

MINUTES OF A MEETING OF THE WEST ESSEX AREA WASTE MANAGEMENT JOINT COMMITTEE HELD AT COUNTY HALL, CHELMSFORD ON 7 MARCH 2007

Present:

Members

Councillor Michael Gage, Braintree District Council
Councillor Tony Sleep, Brentwood Borough Council (Chairman)
Councillor Roger Walters, Essex County Council
Councillor Chris Millington, Harlow District Council
Councillor Mary Sartin, Epping Forrest District Council
Councillor Alan Thawley, Uttlesford District Council (Vice-Chairman)

Officers

Ian Haines, Braintree District Council
Brian Lawrence, Brentwood Borough Council
John Gilbert, Epping Forest District Council
Nicola Beach, Essex County Council
Clinton Hasses, Essex County Council
Kathy May, Harlow District Council
Peter Kelsbie, Essex County Council
Ron Pridham, Uttlesford District Council

102. Apologies for Absence and Notices of Substitution

None received.

103. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting held on 24 January 2007 were approved without amendments and were signed by the Chairman.

104. Matter Arising from the Minutes

There were no matters arising from the minutes.

105. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest reported.

106. Project Progress Report

The Committee received a presentation (WEWM/04/07) from Peter Kelsbie, Essex County Council, updating members on the progress of the project.

He highlighted that:

- A meeting had been held with Defra at which a timetable for the resubmission of the Outline Business Case (OBC) had been agreed and that work had started on the construction of the revised OBC.
- Phase 2 and phase 3 of the KAT modelling had commenced and would run concurrently. Rochford, Basildon and Tendring were included in phase 2, whilst Colchester and Castle Point were in phase 3.
- The draft phase 1 KAT modelling report had been received and would be presented at the next round of Joint Committee meetings.
- The Baswood Point (Basildon, Brentwood and Castle Point) consultancy contract had been awarded to the firm 'White, Young & Green' and their report would be ready early May. They would report on possible areas of joint working which could result in cost savings and other efficiencies.
- Twelve bids had received for the interim contract. Following evaluation these had been reduced to 9, and these would be invited to tender.
- The procurement approach paper had been prepared and taken to the project board.
- A draft protocol for joint working with the Hertfordshire County Council had been compiled.
- A brief had been constructed for the investigation of transfer station site location and design, and AEA Technology had been commissioned to carry out this research.
- The planning application for Courtauld Road had been submitted.
- Three risk workshops had been held and the next dashboard would have a different risk summary, which reflected the results from these workshops. The results would also form an appendix to the OBC.

107. Update on the KAT modelling process and the development of Inter – Authority Agreements

Peter Kelsbie explained that as part of the PFI application, the current Memorandum of Understanding (M.O.U) needed to be updated. A draft had already been circulated to lead officers and would be brought to the April round of Joint Committees for endorsement and to the partner authorities for signature in July. He explained that the new M.O.U would be similar to the previous one, that it contained the same basic conditions as the original M.O.U, but had been updated with the current recycling commitments (including the current L.A.A. and statutory recycling targets).

Peter Kelsbie provided an update on the need for a new Interim Authority Agreement (IAA), which would be needed by May 2008, and he explained that the IAA would define the relationship between the partner authorities and could include:-

- Resources made available by each party;
- Commitment to pool recycling targets;
- Service plans for the Partner Authorities;
- Infrastructure description;
- Agreement change mechanism;
- Duration/term of IAA.

He explained that these were merely examples and that the exact details would be clarified over the coming months.

Following the presentations, the Committee AGREED that the proposed timetable for the M.O.U. and the IAA was acceptable.

108. Committee meeting dates for 2007

The Committee considered and provisionally agreed the following meeting dates for 2007:

- Aug 15, Committee Room1, County Hall
- Sept 26, venue to be confirmed
- Nov 7, venue to be confirmed
- Dec 12, venue to be confirmed

109. Update on Communications Strategy

Nicola Beach informed the committee that the planning applications for Rivenhall and Pitsea would be both be considered on 30 March, whilst the Stanway application was still scheduled for June. The Courtauld Road exhibitions had been completed and had been attended by about 300 people. The six week statutory consultation period for the Courtauld Road planning application would end in April. The feedback and comments had been mixed and the main concern had been around the impact on traffic. There had been some media interest and coverage particularly in the Echo newspaper

110. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting was scheduled for 2.30pm on Wednesday, 18 April 2007 in Committee Room 1, County Hall, Chelmsford.

111. Urgent Part I Business

There was no urgent part I business.

112. Part II Business

There was no part II business.

Chairman
18 April 2007