

Unrestricted

JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD
21 APRIL 2017
(11.15 am - 1.25 pm)

Present: Bracknell Forest Borough Council
Councillor Mrs Dorothy Hayes MBE
Councillor Iain McCracken

Reading Borough Council
Councillor Paul Gittings

Wokingham District Council
Councillor Anthony Pollock
Councillor Angus Ross

Officers Oliver Burt, re3 Strategic Waste Manager
Steve Loudoun, Bracknell Forest Council
Mark Smith, Reading Borough Council
Josie Wragg, Wokingham Borough Council

Apologies for absence were received from:

Councillor Liz Terry, Reading Borough Council

28. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

29. Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board

RESOLVED that the minutes of the meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board held on the 27 January 2017 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

Arising on the minutes it was noted:

Minute 7 – A formal invitation had been sent to Paul Taylor inviting him to the Board Meeting on the 21 April 2017. Unfortunately he had a diary clash and was unable to make it. Oliver Burt would liaise with Paul and invite him to attend the Board Meeting on the 7 July 2017.

Minute 23 – An update would be provided to the Board at the next meeting in July regarding the work streams that the three Waste Collection Teams had been working on. Officers were making sure that the teams had scope to deal with the proactive work streams alongside the reactive work that was undertaken.

Minute 24 – The posters were going to be reworked with new designs and a moderated message, these would be brought to the Board. It was important for the Councils to communicate with the public about the financial implications of recycling as well as environmental benefits. This was particularly important where service changes were introduced and so residents understand the reasoning for change.

30. Urgent Items of Business

There were no urgent items of business.

31. **Progress Report with presentation from Hampshire Services on the Joint Minerals and Waste Plan for Central and Eastern Berkshire**

The Board received a presentation from Iliana Todorovska, Hampshire Services on the Joint Minerals and Waste Plan for Central and Eastern Berkshire – 2036 and the links to Re3 work.

The Joint Minerals and Waste Plan for Central and Eastern Berkshire was being developed with four of the Berkshire Authorities. These were; Bracknell Forest Council, Reading Borough Council, West Berkshire Council and The Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead. Slough Borough Council were keeping a watching brief but were not involved in the plan.

The presentation would be circulated to Member's and Officers after the meeting by Oliver Burt.

As a result of the Members' questions and comments, the following points were made:

- The call for sites was issued in the 13 March 2017 and would end on 5 May 2017.
- If sites weren't submitted in the call for sites, then sites would need to be sought and landowners convinced to put sites forward.
- The timeline was fluid but the plan needed to be adopted by all four Councils by 2020.
- West Berkshire Council had already undertaken some work previously on the Joint Minerals and Waste Plan and were slightly ahead of the other Authorities.
- The plan would project future transport links across Central and Eastern Berkshire.
- Members raised concerns about the financial contributions to the Plan.
- There were links to Governments Policy on recyclable packaging such as tetra packs; the Government had more ability to set UK policy on packaging.
- It was hard to predict the changes that could occur due to Brexit.
- The national trends for waste indicated that there would be an increase in the future.
- The increase in tonnage linked to the increase in housing within the Boroughs.
- Concerns were raised about the lack of cycling facilities available in flats. This is something that needed to be conditioned at Planning stage of the developments.
- Hampshire had three incineration sites which had been developed in partnership between Hampshire County Council and the private sector.
- All Local Authorities had a duty to co-operate with exporting minerals.
- There were small pockets of land at Smallmead and Longshot Lane that could be identified in the call for sites.
- Councillor Angus Ross was the Chair of the Joint Minerals and Waste Plan Board. Councillor Mrs Hayes MBE also sat on the Board and Oliver Burt attended representing re3. Any comments, questions or concerns from the JWDB could be fed in to Joint Minerals and Waste Plan Board through these channels.

The Joint Waste Disposal Board received a report briefing them on the progress in the delivery of the re3 Joint Waste PFI Contract and the re3 Strategy.

re3 were aiming to be more self sufficient with planning underway to ensure that Oxfordshire would take less waste from 2031.

'Black bag' recycling had been introduced as part of the changes at Recycling Centres during 2016, with staff intercepting waste bags before they were deposited over the wall for disposal. These bags are taken aside and opened with any items that can be recycled treated accordingly. There were performance differences at the two sites and a report would be brought to the next JWDB in July to outline any steps that could be taken to improve recycling at the sites.

