

**MINUTES OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE, HELD
THURSDAY, 12TH SEPTEMBER, 2019 AT MANCHESTER TOWN HALL**

PRESENT:

Councillor Alan Quinn	Bury
Councillor Rabnawaz Akbar	Manchester
Councillor Shaukat Ali	
Councillor Ateeque Ul-Rehman	Oldham
Councillor Tom Besford	Rochdale
Councillor David Lancaster	Salford
Councillor Roy Driver	Stockport
Councillor Helen Foster-Grime	
Councillor Allison Gwynne (in the Chair)	Tameside
Councillor Judith Lloyd	Trafford

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

David Taylor	GMCA – Executive Director, Waste & Resources
Paul Morgan	GMCA – Waste & Resources
Lindsey Keech	GMCA – Waste & Resources
Justin Lomax	GMCA – Waste & Resources
Michelle Whitfield	GMCA – Waste & Resources
Paul Harris	GMCA – Governance & Scrutiny

WRC 19/21 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillors Susan Emmott (Rochdale), Robin Garrido (Salford), Paul Lally (Trafford), Yasmin Toor (Oldham) and Adele Warren (Bolton).

WRC 19/22 CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS (IF ANY)

There are no Items of urgent business reported.

WRC 19/23 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest reported by any Member in respect of any agenda item.

WRC 19/24 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 18 JULY 2019

The minutes of the previous meeting of the Committee, that took place on 18 July 2019, were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That the Minutes of the GM Waste & Recycling Committee, held on 18 July 2019, be approved as a correct record.

WRC 19/25 WASTE & RECYCLING COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2019/20

David Taylor, Executive Director of Waste and Resources, introduced a report which advised Members of those proposed items for consideration at future meetings of the Committee.

RESOLVED/-

That the contents of the Waste and Recycling Committee work programme be noted.

WRC 19/26 REGISTER OF GMCA KEY DECISIONS

The GMCA Monitoring Officer provided a report which summarised those key decisions on the GMCA Key Decision Register, in relation to waste and recycling matters.

RESOLVED/-

That the contents of the Register of Key Decisions, as set out in the report, be noted.

WRC 19/27 WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT UPDATE

Justin Lomax, Head of Contract Services, Waste & Resources, introduced a report which provided Members with an overview of the performance of the Waste and Resources Management Services (WRMS) and the Household Waste Recycling Centre Management Services (HWRCMS) Contracts. The report also provided updates on key issues currently affecting the waste management services during Period 1 of the new contracts. Details of health and safety matters and an update on facility modifications was also presented.

Members noted that the performance of the new contracts is monitored on a monthly basis, in arrears and in consultation with Suez. The key performance categories for the contracts are set out in the table below:

Month 1 – Combined Contracts Position	Jun-19
Total arisings	92,328
Recycling	44,245
Recycling Rate	47.9%
Landfill disposal	4,814
Diversion Rate	94.8%
HWRC performance	
Recycling Rate (Household Waste)	39.5%
Diversion (Household Waste)	92.8%
Diversion (Total Arising, including rubble)	94%
Runcorn CHP	
RDF to Runcorn	25,983
Longley Lane MRF	
Rejection of Kerbside Recycling Collections (tonnes)	43
MRF Contamination Rate (Commingled)	17%

A Member welcomed the efforts of Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) staff. He was pleased to note that he had observed site staff welcoming service users to the site, checking their cargo and directing them to the appropriate recycling bay. He also highlighted their concerns about trade waste disposal and was pleased to note the proactive approach to address this. In response, officers noted that the HWRC Access Policy will strengthen the ability to identify trade waste.

RESOLVED/-

That the performance of the new Waste and Resources and Household Waste Services Contracts which commenced on 1 June 2019, be noted.

WRC 19/28 COMMUNICATION AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE UPDATE

Michelle Whitfield, Head of Communications and Behavioural Change, introduced a report which provided an update to Members on the Recycle for Greater Manchester Communications & Behavioural Change Delivery Plan and the Joint Communications Plan with Suez.

Members noted that the main focus of the 2019-20 delivery plan is on reducing contamination in household recycling bins by using available data such as rejected loads, sampling, Wrap’s tracker report and visual bin checks to target resources across Greater Manchester and also on increasing recycling at the household waste recycling centres. Members also noted that the communications plan identifies the following five aims:

- Reduce contamination and improve the quality of recycling;
- Encourage waste prevention;
- Raise awareness of recycling across Greater Manchester using on and offline channels;
- Develop and promote the education service; and
- Increase recycling at the HWRCs to 42.4% (average across 20 sites by 2019/20).

A Member suggested that for print advertising of recycling matters the North Manchester Jewish Advertiser has a wide circulation in the Bury community. In response, officers noted that guidance has been sought from Bury Council officers on what publications to use and would feed this suggestion back to them.

A Member suggested that the Schools Environmental Conference is a suitable place to promote how and what to recycle. Young people can advise and influence their parents on how to recycle smarter.

