



**At a meeting of the Authority
held on Friday 23rd November 2018**

Present : Councillor Louise Harbour
 Councillor Tony Concepcion
 Councillor Diane Roscoe
 Councillor Laura Robertson-Collins
 Councillor Steve Williams
 Councillor Tony Norbury
 Councillor Yvonne Sayers
 Councillor Charlie Preston

24. **Apologies for Absence**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Stef Nelson and Councillor Joe Hanson

25. **Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 21st September 2018**

Resolved that the minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 21st September 2018 be approved and signed as a correct record.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

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

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

28. **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.

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

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

30. **Internal Audit – Veolia Contract**
WDA/25/18

As part of its statutory governance arrangements the Authority is required to maintain an effective Internal Audit which is provided by St Helens Council. Members considered a report from the Auditor, reviewing the arrangements at the Authority and as part of the latest review detailed any weaknesses and recommended improvements. The Director of Finance confirmed that a high assurance had been received from audit.

Resolved that the contents of the report from the Internal Auditor be noted.

31. **Cash and Borrowing**
WDA/26/18

The Authority does not have a bank account, but instead uses the services of St Helens Council (the Council) under a Service Level Agreement (SLA) to manage its cash. Over a number of years the Authority's cash position with the Council has been overdrawn. While interest rates have been historically low this position has been financially sustainable. However, with recent rises in those rates the Council has advised that the Authority may be better off taking out a formal bank loan at a lower cost rather than continuing with the overdrawn position. This report examines the circumstances and makes recommendations for following this advice.

Resolved that:

1. the proposals to reduce the cost of the Authority's cash and borrowing position are noted; and
2. authority is delegated to the Treasurer , in consultation with the Chief Executive and Chairperson, to put cost effective arrangements.

32. **Corporate Plan Update**
WDA/22/18

Members were presented with a report and were asked to consider the content of the Authority's Corporate Plan and note the current version of the Corporate Risk Register.

Resolved that:

1. the Authority's current Corporate Plan attached at Appendix 1 be noted; and
2. the contents of the current Corporate Risk Register attached at Appendix 2 be noted.

The Chief Executive noted that upon the publication of the National Waste and Resources Strategy there may be further updates to the Corporate Plan.

The Chief Executive confirmed a series of workshops on the new strategy would be held in the new year. Members agreed that the Portfolio Holders and Senior Officers would also be invited to attend the workshops.

33. **Community Fund 19/20 Approval**
WDA/23/18

Members were presented with a report to inform them of the successes and outcomes of 2017-18 Community Fund projects and to note the 2018-19 Community Fund projects. Members are also asked to consider the continuation of the current policy for the allocation of funds for Community Fund projects, and agreement is sought to delegate powers of the Authority to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairperson, to approve final projects to receive funding. Paula Pocock confirmed that application process would commence on Monday 26th November.

Resolved that:

1. the success and outcomes of the 2017-18 Community Fund projects are noted;
2. the details of the 2018-19 Community Fund projects are noted;
3. the continuation of the current policy subject to the inclusion of a weighting for education within the evaluation of applications; and
4. powers of the Authority be delegated to the Chief Executive, in consultation with the Chairperson, to approve projects subject to the Community Fund being allocated in line with the agreed funding allocation method.

34. **Exclusion of the Public**

Resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items for the reasons stated.

Minute Reason (under the Local Government Act 1972)

35, Exempt information relating to the financial or

20 & 21 business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Para 3 of Schedule 12A); and

Exempt information in respect of which a claim to Legal professional privilege could be Maintained in legal proceedings (Para 5 of Schedule 12A)

35. **Resource Recovery Contract – Contract Drafting Clarifications**
WDA/24/18

Members are presented with a report to advise of proposed drafting clarifications required within the Payment Mechanism of the Resource Recovery Contract (RRC) between Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority (MWDA) and Merseyside Energy Recovery Ltd. (MERL). Members are also asked that endorsement in principle of the proposed clarifications and Members' approval for the amendments to be finalised and implemented by the Chief Executive is given.

Resolved that:

1. the proposed drafting clarifications required in the Payment Mechanism of the Resource Recovery Contract with Merseyside Energy Recovery Ltd are noted; and
2. the approach proposed in addressing the clarifications to the drafting of the Payment Mechanism of the Resource Recovery Contract and to authorise the Chief Executive to make the relevant arrangements for the implementation of the proposed drafting amendments is endorsed.

The Chair noted it is important the Contract is monitored so it is delivered in way it is intended and commended those undertaking the work on this.

Members were made aware of a Budget and Levy Workshop on Monday 10th December.