



**SOUTH LONDON
WASTE PARTNERSHIP**

South London Waste Partnership Joint Committee

Thursday 9 September at 18:30

Location: A virtual meeting which members of the public can view online at this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/c/kingstoncouncil/videos>

Members of the Committee

London Borough of Croydon

Councillor Stuart Collins - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Clean Green Croydon
Councillor Stuart King - Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport & Regeneration (Job share)

Substitutes: Councillors Muhammad Ali and Nina Degrad

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Councillor Hillary Gander - Portfolio Holder for Environment & Sustainable Transport Councillor
Tim Cobbett – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Communities and Engagement

Substitutes: Councillors Dave Ryder-Mills and Malcolm Self

London Borough of Merton

Councillor Mark Allison – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance
Councillor Stephen Alambritis – Leader of the Council

Substitutes: Councillor Martin Whelton

London Borough of Sutton

Councillor Manuel Abellan - Chair of the Environment & Neighbourhood Committee
Councillor Ben Andrew – Vice-Chair of the Environment and Neighbourhood Committee

Substitute: Councillor Hanna Zuchowska

This agenda is also available to view on:

www.croydon.gov.uk

www.sutton.gov.uk

www.merton.gov.uk

For enquiries on this agenda or to submit a question please contact:

Email: democratic.services@kingston.gov.uk / **tel:** 020 8547 5021. This is a public meeting and viewership by the public is encouraged and welcomed. **Questions must be submitted by 10:00am the day before the meeting (10:00, Tuesday September 8 2020).** Please also indicate which agenda item your questions is directed towards. Your question will be read out by the Democratic Services Officer after the agenda item has been introduced, a response will then be provided. The allowance of public questions at SLWP Committee meetings is entirely at the discretion of the Chair.

Note on declarations of interest

Members are advised to declare any Disclosable Pecuniary Interest in any matter to be considered at the meeting. If a pecuniary interest is declared they should withdraw from the meeting room during the whole of the consideration of that matter and must not participate in any vote on that matter. If members consider they should not participate because of a non-pecuniary interest which may give rise to a perception of bias, they should declare this, withdraw and not participate in consideration of the item.

AGENDA

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

3. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

Appendix 1

To approve the minutes of the previous SLWP meeting held on 23 July 2020 as a true and correct record.

4. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

5. PHASE A & B CONTRACT MANAGEMENT REPORT

Appendix 2

To note the contents of the report and comment on any aspects of the performance of the Partnership's Phase A & B contracts.

6. BUDGET UPDATE - MONTH 4 (2020/21)

Appendix 3

To note the contents of the report.

7. JWC COMMUNICATIONS AND ENGAGEMENT REPORT

Appendix 4

Note the contents of this report and comment on any aspects of communications and engagement activities relating to the Phase A and Phase B contracts.

8. JWC RISK REPORT Q1 (2020/21)

Appendix 5

To note the contents of this report.

9. EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

10. DATES OF THE NEXT MEETINGS

- 17 December 2020 (18:30)
- 13 April 2021 (18:30)
- 8 June 2021 (18:30)

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SOUTH LONDON WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE

THURSDAY 23 JULY 2020

7:00 pm – 9:21 pm

London Borough of Croydon

Councillor Stuart Collins - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Clean Green Croydon
Councillor Stuart King - Cabinet Member for Environment, Transport & Regeneration
Substitutes Councillors Muhammad Ali and Nina Degrad:

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Councillor Hillary Gander – Portfolio Holder for Environment & Sustainable Transport
Councillor Tim Cobbett – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Communities and Engagement.
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London Borough of Sutton

Councillor Manuel Abellan - Chair of the Environment & Neighbourhood Committee
Councillor Ben Andrew – Vice-Chair of the Environment & Neighbourhood Committee
Substitute: Councillor Hannah Zuchowska

* Absent

1. Chair handover

Resolved: Councillor Gander was appointed Chair and Councillor Abellan was appointed Vice-Chair for the 2020/21 municipal year.

Voting: unanimous.