Following an enquiry from a Member, officers noted that they were to meet with Manchester City Council in the upcoming days to discuss the recycling contamination campaign week. In addition, Members noted that all Greater Manchester schools were to be engaged as part of Recycle Week activities.

In response to a comment from a Member, officers explained that work was taking place with Suez to produce a GM compost brand that can be sold at the new Re-use shops. Members noted that legislation regarding peat content in compost was to be explored, as was the potential to supply compost to garden centres.

In welcoming the progress made, a Member reiterated the importance of having clear and consistent messaging on what and how residents can recycle.

Members noted that a new educational resource has been introduced which will enable outreach work to be undertaken within schools.

RESOLVED/-

That the progress made against the Recycle for Greater Manchester Communications & Behavioural Change Delivery Plan and the Joint Communications Plan with Suez, as set out in the report, be noted.

WRC 19/29 CONSULTATION RESPONSE AND NEXT STEPS

David Taylor, Executive Director, Waste & Resources, introduced a report which provided Members with responses to the Government's four consultations that were released on 18th

February 2019. The consultations cover Plastic Packaging Tax, Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) and Consistent Collections. The report also identified the proposed next steps.

A Member suggested that separate collections for garden and food waste was not required and that the existing combined collations in Greater Manchester worked well for districts. In response, officers noted that government research has identified that the anaerobic digestion of food can be utilised to produce fuel. Members noted issues regarding digestion capacity and the seasonal demand for resulting digestate for land spreading.

A Member highlighted that should additional household bins and collections be required, a clear communications strategy was needed. In response, officers noted that responses were being shared with district colleagues to ensure that consistent messaging is maintained.

RESOLVED/-

That the responses to the Government's four consultations on Plastic Packaging Tax, Extended Producer Responsibility, Deposit Return Scheme and Consistent Collections, as set out in the report, be noted.

WRC 19/30 FORECAST BUDGET OUTTURN 2019/20 AND FUTURE LEVY ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY AGREEMENT (LAMA) ARRANGEMENTS

Lindsey Keech, Head of Finance, Waste & Resources, introduced a report which presented Members with forecast revenue outturn for 2019/20 for the Waste and Resources Service. The report also set out proposals to allocate the budget requirements for 2020/21 onwards to Districts via a revised Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement (LAMA) following the change in allocation of costs arising from the award of contracts to Suez. Members noted that any change will require the unanimous support from all nine Districts and for this reason, the report also set out recommendations for a formal consultation process to ensure final agreements can be considered for adoption at the January 2020 meeting of the GMCA.

RESOLVED/-

That the forecast revenue outturn for 2019/20 and the future levy allocation methodology agreement (LAMA) arrangements for the Waste and Resources Service, be noted.

WRC 19/31 DATE AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

Members were reminded of the future meeting dates for the Committee.

RESOLVED/-

The following future meeting dates for the Committee were noted:-

Thursday 14 November 2019, 2.00 pm

Thursday 16 January 2020, 2.00 pm

Thursday 12 March 2020, 2.00 pm

WRC 19/32 EXCLUSION OF PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED/-

That, under section 100 (A)(4) of the Local Government Act 1972, member of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting for the following items of business on the grounds that this involves the likely disclosure of exempt information, as set out in paragraphs 3 & 5, Part 1, Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 and that the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.

PART B

WRC 19/33 BUDGET AND MEDIUM TERM FINANCIAL PLAN (MTFP) UPDATE TO 2023/24 AND FUTURE LEVY ALLOCATION METHODOLOGY AGREEMENT (LAMA) ARRANGEMENTS

Lindsey Keech, Head of Finance, Waste & Resources, provided a report which set out the forecasted revenue and outturn for 2019/20 for the Waste and Resources Service alongside the Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) to 2023/24. Details of the future Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement (LAMA) arrangements were also presented.

Members raised questions in relation to:-

- a) Commercial assessments;
- b) Raikes Lane;
- c) New vehicles.

RESOLVED/-

That the Budget and Medium Term Financial Plan (MTFP) update to 2023/24 and future Levy Allocation Methodology Agreement (LAMA) arrangements, as set out in the report, be noted.

WRC 19/34 WASTE MANAGEMENT CONTRACT UPDATE

Justin Lomax, Head of Contract Services, Waste and Resources, provided an update on performance and commercial issues relating to the new Waste and Resources and Household Waste Recycling Centre Management Services Contracts that commenced on 1st June 2019 and close down of the run off contract with Viridor.

Members raised questions in relation to:-

- a) Weigh-bridge access;
- b) Reliance Street facility;
- c) Raikes Lane facility;
- d) Insurance; and
- e) Pensions.

RESOLVED/-

- 1) That the performance details of the Waste Management Contracts and those key risks, as set out in the report, be noted; and
- 2) That delegated authority be granted to the Executive Director, in consultation with the Chair of the Committee, to conclude the Notices of Change required for the Reliance Street facility, as set out in the report.