



MERSEYSIDE WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY

FORWARD PLAN

Publication Date: February 2015

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 decision-maker(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:-

- (i) incurring expenditure or making savings which are financially significant, unless the specific expenditure or saving has previously been agreed by the Authority; or*
- (ii) which, in the view of the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chair, is significant in terms of its effect 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 Chair. The second part of the meeting will be made available for any scrutiny discussions.

The current schedule of meetings is as follows:

24th April 2015
26th June 2015 (Annual General Meeting)
25th September 2015
20th November 2015
5th February 2016 (Budget & ordinary meeting)
22nd April 2016

Scrutiny Arrangements

Two Members of the Authority may request that the Chair 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 2013/14

COUNCILLOR	Responsibilities	Address and Contact Details
Graham Morgan (Chair) (Knowsley)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny • Public Consultation • MWDA Portfolio • Forward Planning Member's Panel • Appeals Committee • Audit and Governance Committee 	24 Malvern Avenue Huyton Knowsley L14 6TS Tel: 0151 489 5292 Email: graham.morgan@knowsley.gov.uk
Tony Concepcion (Deputy Chair) (Liverpool)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny • Public Consultation • MWDA Portfolio • Forward Planning Member's Panel • Appeals Committee • Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd 	24 Woodbourne Road Liverpool L14 2DA Tel: 078742 16868 Email: tony.concepcion@liverpool.gov.uk
Kevin Cluskey (Sefton)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny • Public Consultation • Appeals Committee • Audit and Governance Committee • Investigating and Disciplinary Committee • Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd • North West Employers Organisation 	39 Kent Avenue Litherland Liverpool L21 7QJ Tel: 0151 920 3704 Email: kevin.cluskey@sefton.gov.uk
Steve Williams (Wirral)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny • Public Consultation • Bidston Methane Ltd Board • Investigating and Disciplinary Committee 	34 Beech Avenue Saughall Massie Upton Wirral CH49 4NJ Tel: 0151 677 8848 Email: stevewilliams@wirral.gov.uk

<p>Laura Robertson-Collins (Liverpool)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny • Public Consultation • Investigating and Disciplinary Committee • Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd 	<p>Labour Group Office Municipal Buildings Dale Street Liverpool L2 2DH Tel: 07980 311545 Email: laura.robertson-collins@liverpool.gov.uk</p>
<p>Alan Cunliffe (St Helens)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny • Public Consultation • Forward Planning Member's Panel • Audit and Governance Committee 	<p>31 Stanley Avenue Rainford St Helens WA11 8HU Tel: 01744 677 280 Email: cllracunliffe@sthelens.gov.uk</p>
<p>Irene Williams (Wirral)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny • Public Consultation • Bidston Methane Ltd Board • Appeals Committee 	<p>49 Parkhill Road Prenton Birkenhead Wirral CH42 9JD Tel: 0151 608 7806 Email: irenewilliams@wirral.gov.uk</p>
<p>Patricia Hardy (Sefton)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny • Public Consultation • Forward Planning Member's Panel • Audit and Governance Committee 	<p>6 Oxford Drive Waterloo Liverpool L22 7RZ Tel: 0151 934 3361 Email: patricia.hardy@councillors.sefton.gov.uk</p>
<p>Andrew Foxley (Liverpool)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scrutiny • Public Consultation 	<p>c/o Labour Group Office Municipal Building Dale Street Liverpool Tel:07899 745 858 Email: Andrew.Foxley@liverpool.gov.uk</p>

<p>Carl Beer Chief Executive</p>	<p>Various delegated matters</p>	<p>7th Floor 1 Mann Island Liverpool L3 1BP Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: carlbeer@merseysidewda.gov.uk</p>
<p>Peter Williams Treasurer</p>	<p>Various delegated matters</p>	<p>7th Floor 1 Mann Island Liverpool L3 1BP Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: Peter.williams@merseysidewda.gov.uk</p>
<p>Mandy Valentine Clerk to the Authority / Monitoring Officer</p>	<p>Various delegated matters</p>	<p>7th Floor 1 Mann Island Liverpool L3 1BP Tel: 0151 255 1444 Email: amanda.valentine@merseysidewda.gov.uk</p>

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Item	Ref No.	Decision Date	Lead Officer
Annual Business Plan 2015/16	K5-15	24/04/2015	Mandy Valentine
Quarterly Performance report	K4-15	24/04/2015	Mandy Valentine
Shared Parental Leave Policy	K3-15	24/04/2015	Paula Pocock
Community Fund 2015-15 – Invitations for Final Projects	K14-15	24/04/2015	Stuart Donaldson
Annual Governance Statement	K15-15	24/04/2015	Mandy Valentine
Questions on the Discharge of Functions	K16-15	26/06/2015	Mandy Valentine
Scheme of Delegation and Constitution	K17-15	26/06/2015	Mandy Valentine
Appointment of Committees and Representation on Other Bodies	K18-15	26/06/2015	Mandy Valentine

