

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING OF THE GMCA WASTE AND RECYCLING
COMMITTEE HELD ON WEDNESDAY 12TH OCTOBER 2022 AT THE
MECHANICS INSTITUTE**

PRESENT:

Bolton Council	Councillor Nadim Muslim
Bury Council	Councillor Alan Quinn (in the Chair)
Manchester CC	Councillor Lee-Ann Igbon
Manchester CC	Councillor Shaukat Ali
Oldham Council	Councillor Umar Nasheen
Salford CC	Councillor David Lancaster
Stockport Council	Councillor Roy Driver
Stockport Council	Councillor Mark Roberts
Tameside Council	Councillor Laura Boyle
Trafford Council	Councillor Stephen Adshead

OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:

GMCA Deputy Monitoring Officer	Gwynne Williams
GMCA Waste & Resources	David Taylor
GMCA Waste & Resources	Justin Lomax
GMCA Finance	Lindsey Keech
GMCA Waste & Resources	Michelle Whitfield
GMCA Waste & Resources	Michael Kelly
GMCA Environment	Sarah Mellor
GMCA Governance & Scrutiny	Kerry Bond
Bury Council	Daniela Dixon
Rochdale Council	Anthony Johns
Tameside Council	Jo Oliver

WRC 22/17 APOLOGIES

RESOLVED/-

Apologies for absence were received and noted from Councillors Mohammed Alyas (Oldham) and Denise Ward (Tameside).

Apologies were also received and noted from Councillor Martyn Cox (GMCA Portfolio Lead), Eamonn Boylan (GMCA) and Steve Wilson (GMCA).

WRC 22/18 CHAIR’S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS

RESOLVED/-

There were no announcements or items of urgent business reported.

WRC 22/19 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

RESOLVED/-

There were no declarations of interest reported by any member in respect of any item on the agenda.

WRC 22/20 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 13TH JULY 2022

The minutes of the previous meeting of the committee, held on 13th July 2022 were submitted.

RESOLVED/-

That the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 13th July 2022 be approved as a correct record with the amendment that Councillor Mark Roberts, Stockport Council be added as in attendance.

WRC 22/21 CONTRACTS UPDATE

Justin Lomax, Head of Contract Services, GMCA Waste and Resources Team introduced a report which provided an overview of the performance of the Waste and Resources Management Services (WRMS) and the Household Waste Recycling Centre Management Services (HWRCMS) contracts that commenced on 1 June 2019.

The report presented cumulative annual data, for the period of April 2022 to June 2022 (Quarter 1) of the financial year 2022/23 (contract year 4), for the two Contracts held by Suez, along with comparison figures for the same time frame in 2021/22. An overview of the total waste arisings, landfill diversion, HWRC recycling rate, overall recycling rate, contamination levels, tonnage rates and health and safety matters were also provided.

Officers confirmed that the cost savings due to the reduction in contamination tonnage, circ. 20k tonnes, as detailed in section 2.6 of the report will be reflected in the levy costs.

Members were advised that there hadn't been any evidence of an increase in fly tipping across districts due to reduction in the HWRC tonnage levels or the introduction of the van permit scheme.

A member highlighted the work that the Trafford Council Environmental Enforcement Team undertakes to engage with local business in respect of trade waste arrangements.

RESOLVED /-

1. To note the matters set out in the report.
2. To approve the continued operation of the Household Waste Recycling Centre sites with height restriction barriers open to allow the entry of High Sided Vehicles as detailed in section 5 of the report.

WRC 22/22 COMMUNICATIONS AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE PLAN 2023/24

Michelle Whitfield, Head of Communications and Behavioural Change, GMCA Waste and Resources Team introduced a report and presentation detailing the initial draft Recycle for Greater Manchester Communications & Behavioural Change Delivery Plan for 2023/24.

Members were reminded that the three main objectives of the Communications and Behavioural Change Delivery Plan are:

- to provide communications, engagement and media expertise to support the delivery of the Waste and Resources contracts;
- to support the 9 local councils with joint communications to educate, promote and encourage residents to minimise their waste and recycle correctly both at home and at the 20 household waste recycling centres (HWRCs); and
- to deliver joint communications with Suez on the social value plan, including the Renew shops and Hub, construction work at waste management treatment facilities and regular stakeholder engagement.

In response to an enquiry from a member, officers confirmed that lithium-ion batteries when damaged are the main cause of fires at recycling centres and that the industry is looking at more advanced fire detection systems.

A member recommended that a campaign across districts on reduction of food waste be established. Officers agreed to liaise with Helping Hands Recycling campaign to collaborate on a food waste campaign and to update members.

Members suggested a more joined up approach across districts on all aspects of recycling, including the promotion of renew shops, educating residents on mixed recycling bins and the promotion of recycling to private landlords and tenants.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the Communications and Behavioural Change Plan 2023/24 be noted.

