

At the meeting of the Authority held on Friday 7th February 2025

Present: Cllr Page

CIIr Bell

Cllr Dickinson Cllr Norris

CIIr Robertson-Collins

Cllr Kelly Cllr Williams Cllr Baldwin Cllr Nelson Cllr Brown

63. Apologies for Absence

No Apologies received.

64. <u>Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 22nd November 2024 and 6th December 2024</u>

Resolved the minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 22nd November 2024 and the Audit and Governance Meeting held on 6th December 2024 be approved and signed as a correct record.

65. Declarations of Interests by Members and Officers

lan Stephenson, Paula Pocock and Peter Williams declared non-pecuniary interest in item 14.

66. Question(s) from Members under Procedural Rule 9

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

67. 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.

68. <u>Motion proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15</u>

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

69. WDA/01/25 Timetable of Authority Meetings

Members considered and agreed the date of the Annual Meeting and the timetable of meetings for the 2025/26 Municipal Year and were asked to grant delegated powers to the Clerk, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority, to make any future alterations to the timetable of meetings as deemed necessary.

Resolved that:

- 1. The Authority fixed the date of its Annual Meeting for 2025/26 and considered a programme of meetings for the 2025/26 Municipal Year and;
- 2. The Clerk was granted delegated powers to make any future alterations to the timetable of meetings as deemed appropriate, in consultation with the Chair of the Authority.

70. WDA/02/25 LCR Zero waste strategy

Members were asked for approval of the Joint Liverpool City Region (LCR) Zero Waste Strategy and to delegate authority to the Chief Executive and Chair to finalise the public-facing version of the strategy.

- 1. Members approved the Zero Waste Strategy for the Liverpool City Region (as at Appendix 1).
- 2. Members delegated authority to the Chief Executive and Chair to sign the final version of the Zero Waste Strategy, noting that there may be some small, immaterial changes to content as part of the branding process

71. WDA/05/25 MRWA Zero waste strategy

Members were asked for approval of the content of the MRWA Zero Waste Strategy and delegated authority for finalising the public-facing designed version of the Strategy.

Resolved that: Members approved the content of the MRWA Zero Waste Strategy as set out in plain text format at Appendix 1 of this report and delegated authority to the Chief Executive to finalise a public facing, designed version of the MRWA Zero Waste Strategy.

72. WDA/06/25 Corporate Plan 2025-2030

Members are asked to approve the proposals for the Authority's Corporate Plan 2025 - 2030 as set out in Appendix 1.

Resolved that Members agreed the Authority's proposed Corporate Plan for 2025-2030 attached at Appendix 1.

73. WDA/02/25 MRWA Budget 2025/26

The Authority established and approved a budget for 2025-26 and set a Levy for the same period that it applies to the constituent District Councils. Members were asked to approve the proposed budget and levy.

- 1. approved the revised budget for 2024-25;
- 2. approved the revenue budget for 2025-26;
- 3. considered the Levy proposal set out in Appendix 2 to this report and agreed the proposal for a Levy of £83,491,923;
- 4. authorised the Levy to be made on the constituent District Councils for 2025-26;
- 5. agreed the payment dates for the levy;

- 6. agreed the indicative capital programme for prudential borrowing at Appendix 3;
- 7. agreed to include provision for additional resources to improve the efficiency of waste management, as set out at para 3.4 of the main report; and
- 8. agreed to the proposal to release funds from MWHL to support the procurement in particular and to support the Authority's balances.

74. WDA/03/25 Treasury Management Strategy Statement

Members are asked to consider the report attached as appendix 1, Members were also asked to approve the Treasury Management statement, Annual Revenue Provision Policy Statement and Annual investment strategy set out in Appendix 1.

- 1. the report attached at Appendix 1 be considered,
- Members approved the Treasury Management Strategy 2025/26; the Annual Revenue Provision Policy Statement; the Annual Investment Strategy; and the Treasury Management and Prudential Indicators as set out in the report at Appendix 1;
- Members agreed to delegate to the Treasurer, within the total limit for each year, authority 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. Members agreed to delegate to the Treasurer, authority to effect movements between borrowing and other long-term liabilities sums under the framework of the Prudential Code.

lan Stephenson, Paula Pocock and Peter Williams declared a non-pecuniary interest in the following item, and in accordance with the Authority's Code of Conduct for Officers, left the meeting during consideration of this item.

75. WDA/07/25 Review of HR Policies and Procedures

Members are asked to approve adopt a new Sickness Absence Policy & Procedure and a Menopause Policy, revised versions of the Work life Balance Policy, Bullying & Harassment Policy, Capability Policy & Procedure the Grievance & Disputes Policy & Procedure and the Disciplinary Policy and Procedure.

Members are asked for approval to extend Annex 1 of the aforementioned Policies & Procedures (Capability Procedure, Grievance & Disputes and Disciplinary Procedure) to include all Statutory Officers of the Authority

Resolved that:

- 1. Members agree to adopt the new Sickness Absence Policy attached at Appendix 1 and the new Menopause Policy attached at Appendix 2.
- 2. Members agreed to adopt the revised versions of the policies attached at Appendices 3,4,5,6 & 7.
- 3. Members agreed that Annex 1 of the revised Capability Policy & Procedure, Grievance & Disputes Policy & Procedure and Disciplinary Policy and Procedure be extended to include all Statutory Officer posts of the Authority.

76. WDA/08/25 Update on Audit Recommendations

Members are reminded that the external auditor's report in November 2021 included statutory recommendations for the Authority to respond to.

One of the recommendations was that Members receive a report on progress against the other recommendations until agreed actions were implemented, this report responds to that recommendation

Resolved that: Members note the Authority's progress in response to audit recommendations

Exclusion of the Public

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

<u>Minute</u>	Reason (under the Local Government Act 1972)
26	Exempt information relating to any individual (Paragraph 4 of Schedule 12 of the Local Government Act 1972)

77. WDA/09/25 Resource Recovery Contract: RTLS Vehicle acceptance Procedure

Members were informed of the status of operational and contractual matters regarding waste delivery vehicle acceptance operated by Suez at the rail transfer loading station (RTLS) in Kirkby.

It was recommend to Members to delegate authority for any decision on the potential use of contractual dispute resolution procedure to resolve the above matters to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Authority Chairperson.

- Members noted the status of operational and contractual matters regarding waste delivery acceptance procedures operated by Suez at the Kirkby rail transfer loading station.
- 2. Members agreed delegate authority for a decision on the potential use of contractual dispute resolution procedure to resolve the above matters to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Authority Chairperson.