2. Welcome and introductions

The outgoing Chair, Councillor Collins, gave a brief statement praising the progress in improving recycling rates and reducing landfill waste across all four boroughs. Praise was also given to John Haynes, the Communications Advisor for the SLWP, for his work on communicating to residents the journey of their recycled materials. Councillor Collins also called for Viridor Ltd. to provide greater transparency for their emissions data and expressed frustration with the length of time taken for the fire service and Viridor to produce their respective reports on the fire at the Beddington site. After the purchase of Viridor Ltd by Kohlberg Kravis Roberts & Co. L.P, Councillor Collins expressed his desire to develop a more open and prosperous relationship with the SLWP Committee and the management of KKR.

3. Apologies for Absence

Councillor Andrew from Sutton Council and Councillor Alambritis from Merton Council sent their apologies. There were no substitute members.

4. Minutes of the Previous Meeting**Appendix 1**

Resolved: Minutes of the previous meeting held on 4 February 2020 were signed as a true and correct record.

Voting: unanimous.

5. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

6. Phase A & B Contract Management Report**Appendix 2**

The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager of the SLWP presented the report which updated the Committee on the performance of the Phase A & B contracts procured and managed by the SLWP.

Contract 1 concerns waste transfer and haulage. No issues with the delivery of this service were found to report to the Committee.

Contract 2 concerns the management of Household Reuse and Recycling Centres (HRRC). The report explained that the closure of HRRC sites to the public on March 24th was due to travel to the sites not being allowed under 'essential travel only' and 'reasonable excuse' restrictions set out in government guidance and subsequent health protection regulations. A booking system was created for sites in Kingston, Merton and Sutton and an enhanced traffic management scheme for the three Croydon sites, with all sites reopening on May 12th.

Customer satisfaction surveys conducted across all HRRC sites showed resident satisfaction levels of the service continuously above 80%.

Further analysis of recycling performance across all 6 sites was outlined between sections 2.8 and 2.14 of the report. A key takeaway from the analysis is that there has been a marginal improvement on last year's figures, even with ongoing challenges within recycling markets. Work between the SLWP and Veolia is ongoing in order to improve recycling rate improvement measures and is outlined in section 2.16 of the report.

Contract 3 concerns the green and food waste composting services. There were no issues with the delivery of this service to report to the Committee.

The Phase B contract concerns residual waste treatment with Viridor South London Ltd. There was a 3% drop in residual waste delivered to the Beddington plant which helped give savings of just under £600,000 to the four boroughs. During the reporting period, there was a target to divert 91.34% of waste from landfill. This target was achieved with 95% of waste being diverted from landfill.

Section 4.4 of the report outlines the emissions from the Beddington ERF. Although the report states that the ERF has consistently performed within its emissions limits, there were two notable periods of limit exceedances detailed in sections 4.5 and 4.9. Furthermore, a variation of the monitoring period for CO was made by the Environment Agency in January 2020, increasing from every 30 minutes to every 10

minutes, in order to bring the Beddington ERF in-line with industry standard monitoring periods.

Several questions were received in advance of the meeting, at the discretion of the Chair, from Councillor Tim Foster concerning the draft South London Waste Plan. These ranged from clarification of the actions taken to balance the carbon footprint in Beddington North as well as ensuring that the licenced capacity for waste within this area is not exceeded. Councillor Foster also sought clarification on plans to meet the zero carbon target. In response to the questions, the Interim Strategic Partnership Manager reiterated that most of the issues raised by Councillor Foster fell outside the remit of the Committee and had been previously discussed at Sutton Council's Strategy and Resource Committee meeting on July 6, available to view on Sutton Council's Youtube channel. The South London Waste Plan is an important planning policy document with a key aim to safeguard existing waste sites and set out development management policies to guide waste treatment. Encouragement was given by the Interim Strategic Partnership Manager for local stakeholders and residents to get involved with the upcoming consultation for the South London Waste Plan.

