

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE GREATER MANCHESTER  
WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE  
HELD ON WEDNESDAY 22 JULY 2020 VIA MICROSOFT TEAMS**

**PRESENT:**

Councillor Adele Warren	Bolton
Councillor Alan Quinn	Bury
Councillor Rabnawaz Akbar	Manchester
Councillor Shaukat Ali	Manchester
Councillor Ateeque Ur-Rehman	Oldham
Councillor Yasmin Toor	Oldham
Councillor Tom Besford	Rochdale
Councillor David Lancaster	Salford
Councillor Helen Foster Grimes	Stockport
Councillor Allison Gwynne (Chair)	Tameside

**OFFICERS IN ATTENDANCE:**

David Taylor	GMCA – Executive Director, Waste & Resources
Paul Morgan	GMCA – Waste & Resources
Justin Lomax	GMCA – Waste & Resources
Lindsay Keech	GMCA – Waste & Resources
Michelle Whitfield	GMCA – Waste & Resources
Michael Kelly	GMCA – Waste & Resources
Gwynne Williams	GMCA – Deputy Monitoring Officer
Sarah Mellor	GMCA – Environment Team
Kerry Bond	GMCA – Governance & Scrutiny
Matt Berry	GMCA – Governance & Scrutiny
Jenny Hollamby	GMCA – Governance & Scrutiny
Megan Rogers	GMCA – Service Operations

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING BUSINESS**

**WRC 20/28**

**APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Rabnawaz Akbar (Manchester), Robin Garrido (Salford) and Roy Driver (Stockport) and Steve Wilson, GMCA Treasurer.

**WRC 20/29                    APPOINTMENT OF CHAIR**

**RESOLVED/-**

That Councillor Allison Gwynne be appointed Chair for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

**WRC 20/30                    MEMBERSHIP OF THE GM WASTE AND RECYCLING COMMITTEE 2020/21**

**RESOLVED/-**

That the Membership of the GMCA Waste & Recycling Committee, as agreed by the GMCA on 26 June 2020 for 2020/2021, be noted, as follows.

<b>District</b>	<b>Member</b>
Bolton	Adele Warren (Con)
Bury	Alan Quinn (Lab)
Manchester	Rabnawaz Akbar (Lab) Shaukat Ali (Lab)
Oldham	Ateeque Ur-Rehman (Lab) Yasmin Toor (Lab)
Rochdale	Tom Besford (Lab) Susan Emmott (Lab)
Salford	David Lancaster (Lab) Robin Garrido(Con)
Stockport	Roy Driver (Lab) Helen Foster-Grime (Lib Dem)
Tameside	Allison Gwynne (Lab)
Trafford	Judith Lloyd (Lab) To be confirmed (Con)

**WRC 20/31                    MEMBERS' CODE OF CONDUCT AND ANNUAL DECLARATION OF INTEREST FORM**

**RESOLVED/-**

That Members noted their obligations under the GMCA Members' Code of Conduct and to complete an annual declaration of interest form and that the completed form would be published on the GMCA website be also noted.

**WRC 20/32                    TERMS OF REFERENCE**

**RESOLVED/-**

That the Terms of Reference for the GMCA Waste and Recycling Committee be noted.

**WCR 20/33                    PROGRAMME OF MEETINGS 2020/21**

**RESOLVED/-**

That the Programme of Meetings, be noted as follows:

- 14 October 2020, 11.00am, Venue TBC
- 13 January 2021, 9.30am, Venue TBC
- 14 April 2021, 9.30am, Venue TBC

**ORDINARY MEETING BUSINESS**

**WRC 20/34                    APPOINTMENT TO THE GREEN CITY REGION BOARD**

**RESOLVED/-**

That Alan Quinn be appointed to the Green City Region Board for the 2020/21 Municipal Year.

**WRC 20/35                    CHAIR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND URGENT BUSINESS**

There were no announcements or items of urgent business reported.

**WRC 20/36                    DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

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

**WRC 20/37                    MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 MARCH 2020**

**RESOLVED/-**

That the minutes of the previous meeting, held on 12 March 2020, be approved as a correct record.

**WRC 20/38                    WASTE & RECYCLING COMMITTEE WORK PROGRAMME 2020/21**

Members considered the Waste & Recycling Committee Work Programme, which provided a forward look of items that would focus the work of the Committee during 2020/2021.

Work surrounding the Waste Strategy would be developed into the Work Programme to fit in with the national position.

## RESOLVED/-

That the Work Programme be noted.