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KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Annual Business Plan 2015/16			
File Reference	K5-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Corporate Governance
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Member approval of an Annual Business Plan which sets out how the Authority will make steps towards its Corporate Aims in the forward year.			
Scrutiny area	Corporate Governance			
Date for decision	24 th April 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration				
Risk Management Implications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Failure to set clear objectives will result in poor corporate governance 2. Failure to plan and prioritise will lead to inefficient use of resources. 3. Clear planning will improve performance and engage Members, staff and stakeholders. 			
Prior consultation	Members' Forward Planning Panel			
Representations	In writing to Mandy Valentine or by email to Mandy.Valentine@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

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KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Quarterly Performance Report 2014/15			
File Reference	K4-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Corporate Governance
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Provides Members with information on the Authority's performance as monitored against the Corporate Plan for their consideration.			
Scrutiny area	Governance			
Date for decision	24 th April 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration				
Risk Management Implications	Failure to manage performance risks non-achievement of Corporate Targets and ultimately the Corporate Plan.			
Prior consultation	None			
Representations	In writing to or by email to Mandy Valentine mandy.valentine@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

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KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Shared Parental Leave Policy			
File Reference	K3-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Corporate Governance
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	To adopt a Shared Parental Leave Policy			
Scrutiny area	Corporate Governance			
Date for decision	24 th April 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration	Draft Shared Parental Leave Policy			
Risk Management Implications	Failure to ensure fairness and consistent application of Policy and Procedure may leave the Authority open to legal challenge			
Prior consultation	Executive Management Team			
Representations	In writing to or by email to Paula Pocock Paula.Pocock@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

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KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Community Fund 2015-16 Allocation			
File Reference	K14-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial √	Community Impact √	Other – please specify Environmental benefits	
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	To consider and approve projects to be invited to submit Stage 2 applications for funding from the Community Fund 2015-16.			
Scrutiny area	Strategy/Governance			
Date for decision	25 th April 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration	Community Fund 2015-16 Report (WDA 03/15) of 6 th February 2015.			
Risk Management Implications	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Failure to demonstrate value for money 2. Failure of applications to meet the aims and objectives of the Fund and be suitable for inviting to Stage 2 3. Failure to address resource requirements to manage the Community Fund. 			
Prior consultation	MRWA Evaluation Team.			
Representations	In writing or by email to Stuart Donaldson stuart.donaldson@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

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KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Annual Governance Statement			
File Reference	K15-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Governance
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	To consider the annual review of the Authority's governance arrangements and approve the Annual Governance Statement.			
Scrutiny area	Governance			
Date for decision	24 th April 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration				
Risk Management Implications	Failure to review corporate governance and internal control arrangements is a statutory requirement and may lead to weaknesses in the direction and control of the Authority's functions.			
Prior consultation	Primary Assurance Group			
Representations	In writing to or by email to Mandy Valentine mandy.valentine@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

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KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Questions on the Discharge of Functions			
File Reference	K16-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Governance
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	The Authority is required each year to nominate Members to answer questions at each of the District Council's own proceedings on behalf of the Authority.			
Scrutiny area	Governance			
Date for decision	26 th June 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration	None			
Risk Management Implications	Risk of inconsistencies unless a single Member from each District Council is identified to answer questions regarding the Authority's activities.			
Prior consultation				
Representations	In writing to or by email to Mandy Valentine mandy.valentine@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

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KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Scheme of Delegation and Constitution			
File Reference	K17-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Governance
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	The Authority's Constitution requires the Scheme of Delegation to be adopted at the Annual Meeting each year. This report will also identify any proposed changes to the Constitution following an annual review.			
Scrutiny area	Governance			
Date for decision	26 th June 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration	None			
Risk Management Implications	Failure to adopt the Scheme of Delegation is a breach of the Authority Procedural Rules			
Prior consultation				
Representations	In writing to or by email to Mandy Valentine mandy.valentine@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

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KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Appointment of Committees and Representation on Other Bodies			
File Reference	K18-15			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	Governance
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Changes to the Authority's membership following District Council AGM's require the Authority to review membership of committees and representation on other bodies.			
Scrutiny area	Governance			
Date for decision	26 th June 2015			
List of Background Papers for consideration	None			
Risk Management Implications	It is good corporate governance to effectively delegate responsibility to committees and to identify appropriate levels of representation on other bodies.			
Prior consultation				
Representations	In writing to or by email to Mandy Valentine mandy.valentine@merseysidewda.gov.uk			