

CUMBRIA STRATEGIC WASTE PARTNERSHIP (CSWP)

Minutes of a meeting of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership (CSWP) held on Wednesday 19 August 2009 at 12.00 noon at Cumbria Rural Enterprise Agency, Penrith.

PRESENT

Mr R Bloxham (Chairman)

Mr A Holliday	-	Copeland Borough Council
Mr S Standage	-	Allerdale Borough Council
Mr M Tonkin	-	Eden District Council
Mr K Williams	-	Barrow Borough Council
Mrs B Woof	-	South Lakeland District Council

Also in attendance:-

Mr M Allman	-	Cumbria County Council
Ms S Brecknell	-	DEFRA
Mr N Christian	-	Cumbria County Council
Ms J Carrol	-	Copeland Borough Council
Ms A Drakakis	-	Improvement and Efficiency South East
Ms W Ferry	-	Cumbria County Council
Mr M Gardner	-	Carlisle City Council
Ms M Graham	-	North West Waste Forum
Ms S Henderson	-	Environment Agency
Ms B Jones	-	Allerdale Borough Council
Mr R Kitchen	-	South Lakeland District Council
Mr I Laird	-	Barrow Borough Council
Mr N Pearson	-	South Lakeland District Council
Mr A Proffitt	-	Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership
Mr J Shatwell	-	Environment Agency
Mr R Watson	-	GONW
Mr A Yates	-	Eden District Council

ACTION

1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Mr P Feehily, Mr T Knowles, Mr T Markley, Mr E Davidson and Ms M Fallon.

2. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

All Council members declared a personal interest in items of

business relating to their respective authorities. Ms M Graham declared a personal interest in relevant items, as a representative of the North West Waste Forum.

3. DEFRA WORKSHOP – MAPPING THE FUTURE OF THE CUMBRIA STRATEGIC WASTE PARTNERSHIP

A workshop session, facilitated by Sophia Brecknell, Alexia Drakakis and Alec Proffitt, was held to examine aspects of the Partnership's activities and to consider options for its future.

Sophia Brecknell and Alexia Drakakis invited the Partnership's Council Member representatives to provide examples of its successes, areas for development and its ambitions. Details of these were recorded and compared with the outcome of a similar exercise undertaken by the Officer Group.

The DEFRA representatives then gave a presentation outlining the national context for joint working, the benefits of partnership working and the options and issues to be considered in establishing a Joint Waste Authority.

The Chairman thanked Ms Brecknell, Ms Drakakis and Mr Proffitt for the workshop and presentations and explained that the next stage in the process would be to discuss options with CLASB.

**AP / NC &
Chairman
to action**

4. MINUTES

AGREED, that the minutes of the meeting of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership held on 15 July 2009 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

Recycling Reward Scheme and Third Party Recycling Credits

A member referred to questions which Mr Proffitt had been asked to follow up, concerning any additional payments to be made during the current financial year if an authority were to achieve a recycling performance above 50% and how payments for performance and the Strategic Service Partner Contract might be affected if a recycling rate of 50% or more were collectively achieved. A report back to a future meeting of the Partnership was requested.

**AP / NC to
action**

The Chairman referred to the third party recycling rate for Eden in the context of the percentage of third party recycling being shown in Eden District Council's recycling rate. Mr Christian advised that a meeting had been held to follow up this issue.

6. MINUTES OF CUMBRIA STRATEGIC WASTE PARTNERSHIP OFFICER GROUP MEETING

The Partnership received the minutes of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership Officer Group meeting held on 7 August 2009. The minutes included an update on the work of the Enforcement Group. It was agreed that this Group could report on its activities to the Partnership on a quarterly basis.

AP / NC to action

In relation to the dates of future meetings of the Partnership, the Chairman proposed, and it was agreed, that the meeting scheduled for 2 September should be cancelled, together with the related Officer Group meeting on 21 August.

The Chairman advised that this would be the last meeting of the Partnership that Mr Proffitt would attend and members joined the Chairman in thanking Mr Proffitt for all his work on behalf of the Partnership and in wishing him success in his future career.

7. WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE CAPITAL GRANT APPLICATIONS - AUGUST 2009

Mr Proffitt presented the following bids for Waste Infrastructure Capital Grant (WICG) funding:

Cumbria County Council – ENCAMS Project Box Hats Trial

Copeland Borough Council – Refurbishment and Screening of Recycling Centres at Distington and Seascale

Officers recommended that the bids should be supported, as they met the relevant criteria and were expected to either contribute to, or to sustain, LATS benefits.

