

CUMBRIA STRATEGIC WASTE PARTNERSHIP

Minutes of a Meeting of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership held on Wednesday 16 April 2008 at Cumbria Rural Enterprise Agency, Penrith at 1.45 pm.

PRESENT

Mr I Stewart (Chair)

Mr G Blackwell – Copeland Borough Council
Mr R Bloxham- Carlisle City Council
Mrs M Jackson – Allerdale Borough Council
Mr K Phillips – Eden District Council
Mr J Richardson – Cumbria County Council
Mr D Roberts – Barrow Borough Council
Mrs B Woof – South Lakeland District Council

Also in Attendance:

Mr N Christian	-	Cumbria County Council
Ms K Copeland	-	Copeland Borough Council
Mr E Davidson	-	Allerdale Borough Council
Ms W Ferry	-	Cumbria County Council
Mr M Gardner	-	Carlisle City Council
Mrs S Garrett	-	Cumbria County Council
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 C Pickering	-	Cumbria County Council
Mr A Yates	-	Eden District Council

43. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence had been received from Ms J Carrol (Copeland Borough Council), Mr G Harrison (Cumbria County Council), Mr B Metz (Eden District Council), Mr J Shatwell (Environment Agency – Ms Henderson attending), Mr S Standage (Allerdale Borough Council) and Mr R Watson (Government Office North West).

44. DISCLOSURES OF INTEREST

Mr Blackwell, Mr Bloxham, Mr Holliday, Mrs Jackson, Mr Phillips, Mr Roberts, Mrs Woof and Mr Stewart declared a personal interest in all items of business on the Agenda relating to their relevant District Council. Mrs Jackson also declared a

personal interest in Agenda Item No.9 (Household Waste Recycling Centres – Update) as she was also a Copeland Town Councillor.

45. MINUTES

AGREED, that the Minutes of the meeting of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership held on 5 March 2008 be confirmed as a correct record and signed by the Chair.

Notes of Seminar

AGREED, that subject to the following changes on page 3, paragraph 4:

- (a) change “47%” to “37%”;
- (b) delete “include separate to card” and insert “mixed alongside card”;
- (c) insert “no” before “risks”.

the Notes from the Seminar be confirmed as a correct record.

Arising from the Minutes

Minute 37 – Mr Bloxham asked that an update of Performance Indicators be included on future agenda as a standard item and also that a report on National Indicators on a District by District basis be presented to a future meeting of the Partnership.

Minute 39 – Mr Bloxham commented that if the County Council invest more funding to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, any savings made should be rolled out to the Districts to assist them with savings. Mr Pickering assured the Members that this would be considered within the wider budget requirements.

Members agreed whilst charges for tipping at landfill sites had decreased there had been significant increases in the costs of recycling.

Mr Phillips reminded Members that Eden District Council required the annual revenue support of almost £17k as soon as possible to ensure the recycling bank scheme could be progressed.

Mr Christian assured the Partnership that the Officer Group were now considering the budget pressures for next year and that all officers were aware of their respective authority’s requirements.

Before continuing with the business on the agenda, the Chair asked that it be recorded that following the local Elections in May 2008, the Chairmanship and Vice-Chairmanship of the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership would alternate on

an annual basis at the first meeting following the local Elections each May. The Constitution of the CSWP would be updated to accommodate this change.

The Chair also asked that his and the Partnership's thanks to Clive Pickering be recorded. Mr Pickering had been a driving force in moving the waste management programme forward and in assisting with the Partnership's success. The District Councillors present also asked that their thanks be recorded. Members and officers agreed that the culture and ethos of the Partnership had changed for the better when Mr Pickering had been appointed as the Corporate Director of Client Services and everyone wished him success for the future.

46. MINUTES OF OFFICER GROUP MEETING

Mr Christian presented the Minutes of the Officer Group meeting held on 1 April 2008. Two Monitoring Officers had now been appointed and advertisements had been placed for the posts of Performance Manager and Partnership Officer.

