

## SOUTH LONDON WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

Tuesday 13 June 2018

6.32 – 7.33pm

### **London Borough of Croydon**

Councillor Stuart Collins - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Clean Green Croydon (Vice-Chair)

Councillor Stuart King - Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment

Reserves: Councillors Muhammad Ali and Nina Degrad

### **Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames**

Councillor Hilary Gander – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Sustainable Transport

Councillor Liz Green – Leader of the Council

Reserves: Councillors Dave Ryder-Mills and Malcolm Self

### **London Borough of Merton**

Councillor Mike Brunt - Cabinet Member for Environment and Street Cleanliness (Chair)

Councillor Martin Whelton - Cabinet Member for Regeneration, Housing & Transport

Reserves: Councillors Mark Allison and Nick Draper

### **London Borough of Sutton**

Councillor Manuel Abellan - Chair of the Environment & Neighbourhood Committee

\*Richard Clare – Vice-Chair of the Environment and Neighbourhood Committee

Reserve: Councillor Steve Penneck

\*Absent

#### **1. Appointment of Chair and Vice Chair 2018/19**

Councillor Stuart King motioned that Councillor Mike Brunt be nominated as Chair of the committee for 2018/19

The motion was seconded by Councillor Stuart Collins

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor Mike Brunt be elected as the Chair of the South London Waste Partnership for 2018/19

Councillor Mark Whelton motioned that Councillor Stuart Collins be nominated as Vice-Chair of committee for 2018/19

The motion was seconded by Councillor Manuel Abellan

**RESOLVED:** that Councillor Stuart Collins be elected as the Vice-Chair of the South London Waste Partnership for 2018/19

## **2. Welcome and introductions**

The Chair welcomed all those present

## **3. Apologies for absence and notification of substitutes**

Apologies were received from Councillors Richard Clare and Liz Green

## **4. Declarations of interest**

There were no declarations of interest made

## **5. Minutes of the previous meeting**

**RESOLVED:** that the minutes of the meetings held on 5 December 2017 and 6 March 2018 be agreed and signed as an accurate record of the meeting.

## **6. Phase A & B Contract Management Report**

Annie Baker, Strategic Partnership Manager , presented the report.

It was highlighted under Contract 1:-

- There had been a drop of 10% in waste, due to increased recycling and diversion of commercial and bulky waste collections.
- 21% of the Partnership's residual waste had been diverted from landfill via the Lakeside ERF

There were no issues reported in regards to the contract

Contract 2:-

- Sites were being reconfigured and the works were now mostly complete
- KPI targets on customer satisfaction levels of 80% were being reached at all sites.  
On recycling performance 3 sites missed the 70% target by small margins

Contract 3:-

There were no issues to report.

It was highlighted under the Phase B Contract:-

- In regards to the ERF, Lagan Construction went into administration, this has caused a longer delay than initially anticipated and completion is expected in the Autumn.

Members asked for clarification on declining satisfaction with queue lengths at the HRRCs, green waste tonnage and overall recycling performance either not improving or worsening at sites. The Strategic Partnership Manager explained that demand at the sites fluctuates, which impacts on queue times and there were no serious concerns at present. Following re-design of some of the sites it is expected to see improvements. The distribution of new permits at the sites may have contributed to longer queue times.

The Strategic Partnership Manager said further on the performance of HRRCS that performance was down on the previous year, but it was up but it was up on the year prior to that, highlighting that it does again fluctuate. There have been challenges to find suitable re-processing outlets for mattresses and carpets and the Partnership is looking at ways to improve performance. Sites now have Automatic Number Plate Recognition (ANPR) in place so we can begin to monitor data around visitor numbers and the relation to recycling levels.

The Chair requested population numbers of each borough following the committee.

Members asked if any work was being done about the opening times of hours of recycling centres to make them more accessible and improve recycling. The Strategic Partnership Manager explained that they would be reviewing all the sites, and further information would come back to the committee.

The Chair queried whether the ANPR was validating or just counting. The Strategic Partnership Manager responded that it recognises so they can look at the number of repeat visitors as well as total number of visitors.

Members mentioned complaints on social media of rubble bag deposits being limited due to limited collections. The Strategic Partnership Manager explained that different sites in and out of partnership are different, but they will be looking at with wider policy and rules, with an expectation of staff to check where the waste is from and not accept from trade sites.

Members expressed agreement that Communications should review signage to help inform visitors of the rules at each site.

