

JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD
12 DECEMBER 2013
(10.00 am - 12.30 pm)

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

Reading Borough Council
Councillor Paul Gittings
Councillor Tony Page

Wokingham District Council
Councillor Angus Ross
Councillor Rob Stanton

Officers Claire Ayling, Reading Borough Council
Pete Baveystock, Wokingham Borough Council
Anthony Bolton, Reading Borough Council
Chris Brooks, Reading Borough Council
Oliver Burt, re3 Project Manager
Janet Dowlman, Bracknell Forest Council
Dave Fisher, Reading Borough Council
Kevin Holyer, Reading Borough Council
Steve Loudoun, Bracknell Forest Council
Mark Moon, Wokingham Borough Council
Vincent Palizcka, Bracknell Forest Council

Also Present: Ellie Ahmed, MEL Research
Mark Howarth, Eversheds
Richard Mathews, Eversheds

11. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

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

RESOLVED that the minutes of the Joint Waste Disposal Board meeting held on 5 September 2013 be approved as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

13. Urgent Items of Business

There were no urgent items of business.

14. Exclusion of Public and Press

RESOLVED that pursuant to Regulation 21 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) Regulations 2000 and having regard to the public interest, members of the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of items 6, 7 and 8 which involve 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.

15. Excess Profit Adjudication Update

Mark Howarth and Richard Mathews, Eversheds, gave a presentation in respect of the current status of the adjudication of the current areas of dispute. The presentation included an overview of the issues under dispute, the relative positions of the respective parties and an update on the current status of negotiations. Three meetings had taken place with the Contractors during November and December and it was felt that progress was being made towards reaching a resolution.

Members were advised that although Eversheds had been involved in the preparation of the original contract it was unlikely that a conflict of interest would now occur. If at a future stage this was possible then under the Law Society rules Eversheds would be compelled to withdraw their services.

RESOLVED that:

- i. The contents of the Project Director's report be noted
- ii. The proposal to allocate additional funds from each re3 council, as detailed in paragraphs 3.12 and 3.13 of the Project Director's report, be endorsed in order to achieve a conclusion to the prevailing disagreement
- iii. Analysis of the information provided by the Contractor should be completed by the end of January. The Board's Chairman, Vice Chairman and any other available members would meet in mid February 2014 to enable an assessment to be made of the re3 Councils' position prior to the Board's next meeting in March.

16. Budget Report

The Board noted a report providing a second draft of the budget for 2014/15.

17. Waste Strategy

The Board received a report providing an update on the creation of a Waste Strategy for the re3 partnership.

RESOLVED that:

- i. The progress made in relation to the drafting of a shared re3 Waste Strategy be noted
- ii. The proposed approach to a period of public consultation undertaken by officers from the re3 councils and the re3 project Team, as described in paragraphs 3.11 and 3.12 of the Project Director's report, be endorsed
- iii. An report providing an update on progress be brought to the Board's March meeting

18. Communications Strategy

Ellie Ahmed, MEL Research, gave a presentation in respect of the work taking place to develop a Communications Strategy for the re3 Partnership. The presentation included an overview of key target markets, the barriers to recycling that each market experienced and the messages and routes that might be used to help encourage greater levels of recycling across the re3 partnership area and bring about long term changes in people's behaviour. The presentation also included a draft Communications Framework that could be used to give structure to an annual rolling marketing campaign.

It was acknowledged that waste minimisation should be considered as important in the development of the strategy as increasing recycling rates. It was also agreed that consideration needed to be given to how the strategy could be delivered within the re3 Partnership and in collaboration with the Council's PR and Marketing Teams as appropriate.

It was agreed that more work would be carried out on the Strategy's development. A proposal for its delivery and a further update would be given at the Board's next meeting.

The Board thanked Ellie Ahmed for her presentation.

19. **Progress Report**

The Board received a report providing an update on progress made since its last meeting on 5 September 2013. The report included updates on performance, the Green Machine and financial matters.

It was clarified that the phased closure of material bays within the Transfer Station to enable repair works to the concrete push walls had lasted for approximately two weeks. Scottish and Southern Energy would be connecting the Bracknell Primary Sub Station to Wokingham early in 2014. This would have significant access implications for the re3 facility on Longshot Lane and would require partial closure of the site for three days. It was acknowledged that the proposal had been developed to minimise disruption whilst recognising that the works were necessary and unavoidable. It was acknowledged that the proposal would require significant PR work in advance to ensure that local residents were aware of the need to divert to the Smallmead facility in Reading during the period of the closure.

It was agreed that the full results of the User Satisfaction Survey would be circulated to the Board.

The Board noted the update on the progress of Green Machine the community paint recycling scheme. It was acknowledged that having an easily accessible retail facility would boost the profile of the facility and that thought would need to be given to how Council's marketing teams could help publicise the service more widely. Green Machine would be invited to the Board's next meeting.

RESOLVED that:

1. The contents of the Project Director's report be noted
2. The plans to facilitate the planned Scottish and Southern Energy cabling works as described at paragraphs 3.7, 3.8 and 3.9 of the Project Director's report be approved

20. **Project Staffing**

The Board was informed that Mark Moon, Project Director, would be retiring in February 2014 and Kevin Holyer would be leaving Reading Borough Council. The Board thanked the officers for all the work that they had done to support the re3 project and wished them well for the future.

CHAIRMAN