

NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

At a meeting of the **NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY** held on **THURSDAY, 5TH OCTOBER, 2023** at 2.30 pm in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY PRESENT

Councillors Mete Coban (Vice-Chair, in the Chair), Geof Cooke, Isidoros Diakides, Elif Erbil, Adam Harrison, Richard Olszewski and Diarmaid Ward

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY ABSENT

Councillors Clyde Loakes, Rowena Champion, Robert Chapman, Paul Douglas, Mike Hakata, Bektas Ozer and Alan Schneiderman

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.

MINUTES

1. GUIDANCE ON HYBRID MEETINGS

RESOLVED –

THAT the hybrid meetings procedures be agreed.

2. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors Clyde Loakes, Rowena Champion, Robert Chapman, Paul Douglas, Alan Schneiderman and Mike Hakata. Apologies for lateness were received from Councillor Diarmaid Ward.

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

Councillor Mete Coban declared an interest in items on the agenda relating to LondonEnergy Ltd (LEL) as he had been appointed as a Non-Executive Director of LEL by the Authority. It was noted that he had been given a dispensation from his local authority to participate and vote on the items.

Councillor Geof Cooke declared an interest in *Item 12: Transfer Station in West of Area* due to his position on Barnet Council and that he would leave the room for the duration of the item.

4. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

THAT the minutes of the meeting held on 22nd June 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

5. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Broadcast of the meeting

The Chair announced that the meeting was being broadcast live by Camden Council to the Internet and could be viewed on its website for twelve months after the meeting. After that time, webcasts were archived and could be made available upon request.

Those who were seated in the Council Chamber or participating remotely, were deemed to be consenting to having their contributions recorded and broadcast and to the use of those sound recordings and images for webcasting and/or training purposes.

Supplementary Agenda

The Chair announced that a supplementary agenda had been published with a signed version of *Item 13: Consultations and Policy Update* and an urgent report.

6. NOTIFICATION OF ANY ITEMS OF BUSINESS THAT THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

The Chair announced that an update on the dates of meetings in 2023/24 had been published as an urgent item and would be considered under *Item 19: Any other items the Chair decides to take as urgent*.

7. DEPUTATIONS (IF ANY)

There were no deputation requests.

8. HYBRID MEETINGS GUIDANCE

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the revised hybrid meetings procedure set out in Appendix A to the report be agreed; and
- (ii) THAT authority be delegated to the Managing Director to update Standing Orders so that the hybrid meetings procedure applies automatically to all meetings unless disapplied by the meeting.

9. MEMBERSHIP OF COMMITTEES: UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

THAT the appointments to Committees and working groups as listed in Section 2 of the report be approved.

10. SERVICES UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Strategy and Services.

The Chair commended the rate of mattress recycling, with over 200,000 predicted to have been collected and processed by the end of October 2023.

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the operational, performance and recycling updates provided be noted; and
- (ii) THAT the results of the visitor survey of Reuse and Recycling Centres be noted.

11. IMPROVING THE WAY NLWA MANAGES WASTE DATA

Consideration was given to the report of the Director of Corporate Services.

RESOLVED –

THAT the approach to managing waste data management be noted.

12. TRANSFER STATION IN WEST OF AREA

Councillor Geof Cooke left the room for the duration of the meeting, having declared an interest due to his position on Barnet Council.

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

In response to a question about whether the location of the Wembley facility would work for both Camden and Barnet, it was confirmed that it was convenient for vehicles from both boroughs.

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the update provided on the progress being made to deliver a replacement for Hendon Waste Transfer Station and Rail Head be noted;

- (ii) THAT the funding arrangements for extending the current Wembley transfer station lease for an additional two years, from November 2025 to November 2027, as set out in section 5 to the report, be approved; and
- (iii) THAT authority be delegated to the Managing Director in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chair to make necessary amendments to the Settlement Agreement to reflect the change in funding for the lease extension, changes to the timeline for delivery and location of the permanent Transfer Station.

