

**North London Waste Authority
Members' Recycling Working Group (MRWG)**

**3 December 2020
Before the Authority Meeting
Time: 12:30 – 14:00**

Notes of meeting

Present

Barnet – Cllr Peter Zinkin (PZ)
Hackney – Cllr Jon Burke (JB) Chair
Haringey – Cllr Charles Adje (CA)
Waltham Forest – Cllr Clyde Loakes (CL)

Apologies

Camden - Cllr Adam Harrison (AH)
Enfield - Cllr Kate Anolue (KA)
Islington - Cllr Rowena Champion
NLWA - Barbara Herridge (BH)

NLWA Officers

Martin Capstick – Managing Director (MC)
XXX – XXX
Andrew O'Connor – Head of Strategy and Services (AOC)
Michael Clarke - Interim Head of Strategy and Services (MCC)
XXX - XXX
XXX - XXX
XXX – XXX

Biffa – guest invitees.

Borough Liaison

XXX – XXX
XXX – XXX

1.	<p>Introductions and apologies</p> <p>MC gave apologies for Cllrs Champion, Harrison and Anolue. The chair (X) advised that it is a short agenda, but could we be as timely as possible due to a Member update prior to the Authority meeting.</p>	ALL
2.	<p>Notes of the last meeting on 24 September 2020</p> <p>The notes were agreed.</p>	MC
3.	<p>Recycling destinations, markets and company initiatives</p> <p>Presentation followed by questions and answers by Biffa Waste Services (recycling contractor)</p>	

	<p>AOC introduced Biffa who were invited to this meeting to provide a presentation on the current state of markets and initiatives the company was taking. Biffa officers in attendance were: XX, XXX; XX, XXX and XX,XXX</p> <p>Slides from the presentation should be circulated following the meeting</p> <p>It was agreed that a further meeting should be arranged with Biffa to allow more time for a briefing and discussion. X indicated that this should include discussions of areas where Biffa and NLWA could pursue coordinated communications activity – for example directed at Government - in pursuit of shared goals which would benefit the environment.</p>	<p>AOC</p> <p>MC</p>
4.	<p>Update on Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) services. Paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>XX presented his paper that covered:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact of Covid-19 on Mixed dry recyclables (MDR) – this showed that there had been a sustained increase in MDR tonnage arising since the onset of COVID-19 and that an increase in contamination had also been seen. • Borough Recycling Fund – A total of £78,416 had been awarded to four projects aimed at increasing recycling capture and reducing contamination in Camden, Hackney, Haringey and Waltham Forest. A further £5,000 contribution was made to the remaining Boroughs in support of their ongoing recycling work. • ----- ----- ----- [redacted text]. • Recyclate Destinations – updated information from September 2020 demonstrated that more mixed paper had been exported within Europe than previously, but that there is still a reliance on Far East reprocessors for cardboard. All glass continues to be recycled within Europe and all metals and plastics continue to be recycled within the UK. 	
5.	<p>Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Kerbside Collection Service. Paper circulated prior to the meeting.</p> <p>AOC said that officers were proposing to extend the current contract with ERP for two years. In addition further consideration should be given to future plans for kerbside collections of WEEE and bring banks.</p> <p>AB advised that the current WEEE contract ends at the end of December 2020 and the kerbside service for large WEEE is provided by Clearabee at £XX p.y. Demand for this service has increased since Covid.</p>	<p>AB</p>

	<p>X recalled that a decision had been taken in 2109 to persevere this the kerbside collection services and to collect as much information on usage as possible. AB reported that the service was fully booked. However, when operators attend to collect the items are often not there. X asked whether tonnage had increased significantly? X advised that tonnage collected had risen by approximately 7 tonnes, although the delivery of the service through a period affected by coronavirus restrictions made comparisons complex.</p> <p>X said that on his reading of the paper, this was a free service but there was now an extremely lengthy, 24 week, wait for bookings. AB confirmed that this was the case. Collections schedules are organised for certain boroughs on certain days. Boroughs only allocated 1 day but have 3 times as much to collect. X stated that it is not surprising that people have looked at alternative ways. X asked whether we have to provide the service free? Couldn't a modest fee be requested from boroughs? He further stated that it seems wrong to wait 24 weeks to get their collection. Our recommendation is to stop the kerbside service. X advised that yes he concurs.</p> <p>X said that officers should consider with ----- ----- [redacted text]</p> <p>X said that some charge could be contemplated if it encouraged people to make sure that they used the service when they booked it. He said officers should take account of comments made in the discussion, liaise with boroughs and ERP and report back to a future MRWG meeting.</p> <p>As regards bring banks, XX advised that the small WEEE banks were a legacy service, with little budget to maintain the aging containers. While they were of use to members of the public, they could also attract vandalism or fly tipping. X stated there is a need to look at WEEE in totality, Waltham Forest have doorstep collection as well as reuse and recycling centres, so there is a question whether bring banks are still needed as other options evolve. X said that bring banks had been removed in Barnet because of fly tipping. There had been no adverse public reaction to this.</p> <p>X requested a paper to be provided for a future meeting of MRWG to set out options for small WEEE collections.</p> <p>JB had to leave the meeting at this point and CL took over as Chair for the remainder of the meeting.</p>	<p>AOC/MCC</p> <p>AOC/MCC</p>
6.	<p>Residual Waste Reduction Plan (standing item) Paper circulated prior to the meeting with proposed third six-month programme of activity (April – Sept. 2021)</p> <p>XX advised the meeting that officers would welcome any comments on the proposals in the paper.</p>	

	<p>X – requested an update on discussions on nappy contamination and interaction with the industry. What was the outcome? XX advised that X and MC had met the Absorbent Hygiene Product Manufacturers Association (AHPMA) and discussed taking forward a joint comms campaign. Officers were following up with AHPMA and will persist in order to get further engagement and action.</p> <p>Officers were also considering taking part in a nappy contamination campaign with Keep Britain Tidy (KBT). They are also very interested in approaching manufacturers. The next step would be resident-facing campaign with KBT and exploring working as a combined force to increase impact with manufacturers.</p> <p>X said that persuading manufacturers and making progress on labelling could have a major effect in tackling contamination. X noted that the meeting agreed officers should be encouraged to move forward with this initiative.</p>	XX
7.	<p>A.O.B. There was no other business.</p>	-
8.	Date of next meeting: 11 February 2021	-