

**North London Waste Authority  
Members' Recycling Working Group (MRWG)  
24 September 2020  
Time: 12:30. MS Teams meeting**

**Present**

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

**Apologies**

Camden - Cllr Adam Harrison (AH)  
Enfield – Cllr Kate Anolue (KA)  
Islington – Cllr Rowena Champion (RC)

**NLWA Officers**

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

**Borough Liaison**

XXX – XX

**Apologies**

Barbara Herridge – External Relations Manager (BH)

1.	<b>Introductions and apologies</b>	<b>ALL</b>
2.	<b>Notes of the last meeting on 25 June 2020</b> Kerbside options outstanding and will go over to a future meeting. The minutes were agreed.	<b>MC</b>
3	<b>Recycling Destinations (standing item) written report.</b>  A report on recycling destinations had been circulated by the Head of Strategy and Services after Members had requested at the June meeting that Biffa's March 2020 destinations should be used as a baseline to benchmark progress against, aiming to bring recycling of Authority material initially into Europe and then ultimately into the UK. AOC advised the group that table 1 in the report showed quarter on quarter improvement. Paper improving, glass and metals doing quite well remaining in the UK. AOC advised that paper markets differ in that there is not enough UK capacity. UPM is for sale.  AOC advised there is concern around paper grades, quality, and available markets.	
4.	<b>Reducing contamination of recycling (written report).</b> A report on reducing contamination had been circulated.	<b>AOC</b>

	<p><u>Borough Recycling Fund</u></p> <p>The funding from Biffa is fixed at xx per tonne delivered (estimated £XX per annum) for the length of the contract; however, Biffa and the Authority may jointly agree an alternative way to spend the funding in the future, for example, should one of the Borough projects prove especially successful, the funding may be spent implementing that solution across the NLWA area. All six boroughs had put forward proposals for the fund which meant the bids exceeded the value of the fund.</p> <p><u>Officers Recycling Working Group (ORWG)</u></p> <p>This meeting had been fully attended by boroughs. They are doing a lot of work with the Authority Comms team working on comms campaigns and behavioural change. Identifying ways of getting messages across regarding putting the right materials in the right bins.</p> <p>JB asked whether it was likely that funding requests could be scaled back so that all boroughs would receive some funding. AOC advised that this was an option, but it was important to ensure that projects chosen had enough resources deliver intended benefits. <b>ACTION:</b> A paper will be provided for the December meeting.</p> <p>JB noted that the increase in contamination had not been uniform across member boroughs. AOC advised that with each note that is marked down for quality we are aware of where that comes from and we do send that back to the boroughs to challenge the crews. Because of Covid there had been a lack of continuity of collection services with crews having changed. It looks like there has been mixing of residual with mixed dry recycling on the ground. JB stated that it is imperative that we give the strongest representations to the collection authorities. Assurance is needed that we are not being too soft and that we are conveying strong as possible messages to eliminate it. AOC said that the establishment of the ORWG provided a clear vehicle for engagement with boroughs on this issue. JB asked if it would be possible to measure progress on tackling contamination by the next meeting. AOC advised the officers would produce a further report in December, reporting the position.</p> <p>PZ stated that a challenge was nudging behaviour change in multiple occupation developments. When asked about the cost of rejected loads, AOC said that when Biffa identified rejected loads, they were taken by Biffa to a third party EfW with NLWA paying a cost for disposal as provided for under the recycling contract.</p> <p>XX asked that as Hackney is having some successes with recycling contamination can they share these as Haringey are at a loss as to how to resolve problems around HMO's and street bins, and it would be good to see what successes they have. <b>ACTION. XX</b> to liaise with Haringey over what strategies LBH are taking.</p>	
5.	<p><b>Policy and strategy update on national policy developments and NLWA influencing plan</b></p> <p>It was noted that the Government had pushed further consultation on waste issues back to 2021. This was frustrating and the Authority was lobbying Defra to proceed as rapidly as possible.</p>	AOC

6.	<p><b>Residual Waste Reduction Plan (standing item) including media and social media (written report).</b></p> <p>A report had been circulated which outlined the progress against the plan, including online clothes swap events with LWARB. The report had accompanying appendices on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a) Waste Prevention Education Programme Update</li> <li>b) Waste Prevention Community Fund Update</li> </ul> <p>Discussion followed. PZ stated that he had only just learned that this week is recycling week. CL stated that it had been hard to get traction on recycling week this year. CL advised the group that he had had to keep up persistent pressure to issue necessary materials in Waltham Forest, and the week was likely to have a lower profile than normal. XX advised that the Authority was taking part in the regional social media campaign using LWARB’s visuals- but that this was being done through targeted adverts, which may not be seen by all. XX advised that some of the boroughs were self-funding their campaigns and the Authority was topping up borough funding, which would be match-funded by LWARB The Authority was also running organic (not paid for) social media activity and a live Facebook Q&amp;A event for residents.</p> <p>RC questioned whether NLWA is providing food waste prevention library displays as a work in progress? <b>ACTION: XX</b> to check which boroughs have taken up the opportunity and to ask Waste Prevention colleagues to get in touch with Islington officers. She advised the meeting that we are learning as we go along picking up new opportunities every week, including community presentations and other online opportunities.</p>	XX
7.	<p><b>Benchmarking and incorporating best practice (written report)</b> <b>Review of rental models (library of things and clothing rental initiatives)</b></p> <p>A report had been circulated on Benchmarking and incorporating best practice and exploring rental models, for example, a ‘library of things’.</p> <p>The report looked at models to encourage residents to renting items they might only need occasionally, instead of buying. The report set out some details of costing.</p> <p>XX updated on where Hackney are on their library of things. They have been continuing to work with Dalston. Currently getting kiosks etc opening later this year subject to Covid working towards the end of year.</p> <p>RC said that Islington is quite keen on the idea. Is it something that is match funded? Islington would be very keen to do that. <b>ACTION: XX</b> noted that NLWA officers would discuss further with borough officers.</p> <p>PZ commented that he could see the benefits of developing arrangements organically at a neighbourhood level, but was unsure of the merits of authority-led activity. This led to some discussion of library models, with JB commenting that libraries could perform wider community functions than simply provision of materials.</p> <p>It was noted that development of the sharing economy was likely to progress in a number of ways. Officers should continue to keep abreast of options which could be applied in North London.</p>	XX

8.	<b>A.O.B.</b> There was no other business	-
9.	<b>Date of next meeting: 11 February 2021 @ 12:30.</b>	-