AGREED, that Waste Infrastructure Capital Grant funding be provided as follows:-

AP / NC to action

Cumbria County Council – ENCAMS Project Box Hats Trial - £2,040

Copeland Borough Council – Refurbishment and Screening of Recycling Centre Sites at Distington and

8. CUMBRIA STRATEGIC WASTE PARTNERSHIP UPDATE

Mr Proffitt presented an update on the activities of the CSWP and its individual partner organisations. It was noted that the next update report would be prepared and presented by County Council officers.

NC to note

Mr Proffitt reported that the legal status of the Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) was currently being considered. Implementation Plans were being signed and agreed by WCAs. A report, including the relevant legal guidance, would be prepared for the next meeting of the Partnership. A member observed that the District Councils had approved the IAA as an informal agreement and anticipated that, if it were now to have the status of a legal agreement, it might need to be resubmitted for their approval.

AP / NC to action

Details of CSWP-wide performance for Waste Data Flow from the financial year 2008/09 were tabled at the meeting. It was explained that information in relation to performance against landfill targets for LATS would be released by DEFRA in October. Mr Christian undertook to report to the next meeting of the Partnership on performance in relation to LATS obligations.

NC to action

The report also included an update following concerns expressed in relation to the annual uplift to the Recycling Reward Scheme and Third Party Recycling Credit Scheme that the RPI inflator would not be sufficient. It was explained that Schedule 6 of the IAA stated that "the Reward and the Cap will be adjusted on 1 April each year according to RPI". The County Council, which would be responsible for paying any additional inflation settlement, had concluded that such additional expenditure would not be prudent in the current financial climate. Consequently only the RPI inflator would apply. The report also advised that, in respect of Recycling Credits for third parties, the inflator was established by legislation. The Environmental Protection (Waste Recycling Payments) Regulations 2006 required that these should be increased by 3% on 1 April each year.

RESOLVED, that

- (1) the report be noted;
- (2) reports on the Inter Authority Agreement and performance in relation to LATS obligations be submitted to the next meeting of the Partnership.

9. GONW UPDATE

Mr Watson reported that the North West Development Agency was taking the lead in producing a sustainable development action plan for the region. This covered sustainable consumption and production and was expected to be published for consultation in late summer/early autumn 2009. Mr Watson explained that the Environment Agency in the North West had already commissioned research into waste data, using this to identify opportunities for waste reduction and to maximise the value gained from industrial and commercial waste.

A member expressed concern that the initiative might lead to nuclear waste being sent to landfill sites and asked that this be noted.

10. WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC SERVICE PARTNER UPDATE

Mr Christian reported that the County Council's contract with Shanks had performed satisfactorily to date. A ceremony to mark the start of the construction of the plant at Hespian Wood was planned for 3 September. Preparations for the Barrow plant were progressing. Initial problems with the identification of authorised vehicles were now being overcome. The first monthly report and invoice from Shanks had now been received, together with data from June and Mr Christian thanked District Council colleagues for their assistance.

11. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

Annual Conference

Members asked that efforts be made to hold the Partnership's Annual Conference before May 2010. Mr Proffitt indicated that this matter would be pursued through the Sub-Group meeting on 27 August.

**AP / NC to
action**

Plasterboard Recycling

The Partnership was advised of a planning application for a plaster board recycling operation in Copeland. It was agreed that steps should be taken to ensure that the applicant was properly licensed and had the right expertise and equipment to undertake this type of work.

Collaboration with Lake District National Park Authority

The Chairman reported that he had received a reply from the Lake

District National Park Authority after he had written to them on the subject of food waste at hotels. The Park Authority had offered to meet the Partnership to discuss ways of working.

Mr Allman offered to follow up this proposal.

**MA to
action**

Mr Ian Stewart

The Chairman reported that he had written a letter of thanks to Mr Stewart, and that Mr Stewart had replied, sending his best wishes to the members of the Partnership.

Recycle for Barrow Campaign

Mr Allman reported that the Recycle for Barrow Campaign had been short-listed for a national recycling award.

12. RELEASE OF REPORTS

Reports presented to this meeting of the CSWP could be released into the public domain.

13. DATES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

It was noted that future meetings of the CSWP were scheduled for 2 September 2009 and 14 October 2009 but that, as agreed earlier in the meeting, the 2 September meeting would be cancelled. The next meeting would therefore be the one scheduled for 14 October 2009, which would start at 1.00 pm and be held at the Cumbria Rural Enterprise Agency, Penrith.

The meeting ended at 4.00 pm

JS/AW