

THE LONDON BOROUGH OF CAMDEN

At a meeting of the **NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY PROGRAMME COMMITTEE** held on **TUESDAY, 29TH OCTOBER, 2019** at 10.00 am in Committee Room 2, Crowndale Centre, 218 Eversholt Street, London, NW1 1BD

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE PRESENT

Councillors Clyde Loakes (Chair), Charles Adje, Guney Dogan, Clyde Loakes, Richard Olszewski and Peter Zinkin

MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ABSENT

Councillors Andy Hull and Rebecca Rennison

The minutes should be read in conjunction with the agenda for the meeting. They are subject to approval and signature at the next meeting of the North London Waste Authority Programme Committee and any corrections approved at that meeting will be recorded in those minutes.

MINUTES

1. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Hull and Rennison. It was noted that Councillor Burke was in attendance as a substitute for Councillor Rennison.

2. DECLARATIONS BY MEMBERS OF PECUNIARY, NON-PECUNIARY AND ANY OTHER INTERESTS IN RESPECT OF ITEMS ON THIS AGENDA

There were no declarations.

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS (IF ANY)

There were no announcements.

4. DEPUTATIONS (IF ANY)

There were no deputations.

5. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

THAT the public minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

6. NORTH LONDON HEAT AND POWER PROJECT UPDATE AND REPORTS

Consideration was given to a report of the Programme Director.

In response to questions, the Programme Director explained that the predicted delay to completion of Eco Park South was due in part to an 8 week delay in the contractor starting on site, caused by difficulties in finding a new site for LondonEnergy Ltd's transport operations. In addition to that delay, the preferred contractor for the sewer diversion works had submitted a programme that was scheduled to take 8 weeks longer than initially anticipated. It might be possible to find ways to minimise the delay but those negotiations could not take place until the contract had been signed. In relation to the UK Power Networks work in Ardra Road, these were not related to the NLHPP and the timing had not been expected but, since the works were taking place, UKPN had been asked to install some empty ducting for the project as part of the work.

A Member suggested that the London Borough of Enfield be asked to notify the Programme Director whenever it received a request from a utility company to carry out works in the area.

The Programme Director remarked that a comprehensive set of intrusive surveys was being commissioning to identify all the utilities on the project site and it was hoped that this would start within the next six weeks or so.

In response to a question regarding contractor performance, the Programme Director remarked that Buckingham Group had not performed as expected but had made some management changes to address this. They were not expected to deliver on time, but this was not critical to the programme. The second contractor had impressed so far, though it was too early to draw any firm conclusions.

A member remarked that as the project progressed the resources required to manage all the contractors would increase significantly, and it was important to ensure that the team was sufficiently resourced to deal with this increased workload. It would be important for the Authority to have the Programme Director's assessment of contractor performance, which could often differ from what was being claimed by the contractor.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

7. COMMUNICATIONS

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director.

Members made the following comments:-

- More pro-active communication was needed on the composition of the emissions from the Energy Recovery Facility and recycled materials, such as hardcore for building, that would result from the processes taking place at the facility.
- Substances such as bottom ash and recovered metals were not currently allowed under UK law to be classed as recyclate, even though they had subsequent uses, and so it would be important to communicate that these substances did go on to be used elsewhere.
- The recycling figures should also be calculated using the European definition of recyclate.
- The tone of the announcements felt slightly defensive, even though there was a good story to tell.
- The benefits of the Project should be broadened to include economic development and job creation, including relevant application of national agreements.
- The circular economy message needed to be strengthened. The point also needed to be made that the plant would be part of the national waste infrastructure, and as other older plants closed during the course of its lifetime there would be a reduction in overall emissions.
- The notion that the new facility would increase the capacity for waste from the boroughs needed to be rebutted and the point made that it was in the interests of the Authority to free up capacity to take waste from elsewhere.
- The emissions from the plant needed to be placed in context, and particulate emissions and CO2 emissions should be addressed separately.
- The message that the Authority would continually look at opportunities for carbon capture needed to be strengthened.
- It also needed to be clear that residents needed to take responsibility too, and that the best option was for less waste to go into the bin in the first place.
- More needed to be made of the materials recovery aspect of the project.
- It should be clear that the cost of the energy recovery facility itself had not in fact changed that much, and that the project included lots of other aspects too.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted, subject to the comments recorded above.

8. TRANSPORT YARD UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Programme Director. In response to a question, he confirmed that there had been no non-statutory comments received on the planning application, and that the technical points raised could be resolved satisfactorily.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

9. NORTH LONDON HEAT AND POWER PROJECT - INFORMATION MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report of the Programme Director.

A Member highlighted the importance of being able to capture all the information in one database, and added that it was just as important to have one source of financial information as it was to have one source of technical information. Officers agreed to take this suggestion forward.

ACTION BY: Programme Director

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

10. FORWARD PLAN

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted.

11. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - ACCESS TO INFORMATION

RESOLVED –

THAT the press and public be excluded from the proceedings of the North London Waste Authority Programme Committee on 29th October 2019 during consideration of the following items on Part II of the agenda on the basis that, were members of the public to be present, there would be disclosure of exempt information as defined in Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972 as amended.

Specifically:

Exempt Information Category 1 – information which relates to an individual. The reasons why the public interest favours withholding the information are that the release of such information could constitute or facilitate an unwarranted interference with individuals' privacy.

Exempt information category 3 – information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person, including the authority holding that information, and not required to be registered under various statutes: the reasons why the public interest favours withholding the information are that the release of such information would prejudice the Authority's conduct of a commercial operation or because the disclosure of the information is likely to prejudice the commercial interests of the Authority and organisations engaged in commercial activities as the information relates to commercial activities that are conducted in a competitive environment.

12. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

THAT the private minutes of the meeting held on 22nd July 2019 be approved and signed as a correct record.

13. NORTH LONDON HEAT AND POWER PROJECT PROGRAMME UPDATE

Consideration was given to a report of the Programme Director.

RESOLVED –

THAT the report be noted subject to comments.

14. NLHPP FORWARD BORROWING

Consideration was given to a report of the Financial Adviser.

RESOLVED –

THAT the recommendation set out in the report be approved.

15. LONDONENERGY LTD STAFF RETENTION

Consideration was given to a report of the Managing Director, and to a presentation by the Chairman of LondonEnergy Ltd.

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the recommendation set out in the report be approved; and
- (ii) THAT a redacted version of the consultant's advice be provided to all members of the Committee.

16. ANY OTHER ITEMS THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

There was no urgent business.

The meeting ended at 11.52 am.

CHAIR

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MINUTES END