

Joint Waste Management Board/Staffordshire Sustainability Board

10 October 2022

Discussion Paper – Joining JWMB with SSB

Summary

This short discussion paper recommends that the Joint Waste Management Board (JWMB) and Staffordshire Sustainability Board (SSB) should be joined to improve the effectiveness and efficiency in monitoring and shaping the wider sustainability agenda.

This would allow recommendations to be made to the Staffordshire Leaders Board (SLB) in a clear and concise fashion ensuring that there is no duplication.

Background

The JWMB has been established for many years whilst the SSB has only been meeting since the beginning of 2022. To date the meetings have been arranged on the same day and have run back-to-back. The suggestion to join the two meetings has been mentioned on several occasions in the past but has not been formally taken forward.

Proposal

It is recognised that both Boards are currently supported by separate officer groups. Due to the specialist nature of the waste agenda, it is proposed that separate officer groups (SWOG and SSBOG) would continue to support and advise a joint Board and the agenda would be arranged accordingly.

The JWMB is structured to include a public session (although it is very rare than any members of the public are present) whilst the SSB has to date been a closed meeting. If it is agreed to join both Boards, it is proposed that a meeting format being used by the Staffordshire Leaders Board would be adopted. It is hoped that the wider agenda covered by such a Board might generate more interest during the public session.

Legal advice has been obtained and it has been confirmed that there is no impediment to joining the two Boards.

Formal Sign Off

It is intended that once the agreement of Members of both the JWMB and SSB has been obtained, a recommendation will be made to the SLB to formally join the two Boards as soon as practically possible.