

SOUTH LONDON WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

TUESDAY 27 JUNE 2017

5:30 pm – 6:10 pm

London Borough of Croydon

Councillor Stuart Collins - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Clean Green Croydon
* Councillor Stuart King - Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment
Reserves: Councillors Robert Canning and Pat Ryan

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Councillor Phil Doyle - Portfolio Holder - Resident Services
* Councillor Terry Paton - Deputy Leader
Reserves: Councillors David Cunningham and Richard Hudson

London Borough of Merton

* Councillor Ross Garrod - Cabinet Member for Street Cleanliness and Parking (Vice Chair)
Councillor Martin Whelton - Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Environment & Housing
Reserves: Councillors Mark Allison and Nick Draper

London Borough of Sutton

Councillor Manuel Abellan - Vice-Chair of the Environment & Neighbourhood Committee
Councillor Jill Whitehead - Chair of the Environment and Neighbourhood Committee
(Chair)
Reserve: Councillor Nighat Piracha

* Absent

Apologies

Councillor Stuart King

Councillor Terry Paton

Councillor Ross Garrod

Alternates

Councillor Pat Ryan

No alternate

No alternate

Declarations of Interest - None

38. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair 2017/18

The retiring Chair, Cllr Phil Doyle, nominated Cllr Jill Whitehead as the Chair up to the Annual meeting in June 2018 * and this was seconded by Cllr Martin Whelton. As there were no other nominations, Cllr Jill Whitehead was elected unanimously as the Chair.

Cllr Phil Doyle then requested nominations for the Vice-Chair. Cllr Stuart Collins nominated Cllr Ross Garrod, and this was seconded by Cllr Martin Whelton. As there were no other nominations, Cllr Ross Garrod was elected unanimously as the Vice-Chair.

In taking the Chair, Councillor Whitehead thanked Councillor Doyle for all his work on the Joint Committee over the past year.

*As Council elections will be held in May 2018 the Chair and Vice Chair roles will be held by the Boroughs of Sutton and Merton in line with the arrangements applying in the period between the elections, Annual Council meetings and the Joint Committee's Annual meeting.

39. Minutes

Resolved that the minutes of the meeting held on 14 March 2017 were confirmed as a correct record.

40. Phase A & B Contract Management Report

Andrea Keys presented an update on the performance of the three Phase A Contracts from April 2016 to March 2017. An update on the Phase B Contract was also reported.

Contract 1 - Transport and Residual Waste management.

The Contract was operating effectively. During 2016/17 just over 240,000 tonnes of residual waste were handled - this is 0.59% increase on 2015/16.

54,000 tonnes has been diverted from landfill to the Lakeside ERF - this equates to 23% of the total and an increase of 12% on 2015/16.

Contract 2 – Household Reuse and Recycling Centres (HRRC).

The Fishers Farm site upgrade is proposed to take place during Autumn 2017 as this is a less busy period.

Over 6,000 responses have been received to a series of customer surveys across the four boroughs. The results were generally positive. Amongst the top five comments at all the sites, customers noted that staff were helpful, and the sites were well organised. The main complaint raised was around the introduction of steps, although the number of complaints on this issue has fallen.

Combined performance across all the sites was 71.8% against a target of 70%. Performance at Garth Road was in line with the previous year's performance. All other sites showed an improvement, most notably at Factory Lane which saw a 4% improvement.

Contract 3 - Marketing of recyclates and treatment of green and food waste

This Contract was performing well.

2016/17 green waste tonnages were up by approximately 4.12%, and this was equivalent to 1,195 tonnes

Over 2016/17 the Partnership had generated revenue of just under £225,000 from the sale of recyclable materials.

Phase B Contract – Construction of an Energy Recovery Facility (ERF)

The construction programme was on target.

The Phase A collection vehicles were now using the new access road with no issues.

The waste transfer station was progressing well and was estimated to be complete by the end of summer,

In the discussion on this report, Councillor Stuart Collins raised the issue of resident concerns linked to operations at the Beddington site. He suggested that as part of the next meeting's agenda there should be an opportunity for discussion on air pollution issues, the types of vehicles being used by Viridor and the numbers of journeys.

It was noted that whilst Viridor had a Communications Plan on this the Partnership had not yet received the Operations Plan.

The Chair indicated that as part of the arrangements for the coming year she had intended to suggest later in the meeting that a workshop was held after each meeting to provide an opportunity to discuss some of the issues in detail.

The Energy Recovery Facility at Beddington could be the theme for the first workshop.

Members were supportive of this and agreed that a visit to the site ahead of the workshop would be useful.

It was suggested that information on the Energy Recovery Facility operations could be made available on the Partnership's website, to underline independence and accountability of partnership members.

Resolved that

- 1 The performance of the Phase A contracts and the current position on the Phase B contract was noted;
- 2 A site visit for the Joint Committee should be arranged to the Beddington site ahead of the next meeting, and a workshop arranged after the meeting to discuss emissions issues.

41. SLWP Budget Outturn 2016-17

Michael Mackie presented the outturn position for the 2016/17 financial year. There was an under spend for the year of £48,810 (£12,203 per borough) on core functions. In addition the Residual Waste Procurement was put on hold and not carried out this financial year, resulting in an underspend of £59,000 (£14,875 per Borough)

The final outturn position for all activities for 2016/17 was an underspend for all activities of £108,310 (£27,078 per borough).

The major variances on core activities were:

- Internal and external advisors budget for external financial, legal and technical advice – underspend of £40,000. Only £10,000 of advice had been required.

