



## HERTFORDSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP

### MEMBERS' GROUP

26<sup>th</sup> October 2009

#### Item 12: Work Programme

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#### 1 Purpose of Report

1.1 To present an updated HWP work programme for the period 2009 – 2012.

#### 2 Background

2.1 This report details the main changes that have taken place since the last update was presented to the HWP Member group meeting in July this year.

#### 3 Main Changes

##### 3.1 *Residual Waste Treatment Programme*

3.1.1 *The programme has recently reached the end of the 'Invitation to Submit Outline Solutions' stage, (ISOS). Consequently following a period of assessment 3 to 4 of the 6 bidders that made it into ISOS will be 'Invited to Submit Detailed Solutions' (ISDS).*

##### 3.2 *Refuse Collection (Domestic & Trade Waste)*

3.2.1 A number of the constituent authorities are now rolling out recycling services to schools with a number of initiatives to provide trade waste recycling services also due to commence this year. These service developments have been supported with funding from the Waste Infrastructure Capital Grant. A report to the January meeting will confirm the specific progress made.

3.2.2 In addition to these developments the previous commitment to assess how to share LATS savings arising from the implementation of trade waste recycling services has now been integrated into the review of the Alternative Financial Model as reported on under Item 8 – paragraphs 6.3.1 – 6.3.11.

### **3.3 Joint Provision of Collection Services**

- 3.3.1 As noted in the June report the joint procurement and strategic alignment of waste collection services is a key feature in the JMWMS (core objectives 3 and 8), and Memorandum of Understanding (clauses 4.1 and 5.6). Joint service procurement is also a main feature of the work programmes for both the Directors' group and Heads of Waste group as detailed in the Terms of Reference.
- 3.3.2 The June update informed Directors that talks between East Herts and North Herts District Councils had progressed to the point that, subject to a number of issues being resolved, they had agreed to conduct a feasibility study into letting a joint contract for waste collection, recycling services and street cleansing.
- 3.3.3 Since that report a number of issues have arisen with respect to the specification for the feasibility study and as a consequence the two authorities have been unable to move the project forward.
- 3.3.4 Joint procurement of services and the strategic alignment of service provision are issues which have been discussed by the HWP for a number of years with limited progress. In turn it had been hoped that by starting this process with East Herts and North Herts critical lessons would be learnt which would encourage the process to be repeated throughout Hertfordshire in line with JMWMS and MOU.
- 3.3.5 Research available from the Waste Improvement Network and the South East Regional Improvement and Efficiency Partnership indicates that similar exercises elsewhere in the UK have resulted in significant savings for authorities that have been prepared to go down this route. These include :-
- Somerset Waste Partnership - £1.7 million
  - Shropshire Waste Partnership - £1.1 million
  - Adur and Worthing - £0.5 million (per annum)
  - Lichfield and Tamworth - £0.74 million (per annum)
  - Mid Suffolk & Babergh - £0.26 million (per annum)
  - Vale of Whitehorse and South Oxon - £0.5 million (per annum)
- 3.3.6 Whilst it would be unwise to place any figure against potential savings for Hertfordshire authorities, the evidence does suggest that at the very least the issue should be progressed especially in the light of the financial pressures being faced by local government.
- 3.3.7 This is especially relevant due to the number of waste collection contracts throughout the UK which are due to come to an end in the next few years, and which will inevitably dilute the ability of service providers to react positively to each and every tender.
- 3.3.8 This underlines the need to ensure that future tenders in some way, shape or form are designed to 'stand out' thereby attracting the interest of service providers to the point where priority is given to contracts let by Hertfordshire's constituent authorities.

3.3.9 It is envisaged that the new Directors' sub group (as discussed in Item 8 – paragraph 6.2.4) will include joint procurement of services in the range of areas they look at in working towards the relevant commitments in the joint strategy and MOU.

### **3.4 Bulk Collection & Reprocessing of Dry Recyclables**

3.4.1 This has been reported on under Item 9 on the agenda.

### **3.5 Joint Governance**

3.5.1 The Intermediate Inter Authority Agreement (IIAA) was finally signed by each of the constituent authorities in July this year. Therefore in a change to the time scale suggested in July, HWP officers now propose that the first review of the IIAA be scheduled for July 2010. In addition it is proposed that the MOU and Terms of Reference will also be presented for review and amendment as necessary, taking into account relevant issues since these documents were last looked at in detail.

3.5.2 The revised timetable was presented too and approved by the Directors' group at their meeting on the 28<sup>th</sup> September 2009. In view of this work on the final Inter Authority Agreement is yet to commence.

### **3.6 WasteAware Campaign**

3.6.1 Since the June report the campaign continues to go from strength to strength with additional funding secured from Tesco's taking the total support received in 2009/10 to £17,518 up from the £15,000 reported previously. The funding is being used to provide the following :-

- Print, installation & display of posters at 6 Tomra Sites - £5,500
- 9 road shows - £3,600 (completed)
- Leaflets handed out by demonstrators (12 stores) - £1,452
- Banner link on Tesco Store locator on Tesco Website - £5,170
- Provision of 39,960 recipe cards - £1,500
- Display on Community Notice Boards - £210
- Briefing Notes for stores - £ 86

3.6.2 Progress has also been made with respect to the IT take back event. Previous reports indicated that Maxitech, the original company involved, had gone out of business and therefore were unable to assist with a new event. However, subsequent investigation has confirmed that they have in fact been taken over by another company. Initial discussions (including Hewlett Packard who sponsored the event) indicate a willingness to repeat the exercise subject to various logistical issues being worked out.

- 3.6.3 As the Members' group is aware the new WasteAware branding was approved at the HWP Member meeting on the 13<sup>th</sup> July 2009, and has now been deployed across the Partnership. The final piece of work related to this change is to agree a media protocol that looks to move waste related communications towards a more consistent approach. The draft protocol is currently being consulted on with the WasteAware sub group and the public relations departments from each constituent authority.
- 3.6.4 Work is also now getting under way to tender for a new school production to promote this year's 'Love Food Hate Waste' theme. The tender process is likely to run until mid November with performances anticipated for February and March next year.
- 3.6.5 WasteAware's involvement with schools will also receive an additional boost later in the year via a work stream to update the 'Challenge Waste' packs previously put together for key stages 2 and 3.

### **3.7 Waste Strategy Review**

- 3.7.1 Work continues to scope out how to conduct a review of the JMWMS 2007 taking into account the progress made and the issues that have arisen since the JMWMS was agreed.
- 3.7.2 The details will be worked out by the Heads of Waste group and then presented to the Director's group in December who in turn will report to the Members' group in January. However, at this stage it is anticipated that due to the proximity of next year's general election, the review will be a low key exercise conducted by officers only.
- 3.7.3 The scoping document will in essence propose to keep the current JMWMS under review until such time as we have a clear steer as to what changes are likely to be made to the national waste strategy and associated frameworks.

## **4 Recommendations**

- 4.1 That the revised work programme be endorsed.
- 4.2 That the Members' group indicate whether there are any parts of the programme they feel would benefit from additional work or further clarification.