

GLOUCESTERSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP

MINUTES of the meeting of the Gloucestershire Waste Partnership held on Tuesday 1st April, 2014 commencing at 11.00 am at the Council Chamber - Shire Hall, Gloucester.

Present:

Cheltenham Borough Council

Cllr Roger Whyborn
Jane Griffiths
Pat Pratley

Cotswold District Council

Cllr David Fowles
Claire Locke
Monica Stephens

Forest Of Dean District Council

Cllr Martin Quaile
Peter Hibberd

Gloucester City Council

Cllr Sajid Patel
Ross Cook

GCC

Cllr Stan Waddington
Cllr Ray Theodoulou

Stroud District Council

Joanne Jordan

Tewkesbury Borough

Cllr Jim Mason
Nick Firkins

Joint Waste Team

Steve Read
Scott Williams
Andy Pritchard
Rachel Capon

12. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

As Cllr Waddington could not attend for the start of the meeting, it was agreed that Cllr Quaile should take the chair for the meeting.

13. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Carlos Novoth (Stroud DC) Jo Walker (GCC) and Julie Davies (Tewkesbury BC).

14. MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 11 February were agreed as a correct record.

15. ACTIONS

Members were updated on the following actions as listed on the agenda:

Minutes subject to their acceptance as a correct record at the next meeting

- a) The position of authorities regarding participation in the Joint Waste Committee to be reported at the Annual General Meeting on 10 June 2014. It was noted that a report on Tewkesbury Borough Council's position was to be considered at the Committee's meeting immediately following this meeting. - **Action by Gloucester City Council, Stroud District Council and Tewkesbury Borough Council.**
- b) Following a request for more detailed information on the challenges to partner authorities in meeting performance targets, it was agreed that a briefing note would be circulated to district, town and parish councils – *to be completed* - **Action by Joint Waste Team**
- c) The Joint Waste Team (JWT) agreed to circulate a briefing note on the achievements and activities in neighbouring authorities, (in particular, Oxfordshire), prior to consideration at the meeting on 1 April 2014. *On agenda at item 7.*
- d) The Joint Waste Team to undertake a short review of the arrangements for waste collections at local supermarkets. Following the review, the Joint Waste Team to liaise with the Chairman of Gloucestershire County Council, Cllr Tony Hicks, asking him to write to leading supermarkets. *To be completed - emphasised focus to be on bring sites.* **Action by Joint Waste Team**
- e) *Completed.*
- f) Carlos Novoth to circulate the updated business plan for Stroud District Council. *Received by JWT for general circulation.* **Action by Joint Waste Team**
- g) The Joint Waste Team to consider options for the Gloucestershire Green Points (Cheltenham) Scheme and present at a future meeting. *On-going – now to include a survey in April.* **Action by Joint Waste Team.**
- h) The proposal to promote the benefits of 're-use', (as opposed to 'recycle'), to be considered as part of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy Review. *For discussion at Agenda item 5*
- i) The Joint Waste Team to undertake a short review of the councillor led campaign to introduce "free of charge" waste collections for primary schools in the Cotswold District. A report to be presented at the Joint Waste Committee meeting on 1 April 2014. In the meantime, the Joint Waste Team to issue an interim press release to avoid raising local expectations. *A press release was ready but the full report had not yet been finalised and was not therefore presented. It would be sent to Cotswold DC by 9 April and, pending the outcome of member discussion at Cotswold, on to all.*
Actions by Joint Waste Team

16. RE-USE

A presentation on the benefits of re-use was given by Andy Pritchard, JWT.

The clear benefits of increasing the opportunities for re-use of items discarded by the previous owners were noted. It was agreed that a future report on this matter should be prepared once the JWT had explored the following points:

- Improving facilities such as the provision of reuse shop at the household recycling centres (HRCs) for the deposition and sale of re-usable items, identifying costs in both the short and longer term;
- The practicalities involved in the use of bring sites as collection points for this type of item; and
- The potential for partnerships with charity shops.

It was agreed that an 'easy-gain' immediate action would be to continue to raise awareness of the reuse opportunities currently available.

Action: Joint Waste Team

17. PERFORMANCE UPDATE

Rachel Capon, JWT, gave a presentation on current recycling performance rates across the county.

Members noted that the relatively lower recycling rates in the larger urban areas (Gloucester and Cheltenham) were typical of areas with a higher concentration of houses with multiply occupancy and a more transient population. No single solution had been found as yet to improve re-cycling in this particular type of environment; however several initiatives were in place such as communal recycling bins which it was hoped would eventually generate an improved rate.

Action: JWT to update report at the next meeting.

18. UPDATE ON OXFORDSHIRE

Andy Pritchard, JWT, gave a presentation which compared Gloucestershire's performance with Oxfordshire.

It was noted that although of a comparable size, Oxfordshire reported higher levels of recycling than Gloucestershire, although there did not appear to a single reason for this difference. It was possible that the data comparison did not compare like with like. The use of co-mingling collections seemed to generate more recycling tonnage, but this advantage may be lost by a reduction in the quality of the collected recyclates and rejection of non-compliant material which may not be fully

acknowledged. Similarly, the removal of green waste from landfill reduced the total tonnage of residual waste but free collections did little to reduce the total tonnage of waste collected, and as the data showed, the overall waste arisings tended to be higher, contrary to the primary aim of reducing total waste.

It was agreed that the JWT should update and circulate the presentation.

Action: JWT

19. SERVICE UPDATES

An update on recent activities undertaken in each area was received. The following points were made during the discussion:

Cheltenham

The policy of no side waste and closed bin lids was continuing well. The Enforcement team currently had three cases close to the issuing of an enforcement action. The garden waste collection special promotion continued with a new subscriber discount of £2 available until 31 May. The Joint Waste Committee would consider a proposal to trail the collection of mixed plastics at the larger bring sites.

Forest of Dean

There had been a very positive take-up of the garden waste collection service. Support was being given to a bid by the Forestry Commission to the Heritage Lottery fund for a project to discourage littering and fly-tipping across the District.

County

The contract (or contracts) for the treatment of food and green waste was on schedule to be let in June. Cheltenham Leisure had joined the Green points joint project (with Cheltenham) which would allow residents to swap their green points for swimming sessions.

Tewkesbury

A costs/benefits analysis of using a four-day week collection system was underway. A new MRF contract had been let which would involve some changes to current arrangements.

Gloucester

The trial in some areas of the use of cornstarch bags in the food waste bins had generated a slight increase in collections.

Cotswold

Minutes subject to their acceptance as a correct record at the next meeting

The planning permission on the temporary depot site at South Cerney had been extended for another three years to accommodate any delays in securing a permanent site.

Renewals of garden waste collections had been at a high level. An overall increase was anticipated.

Future PR would concentrate more on the aims of reducing waste generated and highlighting facilities and opportunities for re-use of items rather than recycling.

Action: All were encouraged to emphasise reducing waste as a priority in the next set of business plans.

20. FUTURE MEETINGS

It was agreed that the dates for future meetings would be:

2014

Tuesday 10 June (AGM)

Tuesday 14 October

Tuesday 16 December

2015

Tuesday 10 February

Tuesday 21 April

Tuesday 9 June (AGM)

Tuesday 13 October

Tuesday 15 December

CHAIRPERSON

Meeting concluded at Time Not Specified