

IAA Member Working Group

MINUTES OF MEETING HELD ON 30 AUGUST 2011 AT 2:00PM IN COMMITTEE ROOM 1, COUNTY HALL, CHELMSFORD.

*Present:

*	Basildon District Council	Councillor Malcolm Buckley
*	Braintree District Council	Councillor Wendy Schmitt
*	Brentwood Borough Council	Councillor Roger Hirst
*	Castle Point Borough Council	Councillor Ray Howard
*	Chelmsford Borough Council	Councillor Janette Potter
*	Colchester Borough Council	Councillor Ann Turrell
*	Epping Forest District Council	Councillor John Knapman
*	Essex County Council	Councillor Kevin Bentley
*	Harlow District Council	Councillor Tony Hall
	Maldon District Council	Councillor Brenda Harker
*	Rochford District Council	Councillor Mike Steptoe
	Tendring District Council	Councillor Nick Turner
*	Uttlesford District Council	Councillor Susan Barker

1. Welcome and Introductions

The Committee Officer welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies for Absence

Apologies were received from Cllr Brenda Harker and Cllr Nick Turner.

3. Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the meeting held on 7 June 2011 were agreed, subject to minor amendments to attendance and substitutions, and were signed by the Chairman.

4. Matters Arising

There were no matters arising

5. Inter Authority Agreement Working

Members received an update from Peter Kelsbie and were reminded that the basic principle of the IAA was to provide a funding stream that flowed from Essex County Council to the Districts that provided the best of collection and disposal principles whilst allowing for the development of the right infrastructure.

It was noted the agreements in place do give the WCA's what is required for their service delivery plans.

It was reported the vice-chairman will be working with officers to produce a memorandum of understanding that will support, not replace, the IAA. It was agreed a draft MOU for discussion would be in for the next meeting of this group.

6. Collaborative Working Update

Members received an update from Paul Partridge (Braintree DC)

Vehicle procurement and maintenance

- Contract to be awarded February 2012 with implementation from 1 April 2012.
- Contract for a 7 year period with an option to extend for a further 7 years.
- Option to award one single contract or for each authority (Braintree, Uttlesford and Colchester) to issue individually.
- Twenty two suppliers expressed an interest with fourteen passing the initial evaluation.
- Following the first round of competitive dialogue, eleven suppliers are proceeding to the next round.
- Competitive dialogue to be completed by October 2011 with commissioning from 1 April 2012.

Street Sweeping Waste

- Framework agreement set up with contractor (EWD)
- Separate arrangements agreed through informal SLA's
- A sub-group with representation from five authorities to lead process along with procurement hub for Essex.
- Not a huge financial saving but the opportunity to streamline current arrangements.

Fuel procurement

- Authorities pay differing rates for fuel
- Aim is to explore the co-ordination of ordering into a single arrangement ensuring even pricing across the Districts.

In relation to the vehicle servicing procurement it was confirmed that it had been subject to the OJEU process and that Essex Fire & Rescue Service had expressed an interest and were involved in the dialogue process.

7. Waste Strategy Procurement Update

Members received an update from Phil Butler.

He informed Members that:

Waste PFI:

- Following short listing two bidders remain in the procurement process with dialogue continuing until 30 September.
- Tender documents due in 20 October 2011.
- Preferred bidder to be announced December 2011 or early in 2012.

Bio Waste Project:

- Currently reviewing how we deal with food and garden green waste.
- Likely option will be co-collected food and green waste via current merchant facilities.

Transfer Stations:

- Planning application for Harlow submitted in August
- Uttlesford to be submitted for planning consideration in January 2012.
- Braintree, Chelmsford and Colchester – planning applications in April 2012.

SRF Workstream:

- Soft market testing carried with sixteen organisations expressing an interest.
- Consultants appointed to review responses and develop a procurement strategy.

In response to questions raised Members were informed that:

- The project is still working to the original timeline.
- There are very few merchants available for food waste only.
- The proposed facility at Crumps Farm has planning permission but there is no guarantee it will be constructed.
- PFI credits are to be used for the construction of a new facility

8. Recycling Centre for Household Waste Proposal

Members received details of the proposed changes to the Recycling Centres for Household Waste (RCHW) from Jason Searles.

Members noted that:

- Formal notification of proposed operational changes at RCHW sites has been given to Contractors.
- Proposals include the closure of 2 sites. (St Osyth and High Ongar). and a reduction in opening days and hours at other sites
- There has been a reduction in tonnage at some sites due to increased kerbside collections
- There are relatively high costs in running smaller sites
- There is an overlap of sites in close proximity to each other resulting in some inefficiency.
- Consultation is underway with site staff and union representatives this is due to end by early October.

- All parish and town councils and have been informed of the proposals and details have been relayed to the press. Meetings are being arranged with the parishes in High Ongar and St Osyth and views are being sought from users.
- A decision regarding the proposals is expected to be taken in mid October and any resultant changes implemented by the end of the year

Following discussion, Members were informed:

- Clear signage for public at the RCHW sites would be put in place.
- Decisions were taken following evaluation of throughput tonnage and visitor numbers. Monitoring of the sites will be ongoing.
- The impact of the changes on fly tipping will be closely monitored.
- Discussions continue with other authorities concerning cross border issues.

9. Government Review of Waste Policy 2011 Briefing

Members received an update and briefing note from Keith Nicholson (Chelmsford BC) on the government review of waste policy and noted the principal commitments. In particular:

- Prioritising the waste hierarchy
- Quality v quantity of recycling
- Support of anaerobic digestion
- Local choice regarding collection frequencies
- Recycling for businesses needs to be made simpler and more cost effective.

Members discussed issues arising from the review and its impact in County.

10. Date and Agenda for Member Partnership Board

It was agreed the inaugural meeting of the Member Partnership Board take place immediately prior to the next meeting of this group.

11. Agenda items for next meeting

The following agenda items were agreed:

- Memorandum of Understanding (it was agreed the draft MOU be circulated to Districts for consideration prior to the next meeting)
- Presentation on Courtauld Road
- County Recycling figures
- Update on collaborative working
- CO² emissions from waste vehicles.

12. 'In the News' media coverage

The 'In the News' articles for July/August were noted.

13. Dates and locations of future meetings

The next meeting of the group will be held on Tuesday 18 October, Committee Room 1, County Hall and Tuesday 6 December.

Future venues include a site visit to Waterbeach and meetings at Basildon, Castlepoint and Braintree.

There being no further business the meeting closed at 3.55pm