NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

At a meeting of the **NORTH LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY** held on **MONDAY, 20TH JULY, 2026** at 2.30 pm in Council Chamber, Town Hall, Judd Street, London WC1H 9JE

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY PRESENT

Councillors Jacob Cable (Chair), Madeline Church (Vice-Chair), Peter Zinkin (Vice-Chair), Camron Aref-Adib, Johann Beckford, Sarah Bentley, Rowena Champion, Paul Convery, Florence Schechter and Alan Schneiderman

MEMBERS OF THE AUTHORITY ABSENT

Councillors Em Dean, Gio Iozzi, Eralda Qirjo and James Slater

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 were received from Councillors Em Dean, Gio Iozzi, Eralda Qirjo and James Slater.

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

There were no declarations of interest.

3. 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.

4. DEPUTATIONS (IF ANY)

There were no deputations.

5. PARTICIPATION IN, AND SCHEDULING OF, AUTHORITY COMMITTEES

Consideration was given to the report of the Managing Director.

The Chair suggested that while an Urgency Committee might not be frequently needed, establishing one would provide comfort for new Members, with a view to revisiting its necessity in approximately a year. This approach was supported by another Member, who acknowledged that many Members were new to the board and as councillors.

A Member sought clarification on whether an Urgency Committee, if established with all 14 Members, would still operate with a subset for attendance or voting. The Managing Director clarified that while all 14 Members would be appointed, the quorum would remain four. Another Member further clarified that while all Members could previously attend any committee meeting, voting rights were restricted to appointed Members, a point the Managing Director concurred with.

Concerning the Programme Committee, a Member questioned whether it would vote and noted that the quorum of four seemed low. The Managing Director confirmed that the Programme Committee, as per its proposed terms of reference, would have decision-making powers, and thus decisions could be made via a vote, with the quorum remaining at four. Another Member highlighted the merit of a Programme Committee for dedicated updates on the North London Heat and Power Project, allowing for more focused discussions compared to Authority meetings which had broader agendas.

A Member emphasised the importance of formal Programme Committee meetings over informal ones to ensure public scrutiny and transparency. The Chair raised a concern about the impact of in-person formal meetings on attendance, suggesting informal remote meetings might yield higher participation. The Managing Director explained that historically, a flexible approach was adopted, with decisions made closer to the date on whether to hold a formal in-person meeting or an informal one, depending on the need for decisions versus progress reporting. Another Member noted that informal meetings tend to be more discursive and flow differently, suggesting their continued utility.

A Member advocated for maximum transparency, suggesting that even informal meetings could allow public online attendance to listen, especially given public interest in the project. The Chair and Managing Director committed to explore this idea outside the meeting.

ACTION: Managing Director

A Committee Member sought clarity on remote attendance for formal meetings. If Members could not attend in person, they could watch online like other members of the public but current legislation did not permit them to participate in the meeting as only physical presence was recognised. It was noted that temporary legislative changes during the pandemic had expired and a consultation on introducing remote participation had not yet resulted in plans for legislative change.

A Member enquired about the possibility of including independent experts on the Programme Committee, similar to the Audit and Governance Committee. The Managing Director explained that while the Audit and Governance Committee had specific requirements, the Programme Committee did not. It was noted that officers typically brought in experts to give advice on specific issues. Officers proposed bringing a paper to the first Programme Committee meeting to explore options for independent input. Another Member questioned the definition and role of such an expert.

ACTION: Managing Director

The Chair noted that the proposed additional meeting dates were listed at 4.12 of the report. While the NLWA meetings were usually at 2.30pm, due to a clash with London Councils' Transport and Environment Committee it was proposed that the September and November meetings be held at 10.30am.

RESOLVED –

(i) THAT an Urgency Committee be established with all Members on it and with Councillor Cable be appointed as Chair;

(ii) THAT the current number of Authority meetings be held and additionally Programme Committee meetings be scheduled. Programme Committee meetings would have the same membership, including Councillor Cable as Chair, but a more focussed agenda; and

(iii) THAT Programme Committee meetings be scheduled on the proposed additional meeting dates set out in section 4.12 of the report, with the meetings held at the usual time of 2.30pm apart from the 10 September 2026 and 12 November 2026 meetings which would be held at 10.30am.

The meeting ended at 3.06 pm.

CHAIR

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MINUTES END