



## **MEMBERS' GROUP Hertfordshire Waste Partnership (HWP)**

### **MINUTES**

**Of a Meeting held at Broxbourne Council Offices at 1.30pm  
Monday 13th Oct 2008**

#### **Present:**

Cllr Brian Hill	Broxbourne BC
Cllr Paul Mason	Broxbourne BC
Cllr Bert Chapman	Dacorum BC
Cllr Terence Milner	East Herts C
Cllr Derrick Ashley (Chair)	Hertfordshire CC
Cllr Jean Heywood	Hertsmere BC
Cllr Lynda Needham	North Herts DC
Cllr Mike Ellis	St Albans DC
Cllr John Gardner	Stevenage BC
Cllr Phil Brading (Vice Chair)	Three Rivers DC
Cllr Derek Scudder	Watford BC
Cllr Clare Berry	Welwyn Hatfield BC

#### **Officers:**

Jeff Stack (BBC), David Austin (DBC), Cliff Cardoza (EHC), Anne Freimanis (Chairman, Directors Group), Richard Brown (HCC), Peter Davidson (HCC), Ray Greenall (HCC), Glen Wooldrige (HBC), Steve Burton (HBC), Vaughan Watson (NHDC), Andrew Robertson (SADC), Mark Whitfield (SBC), Peter Brooker (TRDC), Alan Gough (WBC), Durk Reyner (WHBC), Duncan Jones (Partnership Development Manager), Stephen Windmill (WasteAware Co-ordinator), Clare Haworth (Minutes, Partnership Support Officer)

	<b><u>Item</u></b>	<b><u>Action</u></b>
<b>1</b>	<b>Apologies</b>	
1.1	No apologies from Members were received.	
<b>2</b>	<b>Minutes of the 21 July Meeting / Matters Arising</b>	
2.1	The minutes were agreed as an accurate record. It was agreed to discuss item 5.9 of the July minutes under item 5 of this agenda.	
<b>3</b>	<b>Round Table</b>	
3.1	<u>Hertfordshire CC</u> – The Cabinet had decided to close the Tring HWRC and continue at Watford HWRC as land was being made available to extend the site.	

- 3.2 Three Rivers – The environmental maintenance contract was currently being re-tendered.
- 3.3 Watford – A year ago members of the public were invited to join a service improvement group, and their suggestions had since resulted in changes to services and new designs for stickers.
- 3.4 Stevenage - Three different options for new collection systems were being proposed to the Cabinet this month. A campaign on street litter was being developed in conjunction with Encams.
- 3.5 Broxbourne – The second phase of the purple sack scheme had shown early indications of a 26% reduction in residual waste.
- 3.6 Welwyn Hatfield – The newspaper consortium contract was looking promising.
- 3.7 Hertsmere – The new on-street recycling bins had been installed in Shenley Rd. The council had been short-listed for the collection crew of year at the awards for excellence in recycling and waste management (Letsrecycle.com).
- 3.8 St Albans – Composting was up to 46% and the black bins for non recyclable waste were being wheeled out. So far the new collection scheme had suffered no significant problems.

#### **4 HCC Procurement Project (Cllr Milner / Richard Brown / Peter Davidson / Alan Gough)**

- 4.1 As the WCA representative on the Member Advisory Group, Cllr Milner introduced the presentation, which he stated had been the culmination of much work. Peter Davidson and Alan Gough from the Procurement Project Board then updated the group on the project.
- 4.2 Richard Brown outlined the main issues for the HWP. The communication of facts was very important, together with the view that this was a possible solution for Hertfordshire. The involvement of Members and Directors was vital. It was suggested that the HWP should prioritise trade waste and inter-authority agreements in its work programme.
- 4.3 A query was raised about communication with residents near to the reference site and Richard Brown explained that local organisations, residents and journalists would be invited on informative trips to other sites using this technology.
- 4.4 It was felt by some that the timetable to submit a planning application two months after awarding the contract was unrealistic but it was explained that much of the planning work would already have been started as part of the contract award process.
- 4.5 It was agreed to continue with the Member Advisory Board to oversee this process and that this presentation would be circulated to Members and given at the next Leaders Meeting.

## **5 Governance (Anne Freimanis)**

### **5.1 i) Strategy Commitments (Richard Brown).**

Richard Brown presented his report and Cllr Needham expressed concern that the draft annex to the MOU, which had been approved at the July Members' meeting, had subsequently been amended. This had caused problems for those councils which had already taken the original to their Executives/Cabinets for approval and there was anxiety that other members of the partnership had not felt able to commit to the stronger wording which had been agreed in July.