The Committee sought clarification on the reasoning and subsequent impact from adopting the different approaches for HRRC site access as a result of the Coronavirus lockdown. The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager explained that the booking system for certain HRRC sites was used to control the increased numbers of residents intending to dispose of their accumulated waste. Alternatively, Croydon's HRRC sites are far more popular and need to be able to process more people's waste than the other SLWP borough's HRRC sites. The key aim therefore was to process the backlog for Croydon sites as quickly as possible in order to keep up with the increased demand, therefore implementing a traffic management approach was judged to be preferable. Currently, it is judged that there was not a significant difference between either approach with regards to the amount of waste brought through the different HRRC sites. Overall, early analysis suggests that for 2020/21 Q1 there was an average 75% reduction in tonnage brought through all HRRC sites.

Further information was sought by the Committee on overall customer satisfaction of the booking system in select HRRC sites and the feasibility of continuing this process. The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager reiterated the positive response from members of the public to the booking forms, particularly with the inclusion of social-distancing measures. Due to the positive feedback, there are ongoing discussions toward keeping the booking system in place and improving this service where possible. The Committee did also note the importance of ensuring that residents who may potentially struggle with the technological aspect of the booking process had support available.

The Committee questioned the reasoning behind the variation in the way the ERF monitor and report their CO emissions, (increasing from every 30 minutes to every 10 minutes). The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager explained that the change was to bring the method in line with the industry-standard and to provide more robust monitoring of CO emissions.

Resolved: To note the contents of the report.

Voting: Unanimous

7. SLWP Budget Outturn 2019-20**Appendix 3**

The head of Finance Operations and Resident Support presented the budget outturn report. The final budget outturn position for the SLWP was a £72,000 underspend for the 2019/20 financial year. In response to a query from the Committee on the reasoning for the underspend, the head of Finance Operations and Resident Support explained that there is a vacant position and an ongoing staffing resource review.

Resolved: To note the contents of the report.

Voting: Unanimous

8. Budget Update - Month 3 2020/2021**Appendix 4**

The head of Finance Operations and Resident Support presented the budget update report. The projected outturn for the 2020/21 financial year as of month 3 is a £112,000 underspend. Particular attention was drawn to the fact that a staff review is underway and the forecasts were carried out on the basis that three currently vacant positions remain unfilled. The review is scheduled to conclude in September where the staffing requirements are expected to be clearer.

Resolved: To note the contents of the report.

Voting: Unanimous

9. Viridor Fire Report July 2020**Appendix 5**

The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager presented the report. A summary was provided for the fire on 11 July 2019 at the Waste Transfer Station at Beddington Lane as well as the proceeding timeline of events. Viridor Ltd completed their internal investigation report in December 2019, met with SLWP in January 2020 to discuss their initial draft report and the SLWP Strategic Partnership Manager provided a verbal update at the February 4 SLWP JWC meeting. Concluding reports were submitted in March 2020 by the London Fire Brigade (Fire Investigation Report) and the Environment Agency (Compliance Assessment Report). The Environment Agency's reports used a Compliance Classification Scheme (CCS) to provide a non-compliance score of C3, therefore classifying Viridor's non-compliant residual waste storage as having had a minor environmental impact on the surrounding area and residents.

Two reports were submitted as late material, the first was the Report of Attendance of the LFB. The second report was from the LFB Fire Investigation Team who concluded that they were unable to determine the cause of the fire which is not an uncommon occurrence, as prefaced in a covering letter by the LFB.

Viridor's own fire report acknowledges a higher than normal amount of residual waste being stored at the waste transfer station for a longer than usual time as well as suggestions with regard to possible sources of the fire. Proposals are included in the report to limit the impact of potential future fires, including: occupation of a designated ERF pre-treatment site for the receipt and inspection of bulky waste,

reducing the overall handling of waste at any one time and increasing the frequency of thermal checking systems.

Under the Chair's discretion, a statement and question was received from Councillor Matthey, criticising the site's overall operations and concluded with the call for a more thorough investigation. In response, the Interim Strategic Partnership Manager emphasised that independent investigations from the LFB and the EA were conducted as well as Viridor's own internal incident report. The SLWP are therefore satisfied that the matter can be concluded and reiterated that ongoing work will be undertaken to ensure that the site will operate safely and the risk for future fires is reduced as much as possible.

