

Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority

**At a meeting of the Authority
held on Thursday 16th September 2004**

Present: Councillor Fletcher
Councillor Swann
Councillor Tattersall
Councillor Oglethorpe
Councillor Keaveney
Councillor Small
Councillor Cluskey
Councillor Salter
Councillor Moseley

15. **Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Ian Roberts, Treasurer to the Authority.

16. **Declaration of Interest by Members and Officers**

There were no declarations of interest.

17. **Minutes of Meeting held on 13th August 2004**

Matters Arising:

Councillor Oglethorpe informed the Authority that nominations had been forwarded to the Director regarding the outstanding appointments to the Authority's committees. The completed membership of the Authority's committees were noted as follows:

Appeals Committee

Councillors Salter, Swann, Cluskey and Oglethorpe

Governance and Audit Committee

Councillors Swann, Small, Keaveney and Tattersall

Councillor Cluskey, as Lead Member for Procurement, Audit and Risk Management proposed that given the amount of work involved in procurement, Audit and Risk Management be transferred to another Member. Councillor Oglethorpe volunteered to undertake the role of Lead Member for Audit and Risk Management. The Chairman asked that Members indicate their interest for further consideration prior to the next meeting.

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th August 2004 be approved and signed as a correct record.

18. **Waste Strategy Overview**
WDA/48/04

A report was submitted to the Authority to present the strategic context for the development of the waste management strategy. The report outlined the interrelationships between the major elements of waste strategy presented as separate items later on the agenda as well as some of the main drivers for change including the implications of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme. The Director provided a verbal update on the urgent need to determine a procurement route if PFI were to remain a viable option and proposed a further recommendation to the report.

Resolved that:

1. the report be noted;
2. an Inter-Authority Agreement be developed to assist in the implementation of the Joint Strategy and its progress reported to the next appropriate meeting;
3. in principle agreement be given to explore joint working with Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority or any other interested parties, in particular in relation to the development of end-markets for recycled materials; and
4. in principle approval be given to pursue a Private Finance Initiative allocation.

19. **Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Merseyside**
WDA/45/04

The Authority was presented with a report seeking Members' views on a draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Merseyside. Members were informed of the requirement to determine a strategy by April 2005 and the various environmental performance targets and limits the strategy would be expected to achieve. The report included a timetable for further consultation and development.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Oglethorpe and seconded by Councillor Keaveney to resolve that ' Full Scrutiny by Members of the AEAT and Ernst and Young reports commence as soon as possible'.

On a division the amendment was declared lost.

Resolved that the amendment not be approved.

Resolved that the proposed timetable of consultation be approved with a view to producing a revised strategy by the end of March 2005.

20. **Waste Local Development Document**
WDA/46/04

The Authority considered a report informing Members of the progress made to date in identifying the need for a Waste Local Development Document and how this relates to the development of the Joint Municipal Strategy and future procurement.

An amendment was proposed by Councillor Oglethorpe and seconded by Councillor Keaveney to resolve that ' Members agree that the Local Development Document will be prepared on the basis that the Authority is not going to pursue a disposal solution based on mass-burn incineration'.

The Director advised Members that the Procurement process, the Local Development Document and Public Consultation processes would need to consider the feasibility of all disposal options before any recommendations could reasonably be brought forward for decision.

On a division the amendment was declared lost.

Resolved that the amendment not be approved.

Resolved that:

1. the contents of the report be noted; and
2. approval be given to fund the first phase of a joint approach to the development of a Merseyside Joint Waste Local Development Document in the sum of £90,000 to be met from reserves in 2004/05, with further funding to be considered as part of the Authority's budget setting process for 2005/06.

21. **Waste Management Contracts – Procurement Strategy**
WDA/44/04

A report was submitted informing Members of the need to develop a strategy for the procurement of facilities and contracts to implement the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy. The report set out a project organisational structure and initial project delivery plan for Members' approval.

Resolved that:

1. the development of a strategy for the procurement of waste management contracts to support the implementation of a Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Merseyside be approved;
2. the project organisational structure and initial project delivery plan be approved;
3. the Procurement Group be delegated to conduct an initial market-sounding exercise for the appointment of advisors to the Authority;
4. following the market-sounding exercise, the Procurement Group be delegated to invite tenders and appoint external advisors to the Authority to assist in the development of the procurement strategy and throughout the process;
5. the Authority's staffing levels be increased to include the appointment of three Project Management Assistants on two-year short-term contracts and the appointment of support capacity to the Merseyside Policy Unit and Groundwork Wirral be approved; and
6. up to £720,000 be allocated from the Authority reserves to meet the potential cost of advisors and support capacity in 2004/05, and subsequent costs be included in the Authority's budget setting process from 2005/06.