### WRC 20/39                      CONTRACTS UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report that updated the Committee on performance of the Waste and Resource Management Services and Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Management Services Contracts that commenced on 1 June 2019.

It was reported that performance reporting provided used verified data to the end of March 2020, which was the full financial year position for 2019/20 (equating to month 10 of the Suez Contracts).

A progress update on the works at Chichester Street in Rochdale and Reliance Street in Manchester was provided as well as an update on the implementation of the Household Waste Recycling Centre access restriction policy.

Data for the annual position (financial year 2019/20) was provided below, to show the overall position for comparison to the previous year:

<b>Annual Performance Comparison (Year end – April 19 to March 20)</b>	<b>2019 / 2020</b>	<b>2018 / 2019</b>
<b>OVERALL performance</b>		
<b>Total arisings (t)</b>	1,091,055	1,089,655
<b>Recycling Rate (%)</b>	47.25%	45.38%
<b>Landfill Diversion Rate (%)</b>	93.45%	90.60%
<b>HWRC performance</b>		
Recycling Rate (Household Waste) %	41.15%	41.90%
Diversion (Household Waste)	90.66%	74.16%
Diversion (Total Arising, inc. rubble) %	92.21%	78.77%
<b>Longley Lane MRF</b>		
Rejection of Kerbside Recycling Collections (t)	2,063	864
MRF Contamination Rate (Commingled) %	18.53%	18.81%

In summary, the overall performance for both contracts for the financial year April 2019 to March 2020 gave a diversion rate of over 93% and recycling above 47%, with both positions showing improvement on the previous year.

## **RESOLVED/-**

That the performance of the Waste and Resource Management Services and Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) Management Services Contracts be noted.

## **WRC 20/40 COMMUNICATIONS AND BEHAVIOURAL CHANGE ACTION PLAN PROGRESS**

The Head of Communications and Behavioural Change, GMCA Waste and Resources Team provided members with an update on the Recycle for Greater Manchester Communications & Behavioural Change Delivery Plan and the Joint Communications Plan with Suez.

Members asked a number of questions, including :

- A member asked about encouraging residents to recycle their garden waste at home and asked how Councils could support that work. The plan was to offer discounted compost and bins and there was further work around working with partners to engage with the public. Work and resources were still being developed; there would also be a dedicated page on the website. Promotion of the campaign would also take place with Districts. A briefing note would be shared with partners and members at the end of July 2020.
- A member enquired about the video content for education purposes and if there were plans to share this with the general public. It was suggested that residents would be interested to see the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF). It was agreed that the content would be made available as many public questions were received about what happened to their waste. Developing the videos especially around paper, card and mixed recycling would sit very well on the You Tube channel and website. Videos from the e-learning rolled out to Districts would also be developed for residents.
- A member expressed that there was a problem in Bury around pulpables; the decontamination rate had increased. Officers recognised there was a problem, not just in Manchester; it was UK wide. It was suggested that items could be easily hidden in the bin therefore the contamination rate had increased. It was a complex problem to unravel and understand resident's behaviour. Work with Bury Council on bin stickers and leaflets was underway. However, more work was needed to fully understand and solve the problem.
- It was clarified that a Face Book page was already available and a second education page would be linked to that, which would be available later this month.
- A member raised contamination in communal bins and asked how that would be addressed. There had always been a problem with communal bins. The issue with these bins was that there was no ownership therefore identifying who was contaminating the bin was extremely

difficult. Talks were underway with Manchester City Council about the support needed to solve this problem.

- A member praised the comprehensive report. All communications across Stockport had been very useful especially in terms of giving advice about contamination to concerned residents and the community. The member was also delighted about the development of the education centre, education service and resources. The Waste and Resources Team was thanked for all their hard work throughout this uncertain period. The Chair echoed the member's comments.

#### **RESOLVED/-**

That progress against the Communications & Behavioural Change Plan and the Joint Suez/R4GM Communications and Stakeholder Engagement Plan be noted.

#### **WRC 20/41 HOUSEHOLD WASTE RECYCLING CENTRES ACCESS POLICY REPORT**

The Head of Contract Services, Waste and Resources Team introduced a report that set out examples of van permit schemes in operation elsewhere and sought approval for a fully developed scheme to be worked up and presented to a future meeting of the Committee.