Questions were received from Councillor Sumner that asked for clarification on the number of visits by the fire service to the Beddington Incinerator plant and the work being carried out to improve fire safety. In response, Interim Strategic Partnership Manager stated that the fire service has only attended the Beddington Energy Recovery Facility for planned site visits and that the facility is state-of-the-art with a good fire safety record. As a point of clarification, the July 2019 fire was at the Beddington Waste Transfer Station and not the Beddington ERF.

A statement was received by a member of the public criticising Viridor's fire report and called for its rejection by the SLWP. Furthermore, the statement claimed that the incident was preventable, called for further information on the likely emitted toxins from the fire and also a public apology needed for the resulting pollution. The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager responded to each criticism separately. It was highlighted that Viridor has the UK's largest network of over 300 waste management facilities and that fires at such sites can and do occur under varying circumstances. The report concluded clear actions that have since been put in place to reduce the risk of future fires and this information has been shared amongst other sites to learn from. The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager emphasized that the LFB are responsible for visiting premises to assess fire risk assessments as well as fire prevention measures and are entitled to take action if they believe the fire safety measures were not adequate.

A similar question regarding the measuring of emitted toxins was received from another member of the public. The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager reiterated that accurately predicting emissions from a fire such as this one is particularly difficult and referred to the EA's own conclusions that, after surveying the scene, the fire was deemed to have had a minor impact on human health, quality of life or the environment.

A question from a member of the public was received which queried the lack of a fire risk assessment in the final report. The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager reiterated that the LFB are responsible for visiting premises to assess fire risk assessments as well as fire prevention measures and are entitled to take action if they believe the fire safety measures were not adequate. If there are further public concerns with the overall safety of the ERF site on this matter, it was advised that the LFB be contacted directly. It was also noted that calls have been previously made by the SLWP for Viridor to make the fire risk assessment publicly available.

In response to concerns from some members of the public in their submissions, the Committee did clarify that no kerbside collected plastics were deliberately taken to

the incinerator by Veolia. The only source of these would have been from residents placing such plastic items in their own residual waste containers or black bags. Work has been carried out and is ongoing to communicate to residents to recycle more with the hope of significantly reducing the amount of recyclable materials, including plastics, sent to the incinerator.

The Committee did express frustration with Viridor Ltd. for incorrectly using a site to store residual waste on and not making use of an alternative site, with more appropriate fire safety facilities that has since been identified. Clarity was sought for the level of fines/penalties the SLWP were able to enact on Viridor for any potential breaches to ensure the incident does not occur again as well as strongly requesting representatives of KKR to attend SLWP Committee meetings. The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager explained that Committee meeting invitations had been extended to Viridor in the past and the SLWP will ensure that KKR are strongly encouraged to attend upcoming meetings. With regard to penalties, the Environment Agency has given a non-compliance score of C3 which alters Viridor's overall annual subsistence charge to the agency. It was stressed that this was not an outright financial penalty but the score will impact Viridor financially in the longer term as well as an overall reputational impact. The SLWP does have a contractual agreement with Viridor which includes a 'Performance Management Framework', with 60 performance targets. Service correction notices have been applied to Viridor by the SLWP in the past when breaches of these targets have occurred. With regards to the non-compliance on this particular occasion, it was stated that Viridor's pre-treatment building was undergoing works at the time of the fire which explains the storage of material in the chosen area.

The Committee did seek reassurances that conditions in the report are being met and requested a future update by officers to ensure that conditions and proposals are sufficiently implemented. The Interim Strategic Partnership did commit to include an update in the next quarterly phase A & B contract management report. It was stressed that this particular incident is judged to be concluded by the SLWP but work will be ongoing to ensure that the report's proposals are met and the site operates safely. Three additional proposals were suggested as follows:

- A Health and safety section to be included in the quarterly phase A & B contract management report.
- To strongly request for a representative of KKR to be in attendance at future SLWP Committee meetings.
- To consider strengthening the Performance Management Framework targets where feasible.

Resolved: To note the contents of the report.

