



**At a Meeting of the Authority
held on Friday 26th September 2014**

Present : Councillor Graham Morgan
Councillor Tony Concepcion
Councillor Andrew Foxley
Councillor Alan Cunliffe
Councillor Irene Williams
Councillor Steve Williams
Councillor Stef Nelson

17. **Apologies**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Patricia Hardy and Laura Robertson-Collins.

18. **Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 25th July 2014**

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 25th July 2014 be approved and signed as a correct record.

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

Councillor Tony Concepcion declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in Item 13, recorded herewith as Resolution 21, in his capacity as a Director of Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd.

Peter Williams and Alex Murray declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in Item 13, recorded herewith as Resolution 21, in their capacity as Directors of Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd.

Carl Beer declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in Item 13, recorded herewith as Resolution 21 in relation to the proposals contained in the report.

Carl Beer, Peter Williams, Alex Murray, Amanda Valentine and Jane Nolan declared a disclosable interest in Item 11, recorded herewith as Resolution 29, in their capacity as employees of the Authority.

The Chair sought Members' agreement to alter the order of business, namely to deal with items 12 and 13 on the agenda in the first instance. Members agreed unanimously to the reordering of the agenda.

20. **Exclusion of Public**

Resolved that the public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following item for the reason stated:-

- 21 information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the Authority holding that information) (Paragraph 3 of Schedule 12A)

Carl Beer declared a disclosable pecuniary interest in the following item, recorded herewith as Resolution 21, and in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Officers, left the meeting during consideration of the item.

Councillor Tony Concepcion declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in the following item, recorded herewith as Resolution 21, and in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members, remained in the meeting but did not vote on the matter.

Peter Williams and Alex Murray declared a disclosable non-pecuniary interest in following item, recorded herewith as Resolution 21, and in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Members, remained in the meeting.

21. **Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd**
WDA/32/14

The Authority considered a report which sought Members' approval to review and approve revised arrangements governing its relationship with Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd.

Resolved that:

1. the proposed amendments to the governance arrangements for Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd ("the company") and the draft Termination Agreement be approved;
2. the Company be asked to approve the proposed governance changes including drafted amendments to the Articles of Association;

3. delegated powers of the Authority be granted to the Monitoring Officer, in consultation with the Chair, to agree with the Board of the Company any minor amendments to the Termination Agreement or the Articles of Association, and to sign the necessary documentation relating to the changes in governance detailed in the report on behalf of the Authority; and
4. the Chief Executive of the Authority be appointed as a Director of the Company and its subsidiaries (Mersey Waste Limited and MWH Associates Limited).

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

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

23. **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.

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

No motions were submitted by Members in accordance with Procedural Rule 15

25. **Internal Audit – Follow-up of Recommendations**
WDA/30/14

Members were provided with a report showing an update on how far the recommendations for improvement made by Internal Audit have been implemented at the Authority.

Resolved that the progress made in relation to the Internal Auditor's report be noted.

26. **Statement of Accounts 2013-14**
WDA/31/14

The Authority was provided with a report detailing the Statement of Accounts for 2013-14 and Members' attention was drawn to the amendments made to the accounts as a result of the audit undertaken by the Authority's external auditors, Grant Thornton.

Resolved that:

1. the changes made to the accounts during the audit be noted;
2. the Statement of Accounts for 2013-14 be approved; and
3. the Letter of Management Representation to the auditor be approved.

27. **Auditor's Report to Members**
WDA/29/14

The Authority was provided with a report detailing the findings, conclusions and recommendations resulting from Grant Thornton's review of the Authority's statutory accounts. The report was presented by Parminder Singh and Mike Thomas from Grant Thornton.

Resolved that:

1. the Auditor's findings 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 the Treasurer be granted delegated powers to finalise the proposed action plan.

28. **Performance Reporting Quarter 1 2014-15**
WDA/27/14

Members were informed of the Authority's performance, as measured against the Corporate Plan and covering the period April to June 2014.

Resolved that the Authority's performance as monitored between April and June 2014 be noted.

Carl Beer, Peter Williams, Alex Murray, Amanda Valentine and Jane Nolan declared a disclosable interest in the following item, recorded herewith as Resolution 29 and in accordance with the Code of Conduct for Officers, remained in the meeting.

29. **Local Government Pension Scheme 2014**
Pension Discretions
WDA/28/14

Members considered a report that detailed recent changes introduced by the Local Government Pension Scheme which have provided an additional two discretions. Members were asked to consider the recommendations about whether or not to apply the individual discretions for inclusion in the Authority's Pension Policy Statement.

Resolved that:

1. the discretions set out in the report be reviewed; and
2. the discretions to be applied to employees who are members of the Local Government Pension Scheme be determined as recommended in paragraphs 3.2 and 3.3 of the report.