

Gloucestershire Waste Partnership

16th June 2010

Venue: Meeting Room 1, Shire Hall



Notes of meeting

Present

Cllr Stan Waddington (SW) (chair) Jo Walker (JW) Tony Childs (TC) Andy Pritchard (AP) Ralph Young (RY) Cllr Mark Tufnell (MT) Roger Garbett (RG)	Cllr Martin Quaile (MQ) David Sutton (DS) Cllr Roger Whyborn (RW) Karen Toole (KT) Cllr Libby Bird (LB) Chris Bosley (CB) Verna Green (VG)
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Apologies for absence

Rob Bell (RB) Cllr Steve Morgan (SM)	Cllr Jim Mason (JM) George Hill (GH)
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1. Notes and actions of last meeting (09.03.10)

- **Action: It was agreed that TC will report back to GWP in the autumn on progress towards agreeing the LAA performance targets.**
- The PDF version of the compost bag design was circulated following the meeting.
- It was clarified that the HRC site in Wales that was understood to be processing compost does not do this and therefore there is no need to circulate details.
- Joint Strategy Action Plans have been agreed by all partners and will be uploaded to the Recycle for Gloucestershire website. (Note that these action plans do not contain performance targets so are unaffected by any changes to targets).

2. Shadow Joint Waste Board update

RY presented an update on Shadow Joint Waste Board progress.

A revised Joint Working business case has been produced and this demonstrates an increased range of benefits (£2Mpa - £3.5Mpa) breaking even in 2012/13. The shadow Joint Waste Board has accepted this business case subject to validation by finance officers.

Executives at each partner authority will decide in September on a long-term commitment to moving the programme forward. RY clarified a query from CB that the programme timeline fixes September cabinet meetings for decision making and that George Hill of Tewkesbury Borough Council is involved in this process already. LB requested that the Eunomia business case reports are issued well in advance of these meetings. RY confirmed that would be the case.

Surrey Waste Partnership will be visiting Gloucestershire in September to meet with us and share lessons learnt. RY and TC will co-ordinate arrangements for this.

3. Service Development & Performance updates

TC presented the 2009/10 performance data for recycling & composting and for residual waste landfilled. Collectively we were below target on recycling and composting but beat the target for waste landfilled.

A forward look of anticipated 2010/11 performance was also given. This shows that we are expected to meet our targets for recycling & composting and for landfilled waste.

MT raised the issue of balancing out collection costs vs landfill cost savings in respect of new service development. It was acknowledged that an overall net benefit is expected to be delivered to the taxpayer but that this is difficult to demonstrate due to a lack of comparative data. Furthermore there are no longer performance indicators relating to disposal costs which we can use to compare ourselves with others.

Action : TC to undertake a comparison of waste disposal costs with other WDA's.

County Council

AP provided an update on current communications activities around the county, outlining the current roadshow programme and the forthcoming Recycle Week.

Action : AP to circulate the list of schools signed-up to participate in Recycle Week.

Other forthcoming activities in 2010/11 include waste composition analysis, progress of Reuse Centre development at HRC's and a Zero Waste campaign week.

The sale of soil conditioner produced from food and garden waste is underway at Oak Quarry on a trial basis whilst applications for planning permissions for sale of the material at all sites are ongoing.

Pyke Quarry HRC now has its' feeder road installed. LB commented that the site is dangerous as users park randomly around the site and walk across

oncoming traffic. TC acknowledged that this is an issue which needs to be addressed and stated that the site will shortly be improved with white lining to channel vehicles safely and a form of traffic control to stop too many vehicles entering the site.

JW outlined the current status of the residual waste procurement project and clarified some aspects of it in response to questions raised. Many of the questions raised are covered in existing information on the RFG website.

Action : AP to circulate link to residual waste pages on the RFG website.

SW commented on current site works at Javelin Park, stating that these works are being undertaken by the current site owners to establish a service road for the whole site. The works are not being undertaken by GCC for a residual waste facility, which in any case would only occupy part of the site.

