

FORWARD PLAN

Publication Date: September 2019

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:

20th September 2019 22nd November 2019 07th February 2020 (Budget Meeting) 24th April 2020

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 Paula Pocock (Clerk to the Authority) on 0151-255-1444 or by e-mail at enquiries@merseysidewda.gov.uk

AUTHORITY MEMBERSHIP 2019/20

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Item	Ref No.	Decision Date	Lead Officer
Internal Audit – Veolia Contracts	K20-19	20/09/2019	Peter Williams
Internal Audit – Follow Up	K21-19	20/09/2019	Peter Williams
Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd	K22-19	20/09/2019	Peter Williams

MERSEYSIDE WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Internal audit – Veolia Contract			
File Reference	K20-19			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Members are asked to note the content of the Internal Auditor's report			
Scrutiny area	Finance			
Date for decision	20 September 2019			
List of Background Papers for consideration	N/A			
Risk Management Implications	Members need to demonstrate an understanding of the effectiveness of the Authority's control environment			
Prior consultation	N/A			
Representations	In writing to or by email to peter.williams@merseysidewda.gov.uk			

MERSEYSIDE WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Internal audit follow up				
File Reference	K21-19	K21-19			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Public				
Decision Maker	Full Authority				
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify		
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Members are asked to note the progress made in implementing recommendations from Internal Audit				
Scrutiny area	Finance				
Date for decision	20 September 2019				
List of Background Papers for consideration	N/A				
Risk Management Implications	Members need to demonstrate and understanding of the effectiveness of the Authority's control environment				
Prior consultation	n/a				
Representations	In writing to or by email to peter.williams@merseysidewda.gov.uk				

MERSEYSIDE WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY

KEY DECISION SHEET

Title	Mersey Waste Holdings Ltd			
File Reference	K22-19			
Is the report likely to be private or public?	Private			
Decision Maker	Full Authority			
Key Decision Criteria	Financial	Community Impact	Other – please specify	
Matter in respect of which a Key Decision is required.	Members are asked to consider and approve a decision of the company MWHL to enable it to be implemented			
Scrutiny area	Finance			
Date for decision	20 September 2019			
List of Background Papers for consideration	N/A			
Risk Management Implications	For all significant decisions of the Company the Authority's governance arrangements mean that those decisions must be endorsed by the Authority prior to being enacted – this decision puts a MWHL proposal into effect			
Prior consultation	N/A			
Representations	In writing to or by email to peter.williams@merseysidewda.gov.uk			