Voting: Unanimous

10. JWC Communications and Engagement - SLWP Phase A and B Appendix 6 Contracts

The Communications Advisor for the SLWP presented the report on Communications and engagement matters related to the phase A & B contracts as well as seeking approval for the 2020-22 SLWP Communications strategy document.

Strategy document

The strategy document outlines the upcoming challenges in the next three years for the SLWP, with particularly ambitious recycling and waste management targets to meet. The document uses the most recent resident survey to assess the effectiveness of previous communication and engagement activities carried out by the Partnership in achieving key objectives. Appendix A of the report shows that the majority of previous targets were successfully, or at least partly, achieved. The priorities for 2020-22 are set out in the report which follows the same 10 key themes as have been identified in previous strategy documents. A new theme was added in this report which identifies the short, medium and long term impacts that the Coronavirus pandemic may have on resident attitudes/behaviours to waste and recycling. The importance of setting measurable targets was strongly emphasized by the Communications Advisor.

The Communications update

The Communications Advisor was pleased to note that the SLWP's 'Destination Recycling' campaign was shortlisted for a National Recycling Award 2020. Praise was affirmed for the vital work from frontline staff at Viridor and Veolia in ensuring that waste and recycling services could still be run during the height of the pandemic. An overview of the HRRCs and Beddington Landfill operations was also provided in the update. Ongoing work to ensure Beddington ERF Communications and stakeholder engagement has been underway, including the proposed distribution of a Beddington Community Newsletter to households in the vicinity of the site to maintain awareness of various community-oriented centres and programmes.

The Committee did query what methods have been shown to be successful with communicating to blocks of flats with shared facilities for recycling as well as a high turnover of occupancy. The Communications Advisor explained that this is a particularly challenging scenario whereby the current quality of recycling in these types of housing is of poorer quality than a single property and has subsequently necessitated further sorting. In response to this challenge, target 8 of the strategy document outlines in detail the ways in which the partnership are looking to improve the quality of recycling being collected (particularly from communal properties).

Resolved: To agree the strategy document and to note the contents of the report.

Voting: Unanimous

11. JWC Risk Report July 2020

Appendix 7

The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager introduced the report and summarised the key risk areas facing the partnership boroughs in relation to the JWC's waste disposal functions. The new risk that has arisen from the Coronavirus pandemic has been included in this report, this is due to an increase in residents staying at home whereby a noticeable increase has been seen in kerbside residual waste as well as recycling and food waste. As a result of this increase, there has been a consequential increased strain on overall JWC resources. Due to the shift of the UK moving into a 'transition period' until the end of 2020, 'Brexit' has also been included in the risk report. The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager did state that there is a potential risk from 'Brexit' to the JWC's recycling capabilities, although there is

currently no anticipation for any form of 'Brexit' to impact on the ability to safely dispose of residual waste due to the proximity of the ERF.

The Committee did propose that future risk reports are 'RAG' rated to be able to assess the level of any upcoming risks.

Resolved: To note the contents of the report.

Voting: Unanimous

12. Any Urgent Business

There were no urgent items of business.

13. Exclusion of the Press and Public

This item was not required.

14. Date of the next meeting

The dates for the next meetings are as follows:

- 9 September 2020 (18:30)
- 17 December 2020 (18:30)
- 13 April 2021 (18:30)
- 8 June 2021 (18:30)

Signed.....Date.....
Chair



Report to: South London Waste Partnership (SLWP) Joint Waste Committee
Date: 9 September 2020
Author(s): Andrea Keys Interim Strategic manager
Chair: Councillor Hilary Gander
Report title: Phase A and B Contract Management Report

Summary

This report provides Joint Waste Committee with an update on the performance of the Phase A and Phase B Contracts procured and managed by the South London Waste Partnership:

- i. Contract 1 - Transport and Residual Waste management
- ii. Contract 2 - HRRC services - HRRC site management and material recycling
- iii. Contract 3 - Treatment of green and food waste
- iv. Phase B - The 2012 Residual Waste Treatment Contract (the ERF Contract)

This report provides performance data for the period 1st April 2020 to the 30th June 2020.

Recommendations

Joint Waste Committee is asked to note the contents of this report, and comment on any aspects of the performance of the Partnership's Phase A & B contracts.