5.2 Each council was asked to comment and there was a variety of opinion on the wording. It was stressed that this was not a legally binding document and that the use of the word 'reasonable' in 1.1 would satisfy Defra's requirements. It was agreed that version 4 (appendix C) would be signed although some Members would need to take it back to their authorities first.

**ALL**

5.3 There was concern that any guarantee of residual waste tonnages could hold back future recycling. It was explained that municipal waste arisings were only a quarter of the waste generated in Herts so a contractor could use commercial and industrial waste as a feedstock instead. This issue had demonstrated that it was important authorities were honest with each other and underlined the need for agreements made at the meetings to be adhered to.

### **5.4 ii. Intermediate Agreement (Richard Brown)**

Richard Brown introduced his report and suggested that a subgroup could be formed to develop a draft agreement. It was noted that the timetable was very tight and that joint parallel working would be best in this situation rather than a series of sequential meetings. Leaders would be made aware of the need for this agreement and Authorities would ensure that Waste Management and legal officers would prioritise this work as necessary.

**RB**

**AF**

5.5 A workshop for senior officers and legal advisors would be arranged for November and a draft agreement would be circulated prior to this for comment. Members would be invited to attend. It was proposed that all the major issues should have been resolved by the 26<sup>th</sup> January meeting so that authorities would be able to take from that meeting a completed agreement to be approved at their full councils before March 2009. If necessary an extra meeting on the 12<sup>th</sup> January would be called to progress any outstanding issues.

**RB**

### **5.6 iii. June Workshop follow-up (Duncan Jones)**

Duncan Jones introduced his report and it was agreed that joint working should be established where possible.

## **6 ABPR Composting Facilities (Ray Greenall)**

6.1 The group noted the update as circulated.

## **7 Waste Infrastructure Capital Grant & LAA1 Performance Reward Grant (Duncan Jones)**

7.1 Duncan Jones circulated at the meeting a summary of the current bids. Fourteen

projects had been initiated, and in the next few months the aim would be to approve as many of the projects for the three year period as possible. This could then enable extra funding to be levered in subsequently.

## **8 HWP Work Programme (Duncan Jones)**

- 8.1 Duncan Jones was in the process of visiting the Head of Waste at each authority to ensure that the developing partnership work programme would be relevant for each stakeholder. A written update would be presented at the next meeting. The current recycling rate for Quarter 1 (two authorities were yet to confirm) was 45.8%.

**DJ**

## **9 Introduction to the HWP Extranet (Clare Haworth)**

- 9.1 Clare Haworth introduced the group to the recently launched HWP Extranet. This new facility was welcomed as an efficient means for all members of the partnership to access information relevant to the work of the HWP. Members were asked to log on to the site to check their own contact details and send their postal address to Clare Haworth where necessary.

**ALL**

## **10 Any Other Business**

- 10.1 Duncan Jones informed the group that the WasteAware IT Take Back Event had been short-listed for the LARAC partnership award in November.
- 10.2 Cllr Heywood reported that the last HEF meeting had been very poorly attended. It was reiterated that this was an important forum and portfolio holders were encouraged to attend.

**ALL**

## **11 Future Meeting Dates**

- 11.1 The next meeting would take place on Monday 26<sup>th</sup> January at Campus West, WGC, (1.30pm). The Chairman thanked Broxbourne Borough Council for hosting the Members' Group meetings during 2007 and 2008.
- 11.2 The date of the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2009 meeting was changed to 13<sup>th</sup> July 2009 and the date of the 5<sup>th</sup> July 2010 meeting was changed to 12<sup>th</sup> July 2010. Please see the revised dates for 2009 and 2010 listed below.
- 11.3 It was agreed that the 12<sup>th</sup> January 2009 would be held as a provisional date for a meeting to discuss the Intermediate Agreement if needed.

The meeting closed at 3.35pm

### **Dates for 2009/10 HWP Meetings at WGC - Updated at the October Meeting**

26 Jan 09, 27 Apr 09, 13 Jul 09, 26 Oct 09, 25 Jan 10, 26 Apr 10, 12 Jul 10, 25 Oct 10

(Please note the changes to the July dates above, as highlighted in italics)