

## Staffordshire Local Government Association

### MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF STAFFORDSHIRE AND STOKE-ON-TRENT JOINT WASTE MANAGEMENT BOARD HELD ON 31 JANUARY 2019 AT DISTRICT COUNCIL HOUSE, LICHFIELD

Present:

#### **Cannock Chase District Council**

Mr. M. Edmonds  
Cllr. J. Preece  
Mr. J. Presland

#### **Stafford Borough Council**

Cllr. F. Finley  
Mr. P. Gammon

#### **Lichfield District Council**

Mr. N. Harris  
Cllr. D. Leytham (Vice-Chairman in the Chair)

#### **Staffordshire County Council**

Mr. T. Cooper  
Cllr. M. Deaville  
Miss. R. Melvin  
Mr. C. Thomson

#### **Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council**

Mr. A. Bird  
Cllr. T. Johnson

#### **Stoke-on-Trent City Council**

Mrs. C. Gibbs  
Mr. R. Vernon

#### **South Staffordshire District Council**

Mr. M. Jenkinson  
Mr. D. Roberts

#### **Tamworth Borough Council**

Cllr. J. Chesworth

**Also in attendance:** Mrs. K Buck (Waste Partnership Manager); Mr. J. Lindop (Staffordshire County Council)

**Apologies:** Mr. A. Barratt (Tamworth Borough Council); Cllr. M. Bond (South Staffordshire District Council); Cllr. A. Forrester (Staffordshire Moorlands District Council); Mr. S. Khan (East Staffordshire Borough Council); Mrs. N. Kemp (Staffordshire Moorlands District Council); Mr. R. King (Lichfield District Council); Cllr. A. Munday (Stoke-on-Trent City Council).

## **PART ONE**

### **Minutes**

36. **RESOLVED** – That, subject to the following amendments, the minutes of the meeting held on 6 December 2018 be confirmed and signed by the Chairman:-

- Deletion of ‘Mrs. D. Roberts’ and inclusion of ‘Mr. D. Roberts’ in the list of attendances;
- Inclusion of “Cllr. T. Johnson” (Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council) in the list of attendances and;
- Minute No. 31, paragraph 7, line 1, deletion of “Cannock Chase District Council” and inclusion “Lichfield District Council”.

## **Strategic Waste Management Action Plan – Performance Report** (schedule 1)

37. The Board considered an updated report of the Waste Partnership Manager regarding progress made towards delivery of the Strategic Waste Management Action Plan during Quarter 2 2018/19 (Appendix 1 to the signed minutes). Copies of the updated report (which included a revised Q2 recycling rate (%) per council comparison from 2017/18 to 2018/19 bar chart) were circulated to Members at the meeting.

With regard to NI191: “Residual Household Waste Collected per Household”, the majority of Authorities had experienced slight reductions when compared to both their Q1 data and corresponding period during 2017/18. However, the volume collected by Cannock Chase District Council had reduced significantly from 136.68 kg per household in Q1 to 112.22 kg during Q2.

With regard to NI192: “% of household waste sent for reuse, recycling or composting”, the position was less encouraging in that most Authorities had experienced reductions when compared to both their Q1 data and corresponding period during 2017/18. However, Cannock Chase had registered a slight increase from 47.8% in Q1 to 48.2% during Q2.

With regard to NI193: “% of municipal waste landfilled”, Members were encouraged to learn that the County Waste Disposal Authority had experienced a reduction in their figures when compared to Q2. However, a comparison with the data for the corresponding period in 2017/18 indicated that there had been a slight increase. They were also encouraged to learn that the figures for the City Waste Disposal Authority had remained static when compared to Q2 and had reduced from 5.1% in the corresponding period in 2017/18 to 4.0% during Q2.

38. **RESOLVED** – That the report be received and noted.

### **Strategic Waste Management Plan – Update**

39. The Board received a joint oral report and presentation from the Waste Partnership Manager and Team Manager: Sustainability and Waste Strategy, Staffordshire County Council regarding the preparation of a new Partnership Joint Municipal Waste Strategy (JMWS) for 2020 and beyond (PowerPoint slides attached at Appendix A to the signed minutes).

During their presentation, the Managers highlighted (i) the outcome of a recent tender exercise to procure consultants to assist with various tasks in the development of a full Strategy; (ii) the progress which had been made to date following the appointment of Frith Resource Management; (iii) the Waste Composition Analysis (WCA) being undertaken in support of the Strategy by Keele University and; (iv) the Strategic Environmental Assessment being undertaken to integrate environmental considerations into the Strategy.

