

FORWARD PLAN

Publication Date: October 2012

Introduction

In accordance with the Local Government Act 2000, the Authority publishes a "Forward Plan" of "Key Decisions".

The Forward Plan is published on a six weekly basis to match the Authority's meeting cycle and covers key issues to be dealt with in the subsequent three months. It is a publicly available document and its purpose is to reinforce the openness and accountability of the Authority's decision-making process.

The Plan seeks to anticipate the issues that will be the subject of a Key Decision during that period. For each item the Plan includes:

- The item's title and a short description of the decision being sought.
- An indication of who will be making the decision.
- The Scrutiny arrangements for the decision.
- An indication of when the decision is expected to be made. This may be a specific date i.e. the date of a meeting, or a period during which the decision is likely to be made.
- A list of Supporting Papers. These will be documents which the decisionmaker(s) will consider or take into account when making the decision.
- An indication of what consultation will take place on the item which is the subject
 of the proposed decision. This will include an indication as to who will be
 consulted (i.e. principal groups and organisations) and how that consultation will
 be conducted.
- An indication of how and to whom representations should be made on the item.

Within the Plan, the items are listed in the chronological order in which it is anticipated that the decisions will be made.

The decision in respect of each key decision is recorded in the minutes for the relevant meeting which are approved at the subsequent meeting of the Authority and are open for inspection at the Authority Offices and on the Authority's web site.

Definition of a Key Decision

The definition of a Key Decision is set out in the Authority's Constitution. It is as follows:-

A key decision is an executive decision:-

- 1. incurring expenditure or making savings in excess of £250,000, unless the specific expenditure or saving has previously been agreed by the Authority, or
- 2. Is, in the view of the Chief Executive, in consultation with the lead Member significant in terms of its effects on communities living or working in Merseyside

A decision will be considered financially significant if:-

- a) in the case of revenue expenditure, it results in incurring expenditure or making savings of £250,000 or greater;
- b) in the case of capital expenditure, the capital expenditure/savings are in excess of £1 Million.

unless the specific expenditure or savings have previously been agreed by the Authority or have been taken in line with the Authority's Financial Management Policy.

In determining whether a decision is significant in terms of its effect on communities, the Chief Executive and lead Member will give consideration to:-

- a) the number of residents/service users/District Council areas that will be affected:
- b) whether the impact is short term, long term or permanent;
- c) the impact on the community in terms of the economic, social and environmental well-being.

Decision-Makers

Key Decisions will be made by the Authority or its committees where relevant powers have been delegated. A report will be submitted to the relevant meeting on each key decision, and Members will also consider, where necessary, any report which has been 'called-in' under the Authority's scrutiny arrangements.

Consultation

The Chief Executive, in taking decisions under delegated powers, will consult with the relevant Authority Members and other key stakeholders, in accordance with those identified in the Forward Plan.

Authority Meetings

The Authority will meet formally approximately every six weeks. Meeting dates are published on the web site www.merseysidewda.gov.uk. Each Authority meeting will be in two parts. The first part of the meeting will consider the Key Decisions contained in the Forward Plan, and any other matters determined by the Chairman. The second part of the meeting will be made available for any scrutiny discussions.

The current schedule of meetings is as follows:

23rd November 2012 1st February 2013 (Budget and ordinary meeting) 19th April 2013

Scrutiny Arrangements

Two Members of the Authority may request that the Chairman place a delegated decision matter on the Agenda of an Authority regular meeting as a 'scrutiny item'.

Information Reports

The Authority will periodically publish information reports about its Policies, Strategies and Performance on the web site www.merseysidewda.gov.uk

Contacts

If you have any queries or comments regarding the contents or format of this document please direct them to Mandy Valentine (Clerk to the Authority) on 0151-255-1444 or by e-mail at enquiries@merseysidewda.gov.uk

AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP 2012/2013

COUNCILLOR	Portfolio Area	Address and Contact Details
J De Asha (Chairperson) (St Helens)	 Scrutiny Public Consultation Procurement Portfolio Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd Board North West Local Authorities' Employers' Organisation Strategy and Development Portfolio Chief Executive's Appraisal Panel Audit and Governance Committee Community Fund 3 – Assessment Panel Contract Procurement 	628 Warrington Road Rainhill Prescot L35 0NS Tel: 01744 678 980 Email: clirde'asha@sthelens.gov.uk
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Mandy Valentine Clerk to the Authority	Various delegated matters	6th Floor, North House 17 North John Street Liverpool L2 5QY Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: mandy.valentine@merseysidewda.gov.uk
Neil Ferris Monitoring Officer	Various delegated matters	6th Floor, North House 17 North John Street Liverpool L2 5QY Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: neil.ferris@merseysidewda.gov.uk

