

# GREATER MANCHESTER WASTE DISPOSAL AUTHORITY AUTHORITY MEETING

17TH MARCH 2017, 11.00 AM, CIVIC CENTRE, OLDHAM

Present: Councillor: Murphy (in the Chair)

Councillors: Brock, Cummings, Driver, Emmott, Fitzpatrick, Hewitt,

Holden, Iqbal, Jones, King, Lancaster, Piddington, Quinn,

Shilton Godwin, Smart, Young and Zaman

Officers: Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, Director of Contract Services,

Solicitor, Deputy Treasurer, Head of Corporate Services, Head of Finance, Head of Contract Services, Head of Organisational Development & Administration and Senior

Corporate Services Officer - Governance

**Contract Savings** 

Team:

Head of Programme Management Office and Interim

Programme Director (Commercial)

Legal Advisor: Partner – Head of Local Government (DWF)

District Officers: (In attendance for briefing session and Authority meeting)

Assistant Head of Waste and Fleet Strategy (Bolton Council), Strategic Area Manager (Manchester City Council), Head of Highways Operations, Waste Management & Fleet (Oldham

Council), Head of Service (Streetscene & Parks

Management) (Salford City Council), Assistant Executive Director, Environmental Services (Tameside Council), Head

of Environmental Services (Tameside Council) and Head of Environmental Services (Trafford Council)

Apologies: Councillors: Ali

Officers: Clerk

Prior to the meeting, to further supplement Item 7 – Recycling & Waste Management Contract (the Contract) Performance Update 2016/17 and Savings Programme the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, Director of Contract Services, Legal Adviser and Interim Programme Director (Commercial), provided Members and Officers with a briefing session and presentation. The Chair acknowledged it was a complicated area and encouraged Members to ask questions throughout the presentation. Members debated the information in detail and sought clarification from Officers and Advisors on a number of commercially sensitive areas.

### M73 Apologies for Absence

The Chair welcomed Viridor's Trade Union Representatives to the public part of the meeting. It was recognised that the Authority had always had a good relationship with the Trade Unions as part of the Contract negotiations.

## M74 Urgent Business, if any, introduced by the Chair

Whilst there was no urgent business introduced by the Chair, it was explained that a supplementary agenda containing Appendix B (draft Task & Finish Group Terms of Reference) and Appendix C (Proposed Structure of Governance Arrangements for the Remainder of the 2016/17 Municipal Year) in relation to Item 8 – Review of Governance Arrangements had been circulated to Members prior to the meeting. The Chair advised that the documents would be considered at the appropriate juncture.

## M75 To receive Declarations of Interest in any contractor or matter to be discussed at the meeting

Councillor Quinn declared a personal interest in Item 7 – Contract Performance Update 2016/17 and Savings Programme by virtue of him being a Trade Union Representative.

#### M76 Public & Member Question Time

There were no questions received.

## M77 To approve the minutes of the last meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the last meeting held on 10<sup>th</sup> February 2017 are approved as a correct record.

### M78 Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED:

That, in accordance with Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, the public and press are excluded from the meeting at this juncture for the following business on the grounds that it involves the disclosure of exempt information as defined in the respectively indicated paragraph(s) of Part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Act.

It would not be, on balance, in the public interest to disclose this information to the public and press for the reasons indicated within the report(s).

Whilst District Officers and Advisors remained in the meeting, Viridor's Trade Union Representatives withdrew from the meeting at this juncture.

## M79 Recycling & Waste Management Contract (the Contract) – Performance Update 2016/17 and Savings Programme

The Solicitor advised that a number of complex legal issues had arose in relation to the proposals contained in the report, for which external legal support had been engaged. The advice contained within the report was subject to legal professional privilege and the contents of the report were of the utmost commercial sensitivity and as such confidentiality must be maintained.

Consideration was given to the joint Officers' report that set out performance data for the Contract to the end of December 2016 and also covered further progress in relation to the development of savings options.

In light of the developing proposals, between publishing the report and the meeting taking place, the report was supplemented with a presentation, which covered performance and construction issues.

Officers led Members through the report and paid particular attention to Section 6 – Savings Programme – Strategic Objectives, which Members endorsed.

