

NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

At a meeting of the **NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY** held on **THURSDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY, 2026** at 2.30 pm in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY PRESENT

Councillors Clyde Loakes (Chair), Camron Aref-Adib, Dana Carlin, Robert Chapman, Paul Douglas, Elif Erbil, Arjun Mitra, Alan Schneiderman, Flora Williamson and Sarah Young

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY ABSENT

Councillors Rowena Champion, Sinan Boztas and Adam Harrison

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. APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence had been received from Councillors Rowena Champion, Adam Harrison and Sinan Boztas.

The Chair noted that Mike Hakata had stood down from Haringey Council and therefore the Authority. Mr Hakata was thanked for the time and contribution given to the North London Waste Authority over many years and offered best wishes for the future.

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

Councillor Clyde Loakes declared an interest in items on the agenda relating to LondonEnergy Ltd (LEL), having been appointed as a Non-Executive Director of LEL by the Authority. It was noted that Councillor Loakes had been given a dispensation from London Borough of Waltham Forest to participate and vote on the items.

Councillors Arjun Mitra and Alan Schneiderman declared an interest in Item 10: *West of Area Waste Facilities*, as members of the London Borough of Barnet, and withdrew from the meeting during consideration of the item.

3. MINUTES

RESOLVED –

THAT the public minutes of the meeting held on 4th December 2025 be approved and signed as a correct record.

4. ANNOUNCEMENTS

Webcasting of the meeting

The Chair announced that the meeting was being broadcast live by Camden Council to the Internet and a recording would be made available after the meeting. Those who were addressing the meeting were deemed to be consenting to having their contributions recorded and broadcast.

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

There were no items of urgent business.

6. DEPUTATIONS (IF ANY)

There were no valid deputations received by the deadline. The Chair noted that a deputation request had been made following the deadline. It asked a series of questions for clarification so was being dealt with as an Environmental Information Request with questions and response published on the NLWA website.

7. 2025/26 FINANCE UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Financial Adviser.

RESOLVED –

THAT the review of the 2025/26 revenue budget be noted.

8. BUDGET AND LEVY 2026/27

Consideration was given to the report of the Financial Adviser.

A Member highlighted Barnet's reintroduction of food waste collection and its positive impact on the levy. In response to a question about the effectiveness of waste prevention activities, particularly door-to-door engagement, Michael Clarke, Head of Strategy and Services, responded that there were early positive indications from the pilot scheme, including a 4.6% reduction in contamination on a targeted round in Hackney.

The Chair of the Member Finance Working Group noted the positive financial story, with a reduction in residual waste by over 5%, an increase in recycling volumes by 3%, and a below inflation levy increase. Members thanked officers for their work. The Chair echoed these thanks, acknowledging the collaborative effort of officers and Members.

RESOLVED –

- (a) THAT the Authority satisfied itself that the proposed budget will be sufficient to meet the net expenditure requirements for the year ahead and agreed the 2026/27 budget;
- (b) THAT use of the revenue balance of £4.6m to support the 2026/27 budget be agreed;
- (c) THAT the levy resource requirement for 2026/27 as laid out in table 1 in paragraph 1.17 be agreed;
- (d) THAT the Financial Adviser be authorised to make the arrangements for collection of the levy and charges for non-household and household waste;
- (e) THAT the prudential indicators and the basis for calculating the Minimum Revenue Provision as laid out in sections 8 and 9 be approved;
- (f) THAT the per tonne charge for non-household and chargeable household residual and recyclable waste as laid out in table 4 in paragraph 2.30 be noted; and
- (g) THAT the medium-term budget forecasts for 2027/28 and 2028/29 be noted.

9. ASSET MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

- (a) THAT the substantial progress made by NLWA and LondonEnergy Ltd on asset management to date be noted; and,
- (b) THAT the approach to consult on the Authority's Asset Management Strategy in late 2026 be noted.

