Chairman, to agree virements between the various budget heads.

The expenditure incurred during the financial year 2009/10 was the subject of external audit and the report went on to ask the Committee to authorise the Chairman and Clerk to sign off the audit return.

During the discussion the Committee agreed with Councillor Smith's proposal that with financial resources so constrained a thorough review

should be carried out of the Committee's programmes and activities to ensure that the expenditure represented value for money.

After agreeing the proposals in the report the Committee

RESOLVED -

- 1. That the level of contribution for 2010/11 be unchanged from the contribution made for the year 2009/10 as set out in the report.**
- 2. That the proposed expenditure for 2010/11 as set out in the report be agreed.**
- 3 That the Chief Technical Officer for the JWC, in consultation with the Chairman, be authorised to agree virements between budget heads to allow for the efficient and effective operation of the work of the Committee.**
- 4. That the final figures for 2009/10 be noted and authority be delegated to the Chairman and the Clerk to the Committee to sign off the audit return.**
- 5. That a review be carried out of the Committee's programmes and activities to ensure that they represent value for money.**

8 FLYTIPPING UPDATE

David Sutherland gave a presentation providing information on illegal dumping costs and in particular:

- The number of convictions since the last meeting;
- The techniques used in the investigations into fly tipping incidents;
- Enforcement outcomes;
- The penalties imposed on those convicted;
- The number of fly tipping incidents between 2001/2009

The presentation also referred to the LAA target (NI196) and the Committee was pleased to note that the target to reduce fly tipping levels from the 2009/10 level was on track with the running total for the year down by 22.

During the discussion that ensued Councillor Lidgate expressed his disappointment at the level of fines being imposed by Magistrates and asked what had happened about the proposal to offer training to Magistrates so that they could obtain a greater understanding of the anti-social nature of fly tipping and the costs to ratepayers. David Sutherland confirmed that the offer had been declined.

In agreeing that the offer should be resurrected the Committee also agreed with the suggestion made by Gill Gowing that the offer be made from a different perspective by referring to proposal for the powers for the authorisation of covert operations to be transferred to Magistrates.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted and a further offer be made to Magistrates to provide training using the approach referred to above.

10 RECYCLING PERFORMANCE FOR WASTE PARTNERSHIP

The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Buckinghamshire sets out specific targets around recycling performance and the Committee considered a report showing progress against key performance indicators during 2009/10.

The report, after explaining the two waste indicators NI193 and NI196 and their targets, went on to provide headline facts and figures relating to:

- Waste Arisings;
- Municipal and Household Waste Tonnage;
- Municipal Solid Waste to Landfill;
- Household Waste recycled, Composted and Reused;
- Recycling Rates;
- Household Waste not sent for Recycling, Reuse or Composting;
- and
- Improved Street and Environmental Cleanliness, levels of fly tipping

Councillor Lidgate referred to the figures in paragraphs 2.2 and 2.3 for NI 193 and NI192 which showed that compared with other Counties across England Buckinghamshire was now ranked 25th out of 27 for performance in respect of N1 193 and 15th out of 27 for performance on NI 192 and felt that the figures were depressing and an indication that the Committee was failing in its mission.

A discussion ensued on the reasons for the poor performance and the action being taken by the four districts in terms of securing a joint collection contract and the County to procure disposal and recycling facilities.

At the end of the discussion members concurred in the proposal of Councillor Lidgate that the role and purpose of the Joint Committee needed to be the subject of a review.

RESOLVED -

- 1. That the report be noted.**

- 2. That the role and purpose of the Joint Committee be the subject of review.**

11 DEFRA CONSULTATION ON THE INTRODUCTION OF RESTRICTIONS ON THE LANDFILLING OF CERTAIN WASTE

DEFRA had issued a consultation paper setting out proposals on restrictions/bans on the land filling of biodegradable and recyclable wastes and the Committee received a report containing a draft response to the consultation.

RESOLVED -

That the officer response to the proposals in the Consultation Paper be endorsed and submitted to DEFRA.

12 DEFRA CONSULTATION ON MEETING EU LANDFILL DIVERSION TARGETS

DEFRA had issued a consultation paper seeking comments on a proposal to revise the approach for measuring municipal solid waste by including a larger proportion of commercial and industrial waste within the landfill targets and the Committee received a report setting out a proposed response to the proposal.

RESOLVED -

That the officer response to the questions in the Consultation Paper be endorsed and submitted to DEFRA.

13 SCENARIO 4 – UPDATE BY THE CHAIR OF THE JOINT WASTE COLLECTION BOARD

Councillor Smith provided details of the work that had been carried out by the four Districts through the Joint Waste Collection Board to implement Scenario 4. Each of the Cabinets in the four Districts were due to consider a report prepared jointly on the options and a project plan had been developed. Staff consultation had commenced and risk workshops were being organised for members and officers.

Following questions from Councillor Tett, Councillor Smith confirmed that the start date for the joint collection contract was September 2012 and that both CDC and WDC would be involved in the first phase. SBDC and AVDC could join when they chose to and Councillor Smith recognised the importance of keeping the County aware of which authorities were included within the joint contract and what was being collected mindful of the implications for providing appropriate infrastructure.

Councillor Smith also confirmed that the work of the JWCB would interface with the County via the JWC.

RESOLVED

That the report be noted.

14 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

Having been advised that oral report on the Energy from Waste was likely to involve the disclosure of exempt information the Joint Committee

RESOLVED -

That under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be excluded from the meeting for the following item of business on the grounds that it involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in Paragraph 3 of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

15 ENERGY FROM WASTE - UPDATE

The Joint Committee received an oral update on the Energy from Waste project. There had been a need to reopen a competitive dialogue with WRG and Covanta which would close by the end of July. Tenders were due back by 1 September and the Cabinet at BCC were scheduled to make a decision at its meeting on 29 November 2010

RESOLVED -

That the report be noted.

The meeting ended at 12.47 p.m.