13. CONSULTATIONS AND POLICY UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report by the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the proposed changes to the timescales for Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR), Deposit Return Scheme (DRS) and consistency in business and household waste recycling be noted;
- (ii) THAT the proposals to include Energy from Waste (EfW) in the Emissions Trading Scheme (ETS) from 2028 be noted;
- (iii) THAT the National Audit Office's investigation and Public Accounts Committee's inquiry into DEFRA's waste reform management be noted;
- (iv) THAT the Authority's recent response to the Government's consultation on the ban on biodegradable waste to landfill be noted; and
- (v) THAT authority be delegated to the Managing Director, in consultation with the Chair and Vice Chairs, to respond to ongoing Government consultations and liaise with Government officials on proposals which will impact Authority operations or activities.

14. JOINT WASTE STRATEGY

Consideration was given to the report of the Head of Strategy and Services.

The Chair noted the encouraging discussions contributing to a more circular economy in north London. It was confirmed that the improvements to the waste data management system considered earlier in the meeting would support the development of the new North London Joint Waste Strategy.

RESOLVED –

THAT the updates provided in the report be noted.

15. NORTH LONDON HEAT AND POWER PROJECT UPDATE AND REPORTS

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director who noted that, since the previous meeting, David Cullen, Programme Director, had retired. Douglas Chisholm was acting as interim Programme Lead and had been seconded to the NLWA.

RESOLVED –

THAT the contents of the report be noted.

16. FINANCE UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Financial Adviser.

In response to a question about the projected underspend, it was noted that the figure was an indicative position. Any underspend would be included in the carry forward of borough balances.

It was noted that, while Camden Council was forecast to see a decrease in the levy, there would be an increase in the amount paid in charges. This was due to a recategorisation by that borough of waste types in its residual waste stream.

With regard to delays in audits being completed, Nikesh Shah, Director of Corporate Services, commented that there were issues for local authority audits across the country. There had been discussions about writing off some of the historic audits but officers did not feel writing off audits would reduce problems. Transparency about the opening position of the Authority was necessary and draft accounts needed to be published. Martin Capstick, Managing Director, highlighted that the audit opinion for 2020/21 had been very positive with no major issues identified. There was a question about the valuation of assets but this was to some extent theoretical. The Eco-Park was the main asset to be valued but this would be the location for the Energy Recovery Facility and other waste management facilities.

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the completion of the 2020/21 audit be noted;
- (ii) THAT the review of the 2023/24 financial position be noted; and
- (iii) THAT it be noted that a further update of the 2023/24 financial position would be reported to the Authority meeting in December together with an updated assessment of the budget and resource requirements for 2024/25.

17. GOVERNANCE OF LONDONENERGY LTD

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

THAT the Company's activities in the second quarter of 2023 be noted.

18. FORWARD PLAN

Consideration be given to the report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

THAT the contents of the report be noted.

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

Dates of Meetings for the Authority in 2023/24: Update

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director in the Supplementary Agenda.

The Chair had agreed that this report be brought to the Authority as an urgent item of business. This was due to one of the affected dates being the November 2023 Programme Committee meeting which would occur prior to the next full Authority meeting on 14 December 2023, potentially affecting attendance if not rescheduled.

RESOLVED –

THAT the proposed revised dates and times for meetings of the Authority and its Programme Committee during the municipal year 2023/24 as set out in section 2 to the report be agreed.

20. LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972 - ACCESS TO INFORMATION

RESOLVED –

THAT the press and public be excluded from the proceedings of the North London Waste Authority on 5th October 2023 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 reason why the public interest favours withholding the information is that the release of such information could constitute or facilitate an unwarranted interference with the individual's 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 related to commercial activities that are conducted in a competitive environment.

21. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

THAT the private minutes of the meeting held on 22nd June 2023 be approved and signed as a correct record.

22. GOVERNANCE OF LONDONENERGY LTD

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the comments on the Company's performance and activities be noted; and
- (ii) THAT the report for the Second Quarter 2023 on LEL's activities and Board Minutes from May 2023 at Appendix A to the report be noted.

23. NORTH LONDON HEAT AND POWER PROJECT PROGRAMME UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

- (i) THAT the cost and commercial status summary be noted; and
- (ii) THAT the urgent decision taken by the Clerk on 14 September in line with Standing Order A27.8 to delegate authority to the Managing Director to manage the finalisation of the EcoPark South Construction contract within a revised financial limit of £164.7m be noted.

24. ANY OTHER EXEMPT ITEMS THE CHAIR DECIDES TO TAKE AS URGENT

There were no exempt urgent items.

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The meeting ended at 3.30 pm, having adjourned between 2.41 and 2.48pm.

CHAIR

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MINUTES END