Regarding Note 2.6 – Mr Davidson informed the meeting that Allerdale's bid was being reviewed, the original bid had been solely for commercial waste but the revised bid would consider incorporating collection of waste from private dwellings as well.

Mr Bloxham asked whether the Partnership should invite Matthew Heath to a future meeting to present his findings on commercial waste collection. Although Barbara Jones had presented Matthew's findings to the CSWP previously, members considered that it would be worthwhile looking at this issue again in the future.

Mr Bloxham confirmed that there was still a definite problem regarding odour from the Hespian Wood Composting Site and asked what, if anything could be done to improve the situation. Nigel Christian informed the meeting that a modified and reworded licence was being issued and the new Monitoring Officers would be asked to look at how this problem could be resolved.

AGREED, that the minutes of the meeting of the Officer Group held on 1 April 2008 be received.

47. WASTE MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Mr Christian presented a report which updated Members on a range of issues that had taken place since the last meeting of the CSWP.

Performance statistics to the end of January 08 were:

Title	2006/7	07/08 target	January 08	y/e forecast
BVPI 82 a – recycling	18%	22%	22%	22%
BVPI 82 b – composting	14%	17%	17%	17%
BVPI 82 d ii – house hold waste landfilled	195,741	180,600	122,558	160,000
BVPI 84 + LAA	594 kgs	588kgs	410kgs	530kgs
LAA – reduction in % of municipal waste landfilled –	n/a	-4%	-5%	-5%
LAA - % of municipal waste recycled and composted	29%	33%	35%	33%

Government required a list of partners signed up to delivery of each target the Local Area Agreement for 08/11 and also that a lead partner be identified. The CSWP had to understand the need for thematic partnerships and had to accept lead responsibility for delivery and performance. The County Council would be the leading partner in National Indicator 191 “residual waste per household” and the “Waste Collection Authorities” supported by the County Council would lead on Indicator 195 “improved street and environmental cleanliness (levels of graffiti, litter, detritus and fly posting)”.

The aims and objectives of the Enforcement Group had been circulated and feedback invited and as this was a working document, changes would be made as work progressed.

The recent bid for BREW funding to tackle tourism waste had been submitted by the CSWP. Subject to final approval by BREW, funding of £45k had been offered. The objectives and key outcomes were listed in the report for Members information.

Sir Stuart Rose, Marks and Spencer Chairman had commented in a recent announcement that 90% of the Company’s packaging would be recyclable if local authorities could get their act together and all have the same organisational structure in terms of what could be recycled. Mr Harrison had written to Sir Rose on behalf of the CSWP explaining that local authorities were measured in terms of recycling and the amount of waste produced initially. The CSWP would welcome the opportunity to work in partnership with Marks and Spencer outlets in Cumbria and he asked for Sir Rose’s views on his preferred organisational structure. A copy of the letter was appended to the report and Mr Harrison would report back to the CSWP when a reply had been received.

Also appended to the report were details of Copeland’s bid for capital from the WPEG fund which had been recently reviewed by the CSWP Officer Group.

Mr Stewart pointed out that the Local Area Agreement – reduction in percentage of municipal waste landfilled for December 2007 had been listed as 12% and for January 2008 as 5%. He asked that it be checked and amended accordingly.

The LATS costs benefit set out in page 12 of Appendix 3 indicated that there would be 225 tonnes of cardboard from landfill but this figure should be amended to 275 tonnes.

Paragraph 2 of Appendix 1 said the Partnership was borne out of a 'need' for a close working relationship and Members agreed that more suitable wording would be a 'desire' rather than a need.

Members were pleased to note the £45k awarded for improved funding but requested that officers also try and identify other possible areas of funding.

Everyone agreed that the public were now much more aware of recycling and bio-degradable materials and this in turn had influenced several supermarkets to introduce on-site recycling facilities.