**RESOLVED:** that the contents of the report be noted, and comment be made on aspects of the performance of the Partnership's Phase A & B contracts.

## **7. Communications Update**

John Haynes, Communications Advisor, presented the report.

It was highlighted under:

Plastic Planet Campaign:-

- Close to launching a social media-based campaign called 'Plastic Planet', showcasing short videos that highlight the environmental damage that single use plastic can cause if they are not recycled
- It will be a hard hitting eye-catching campaign, delivered across the Partnership boroughs' facebook and instagram platforms for 6 weeks starting in June
- The campaign would be targeted at 16-34 yr olds in line with the communications strategy

Phase A background:-

HRRCs

- Customer satisfaction surveys are ongoing – satisfaction remains high with any site-specific issues being escalated through the contract management meetings with Veolia.
- Looking to introduce material-specific recycling information signs at the HRRC's

Beddington Landfill

- A Community Open Day was held on Thursday 14 June 2018, with 24 people (full capacity) registered for a site visit

Phase B: -

ERF Construction

- The facility is currently in the commissioning phase
- Main focus of the partnership is looking at how community engagement will look after the facility becomes operational, and it will be based around an education centre at the site and an online virtual visitor centre.
- More information will be brought back to the next committee.

Sutton Councillor, Nick Matthey, requested from the public gallery to ask a question. The Chair reminded attendees that elected members should submit any questions in advance, but at the Chair's discretion would allow the question. Councillor Matthey raised concerns about controlling the narrative at the proposed education centre at the ERF site. The Communications Advisor responded that they are working with Viridor to ensure all educational content is factual and accurate.

Members commented that there should be a website, ready for the completion of the ERF, showing emission levels and the ESA's view is on what is acceptable, ran separately from Viridor. The Strategic Partnership Manager explained that the Environment Agency is the key monitoring authority of emission levels, and following feedback from each borough, they can look at the right level of information that should be made public.

Members commented that open days were not highly publicised and suggested that in addition to adverts in local papers members of the committee were also kept informed.

It was highlighted that new members of the committee and newly elected councillors would be interested in visiting the facility, and the Strategic Partnership Manager said this would be looked into.

**RESOLVED:** that the report be noted

#### **8. South London Waste Partnership Budget Outturn 2017/18**

Michael Mackie, Finance Officer, presented the report, highlighting that little had changed since the last committee, but drew attention to the £137,000 underspend and variances mentioned at paragraphs 2.3 and 2.7 of the report.

**RESOLVED:** that the report be noted

#### **9. South London Waste Partnership Budget Update Month 2 - 2018/19**

Michael Mackie, Finance Officer, presented the report, highlighting that the Month 2 forecast spend would be as per budget and there were no variations to report.

The Chair asked why there was no spend against the communications budget as item 7 had mentioned spend on communications. The Communications Advisor explained it was because this is a commitment and not actual spend yet. .

Members commented that there was a significant buffer within the budget and asked why the funds were held. The Strategic Partnership Manager explained that the funds were required for recruitment, salary spend, internal advisor costs and environmental services work.

Sutton Councillor, David Hicks, asked from the public gallery whether there was any cost benefit analysis of the staffing of the organisation has that been done, and if there was a forward plan for the budgets.

The Strategic Partnership Manager explained this was beyond the remit of this committee but they do support the management board, where those processes are documented.

**RESOLVED:** that the report be noted

#### **10. Any urgent business**

Councillor Stuart Collins ask that the committee begin to review and discuss Veolia's performance within the contract, in the exempt part of the meeting. It was noted that this was not in the remit of the committee to make decisions but the committee could consider

whether papers for information could come to the committee and look at ways to share any concerns of each of the boroughs.

The Strategic Partnership Manager explained that a future paper would be coming to the committee to look at the committee's remit.

The Chair welcomed discussion of the topic and suggested that information could be shared by the boroughs in additional workshops. Members commented that for transparency the committee needed to look at this issue and the remit of the committee, given the size of the contract and performance issues.

The Chair requested that a paper be brought to the next meeting looking at the committee's remit.

#### **11. Exclusion of the Press and Public**

**RESOLVED:** that the public be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that they involve the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 3 Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972."

#### **12. Risk Register**

The risk register was reviewed

#### **13. Date of the next meeting**

The next meeting will be held on 11 September 2018 at Merton, Civic Offices at 18:30pm

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