- Salaries underspend of £39,000 from
 - £17,000 Contract Data Officer post held vacant until the end of September 2016,
 - £10,000 from the secondment of the Project Support Officer to LB Sutton
 - £12,000 by covering the Communications Officer post with ad-hoc specialist advice.
- Overspend of £44,000 - additional clienting costs for managing the Environmental Services contract.

The underspend did not remain within the SLWP, so could not be accessed for SLWP activities.

Resolved that the budget out turn be noted.

42. SLWP Budget 2017-18 - Update

Michael Mackie presented an update on the Partnership's budget position for month 2 (May) of the financial year and the projected outturn for 2017/18 financial year. The Partnership's budget for core activities covered procurement, project management, administration, contract management and communications. At Month 2 an underspend for the year of £27,100 (£6,775 per borough) was forecast. This was due to two posts currently being vacant and the assumption that these will be vacant until 1 August 2017. The Project Support Officer (£13,000) was on secondment to Sutton and the Contract Compliant Officer (£14,000) was currently being recruited.

Resolved that the current position be noted.

43. Communications Update

John Haynes the Partnership's Communications Advisor presented an update on communications and stakeholder engagement activities between January 2017 and June 2017. These related to the Phase A (transport & residual waste management, HRRC services and marketing of recyclates) and Phase B (residual waste treatment) contracts.

On the Phase A contracts, Veolia's rolling programme of customer satisfaction surveys across all six HRRC sites continued. These showed generally high levels of satisfaction and also helped to identify site-specific issues, which were being discussed and addressed at the regular contract monitoring meetings.

Work was being done with Veolia on further enhancements including site-specific information boards, leaflets providing details on recycling rates, and information on where garden waste was taken to and its conversion into composting.

On the Beddington Landfill operations, communications and engagement activities were centred on:

- Educating local residents and key stakeholders about vital waste disposal capacity being provided for hundreds of thousands of local households and businesses managed so as to minimise any negative environmental impacts;

- The restoration of the 100 hectare Beddington Farmlands with habitats for wildlife and public access.

Recent highlights had included a well-attended open day in February 2017 and the third edition of Viridor's 'Beddington ERF Community Update' distributed to 14,000 households in the area. The programme of site visits for key stakeholders was continuing and there had been recent visits from the partner boroughs, local MPs, GLA representatives and waste industry bodies.

The regular meetings with the Beddington Community Liaison Group continued. The presentation given to the last Joint Committee meeting (on the findings of the BMG Research into attitudes of local people toward waste management and treatment) had also been shared with the Community Liaison Group. The Community Benefit Fund (£1m) had distributed £60,650 to 5 projects. However, 11 other applications had been unsuccessful but feedback on the reasons for this had been given so that they could be resubmitted.

Reports in local media and on social media channels were monitored regularly to ensure local residents and stakeholders views towards the ERF were understood and responded to where appropriate.

Whilst the restoration of the landfill site at Beddington was not raised as a point of concern at the recent open days, it was a topic that was attracting attention on social media. The Joint Committee would like to see progress on this, and that view will be forwarded onto the Conservation and Access Management Committee (CAMC).

Waste Minimisation and waste awareness activity had also continued in line with the Partnership's commitment to encourage residents to reduce, reuse and recycle as much as possible.

The Partnership would once again be involved in Resource London's 'Reuse and Repair' quarter and would host:

- Two Jumble Trail events (Merton and Sutton) where neighbours could set up stalls outside their homes and sell things otherwise destined for the bin
- Two 'Restart Parties' (Croydon and Kingston) Electrical repair workshops – local people could take broken electronic items such as smartphones and small electrical appliances to be repaired
- Two Sewing workshops (Merton and Sutton) – to transform and revive old and ill-fitting clothes.

£9,000 of funding had been obtained from Resource London to fund local Recycle Week activity (25th September – 1st October). This would be used to run a Facebook advertising campaign targeted at residents aged between 16-34 years of age (a key target audience for the SLWP Communications Strategy).

Progress on delivering the aims of the Communications Strategy agreed at the last meeting included:-

- Supporting the roll-out of a new collection service in Sutton

- The SLWP Communications Advisor had been appointed to the ‘User Group Review Panel’ for Recycle for London’s three-year (2017-2020) communications and education campaign, which would focus on 18-34 year olds
- Ongoing customer satisfaction surveys across the Partnership’s six HRRC sites
- Securing substantial positive coverage in trade publications around the award of the Environmental Service (Phase C) contracts.

On the rollout of the new collection service in Sutton, a briefing paper on this had recently been circulated, from the Communications perspective.

Members agreed that all aspects of the rollout could be a future workshop topic and noted that this was also being discussed by Sutton’s Scrutiny Committee in October 2017.

Resolved that the report on communications and engagement activities January – June 2017 be noted.

44. Exclusion of the Press and Public

Resolved that the public are excluded from the meeting under Section 100(A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 on the grounds that it is likely that exempt information, as defined in paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A to the Act, would be disclosed and the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

This paragraph covers information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information)

45. Risk Register

The Risk Register was reviewed. There were no Red risks. The risk rating of risk 2.11 was increased as the likelihood of a review of subsidies for electricity generated from renewables had been raised.

Resolved that the current position on the Risk Register be noted.

MEETING ARRANGEMENTS AND WORKSHOPS

The next meeting was 12 September at Sutton. The start time of 5:30 was raised, as 6:00pm may be a better fit for some Members. It was agreed that start time options would be circulated.

As mentioned in Minutes 40 and 43 the Chair’s proposal for a workshop session after each meeting was supported.

The agreed themes were:

- | | |
|--------------|--|
| 12 September | Beddington ERF communications: operational phase |
| 5 December | Roll out of the Sutton Contract |
| 6 March | Improving Recycling |

Signed.....Date.....
Chair

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