

## **SUMMARY OF DECISIONS MADE AT A MEETING OF THE WEST ESSEX AREA WASTE MANAGEMENT JOINT COMMITTEE HELD AT COUNTY HALL, CHELMSFORD ON 30 NOVEMBER 2005**

### Membership

- \* Councillor Tony Sleep, Brentwood Borough Council (Chair)
- \* Councillor Roger Walters, Essex County Council
- \* Councillor Michael Gage, Braintree District Council
- \* Councillor Derek Jacobs, Epping Forest District Council
- \* Councillor Chris Millington, Harlow District Council
- \* Councillor Alan Thawley, Uttlesford District Council

\* present

### **1. Memorandum of Understanding (agenda item 5)**

Referring to paper WEWM/11/05, Peter Kelsbie, Project Co-ordinator, Essex County Council, provided an introduction to the Memorandum of Understanding for the West Essex area.

It was noted that the Memorandum of Understanding was intended to demonstrate to DEFRA a willingness by the area partners to work together and to support the disposal authorities (i.e. Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and Essex County Council). It was stated that each area Memorandum was not a legally binding document although it was anticipated that it would provide a compilation of first principles concerning working together both generally and in terms of system design.

Members discussed the wording of the West Essex area Memorandum of Understanding and some minor amendments were suggested.

Having discussed the content and the wording of the Memorandum the process for taking it forward was explained. It was noted that endorsement by the Joint Committee of the Memorandum was being sought prior to its signature by individual partner authorities, which would be done via their most appropriate internal approval mechanism.

The Memorandum of Understanding would need to be signed by each partner authority by the end of April 2006.

### Recommendation

On the recommendation of Councillor Jacobs, Epping Forest District Council, and seconded by Councillor Thawley, Uttlesford District Council, it was unanimously:-

**Resolved:**

To endorse the Memorandum of Understanding for the West Essex area, incorporating the suggested amendments, and to recommend its signature by individual West Essex partner authorities.

## **2. Outline Business Case for the Essex Waste Project (agenda item 6)**

Referring to paper WEWM/12/05, Peter Kelsbie, Project Coordinator, Essex County Council, presented the Outline Business Case (OBC) for the Essex Waste Project. It was noted that the OBC, a joint document between Southend-on-Sea Borough Council and Essex County Council, included a compilation of information previously circulated in greater detail to the three Joint Committees.

It was confirmed that, following submission, DEFRA would review the document for approximately three to four months and then it would be forwarded to the Treasury (estimated to be in April/May 2006). Members noted the possibility that some queries requiring clarification might be raised by DEFRA during this review stage. It was further noted that DEFRA had indicated that approximately £90 million had been earmarked for the project if the bid for private finance initiative funding proved to be successful.

### Recommendation

On the recommendation of Councillor Sleep, Brentwood Borough Council, and seconded by Councillor Thawley, Uttlesford District Council, it was unanimously:-

#### **Resolved:**

To endorse the Executive Summary of the Outline Business Case prior to its submission to DEFRA.

Members commented on the professional presentation and content of the OBC and commended its authors.