In January 2017 a formal Change Notice had been submitted to the contractor requiring the contractor to consider and propose processing plastic pots, tubs and trays. A number of trials were underway and due to conclude in May. A report from Officers was proposed for the next meeting of the JWDB in July updating the Board on the conclusion and outcomes of the trials. Any changes could result in Council investment as there may be a need for a change of facilities to process the Pots, Tubs and Trays. There would be a 60/40 share in any revenue which would be reflected in the business case.

Members' emphasised that the contractor's proposals needed to look at future changes to ensure any implemented changes were fit for purpose over the long term, not just in 2017.

RESOLVED that:

- i. Members note the content of this report.
- ii. Members request the proposed future reports be added to the agenda for the next Joint Waste Disposal Board meeting.

32. **HWRC Changes Report**

The Board received a report updating them on the outcomes of the 2016 HWRC access changes.

Oliver Burt informed the Board that there had been some changes since the report had been written regarding the charging of disposing of certain types of waste. Within the Litter Strategy the Government had briefly referred to Councils charging for waste, confirming that it was lawful but indicating that they intended to review the practice during 2017.

It was discussed that Government could review the law at any point so a review during 2017 was not of itself a significant matter. If Government chose to make the charges unlawful, if this change was implemented the charges would cease, however this would not be retrospective. The Board raised concerns that if the charges were not enforced then small scale builders could abuse the system.

Oliver Burt would continue to liaise with colleagues from other councils and gain clarity from Government via monitoring the developing situation. It was noted that the review may be delayed as a result of the General Election on 8 June 2017.

Councillor Iain McCracken would pursue conversations about the introduction of the Ecard (which can already be used as a resident's ID) given the decision to end the

allocation of new and replacement resident permits. The Board also discussed whether number plate recognition could be used at the recycling centres.

After discussions, the Board decided to not introduce a minimum waste charge for chargeable waste at re3 Recycling Centres but would keep the current charges until guidance was received from Government.

The Chair would also write to Government and the LGA in order to gain further clarity on the issue.

RESOLVED that:

- i. The Board note the contents of this report.
- ii. The Board considers the recommendation to maintain the Waste Acceptance Policy criteria for sign written vehicles.
- iii. The Board considers the recommendation to end the allocation of new and replacement residents' permits.

33. Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED that pursuant to Regulation 4 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) Regulations 2012, members of the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of item 8 and 9 which involves the likely disclosure of exempt information under the following category of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:

- (3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person.

34. Financial Savings Report

The Joint Waste Disposal Board received a report briefing them on the re3 options and proposals which supported the re3 Strategy in reducing the net cost of waste. The report focused on two principal areas of savings:

1. Potential savings within the re3 shared PFI contract.
2. The recent work that had been undertaken on waste collection, in accordance with the re3 Strategy.

The Board were informed that a Change Notice had been submitted to the contractor to investigate the collection of food waste, the contract had 21 days to issue a response which would incorporate consideration of trials.

RESOLVED that:

- i. Members approved the recommendation that the re3 Strategic Waste Manager should pursue the options for savings described in PART A of the report, bringing back to the Board business cases for each proposal.
- ii. Members asked the re3 Strategic Waste Manager to liaise with colleagues and the Contractor in modelling some additional shared collection scenarios for consideration by the Board alongside the proposed further work leading-up to the next Board meeting in July 2017.

35. **Financial Management Report**

The Board received a report briefing them on the Partnership's current financial position as well as summarising the progress in achieving the savings related to the Recycling Centres.

RESOLVED that Members note the Partnership's financial position for the year to date.

36. **Any Other Business**

The Chair thanked Councillor Angus Ross for his contribution during his time on the Joint Waste Disposal Board.

The Board also wished their best to Clare Ayling who was leaving re3, the Board expressed their thanks to Clare and appreciated her contribution to re3 and the Board.

Claire's post had been advertised nationally and an appointment made. The Board would be informed in future when an officer was leaving re3.

37. **Date of Next Meeting**

The date of the next meeting was 7 July 2017 at Wokingham Borough Council.

CHAIRMAN

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