10. WEST OF AREA WASTE FACILITIES

Councillors Arjun Mitra and Alan Schneiderman declared an interest and withdrew for the duration of the item.

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

It was questioned whether the changes to the footprint would affect service delivery. Michael Clarke, Head of Strategy and Services, confirmed that the design remained aligned with user requirements. The changes incorporated updates for fire suppression and control. Martin Capstick, Managing Director, added that reducing the footprint of the transfer station allowed for a larger vehicle queuing area, improving overall site effectiveness and flow on the constrained site.

RESOLVED –

- (a) THAT the update provided on the progress being made to deliver a replacement for Hendon Waste Transfer Station and Rail Head be noted; and,
- (b) THAT authority be delegated to the Managing Director, following consultation with the Chair and Vice Chairs, to make amendments to the Settlement Agreement and draft lease for Geron Way to reflect the time elapsed in the project, commercial market conditions and the emerging design of the facility.

11. NORTH LONDON HEAT AND POWER PROJECT UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

The Chair highlighted National Apprenticeship Week, celebrating 63 new apprenticeship opportunities created through the project so far, alongside other training and work experience initiatives.

A Member requested further details on additional steps being taken to reduce the accident rate. The Managing Director referred to initiatives outlined in the report at sections 4.8 and 4.9, including rigorous training, audits, and a trial by the contractor providing targeted safety awareness courses to operatives in high-risk areas, focusing on the consequences of accidents. A fuller note on these initiatives could be provided to the Committee.

ACTION: Managing Director

RESOLVED –

THAT the contents of the report be noted.

12. ANNUAL RISK REVIEW

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

RESOLVED –

THAT the content of the report be noted.

13. GOVERNANCE OF LONDONENERGY LTD

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

Martin Capstick, Managing Director, highlighted two operational issues. Firstly, a contractor external to LondonEnergy Ltd's (LEL) site cut power export cables to the grid, causing the energy from waste plant to operate at reduced capacity until repairs would be completed by UK Power Networks. Lessons from a previous similar incident were being applied to maximise throughput. Secondly, a major fire occurred

at Hornsey Street Waste Transfer Station on Christmas Eve, likely caused by a bike battery in the waste. A vehicle was burnt out, and the facility evacuated, though no staff were affected. The incident served as a reminder of the susceptibility of waste facilities to battery-related fires. Staff efforts ensured the facility was operational by 27 December.

The Chair thanked staff for their rapid response to the fire and emphasised the ongoing need to educate residents about proper disposal of new waste materials, particularly batteries. Concerns were raised about inappropriate behaviour towards operatives at Reuse and Recycling Centres (RRCs), noting that frontline staff should not face abuse. The Chair committed to coordinating responses to such behaviours and praised operatives as ambassadors for the circular economy. Jim Kendall, Managing Director of LEL, was asked to feed back the Authority's thanks.

A Member noted a minor correction on page 126, paragraph 6.5.5, clarifying that it should refer to Barnet General rather than Royal Hospital of Barnet.

RESOLVED –

THAT the comments on the Company's performance and activities in the Q4 2025 Report be noted.

14. FORWARD PLAN

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

THAT the contents of the report be noted.

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

There were no items of urgent business.

The Chair thanked Members who had served on the Authority throughout the 2022-26 term of office, noting the significant time and commitment required and that their participation had made the Authority a better organisation. All were wished the best for the future.

The Chair was thanked for excellent chairing, leadership and guidance throughout the period.

16. 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 12th February 2026 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 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.

17. NORTH LONDON HEAT AND POWER PROJECT UPDATE

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

RESOLVED –

THAT the cost and commercial status summary be noted.

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

There were no urgent items of exempt business.

The Chair thanked Members, NLWA officers, Advisers to the Authority from Camden Council, LondonEnergy Ltd, and the Democratic Services Officer for all their support over the past four years.

The meeting ended at 3.20 pm.

CHAIR

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MINUTES END