

DRAFT JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY FOR PUBLIC CONSULTATION

WDA/08/11

Recommendations

That:

1. Members agree the draft strategic objectives and delivery options arising from the review of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (listed in Appendix A and B);
2. Members agree that the draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (Appendix C) and draft Environmental Report (Appendix D) be issued for public consultation to commence on 6th June 2011; and
3. Members delegate authority to the Director, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Authority, to make any modifications to the draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy prior to the public consultation.

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Report of the Director

1. Purpose of the Report

- 1.1 To present Members with the first draft of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Merseyside (JMWMS) and to seek their approval to issue the draft Strategy for a twelve week public consultation.
- 1.2 Members are also requested to delegate authority to the Director, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Authority, to make any modifications to the draft Strategy prior to the public consultation.

2. Background

- 2.1 MWDA and the Merseyside Waste Collection Authorities are required by law (Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003) to produce a joint strategy for the management of municipal waste. The JMWMS for Merseyside was first published in 2005 and included a commitment to a full review after five years.
- 2.2 The JMWMS was updated in 2007/8 and approved by Members on 1st February 2008 (Report WDA/04/08).
- 2.3 A full review of the JMWMS for Merseyside commenced in 2009 and a programme of projects was agreed for the review (WDA/08/09) including engagement and public consultation. The review focuses on the issues and options associated with the top three levels of the waste hierarchy i.e. waste prevention, reuse, recycling and composting, whilst recognising the impact of those activities on the amount of residual waste ultimately requiring treatment or disposal. The review also considers key strategic factors such as climate change, carbon reduction and governance.
- 2.4 Members were provided with a special focus report on progress of the Waste Strategy review (WDA36/10) in November 2010. Since that time there have been a number of opportunities to engage with elected

Members on the review. Members of the Authority have received presentations on the JMWMS as part of the MWDA Strategic Review Workshops. Members and officers from the districts and MWDA who attended Options Assessment workshops in January 2011 contributed to the further development of the strategic objectives and prioritised delivery options now presented in the draft Strategy.

- 2.5 Since February 2011, MWDA officers have commenced a programme of presentations to scrutiny committees in each district. To date, Sefton and Wirral Council committees have endorsed the strategic direction of the review.
- 2.6 Members approved a budgeted Public Consultation programme in June 2010 (WDA/23/10) which was conducted by Enventure Ltd as the 'Don't Waste Your Say' Campaign between October 2010 and January 2011. Over 3,000 residents have been actively involved in the consultation to inform the development of the JMWMS and considered the draft strategic objectives and delivery options being proposed. Key findings from the Don't Waste Your Say consultation are highlighted throughout the draft Strategy.

3. Draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS)

- 3.1 The draft JMWMS (attached at Appendix C) aims to deliver sustainable waste management on Merseyside within the context of wider resource management. The world population is estimated to grow from 6.9 billion people in 2010 to 9 billion by 2042. This growth will put added pressures on society, global and national economies, and the use of non-renewable natural resources and the need to address major environmental issues such as climate change. Merseyside and the UK will need to become more resource efficient and ensure security in areas such as materials, energy and food whilst building a low carbon economy. All these factors together with changing demands of consumers will have a significant impact on the nature, volume and value of waste entering the municipal waste streams.
- 3.2 Merseyside has the potential to benefit from and enhance the economic, social and environmental impacts of efficient waste and resource management whilst ensuring value for money for its residents.
- 3.3 The format of the draft Strategy named 'RESOURCES Merseyside' has been established in line with DEFRA guidance on the production of a Municipal Waste Management Strategy. However, the scope of this Strategy is wider and encompasses the waste and resource management

agenda over a thirty year period to take into account the timescale of the Resource Recovery Contract. The Strategy contains four main chapters:

- **Chapter 1: Introduction** – looks at why we are reviewing the Strategy, the structure, strategy development and public consultation;
- **Chapter 2: Current Waste Management on Merseyside** – legislation and policy, progress on Merseyside, waste composition, waste growth, recycling performance and trade waste;
- **Chapter 3: Facing the Future** – the RESOURCES agenda including reduction to recovery of waste, sustainable development, opportunities to work with stakeholders, using materials wisely, responsibility for waste, carbon and energy, education and services; and
- **Chapter 4: Delivering the Strategy** – Aims and strategic Objectives, Menu of Priority Delivery Options, Menu of Secondary Delivery Options, additional strategic recommendations and monitoring and review of the Strategy.

3.4 Through the various work programmes undertaken during the review, the interpretation and analysis of evidence, data and opinion has been used to establish a set of draft objectives and targets. The table of Aims, Objectives and Targets is set out in Appendix A of this report but a summary of the headlines are to:

- Meet a 50% recycling rate of household waste by 2020;
- Support a pathway towards zero waste to landfill and set a 10% landfill target for municipal waste by 2020 and 2% by 2030;
- Set carbon reduction targets to reduce the carbon footprint of municipal waste management service on Merseyside;
- Maximise waste prevention and set targets to reduce the kilograms of waste produced per household on Merseyside by 2020 and 2030;
- Raise awareness and understanding of waste management issues to encourage and support residents to change their behaviour and take part, particularly in waste prevention and resource efficiency activities;

- Reduce the ecological footprint of waste management activities on Merseyside.