With regard to (ii) above, the Waste Partnership Manager informed them of Frith's expertise in assisting local authorities with the preparation of their waste strategies. An initial project start-up meeting was to be held by the Team Manager with the Company later in the day having regard to the Board's timetable for production of the draft strategy. In addition, with regard to (iii) above, work on the WCA was also due to commence and would update the information provided by the previous analysis undertaken in 2007. This work would include mosaic data for local partners and would be relevant for the whole of Staffordshire.

With regard to (iv) above, the Team Manager informed them that the SEA would consider the high-level environmental impact of various options to be included in the Strategy. Furthermore, it would be produced simultaneously options were identified. However, completion of the scoping report was to take priority followed by development of assessment criteria and objectives setting.

40. **RESOLVED** – (a) That the joint oral report and presentation be received and noted.

(b) That the Board welcome the progress which had been made to date in the production of a new Strategic Waste Management Plan for Staffordshire.

### **National Resource and Waste Strategy**

41. The Board received an oral report and presentation (Powerpoint slides attached at Appendix B to the signed minutes) from the Waste Partnership Manager regarding the publication of a new national resource and waste Strategy entitled "Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England", by the Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs and Environment Agency on 18 December 2018.

The Strategy set out how resources were to be preserved by minimising waste, promoting efficiency and moving towards a circular economy. It represented a significant change in policy which had wide ranging implications for the work of both Waste Collection and Disposal Authorities. As part of the Strategy, three eight-week consultations were expected imminently, covering:- (i) Extended Producer Responsibility; (ii) Deposit Return Scheme and (iii) Collection Systems.

During her presentation, the Waste Partnership Manager gave further details of the policies and proposals set out in the Strategy document in respect of:- (i) Extended Producer Responsibility; (ii) Deposit Return Scheme; (iii) Consistent Collections; (iv) Waste Crime; (v) Food Waste; (vi) Plastics; (vii) and various other matters including two tier working, recycling credits, promoting longer lifetime, joint working, waste infrastructure, end of waste status and periodic reviews of Waste Data Flow.

In the full and wide-ranging discussion which ensued, the Waste Partnership Manager referred to the work previously undertaken by the Partnership to investigate the feasibility of introducing separate food waste collections. She said that this might help inform their responses to the consultations referred to above. In addition, she made reference to the discussion which had taken place at a recent meeting of the Staffordshire Waste Officers' Group (SWOG) at which they expressed support for a Staffordshire-wide response to be submitted by the Partnership and the likely impact of the Strategy and consultations on the new Staffordshire Strategic Waste Management Plan.

The officer representative of Newcastle-under-Lyme Borough Council expressed concern over the Government's likely short timescale for submission of consultation responses together with the exclusion of Local Authorities (LAs) from a recent exercise to model costs in respect of extended producer responsibility and non-binding targets for LAs, proposals. He also considered that the proposals in respect of garden waste might be purely aspirational owing to the changes in current legislation which would be necessary to enable their implementation.

The Member representative of the County Council agreed with the views which had previously been expressed regarding the timeframe for submission of responses to the consultations.

A representative of Frith Waste Management, the consultants who had been appointed to assist the Partnership with their new Strategic Waste Management Plan, informed them of a forthcoming event being held by the Chartered Institute of Wastes Management in Northampton on 27 February 2019 which could provide an opportunity for the Partnership to raise their concerns regarding the above-mentioned timeframe.

An officer representative of the County Council highlighted that the next meeting of the Board was currently scheduled for June 2019. Therefore, an additional meeting would be required, in the meantime, in order to agree a Partnership response within the expected timeframe.

42. **RESOLVED** – (a) That the report be received and noted.

(b) That officers give preliminary consideration to the above-mentioned consultations, when published, and report back to the Board in due course.

(c) That an additional meeting of the Board be arranged, at the appropriate time, to agree a Partnership response to the above-mentioned consultations for submission to Government within their deadline for submissions.

#### **Date of Next Meeting**

43. **RESOLVED** – (a) That a further meeting of the Board be held, as set out above, at Castle House, Newcastle-under-Lyme or, if suitable accommodation is unavailable, Marmion House, Tamworth.

## **Exclusion of the Public**

44. **RESOLVED** – That the public be excluded for the following items of business which involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in the paragraphs of Part 1 of Schedule 12A (as amended) of the Local Government Act 1972, indicated below.

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### **PART TWO**

#### **Mixed Recycling Facility Provision** (exemption paragraph 3)

45 and 46. The Board received an exempt presentation from the Strategic Manager - Environment, Waste and Fleet Services, Stoke-on-Trent City Council updating them on mixed recycling facility provision in Staffordshire and discussed preferred options for the Partnership going forward.

**CHAIRMAN**