



**At a Meeting of the Authority
held on Friday 6th February 2015**

Present : Councillor Graham Morgan
Councillor Tony Concepcion
Councillor Irene Williams
Councillor Steve Williams
Councillor Laura Robertson-Collins
Councillor Kevin Cluskey

48. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Andrew Foxley, Patricia Hardy, Stef Nelson and Alan Cunliffe.

49. **Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 28th November 2014**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 28th November 2014 be approved and signed as a correct record.

50. **Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers**

Peter Williams, Alex Murray, Carl Beer and Councillors T Concepcion, L Robertson-Collins and K Cluskey declared a disclosable interest in Item 13, recorded herewith as Resolution 60, in their capacity as Directors of Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd.

Cllr L Robertson-Collins declared a disclosable interest in item 8, recorded herewith as Resolution 55 in so far as it relates to membership of a trade union.

51. **Question(s) from Members under Procedural Rule 9**

There were no questions submitted by Members in accordance with Procedural Rule 9.

52. **Question(s) from Members of the Public under Procedural Rule 10**

There were no questions submitted by Members of the Public in accordance with Procedural Rule 10.

53. **Motion proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15**

There were no motions proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15.

54. **Annual Meeting and Timetable of Meetings 2015/16**
WDA/02/15

Members were provided with a report recommending that a date be set for the Annual Meeting and also asking for approval of the timetable of Authority meetings for the 2015/16 Municipal Year.

Resolved that:

1. the date of its Annual Meeting for 2015/16 and programme of meetings for the 2015/16 Municipal Year be approved; and
2. the Clerk be granted delegated powers to make any future alterations to the timetable of meetings as deemed appropriate in consultation with the Chair of the Authority.

Cllr L Robertson-Collins declared a disclosable interest in the following item, recorded herewith as Resolution 55, and in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members, remained in the meeting.

55. **Budget 2015/16**
WDA/06/15

The Authority was presented with a report that considered the budget and level of the Levy to be charged to each of the constituent Local Authorities along with a Levy payment schedule. The report also asked the Authority to consider and approve the capital programme.

In her absence Cllr P Hardy asked for it to be minuted that she supported the recommendations.

Cllr L Robertson-Collins asked that concerns regarding the construction phase of the Resource Recovery Contract in relation to Trade Union recognition be noted.

The Chief Executive, Carl Beer informed Members that Merseyside Leaders had been provided with briefings on this issue and that Members would be kept up to date.

It was agreed that a workshop on the Authority's future budgets would be arranged early in 2015/16.

Resolved that:

1. the revised budget for 2014/15 be approved;
2. the revenue budget for 2015/16 be approved;
3. the Levy proposals set out at Appendix 2 to the report be considered and the proposal for a Levy of £65.591M be agreed;
4. the Levy to be made on the constituent District Councils for 2015/16 be authorised;
5. the payment dates for the levy be agreed;
6. the proposed capital programme be agreed and in particular the development of the Old Swan HWRC across the remainder of the 2014/15 and into 2015/16; accepting that the timing of the works and costs between the financial years may vary to some extent from that indicated in the proposed capital programme;
7. the terms to be offered for a time-limited period for Early Retirement and Voluntary Redundancy as set out in paragraph 8.7 to 8.10 of the report be agreed; and
8. delegated powers of the Authority be granted to the Chief Executive to approve interim arrangements for the diversion of waste should they become available and for the Clerk to seal such contracts, subject to the limitations set out in paragraph 7.4 of the report. Any such agreements to be reported to Members at the next available meeting.

56. **Treasury Management Strategy Statement 2015/16; Annual Revenue Provision Policy Statement; Annual Investment Strategy; and Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators**
WDA/07/15

Members were provided with a report requiring the Authority to set Prudential and Treasury Indicators for each of the next three years to ensure the Authority's capital investment plans are affordable, prudent and sustainable as part of the Local Government Act 2003. The Act also requires the Authority to set out its Treasury Strategy for borrowing and to prepare an Annual Investment Strategy that sets out its policies for managing its investments and the priority given to the security and liquidity of those investments. The report asked Members to consider and approve each of these elements.

Resolved that:

1. the report be considered;
2. the Treasury Management Strategy 2015/16; the Annual Revenue Provision Policy Statement; the Annual Investment Strategy; and the Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators as set out in Appendix 1 to the report be approved;
3. authority be delegated to the Treasurer, within the total limit for each year, to effect movements between the separately agreed prudential indicator limits in accordance with option appraisal and best value for money for the Authority; and
4. authority be delegated to the Treasurer to effect movements between borrowing and other long term liabilities sums under the framework of the Prudential Code.

57. **Community Fund 2015/16**
WDA/03/15

Members considered a report seeking approval for changes to the current Community Fund policy framework and to agree the amendments to the process and criteria for the annual scheme. The report also asked Members to consider options for apportionment of the fund.

Resolved that:

1. the amendments to the Community Fund policy framework as detailed in paragraph 3 of the report be approved;

2. the changes to the annual scheme proposed in paragraph 4 of the report be agreed; and
3. the allocation of funding in line with Option 2 as detailed in paragraph 5.3 of the report be approved.

58. **Internal Audit Report – Site Management**
WDA/09/15

Members were provided a report that detailed the outcomes of the latest internal audit review on Site Management provided by St Helens.

Resolved that the contents of the report be noted.

59. **Internal Audit Report – Waste Contract Arrangements**
WDA/10/15

Members were provided with a report that detailed the outcomes of the latest internal audit review on Waste Contract Arrangements. Cllr G Morgan noted the excellent work from the Contracts Section to achieve the high assurances given by the Internal Auditors.

Resolved that the contents of the report be noted.

Peter Williams, Alex Murray, Carl Beer and Councillors T Concepcion, L Robertson-Collins and K Cluskey declared a disclosable interest in the following item, recorded herewith as Resolution 60, and in accordance with the Codes of Conduct for Officers and for Members, remained in the meeting.

60. **Mersey Waste Holdings Limited**
WDA/08/15

Members were asked to consider and approve a number of proposals from Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd (MWHL) regarding its medium term financial strategy. MWHL require significant decisions by the Board of the company to be approved by the Authority before they are made.

Resolved that the financial strategy for the company as set out at paragraph 3.7 of the report be approved by the Authority.

61. **Urgent Action – Temporary Bring Site**
WDA/01/15

A report was presented informing Members of an urgent decision taken by the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chair and Deputy Chair to provide a temporary Bring Site in partnership with Liverpool City Council.

Resolved that the urgent action taken by the Chief Executive to support a request to provide a temporary bring site in partnership with Liverpool City Council be noted.

62. **Social Media Policy**
WDA/04/15

Members were provided with a report seeking approval for the Social Media Policy to ensure that measures are in place to clearly set out how social media will be managed effectively to ensure any risks or pitfalls can be avoided or mitigated. The report also asked Members to grant delegated powers to the Chief Executive to review and amend the Policy as appropriate in line with any technological or legislative changes.

Resolved that:

1. the Social Media Policy attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved; and
2. delegated powers be granted to the Chief Executive to review and amend the Policy as appropriate in line with any future legislative or technological requirements.

63. **Public Transport Season Ticket Loan Scheme**
WDA/05/15

A report was considered by Members seeking approval for a Public Transport Season Ticket Loan Scheme and for the scheme to be implemented on 1st April, 2015.

Resolved that:

1. the Public Transport Season Ticket Loan Scheme attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved; and

2. the commencement date of 1st April 2015 for the implementation of the scheme be approved.