WRC 22/23 BUDGET AND LEVY SETTING PROCESS FOR 2023/24

Lindsey Keech, Head of Finance Capital & Treasury Management, GMCA provided an update on the timeline for setting the budget and levy for 2023/24 and the levy allocation methodology agreement.

Members asked what impact the CPI increase will have on the levy. Officers confirmed that the CPI increase will likely be around 10%, this increase will only affect one element of the operating costs, ways to mitigate the increase are being looked at and discussions are currently underway with district finance officers.

In response to an enquiry from a member, officers confirmed that each district is producing its own tonnage projection based on pre and post covid figures and expected future figures.

RESOLVED /-

1. To note the budget and levy setting timeline for 2023/24.

**WRC 22/24 CAPITAL PROGRAMME AND ASSET MANAGEMENT
UPDATE**

Members received an update from Michael Kelly, Head of Engineering and Asset Management, GMCA Waste and Resources Team on the implementation of the asset management plan and key engineering projects, detailing updates relating to

the Waste and Resources Team asset portfolio and for key capital projects focusing on progress during quarters 1 and 2 of 2022-23, including:

The new Mechanical Treatment and Reception facilities at Longley Lane are now completed, tested and were commissioned in July 2022, they now form part of the 4 MTR's across the region to receive, handle and process residual waste, with all four plants having the combined capacity to receive more than 480,000 tonnes. Mitigation against fire protection is being investigated at all four sites.

A planning application has been submitted for a Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) at Reliance Street, a final position on the application is expected by January 2023 with a view to demolition and clearing works beginning in February 2023, an open tender procurement process will take place and subject to planning approval construction works will commence in the summer of 2023.

Options are being looked at into reviewing redundant assets and functions across the portfolio between 2022-25, there are potentially 30 individual assets/functions that will be reviewed. The first project that is currently underway is the removal of the redundant in-vessel composter equipment at Bredbury, alongside this over the coming months the redundant AD tanks at Reliance Street will be demolished and removed as part of the HWRC project, and the composter at Over Hulton will be removed.

A decarbonisation review of the waste portfolio identifying where carbon can be reduced across sites will be completed by the end of this year, and will result in specific actions in 2023-24, engagement with district officers and the GMCA Environment Team is ongoing and regular updates will be brought to the Committee.

Upgrades to parts of the existing drainage system at Bredbury Drainage Works is underway and due to be completed by the end of December 2022.

In response to an enquiry from a member, officers confirmed that biodiversity and decarbonisation is being considered at various sites, where suitable, and includes wildlife and wetlands areas, and solar opportunities.

Members requested that communications to authorities and the public on the impacts of Reliance Street closure is crucial for future recycling needs, officers confirmed that the waste team and Suez are liaising with Manchester City Council on a communication plan.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the updates as set out in the report be noted.

**WRC 22/25 SUSTAINABLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION
UPDATE**

Sarah Mellor, Head of Sustainable Consumption and Production, GMCA introduced a report which provided an update to members on the textiles work programme that will be undertaken by the recently established Textiles and Fashion Industry Challenge Working Group.

The Textile and Fashion Work Programme sits across three key priority areas within the Sustainable and Consumption Production (SCP) Plan, work to develop proposals on a Greater Manchester Action Plan is underway working on a mission based collaborative approach.

The proposed work programme for the Challenge Working Group includes priority areas for action, monitoring progress and the benefits to Greater Manchester.

Members noted that an education workstream is underway including liaising with schools, colleges, universities, the Growth Company and work and skills departments across districts.

Following an enquiry from members, officers confirmed that the Action Plan is constantly reviewed over the term of the plan and that the work intends to complement the work undertaken by charities.

Officers confirmed that the GMCA research team liaise with other partners across the UK, Europe and internationally and that DEFRA and WRAP are members of the working group that feeds into the workstream.

Members were advised that the next meeting of the textile group will be looking at the metrics and deliverables on the action plan and that regular updates will be brought to the Committee.

RESOLVED /-

1. That the proposed work programme for textiles, which crosscuts three of the themes; Priority 1: Moving Towards a Circular Economy; Priority 2: Managing Waste; and Priority 4: Sustainable Lifestyles, be approved.
2. To agree that an update be brought to the next meeting of this Committee.

WRC 22/26

DATES AND TIMES OF FUTURE MEETINGS

RESOLVED /-

To note the future meeting dates for the Committee, as agreed at the Annual General Meeting:

18 January 2023, 2.00pm at the Mechanics Institute

15 March 2023, 2.00pm, at the Mechanics Institute

WRC 22/27

EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

RESOLVED /-

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

WRC 22/28

CONTRACTS UPDATE

Justin Lomax, Head of Contract Services, Waste and Resources Team introduced a report updating the Committee on performance and commercial issues relating to the Waste and Resources and Household Waste Recycling Centre Management Services Contracts that commenced on 1 June 2019.

RESOLVED/-

1. That the contracts updates and key risks as set out in the report, be noted.