

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORTS

Joint Waste Management Board Subgroup

2.15pm Wednesday 10th February 2016

Members room 1, County Buildings, Staffordshire County Council

1. Attendees

- Chair of JWMB; Cllr Ann Beech (Newcastle under Lyme Borough Council)
- Vice chair of JWMB; Cllr Mary Bond (South Staffordshire District Council)
- 2 further members; Cllr Iain Eadie (Lichfield Borough Council)
Cllr Gill Heath (Staffordshire County Council)
- Chair of SWOG; Mark Street (Stafford Borough Council)
- SWP Officer; Kay Cocks
- Member and Democratic Services; Jonathan Lindop

2. SWOG update

KC provided the group with a verbal update on other issues being discussed at SWOG that have not been included in the project progress report (item 4);

SWP have submitted a letter to DEFRA stating our concerns regarding recent changes to the requirements for WasteDataFlow, specifically Question 100.

The re-structure at Stoke on Trent City Council is now complete and nearly all posts filled.

3. TOG updates

The main project of TOG is included in the project progress report (item 4), however KC stated that the group is continuing to pull together and is attended well. The next meeting is 9th March at Tamworth. The Transport Officers are now seeking speakers for the meetings, showing greater ownership of the group and meetings.

4. SWP Officer's progress report (please see attached)

KC talked the group through the various projects in the attached report.

Additionally, she updated the group on a recent trade press article on www.letsrecycle.com regarding our drive for holistic savings, taken from a local article in the Stoke Sentinel, based upon a report which went to SoTCC's cabinet.

5. Upcoming JWMB meeting; agenda creation

The group agreed that the next JWMB meeting, on Monday 29th February, should centre solely upon the presentation of the report by Local Partnerships, followed by a discussion on how to move forward. Usual standing agenda items, such as the sub-group minutes / progress report, and the data sheet, will be issued as briefing papers only.

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORTS

Closed projects

CCDC collection contract

The collection contract procurement for Cannock Chase district Council has now been completed and the council has been invoiced for my dedicated time – these funds now reside in the SWP pot for spending on future joint projects.

Love your bin man

After developing an SWP template to follow, the onus is now on each council to take the campaign forward at a time suitable for them. Some have undertaken the campaign straight away.

WEEE funding application – second round of BIZ funding

Unfortunately, SWP's application for funding was unsuccessful. The panel did not have a specific concern with the application that resulted in it being unsuccessful, stating the main reason our bid did not receive funding was due to the fund being oversubscribed. Feedback was limited and stated that our bid was accomplished but lacked clarity in one area, which has been taken on board for future applications. It is also believed that as Staffordshire County Council secured funding during the first round, by default, we may have been sidelined for funding, to give other areas a chance.

On-going projects

Four Ashes joint campaign

This campaign is still ongoing due to issues of communication with Veolia. A final draft was issued which did not meet our requirements and received negative feedback from councils, to the point where many refused to use it. In order to try and preserve the relationship with Veolia, SWP and the County Council have worked to limit the scope of the campaign to hopefully produce a suitable outcome, without wasting more time and money on this fledgling project. Veolia have agreed to the changes and hopefully this will produce a useful campaign. The County Council have agreed to use the campaign (should the changes be successful adopted) to ensure we get some use from the project, but all other councils will be given the choice as to whether or not to use the material. No final result has been provided by Veolia yet, but hopefully this will occur very soon, so this project can finally be closed.

CPC training collaborations

Procurement of CPC training as a collaborative project has been investigated in a number of ways, and plans are now focused upon using a training broker to facilitate the course procurement. Meetings are underway to determine if SWP can piggy back onto the existing County Council contract with a large brokerage firm who will be able to meet the needs of Transport Officers to

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORTS

facilitate CPC training sessions. The success of the joint working now depends on the relationship we can cultivate between the broker and the councils.

Holistic savings for Staffordshire

Following the additional meeting the JWMB in December, SWP have now commissioned Local Partnerships to undertake the high level review of all waste management services in the area with the aim of seeking holistic financial savings for the tax payer. Working is underway on the report, with SWP support during regular correspondence. The report will be issued to all meeting attendees, 1 week prior to the next JWMB.

The next JWMB is scheduled for Monday 29th February and will be attended by Local Partnerships to present and discuss the report content and to determine a suitable way forward. In addition to Members and directors of service that usually attend JWMB, Chief Executives and Officers have also been invited to attend.

New projects

Bulky waste

Recent discussion at SWOG around possible ideas of how to improve bulky waste collections by reducing the amount sent for incineration and increasing reuse using collaborations to also reduce costs, led to an idea to piggy bank upon the existing HWRC contract (which is within EU procurement rules due to how the contract was procured). The County Council, as the contract holder, are in talks with FCC to discuss the feasibility of them adopting a wider remit with regard to bulky waste and reuse. Other ideas were discussed at SWOG and will be progressed if the first option is not deemed viable.

Calendars

A baseline exercise was conducted to determine the variety of collection calendar methodologies within SWP. Currently all collection calendars are created and delivered differently for each council. Without some consistency, there are no savings to be made. As each council is happy with its current calendar design, the main saving could be achieved from the delivery aspect. It is currently being assessed whether the procurement of a contract with a fulfillment company on a partnership collaborative level would provide financial savings. This would require some consistency between councils in terms of frequency of issue, delivery dates and size of the calendars, but the design aspect would remain council specific.

Food Partnership

Spearheaded by the County Council's Rural Development Team, there are plans to develop a food partnership across the region, bringing together all stakeholders in food, from production to waste.

PROJECT PROGRESS REPORTS

SWP have attended initial meetings, to promote the food waste work we already undertake, build relationships and potentially undertake future works with the partnership in joint projects. The Food Partnership is still in its infancy and will be developed over the coming year, however SWP are keen to join the food waste action group to collaborate on preventing food waste with other stakeholders in the area (such as waste management companies, local infrastructure like the NHS and universities, food poverty charities etc).

Support to SBC bidder's day

SWP have provided assistance to Stafford Borough Council's recent bidder's day for their waste collection / processing / street cleansing / communications / CRM contract procurement. The day went very well and provide a great platform for SBC to move forward their procurement. The contract will likely name other SWP councils on the OJEU notice, and information from the bidder's day soft market testing is of use to some councils potentially looking to also procure collection contract in the near future.

Additional

Ongoing discussions with Biffa on the DRM processing contract due to concerns regarding rejected loads.