Background Documents

Contract Performance Monitoring updates have been presented to the Joint Waste Committee since 22 July 2010. The most recent reports were presented at the meeting in July 2020 by the Interim Strategic Manager, Andrea Keys.

BACKGROUND

- 1.1. **Phase A: Contract 1** is operated by Viridor Waste Management Ltd and includes the bulking and haulage of waste and recycling until August 2022. (The disposal element of this contract ceased on the 3rd March 2019 and since the 4th March 2019 the residual waste has been managed

through the Residual Waste Treatment Contract operated by Viridor South London Ltd (also referred to as the Phase B ERF Contract)).

- 1.2. **Phase A: Contract 2**, the HRRC service is operated by Veolia (ES) (UK) Ltd. The contract commenced on the 1st October 2015, has a 7 year initial term, and includes the management of the 6 Partnership HRRC sites in addition to the marketing of recyclates collected at each of the sites.
- 1.3. **Phase A: Contract 3** is operated by Viridor Waste Management Ltd and includes the composting of garden and food waste until August 2022.
- 1.4. The London Boroughs of Croydon, Sutton and Merton direct deliver kerbside collected residual, garden and food waste into the Beddington site, operated by Viridor.
- 1.5. The Royal Borough of Kingston (RBK) direct delivers kerbside collected residual, recyclates, garden waste and food waste into the Kingston Villiers Road Waste Transfer Station (WTS). The WTS is operated by Viridor under both the Residual waste treatment contract and Contract 1.
- 1.6. **Phase B: Residual Waste Treatment Contract** - Viridor South London Limited ('Viridor SL') was formally awarded a contract for the treatment and disposal of residual waste in November 2012. The Contract involves Viridor designing, building and operating an Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) which will remain in its ownership and through which it will dispose of suitable and permitted municipal residual waste arising in the South London Waste Partnership area.

PERFORMANCE DETAIL

- 1.7. **Contract 1: Waste transfer station bulking and haulage (Viridor Waste Management Limited)**
- 1.8. Contract 1 includes waste transfer station operations and bulk haulage services only. The Contract is operating effectively and there are no issues to report.
2. **Contract 2: Management of the Household Reuse and Recycling Centres (Veolia (ES) (UK) Ltd)**
 - 2.1. **HRRC Contract Performance Review:** The scope of the HRRC services can be summarised in three parts: the general management of the sites including staffing, plant, equipment, and site layouts; the transportation of materials; and the recycling, treatment, and/or disposal of waste collected at the HRRC sites (excluding garden and residual waste).
 - 2.2. The contract specification focuses on three key performance categories; site user experience, health and safety, and material recycling. The report reviews the performance of the contract against these three categories for the period April to June 2020.

- 2.3. **HRRC Sites Reopened** – On the 24th March 2020 all six SLWP HRRC sites, along with all other London borough HRRC sites, were closed following government advice and resultant legislation in relation to the COVID19 outbreak.
- 2.4. Due to the HRRC site closure period there was a build-up of demand for the recycling center services. The main objective of the remobilisation project was to reopen the sites in a safe and controlled way, to manage this high demand and backlog of waste whilst at the same time ensuring effective social distancing measures were in place to protect staff and customers. HRRC site remobilisation plans were bespoke to each site and considered the potential impact of the anticipated high demand on neighboring facilities, businesses and highways. Where HRRC facilities are co-located with collections, transport, and waste transfer services it was also essential to protect and prioritise these services during this reopening period.
- 2.5. SLWP worked collaboratively with boroughs to create a booking system for the Kingston, Merton and Sutton sites, and supported Croydon with an enhanced traffic management scheme at the three Croydon sites. The booking system enabled Kingston Merton and Sutton to manage the number of people travelling to the sites, allowing the sites to reach operational capacity whilst also protecting co-located collection depots, waste facilities, and neighboring essential use businesses.
- 2.6. The Croydon sites process over 1,600 customers per day during the busy spring summer period, and there are no co-located waste transfer or collection facilities. For these reasons the Croydon remobilisation strategy introduced an enhanced traffic management system that would manage the immediate spike in demand during the first weeks of reopening. The enhanced traffic management system enabled the borough to safely and swiftly process the backlog of waste and manage this initial spike in demand.
- 2.7. In order to maintain social distancing once on all six sites the number of customers were restricted. All six site layouts were reconfigured and during the initial period a reduced range of materials were available. These measures enabled the sites to safely process as many people as possible whilst also maintaining the new social distancing restrictions and enhanced hygiene measures.
- 2.8. The sites reopened on the 13th May 2020. Some of the off-takers remained closed beyond the opening date, further restricting the range of materials the sites could recycle during the quarter one period. However, by the end of the reporting period the full range of materials were accepted at all sites. At the time of writing this report, there are still some social distancing measures in place across all six sites. These include; a restriction in customer numbers in narrow access areas within the sites (such as the gantry steps and raised walkways), enhanced hygiene