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Item	Ref No.	Portfolio Area	Decision Date	Lead Officer
Corporate Plan 2012 -2015	K28-12	Governance	23/11/2012	A Valentine
Interim residual waste treatment opportunity	K37-12	Procurement	23/11/2012	J Connell
Procurement Advisor Update	K40-12	Finance	23/11/2013	P Williams
Quarterly Performance Report Q2	K29-12	Strategy and Development	01/02/2013	A Valentine
Annual Meeting and Timetable of Authority Meetings 2013/14	K38-12	Governance	01/02/2013	A Valentine
Budget Report	K39-12	Finance	01/02/2013	P Williams

Item for consideration	Corporate P	lan 2012 to 201	15	
File Reference	K28-12			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	y		
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Governance
Reason for meeting Key Decision Criteria	To seek Me Plan.	mbers' approv	al of a revi	sed Corporate
Scrutiny area	Governance			
Date for decision	23 rd November 2012			
List of Background Papers for consideration				
Risk Management Implications	Failure to set priorities and manage the future direction of the Authority.			
Prior consultation				
Representations	_	landy Valentine tine@merseysi	•	

Item for consideration	Interim residual waste treatment opportunity.				
File Reference	K37-12				
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Private				
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	у			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Yes	Community Impact Yes	Other – please specify		
Reason for meeting Key Decision Criteria	Financially significant, impact on the community in terms of environmental well being.				
Scrutiny area	Procuremen	t			
Date for decision	23 rd November 2012				
List of Background Papers for consideration					
Risk Management Implications	Opportunity to secure performance and financial efficiencies.				
Prior consultation					
Representations		ohn Connell or @merseysidew			

Item for consideration	Procuremen	t adviser upda	te	
File Reference	K40-12			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Private			
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	у		
Key Decision Criteria	Financial ✓	Community Impact	Other – please specify	
Reason for meeting Key Decision Criteria	The report will update Members on the work being undertaken with procurement advisers to conclude the RRC procurement process			
Scrutiny area	Finance			
Date for decision	23 rd November 2012			
List of Background Papers for consideration	None			
Risk Management Implications	Advice from the procurement advisers mitigates the Authority risks in the procurement process			
Prior consultation	None			
Representations	_	Peter Williams o s@merseyside	•	

Item for consideration	Performance Report Quarter 2 12/13			
File Reference	K29-12			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	у		
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Governance
Reason for meeting Key Decision Criteria	To inform Members of the Authority's performance in relation to the delivery of the Corporate Plan.			
Scrutiny area	Strategy and Development			
Date for decision	1 st February 2013			
List of Background Papers for consideration				
Risk Management Implications	Failure to manage performance risks non-achievement of targets			
Prior consultation				
Representations		landy Valentine tine@merseysi		

Item for consideration	Annual Meet Meetings 20	_	able of Author	ity	
File Reference	K38-12				
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public				
Decision Maker	Full Authorit	у			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Requirem ent to set AGM	
Reason for meeting Key Decision Criteria	To set the date of the Annual Meeting of the Authority and identify an appropriate timetable of meetings for the 2013/14 Municipal Year				
Scrutiny area	Governance				
Date for decision	1 st February 2	2013			
List of Background Papers for consideration	None				
Risk Management Implications	Statutory requirement to set a date for the Authority's Annual Meeting which much take place on or before 30 th June each year				
Prior consultation	None				
Representations	_	landy Valentine tine@merseysi	e or by email to dewda.gov.uk		

Item for consideration	Budget Repo	ort			
File Reference	K39-12				
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public				
Decision Maker	Full Authority				
Key Decision Criteria	Financial Community Other – please specify				
Reason for meeting Key Decision Criteria	The Authority's budget, levy and prudential indicators need to be approved by the full authority to enable the Authority to spend to meet its operational plans, to raise the finance from Districts and to manage its resources.				
Scrutiny area	Finance				
Date for decision	1 st February 2013				
List of Background Papers for consideration	None				
Risk Management Implications	Unless the budget, levy and prudential indicators are approved the Authority will be unable to meet its statutory duties.				
Prior consultation	None				
Representations		Peter Williams o s@merseyside	•		