It was reported that in the first month of operation the scheme was successful in driving trade waste out of the HWRC network. The total vehicle visits recorded were as follows:

<b>Vehicle Type</b>	<b>Dec-19</b>	<b>Jan-20</b>	<b>Feb-20</b>	<b>March-20*</b>
Car	511,828	445,941	371,038	350,324
Van	13,952	20,307	12,120	6,824
Vans as % of total	2.65	4.36	3.16	1.91
<b>Total</b>	<b>525,780</b>	<b>466,248</b>	<b>383,153</b>	<b>357,148</b>

\* data for period 1 March 2020 to 23 March 2020 only

Members raised the following questions:

- A member suggested that the app should be developed to contain permit information and perhaps in the future, allow access to sites. Officers acknowledge there was technology available, which would be part of the development process and to provide longevity. All points would be considered.
- A member commented that trade waste abuse was costing council tax payers a vast amount of money. Whilst procedures were now in place, it was recommended that this be taken further.

- Members were supportive of the registration scheme but asked that any proposals were distributed to members well in advance of the meeting so they could be fully considered.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the development of a project plan for a potential van permit scheme be noted and submitted to a future meeting of the Committee.

**WRC 20/42                      RESOURCE AND WASTE STRATEGY UPATE**

The Head of Sustainable Consumption and Production, Environment Team, provided an overview of England’s Resource and Waste Strategy (Our waste, Our resources) along with four recently published consultations on key components of the strategy.

It was envisaged that through the second round of consultations, the GMCA would have a clearer picture, although not definitive, as to what would be the minimum requirements within the statutory guidance. Subject to that level of clarity, the process to commence work to develop Greater Manchester’s Resource and Waste Strategy could begin. Whilst timings of when this process could commence, development of the Strategy would have to undertake a number of stages. These were:

<b>Stage</b>	<b>Activity</b>
1.	Respond to second round of consultations
2.	Once second round/England’s Waste Strategy is finalised undertake analysis. Emerging principles to go to SOG and Waste Committee
3.	Draft Tender for TEP (if required) & SEA
4.	Draft Outline of Waste Strategy (Principles to be agreed with SOG & Waste Committee)
5.	Procure TEP & SEA
6.	Go out to consultation
7.	Analyse of consultation responses
8.	Analyse SEA Analysis
9.	Conclusions of Consultation and SEA to SOG/Waste Committee
10.	Go to Overview & Scrutiny
11.	Draft Waste Strategy
12.	Go out to consultation – if required
13.	Formal approval by Districts
14.	Final Strategy to Waste Committee & CA

Members raised the following questions:

- A member raised the possibility of weekly food and glass collections and residents needing two further bins. The member also enquired about costs should the proposal be agreed. There were also concerns raised about the incineration tax and how Greater Manchester would be penalised for adopting the four bin system. In terms of the collection system, there was potentially a minimum of six and a maximum of eight bins, which was industry driven as they wanted the best possible quality recyclates. It was suggested there would be six mandatory receptacles in Greater Manchester. All options would be considered but it had been made very clear that Greater Manchester's system was ahead of the game and was consistent. Government had been lobbied and it was important that Local Council's collection systems remained the same. In relation to incineration, there was potentially a tax. However, as Greater Manchester's system included a heat and power facility, a tax was not currently being considered but this could change in the future.
- A member highlighted anaerobic digestion systems to deal with food waste. These systems were previously adopted in Greater Manchester without success. It was explained there was potential to use an In Vessel Composting (IVC) facility and a piece of work had been commissioned to consider options and services.
- A member enquired about costs. It was reported that the cost of the infrastructure and for changes in collection systems, Government had said that any changes would have a zero impact on waste collection or waste disposal authorities. It was anticipated that the Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) and the return deposit scheme would pay for those services to remain in place. Collection authorities would pay year or year for those services.
- A member commented that there should be more emphasis about the reuse of all materials in the procurement policy. It was reported that work was taking place with Councils on procurement and green sustainability criteria. Work on public procurement would be brought back to the Committee.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the report be noted, and that the delaying of the development of Greater Manchester's Waste Strategy until there was more clarity on the direction of England's Waste Strategy be reconfirmed.

**WRC 20/43**

**BUDGET UPDATE REPORT**

Members considered a report that set out the revenue and capital outturn for 2019/20 for the Waste and Resources Service.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the report be noted.

**WRC 20/44**

**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.

**WRC 20/45**

**CONTRACTS UPDATE**

A report was presented that updated the Committee on performance and commercial issues relating to the Waste and Resources and HWRC Management Services Contracts that commenced on 1 June 2019.

**RESOLVED/-**

That the report be noted.