



MERSEYSIDE WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY

**At a Meeting of the Authority
held on Friday 23rd September 2011**

Present : Councillor De Asha
Councillor Cluskey
Councillor Moore
Councillor Keaveney
Councillor Concepcion
Councillor Brighthouse
Councillor Shaw

20. **Apologies for Absence**

An apology for absence was received from Councillor Nelson.

21. **Minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 24th June 2011**

Resolved that the amended minutes of the meeting held on 24th June 2011 be approved and signed as a correct record.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

23. **Questions from Members under Procedural Rules 9**

There were no questions submitted by Members under Procedural Rule 9.

24. **Questions from Members of the Public under Procedural Rules 10**

There were no questions submitted by members of the public under Procedural Rule 10.

25. **Motions proposed by Members under Procedural Rule 15**

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

26. **Redundancy and Retirement Policy**
WDA/29/11

The Authority considered a report which sought Members' approval of a Redundancy Policy and a Redundancy Selection Criteria Procedure. Members were also asked to consider whether or not to allow enhanced redundancy payments.

Resolved that:

1. the proposed Redundancy Policy and the Redundancy Selection Criteria Procedure be approved; and
2. enhanced redundancy payments, as allowed under The Local Government (Discretionary Payments) Regulations 1999 not be adopted at this time but the Authority will continue to exercise its right under the regulations to consider each case on its merits.

27. **Work Life Balance Policy**
WDA/32/11

A report was submitted which informed Members of revisions to the Family Friendly Policy including a change of name to the Work Life Balance Policy and the inclusion of additional methods of flexible working.

Resolved that the Work Life Balance Policy attached at Appendix 1 to the report be approved.

28. **Quarterly Performance Report: April – June 2011**
WDA/31/11

Members were presented with the first quarter's performance for 2011/12 which outlined current performance as monitored against the Authority's Corporate Plan. A revised copy of the Waste Prevention Action Plan included as an appendices to the Special Focus Report was circulated for Members' information.

Resolved that the Authority's performance as at Quarter 1 for 2011/12 be noted.

29. **Internal Audit Governance and Risk**
WDA/39/11

A report was submitted which informed Members of the outcome of reviews undertaken by the Authority's internal auditors, specifically in relation to performance management, risk management and governance arrangements. Members were also informed of the implementation of recommendations to previous audits in relation to contractual arrangements. Members considered the findings and asked that their thanks be passed on to staff for achieving a good outcome.

Resolved that the Internal Auditor's reports be noted.

30. **Statement of Accounts**
WDA/34/11

The Treasurer submitted the Statement of Accounts for 2010/11 for Members' approval. Members' attention was drawn to amendments made to the accounts as a result of the audit of the draft statement, including amended pages issued at the meeting which had resulted from further changes agreed with auditors.

During the meeting, Councillor Shaw highlighted further amendments which were agreed with the Treasurer.

Resolved that:

1. the changes made to the accounts during the audit be noted;
and
2. the Statement of Accounts 2010/11 be approved subject to the revisions highlighted at the meeting.

31. **Annual Governance Report**
WDA/35/11

Members were presented with the findings, conclusions and recommendations resulting from the Audit Commission's review of the Authority's statutory accounts and its arrangements to secure value for money.

Resolved that:

1. the auditor's findings attached at Appendix 1 to the report be noted;

2. the recommendations contained within the auditor's report to further strengthen the Authority's financial and governance arrangements and grant delegated powers to the Chief Executive to finalise the proposed action plan be noted; and
3. the Treasurer of the Authority sign the Letter of Representation attached at Appendix 2.

32. **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>	<u>Reason (under the Local Government Act 1972)</u>
33, 34 & 35	Exempt information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (Para 3 of Schedule 12A)

33. **Household Waste Recycling Centres**
Opening Hours Rationalisation
WDA/28/11

A report was submitted which sought Members' views on various options to rationalise the opening hours at the Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) and where necessary, the timescale to implement savings.

Following discussion, Councillor Concepcion proposed that the cost saving options identified in the report be noted only and further options explored.

Resolved that:

1. the various options described within the report to rationalise the opening hours at the Household Waste Recycling Centres be noted; and
2. officers explore further cost saving options.

34. **Strategic Review – Co-Locations**
WDA/33/11

The Authority considered a report which informed Members of the progress in the negotiations for the terms of a lease for new premises and sought Members' approval to the completion of the lease.

Resolved that:

1. the Authority's proposed move to the Mann Island office when the lease on the current premises expires be approved; and
2. delegated powers of the Authority be granted to the Chief Executive in consultation with the Chairperson, Treasurer and Monitoring Officer of the Authority, to finalise a lease with Mersey Travel and that the Clerk be authorised to apply the Seal of the Authority as necessary.

35. **Disposal of Assets at Stretton Way, Huyton**
WDA/38/11

Members were informed of the need to dispose of an asset previously acquired for the New Technologies Demonstrator Programme and sought Members' consideration of options for its disposal.

Resolved that:

1. the land, buildings and property at the former Huyton New Technologies Demonstrator Facility be recognised as surplus to requirements;
2. the proposed process for the disposal of land, buildings and property at the former Huyton New Technologies Demonstrator Facility be approved to secure best consideration for the Authority; and
3. as part of the process, the appointment of a commercial property agent be approved to maximise the disposal proceeds to the Authority.