## RESOLVED: That the Authority:

- a) notes good performance to the end of December 2016 on Contract landfill diversion, but that recycling levels remain well below target due to lower than expected performance within the Contract;
- b) approves the governance and roles and responsibilities set out in paragraph 7.3 and Appendix C of the report; and
- c) agrees to hold a special meeting of the Authority on 26<sup>th</sup> April 2017, so as to receive the final update on savings proposals and agree the appropriate way to action those savings.

## M80 Review of Governance Arrangements

Members considered the Joint report of the Chair of the Governance Task & Finish Group, Treasurer & Deputy Clerk and Head of Corporate Services that informed Members of the outline proposals arising from the review of the Authority's existing governance arrangements by the Governance Task & Finish Group.

The Chair of the Governance Task & Finish Group introduced the item and thanked Members for their positive contribution at the meeting. The Authority Chair echoed the comments.

In terms of recommendation b) contained within the report, the recommendation was amended at the meeting to reflect Members comments about suspending political balance rules and appointments to the Task and Finish Groups.

#### RESOLVED: That the Authority:

- maintains the current training package of key briefings prior to the start of Authority meetings and bespoke site visits to maximise the potential for all Members to visit the Authority's sites;
- b) agrees the proposed interim governance arrangements set out in Section 7 of the report. Members unanimously agreed to waive the political balance rules (under the Local Government and Housing Act 1989) and with the exception of the Audit & Standards Committee membership (which remains the same) and delegated to the Head of Corporate Services the appointment of five Members each of the Task & Finish Groups in consultation with the Authority Chair; and
- c) requests that a further report be considered at the Annual General Meeting (AGM) of the Authority on 16<sup>th</sup> June 2017 on potential governance requirements for the 2017/18 Municipal Year.

## M81 Treasury Management Strategy Statement (TMSS), Minimum Revenue Provision (MRP) Policy Statement and Annual Investment Strategy (AIS) 2017/18

The Committee considered the report of the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk that set out the Authority's approach to and strategy for treasury management in 2017/18.

RESOLVED: That the Authority:

- a) approves the TMSS, MRP Policy Statement and AIS 2017/18; and
- b) approves a general delegation to the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, in consultation with the Chair & Vice-Chair, to take any action necessary to make sure the Authority is safeguarded which may involve stepping outside the approved strategy be continued in 2017/18. Any action to be reported to Members as soon as practicably possible by e-mail.

## M82 Authority to pass resolution to open the meeting up to the Press and Public

RESOLVED: That the meeting be opened to the press and public for the remaining items contained within the agenda.

Viridor's Trade Union Representatives rejoined the meeting at this juncture.

## M83 Business Plan 2017-2020

Consideration was given to the joint report of the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk and the Director of Contract Services that asked Members to consider the Authority's revised style Business Plan for 2017-2020 attached to the report at Appendix A.

RESOLVED: That the Authority approves the Business Plan for 2017-2020 attached to the report at Appendix A.

## M84 Pay Policy Statement 2017/18, in Relation to the Localism Act 2011

Members considered the report of the Director of Contract Services, which asked the Authority to agree the Pay Policy Statement 2017/18 as set out in the report.

RESOLVED: That the Authority:

- a) approves the Pay Policy Statement 2017/18; and
- b) delegates any administrative updates in relation to the 2017 pay settlement to the Head of Organisational Development & Administration.

### M85 Policy Development Update

The Committee considered the joint report of the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk and Director of Contract Services that updated the Authority on current policy developments, and sought guidance on the next steps.

Regarding paragraph 3.3 of the report, a Member suggested that it might be beneficial to organise an educational visit in the future to see the 3D printer printing actual products.

A discussion took place about Horizon 2020 funding and how this could be affected by Brexit. Officers and Members noted that whilst the bid met the criteria the success rate was likely to be low.

## RESOLVED: That the Authority:

- a) notes the report;
- b) endorses the action being taken on the European Commission's Circular Economy (CE) proposals, and the next stage actions to lobby in the development of an English Waste Policy;
- c) endorses the proposals and timelines on the proposed refresh of the Waste Management Strategy (WMS), as set out in Section 5 of the report; and
- d) endorses the urgent action taken to support the bid by Manchester Metropolitan University (MMU) for European Horizon 2020 funding, to support their 3D printing from waste initiative, as set out in Section 6 of the report.

The meeting opened at 11.00 am and closed at 12.09 pm.

**GMWDA**