

## At a meeting of the Authority held on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September 2015

Present : Councillor Graham Morgan Councillor Irene Williams Councillor Steve Williams Councillor Kevin Cluskey Councillor Alan Cunliffe Councillor Laura Robertson-Collins Councillor John Fairclough

## 16. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Concepcion, Foxley and Nelson

# 17. Minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015

**Resolved** that the minutes of the Annual Meeting held on 26<sup>th</sup> June 2015 be approved and signed as a correct record.

### 18. Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers

There were no declarations of interest.

### 19. Question(s) from Members under Procedural Rule 9

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

### 20. 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.

# 21. Motion proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15

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

# 22. <u>Towards a Circular Economy</u> <u>WDA/29/15</u>

Members were provided with a report highlighting the emerging changes in European legislation which may have a significant impact on the Authority both operationally and financially. The report sought approval to jointly commission evidence-based research with other Joint Waste Disposal Authorities (JWDAs) to establish the likely consequences of these changes.

# Resolved that:

- 1. the report and the matters detailed at Appendix 1 to the report which set out the likely potential for changes to waste regulation and targets for Europe in the medium term be noted;
- 2. the proposal to take part in and contribute to an independent evidence-based study into the likely impacts of the EU proposal be approved; and
- 3. engagement with the JWDAs group to lobby Government and appropriate stakeholders be approved to ensure they understand the likely impact and provide such financial and other logistical support as will be required to enable the Authority to respond to the likely challenges.

## 23. Waste Development Fund WDA/31/15

Members considered a report which provided details of how the Waste Development Fund is being utilised by the District Councils. In April 2014 the Authority distributed its Waste Development Fund of £28.9M to constituent District Councils; the fund was distributed under the terms of a Memorandum of Understanding, signed by all parties, which established the basis for the distributed funds to be utilised.

**Resolved** that the assurance provided by District Councils regarding the way they have spent the monies allocated to them from the Waste Development Fund on actions that achieve the shared objectives of the Joint Recycling and Waste Management Strategy be noted.

## 24. Horizon 2020 Funding Proposal: Prewastec WDA/27/15

A report was provided to Members highlighting a European funding opportunity to support sustainable waste management in the Liverpool City Region and the opportunity for MRWA to become a partner in the Prewastec project should it be successful.

### Resolved that:

- 1. the Prewastec European grant application be supported; and
- 2. the Authority participate in the proposal should the bid be successful.

#### 25. Joint Recycling and Waste Management Strategy: Refresh Works Programme 2015-16 WDA/30/15

Members considered a report providing details on the scope of the budgeted work programme to refresh the Joint Recycling and Waste Management Strategy (JRWMS).

**Resolved** that the proposed programme of projects for the refresh of the Strategy as listed in Table 1 of paragraph 3.5 of the report be agreed and noted.

### 26. <u>Re-Use Strategy 2015</u> <u>WDA/28/15</u>

Members were presented with a proposed Re-Use Strategy for Merseyside for their consideration.

**Resolved** that the Re-Use Strategy for Merseyside at Appendix 1 be approved including the key recommendations made at paragraph 3.2 of the report.

Cllr Cluskey took the opportunity to praise the re-use shop at the South Sefton HWRC and encouraged others to go and visit.

### 27. <u>Statement of Accounts 2014-15</u> WDA/32/15

Members were presented with the Authority's Statement of Accounts for 2014-15 for their approval.

### **Resolved** that:

1. the changes made to the accounts during the audit be noted;

- 2. the Statement of Accounts for 2014-15 be approved; and
- 3. the Letter of Management Representation to the auditor be approved.

## 28. External Auditor's Report 2014-15 WDA/33/15

Members were presented with a report detailing the findings, conclusions and recommendations resulting from Grant Thornton's review of the Authority's statutory accounts and of its arrangements to secure value for money, to enable the auditor to comply with the auditing standard ISA 260 (UK&I).

#### Resolved that:

- 1. the Auditor's findings attached at Appendix 1 to the report be noted; and
- 2. the recommendations contained within the auditor's report to further strengthen the Authority's financial and governance arrangements be noted and delegated powers to the Treasurer be granted to finalise the proposed action plan.

Perminder Sethi from Grant Thornton took the opportunity to thank Peter and the team for the improvements made over the past year.