It was

AGREED, that the Cumbria Strategic Waste Partnership:

- (a) note the issues raised in the paper;
- (b) confirm the statement made in Paragraph 3.2 regarding the Local Area Agreement 2008/11;
- (c) confirm Copeland's capital bid.

48. WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGIC SERVICE PARTNER – UPDATE

Mr Pickering informed Members that the deadlines for completing the contract with Shanks was back on line. It was hoped to present a report to the County Council in the autumn although there was still a considerable amount of work to finalise the contract.

The district representatives were concerned that Mr Pickering would be leaving the County Council just when two of the most important projects being undertaken were at such crucial stages in their development. Mr Pickering assured members that he was confident that there would be strong management put in place to take both the CNDR and the Waste Management Strategic Partner issues forward.

The Chairman asked that officers continue to update members on progress with the Strategic Service Partner contract at each meeting of the CSWP.

49. CONSULTATION ON DEFRA PROPOSAL FOR JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE AUTHORITIES

The report presented by Mr Christian, updated members on DEFRA's proposals for Joint Waste Authorities in England.

Mr Bloxham informed the group that he had attended a recent meeting of Cumbria Local Authority Strategic Board (CLASB) and had suggested that the CSWP be afforded the opportunity to comment on the proposals for joint waste authorities.

As the document was quite lengthy it was agreed that members should be given time to read it and consider the proposals with their respective officers. Officers would take any comments to the officers group and the report would then be considered in full at the workshop which members had agreed would precede the next meeting of the CSWP on 28 May. Although this was a consultation document, as this was such an important issue for the partnership, members agreed that the workshop would commence at 10.00 am and not 1:00pm.

AGREED, that

- (a) the report be noted
- (b) a workshop take place at 10.00 am on the 28 May to allow members and officers to fully discuss the joint proposals.

50. HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES – UPDATE

Mr Christian presented a report which outlined the current situation regarding the Household Waste Recycling Centre action plan. Members were asked to note the actions taken and support initiatives currently underway.

Officers had asked that the 'Exception Plan' covering changes to the original development plan for the new HWRC in Barrow be presented to the next meeting. It was hoped that improvements at the site would be completed and the site opened by March 2009.

Contractors had been appointed to build the HWRC at Brampton and it was expected that construction would be completed sometime in August 2008.

The report detailing the Masterplan for Derwent Howe was still awaited so no progress had been made at Clayflatts. Mr Davidson had said that officers at Copeland were aware of the problems in this area and were looking for suitable sites opposite Clayflatts which may be of use in the interim period.

There was just under two years left to develop the HWRC for the Whitehaven area. Planning permission for the Frizington site had been extended to the end of December 2009. The County Council's Head of Planning would be liaising with Copeland Borough Council to see if an agreement regarding use of Moresby Parks could be achieved. Other sites had been identified as possible for development into HWRCs and details of these were appended to the report.

There had been an extension of five years for planning permission for Millom HWRC and once the topographical survey had been carried out here and in Cockermouth, Capita would be given instructions to produce outline designs for replacement HWRCs. Planning permission for extension at the Kirkby Stephen HWRC had been granted on 20 March 2008 and engineering works had either started or were due to start very soon. It was hoped that refurbishment would be complete by the end of May 2008. Meanwhile discussions with Eden District Council to accommodate their recycling needs were ongoing.

Members were concerned that opening times at some sites were not clear and they asked that officers clarify this situation.

AGREED, that the report, actions taken and initiatives under way be noted.

51. GOVERNMENT OFFICE NORTH WEST UPDATE

No update for this meeting.

52. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There were no other items of business for this meeting.

53. DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Members noted that the next meeting of the CSWP would take place at Cumbria Rural Enterprise Agency on Wednesday 28 May 2008 commencing with the workshop for Joint Waste Authorities at 10.00 am.

Buffet lunch would be available from 12.30 pm.

The meeting ended at 3.30 pm.