
SUMMARY OF DECISIONS TAKEN AT A MEETING OF THE WEST ESSEX AREA WASTE MANAGEMENT JOINT COMMITTEE HELD AT COUNTY HALL, CHELMSFORD ON 26 APRIL 2006

Present:-

Members & Substitute Members

Councillor Tony Sleep, Brentwood Borough Council (Chairman)
Councillor Roger Walters, Essex County Council
Councillor Michael Gage, Braintree District Council
Councillor Derek Jacobs, Epping Forest District Council
Councillor Alan Thawley, Uttlesford District Council

Officers

Ron Pridham, Uttlesford District Council
Kathy May, Harlow District Council (attending on behalf of S Presland)
Ian Haines, Braintree District Council
Brian Lawrence, Brentwood Borough Council
Peter Kelsbie, Essex County Council
Alex Creecy, Essex County Council

1. Project Progress Report (agenda item 5)

Introduction

Referring to paper WEWM/09/06, Peter Kelsbie, Project Co-ordinator, Essex County Council, provided an update on the latest project progress.

Discussion

It was reiterated that the Outline Business Case (OBC) containing an application for PFI credits had been submitted to Defra, as planned, in December 2005. The OBC had been constructed with reference to contemporary guidance issued by the 4Ps. However, it was noted that the rules governing bids for PFI credits had changed on 7 April 2006. It was explained that Defra had raised some issues arising from the OBC and that a meeting would be held in early May 2006 between representatives from Defra and Essex County Council to discuss these issues. It was suggested and **agreed** that Councillor Roger Walters, Essex County Council, should speak to Graham Tombs, Service Director of Environment & Commerce at Essex County Council before this meeting. It was noted that this meeting would be an important element in determining the viability of continuing to pursue the PFI credit option. It was stated that feedback from industry would also be vital in considering the most appropriate match between the waste strategy and an affordable solution.

Members noted that Heads of Terms for the purchase of the lease at the Courtauld Road site were generally complete with just final legal negotiations

remaining. Also in connection with Courtauld Road, it was reported that the planning application was expected to be submitted in mid-May 2006.

2. Update from the West Essex Area Officers Group (agenda item 7)

Ian Haines, Braintree District Council, provided an update on behalf of the West Essex Area Officers Group. During the course of discussion, reference was made to paper WEWM/10/06 which contained initial ideas regarding methods of collection, the marketing of recycled materials and how these might inform the overall system design to ensure an appropriate interface between collection and disposal processes. It was noted that some decisions regarding collection were dependent on the disposal infrastructure and vice versa.

Discussion

It was explained that recent West Essex officer meetings had concentrated on assessing different collection methods and the subsequent marketing of materials collected for recycling.

It was noted that two collection methods had been considered at the meetings; kerbside 'source separation' and 'co-mingled' (the latter requiring subsequent sorting). It was noted that further work would be required to provide a more definitive comparison using a combination of the SWOT analysis and the Kerbside Analysis Tool (KAT) modelling results. At present, (without the KAT results), it was explained that both methods were achieving very similar scores and that further work would be required to ascertain any differentiation between the two systems.

It was suggested and **agreed** that factors relating to differences between urban and rural area (across Essex) needed to be included in future consideration.