

Present: Councillors Councillor Murphy (in the Chair)

Ali, Bellamy, Brock, Cummings, Driver, Emmott, Fitzpatrick, Hewitt, Holden, Iqbal, Lancaster, Piddington, Shilton Godwin, Smart, Young and Zaman.

Officers Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, Solicitor, Deputy Treasurer, Head of Corporate Services, Head of Finance, Head of Contract Services, Head of Organisational Development and Administration, Head of Communications and Behaviour Change, Re-Procurement Lead, Head of Project Management Office, Senior Governance and Scrutiny Officer.

Apologies: Councillors Jones

Officers Clerk to the Authority
Interim Programme Director (Commercial)

37. Apologies for Absence

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillor Jones and the Clerk to the Authority.

38. Urgent Business, if any, introduced by the Chair

There were no items of urgent business reported.

39. To receive Declarations of Interest in any contract or matter to be discussed at the meeting

There were no declarations of interest made by any Member, in respect of any contract or agenda item.

40. Waste Management Strategy and Policy Update

Consideration was given to a joint report of the Treasurer and Deputy Clerk, the Director of Contract Services and the Head of Corporate Services which provided an update in relation to the on-going review of the Waste Management Strategy in the absence of clear policy from Defra, and sought guidance from Members on the proposed next steps.

Members noted the progress in relation to the revision of the European Communities' Waste Strategies and plans, within the context of their Circular Economy proposals and expected timelines for the final agreement. It was also noted that the draft Circular Economy package now contained an ambitious and challenging 70% recycling target, based on revised, tighter definitions of what counts as recycling. The Treasurer & Deputy Clerk advised Members that, based on the Authority's current waste consumption and collection systems, such a recycling target was likely to be beyond the capabilities of the GMWDA to deliver unless further changes to the methodology of data collection and its definitions were made.

The Treasurer & Deputy Clerk explained that following the reassessment of the Government's workload, it seemed unlikely that the proposals for an English Waste Policy, which the Authority had been pressing for, will be brought forward in the foreseeable future. Members noted that meetings were continuing with representatives of Defra to ensure where possible, the absence of clear government policy does not create insurmountable issues for the re-procurement of Operating Contracts for waste management and disposal.

Members raised the following points:-

- a) The target of 70% recycling suggested by was very challenging and is not something that could be supported. GMWDA should continue to both explore best practice and innovate.
- b) Although still challenging, a recycling target of 60% rising to 65% would be more appropriate. Members noted that in the upcoming years, the number of properties and the population of Greater Manchester will increase significantly which would have an impact on waste disposal services demand.
- c) A Member sought clarification on the potential involvement of the Local Government Association (LGA) in relation to the Circular Economy proposals. In response, the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk noted that although the LGA recognised this as an important issue, it was not currently included within their priority list. It thus seemed likely that the LGA could continue to work with GM on this matter but were unable to lead on it.
- d) With regard to the Waste Strategy Review, it was noted that work was continuing with the Joint Waste Disposal Authorities on this matter.

RESOLVED: The Authority agreed:-

- a) To note the report;
- b) To approve the proposed further lobbying activities as set out in sections 5 and 6 to the report, with the additional inclusion of lobbying by Members into the national political party structures and also requesting Officers to take up again the matter with the Local Government Association; and
- c) To note that the plan to deliver a first draft of the 2018 Waste Management Strategy to the January 2018 meeting remained on track.

41. Exclusion of Press and Public

RESOLVED: That, in accordance with Section 100(4) of the Local Government Act 1972 the public be 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 3 and that it would not be, on balance, in the public interest to disclose the information to the public because disclosure would be likely to breach the reasonable requirements of companies to commercial confidentiality at this stage of the procurement process.

42. Re-procurement of Operating Contractors

Members considered a joint report of the Treasurer & Deputy Clerk, the Director of Contract Services and the Interim Programme Director (Commercial) which set out the current draft proposals for the re-procurement of operating contractors. In addition, the report sought the input of Members in shaping these proposals and also sought a delegation to officers to be able to place

the necessary contract notice in the Official Journal of the European Union (OJEU), together with finalising initial contract documentation.

The Solicitor reiterated the confidential nature of this report and any subsequent discussions on this matter.

A workshop session was then undertaken to enable Members and Officers to 'deep dive' in some key areas, with the aim of ensuring that the Authority's aspirations would be captured within the suite of procurement documents. It was agreed that feedback from this session would be reported back to the next Authority meeting

RESOLVED: The Authority agreed:-

- a) To record thanks to officers for their continued hard work in dealing with highly complex contractual negotiations;
- b) To note the proposals as set out in the report and to receive and note the interactive presentation made at the meeting;
- c) That feedback from the workshop session be reported back to the next Authority meeting on 21st September, 2017;
- d) To grant delegated authority to the Director of Contract Services and Head of Corporate Services, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chairs of the Authority, to finalise the Strategic Sourcing document and the procurement suite of documents, as set out in section 10 to the report.

The meeting opened at 10.30am and closed at 13:22pm.

GMWDA