It was agreed that a separate GWP meeting will be called in November to update the group on the residual project prior to the cabinet meeting.

Action : AP to organise an additional GWP meeting in November.

Tewkesbury Borough Council

CB outlined the performance improvement resulting from the new waste and recycling collection services. During April recycling and composting increased from 31% to 48% with residual waste reducing from 2000t to 1500t. In May residual waste has reduced further to 1000t (i.e. a 50% reduction overall) and it is expected that recycling and composting will rise above 50%. Feedback from residents overall is positive and MRF recycling rates are stated to be very high, in the region of 97-98%.

In July the scheme will add tetrapak and mixed kitchen plastics to the list of materials that can be recycled.

Garden Delights have been commissioned to distribute additional compostable bags from now on. TC highlighted a discussion held at County Council scrutiny recently regarding the confusion caused by differing policies on liner bags. It will be important for us to establish a consistent policy on the use of liner bags prior to any new schemes being developed.

Cheltenham Borough Council

RW highlighted the intention to submit proposals to cabinet in July for food waste collections in Cheltenham. If agreed, it is planned for a new scheme to be introduced in April 2011.

Gloucester City Council

Phase 1 collection service has now bedded in. Significant on-the-ground resources have been dedicated to solving the problems within one particular ward, and this is now paying off. Phase 2 will begin to roll-out the service to high-rise and other hard-to-reach multiple occupancy properties. This will commence over the next few weeks and will focus on a few blocks at a time, identifying the best solutions in each individual case.

Forest of Dean District Council

MQ updated that there have been no challenges to the merging of the contracts and that this hurdle has now passed.

The public consultation into future waste services has seen a 30% rate of return (1000 out of 3000) from the postal survey and an additional 300 electronic returns. The waste steering group will meet shortly to assess the outcomes of this survey and to formulate a response.

The council is now working towards a September cabinet decision on a new waste collection service. This meeting will also consider the decision on the future Joint Working arrangements.

The Forest of Dean is also working on internal waste management issues and has identified some issues with recycling participation in its offices. MQ was concerned that this indicates the uphill task we have in educating the public in recycling.

MQ also fed back on a WRAP conference he recently attended. Some new ideas to assist in the development of waste collection services were discussed.

Stroud District Council

KT reported that future Joint Working arrangements will be considered by cabinet in September and Council in January.

Despite new calendars being delivered to all affected households, recent round changes have generated some public confusion and an increase in contact with the council.

Some decisions around a new waste collection service will be made in September, and these will be built into the budget process in December and January. Veolia have been approached to develop costed proposals for both co-mingled and kerbside sort recycling schemes.

Cotswold District Council

MT stated that Cotswolds are considering ways to reduce the costs associated with their current service. Rounds have been changed and the new 'zones' are expected to deliver efficiency savings of up to £70k.

A trial of kerbside collected plastic bottles will commence in July.

Following the fatality in Fairford, HSE advice regarding the strict enforcement of the closed-lids policy has been applied across the district. The message was given to all partners to ensure that the same policy is applied by all districts. Cheltenham recognises that this will be an issue for them and that there is a clear opportunity to apply a strict policy at the same time as introducing the new service.

RG warned that Health and Safety issues are currently getting significant press coverage and that partners would be advised to brief their press officers prior to promoting any Health & Safety related service changes.

4. AOB

TC highlighted some contact he had made with Recyclebank. This scheme is currently operating in Windsor & Maidenhead, and rewards residents who recycle with vouchers. This positive incentive mechanism is an example of what is currently being promoted by the new government. An offer has been made for them to make a presentation to GWP about the scheme.

Action : TC to arrange a presentation by Recyclebank at the next GWP meeting.

MQ questioned why mixed plastics (including for example seed-trays) are no longer separately collected at HRC's. TC replied that the reprocessor was no longer in existence but that it was hoped that a new solution could be found by September.

Future Meetings (all in Shire Hall)

Tuesday 7 th September 2010	Environment Training Room	2.00–4.00pm
Wednesday 1 st December 2010	Meeting Room 1	2.00–4.00pm