The baseline carbon and ecological footprints and waste prevention targets are still being developed and were unavailable at the time this report was prepared.

- 3.5 It is recognised that to deliver the Strategy there will be a need for flexibility for each of the five Waste Collection Authorities and Merseyside Waste Disposal Authority to identify and prioritise the delivery options that they feel will best achieve the overall strategic objectives based on their current performance and available resources. A menu of fourteen ranked Priority Delivery Options have been identified, assessed and prioritised in performance from a technical, cost and value for money perspective. (Appendix B of this report). The delivery options that may be considered range from recycling campaigns to significant service changes such as alternative weekly collections and food waste collections.
- 3.6 A menu of a further seven Secondary Delivery Options is also presented in Appendix B. These are options that did not rank as highly as the priority menu in the assessment process but still contribute to the delivery of a number of strategic objectives. Inclusion of any of these options should be in addition to the priority delivery options and include such options as the recycling of street sweepings, consistent waste collection services and the sharing of depots between districts.
- 3.7 Public opinion was canvassed on the strategic objectives and the related delivery options and was considered appropriate by the representative sample of residents who took part in the public consultation campaign. Their views were taken into account in the technical assessment and ranking of the delivery options.
- 3.8 Additional strategic recommendations are also identified in Appendix C. Joint working is a key delivery option and developing governance arrangements for waste management and are identified for further exploration, in particular options around Joint Waste Authorities, Joint Committees and Waste Boards which may bring together collection and disposal functions. A review of the Levy mechanism that funds the waste treatment and disposal functions of MWDA is also considered an area of importance.

- 3.9 The delivery options will need to be identified and taken forward by each district through the preparation of a District Council Action Plans (DCAP). These are currently being prepared for local council agreement but will ultimately form supplementary reports to the Strategy when it is published to show how the JMWMS will be delivered across Merseyside.

4. Draft Environmental Report

- 4.1 The draft Strategy has also been the subject of the statutory Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) process. A draft Environmental Report has been produced to identify the significant environmental impacts of the Strategy (Appendix D) and how those impacts should be managed. The draft Report will be annexed to the draft JMWMS for inclusion in the next stage of the public consultation.

5. Public Consultation

- 5.1 It is proposed, subject to Members agreement, to issue the draft JMWMS and related draft Environmental Report for public consultation from 6th June 2011 for the statutory SEA period of twelve weeks. This date avoids the period of local council elections and aims to give officers time to make any amendments to the draft Strategy to take account of the initial findings of DEFRA's review of Waste Policies which is anticipated to be released in May.
- 5.2 The Strategy consultation will be on a smaller scale and a cost effective follow up to the extensive public consultation undertaken in autumn 2010. The research will utilise the same Don't Waste Your Say website (which was paid for in the earlier consultation up to October 2011) as well as using the MWDA and district council websites. Officers are examining the potential research options for the consultation either through a postal survey or online research. Responses from the public consultation will be fed into the final draft of the Strategy and environmental report which will be submitted to the Authority and district councils for ratification in November 2011.
- 5.3 This consultation should avoid the key dates for the Examination Hearing of the Waste Development Plan Document (DPD) due in November but officers will need to avoid any risk of confusion to Members, the public and other stakeholders should the DPD submission document be published during the period of the JMWMS consultation.

6. Risk Implications

| Identified Risk | Likelihood Rating | Consequence Rating | Risk Value | Mitigation |
|---|--------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------|---|
| Failure to consult residents and stake-holders appropriately resulting in a strategy which fails to deliver waste services that meet the needs of residents and the Waste Partnership | 2 | 5 | 10 | Effective public consultation programme, appropriate Member engagement, scrutiny panels, joint communications |

7. HR Implications

7.1 There are no HR implications associated with this report.

8. Environmental Implications

8.1 This report specifically proposes to issue a draft Environmental Report for public consultation as part of the statutory Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) procedures. A specific SEA workshop will be held with stakeholders and statutory consultees during the consultation period to consider the environmental impacts of the Strategy.

9. Financial Implications

9.1 There are no financial implications associated with this report.

10. Conclusion

10.1 The review has focused on the waste issues the Partnership is facing and the options available. A number of work streams have been undertaken as part of the review to support the development of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, the results of which have influenced the strategic objectives (Appendix A) and the menu of delivery options (Appendix B).

- 10.2 The next stage in the process will see the draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (Appendix C) and draft Environmental Report (Appendix D) enter a twelve week public consultation phase on 6 June 2011.
- 10.3 Final approval and ratification of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy is anticipated and publication for winter 2011.

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The background documents to this report are open to inspection in accordance with Section 100D of The Local Government Act 1972:

- A. Draft Aims and Strategic Objectives for the JMWMS;
- B. Draft Menu for Priority Delivery Options, Menu for Secondary Delivery Options, Additional Strategic Recommendations and Timetable and Milestones;
- C. RESOURCES Merseyside 2011-2041: draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Merseyside
- D. Draft Environmental Report