measures (washing down of handrails and contact points), social distancing between staff and customers, and the booking system at Merton, Sutton and Kingston. Kingston are currently reviewing the longer term potential of the booking system in the operation of the HRRC sites.

- 2.9. Veolia and SLWP have developed a 5 step operational COVID guide for the HRRC service which reflects the government 5 step social distancing guide. This HRRC COVID guide draws on the experience of operating the sites under each stage of the social distancing restrictions. The guide is informed by data gathered since March 2020, including on site configuration approaches, operational measures taken in order to meet social distancing measures, and optimum numbers of site users at each stage. The guide also considers the positive feedback from co-located facility operators, HRRC staff and our customers. The measures detailed in this 5 step guide can be put in place swiftly if a second wave or local lockdown occurs.
- 2.10. **Site user experience:** Veolia started customer satisfaction surveys in July 2016 to monitor site user experience. Customer satisfaction questionnaires are undertaken for two weeks at the six sites in turn for each round, table 2a of Appendix A details the dates for each round. Table 2b summarises the top 8 general comments made by customers at the end of the questionnaire.
- 2.11. The Contract requires customer satisfaction levels of 80% and above at each of the sites. The key questions from the survey are detailed in tables 2c, d, e and f of Appendix A, and a full list of responses, split-out by borough, are now available on-line via the SLWP website.
- 2.12. Customer Satisfaction surveys were suspended on the 24th March 2020 when the sites were closed, as detailed above, so the survey results are incomplete for quarter 1. Surveys have restarted and will be reported again from quarter 2.
- 2.13. **Recycling Performance analysis** - Detailed analysis undertaken by the SLWP each month looks at materials recycled, recycling markets, and the impact of the wider SLWP recycling services, in order to better understand HRRC recycling rates and assess the Contractor's performance.
- 2.14. Table 2a of Appendix A details the recycling performance by site and by month (please note the year end performance figure is based on the raw tonnage data, not an average of the recycling performance per month). At the end of quarter four the combined performance at the SLWP HRRC sites was 67%, this is a 1% drop against quarter 1 last year.
- 2.15. Table 2b in Appendix A uses data from the last three years in order to compare performance year-to-date with previous years. The blue bar shows the recycling performance for the current year, and the yellow and orange bars show recycling performance for the same period in the previous two years. The dotted line and accompanying white numbers in

this graph show last years end of year recycling performance for each site.

2.16. Due to the 6 week site closure period and the ongoing social distancing measures in place, waste tonnes reduced by 71%, so on average the sites only received 29% of the waste that we would normally expect to receive during this busy quarter 1 period.

2.17. **On-going Improvement measures** – The black bag splitting project remains on hold due to the increased risk posed by COVID19. The segregation of rigid plastics and mattresses and the soil segregation project have all restarted, and finally the commercial clamp down has been applied throughout the reporting period and will continue to be applied alongside social distancing measures.

3. Contract 3 – Materials Recycling Services, Composting, and additional treatment services (Viridor Waste Management Limited)

3.1. Garden waste is delivered to the Viridor Beddington facility where it is bulked and hauled off-site for treatment in a combination of the following facilities: KPS Isfield and Pease Pottage, Woodhorn Runcton and Tangmere, Tamar Beddingham and Swanley, and Birch Airfield.

3.2. The garden waste is processed in order to produce a BSI PAS100 compost product. There have been some changes to the PAS100 requirements making quality control more stringent, but our material continues to meet quality requirements. Garden waste tonnage data for the reporting period on combined kerbside and HRRC tonnes can be found in Appendix A, in chart 3b.

3.3. Food waste is delivered to either the Beddington facility or the Villiers Road Transfer Station facility. From both sites the food is transferred by Viridor to the Agrivert Trumps Farm Anaerobic Digestion (AD) facility located in Surrey. The Agrivert facility produces a BSI PAS 110 compost product. Food waste tonnage data for the reporting period can be found in Appendix A, in chart 3b.

3.4. There are no performance issues with the food and garden waste processed through the Contract 3 service.

4. Phase B – Residual Waste treatment Contract (Viridor South London Limited)

4.1. Viridor South London have been delivering the full Services under the Residual Waste Treatment contract since 4th March 2019.

4.2. In the reporting period, 1st April 2020 until the 30th June 2020, the Partnership delivered just over 53,000 tonnes of residual waste to Beddington, this is an increase in residual waste of 5% when the data is compared to the same period last year. Please see Appendix A table 1a for further detail.

- 4.3. Landfill Diversion: Viridor SL has an annual landfill diversion target, and in 2020/21 this target is 8.66%. In the reporting period April to June 2020, 100% of the residual waste delivered by SLWP partner boroughs was treated via ERF with no residual waste sent to landfill. Please see Appendix A table 1b for further diversion data.
- 4.4. **Emissions** – The emissions from the Beddington ERF are sampled every 10 seconds, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. The results are fed back to the ERF Control Room, so any potential issues are known about immediately and appropriate action can be taken. The results of this monitoring are reported to the Environment Agency (EA - the regulator for the facility) and uploaded by Viridor to a publicly-accessible website (www.beddingonterf.info). The EA sets limits (based on 10-minute, 30-minute and daily averages) for different types of emissions. The Beddington ERF has been designed to operate at the very highest international standards and, under normal operating conditions, emissions are well below the limits set by the EA.
- 4.5. **Volatile Organic Compounds** – Between the 12th and 13th May the continuous emissions monitoring equipment for Volatile Organic Compounds (VOCs) on lines 1 and 2 stopped functioning for a period of c. four hours. Viridor identified and repaired the fault and have taken action to prevent reoccurrence. The Environment Agency have been notified of the temporary noncompliance in accordance with the ERF's environmental permit. The ERF emissions monitoring system reported a temporary exceedance in the Volatile Organic Compound levels (VOCs) on the 24th May and the 21st June. There were no exceedances of any of the other 6 monitored emissions during the reporting period.
- 4.6. The facility must operate in accordance with its Environmental Permit which is issued and regulated by the Environment Agency (EA). The site cannot operate without its permit from the EA and if the site is not compliant with its permit, the EA have the power to serve both enforcement and suspension notices. The SLWP will continue to work closely with Viridor and the EA to ensure the Beddington ERF is operating safely and within the conditions of its Permit.
- 4.7. **Operations** - Site visits by the SLWP were suspended on the 24th March due to COVID19. The SLWP recommenced the regular site visits in May to the HRRCs and the waste transfer stations, and the first ERF site visit was undertaken on the 4th August.
- 4.8. The ERF site visits included a review of the fire detection and prevention systems in the pre-treatment building, the tipping hall, and the waste bunker. The QHSE manager (quality, safety, health and environment) and the operations manager provided a verbal overview of the systems, including thermal imaging cameras and water jets located in the upper area of the waste bunker, heat and flame detection systems in the pre-treatment building, dust suppression also located in the pre-treatment building and the fire detection and suppression system in the tipping hall.

- 4.9. The site visit included an inspection of the waste transfer station area previously used in the receipt of residual waste and it was noted by the SLWP that the recommendations made in the fire report, and the further measures agreed with Viridor since the report for the full cessation of the use of the bio filter transfer tunnels, have been implemented. The thermal testing procedure was discussed, and future site visits will be arranged to coincide with these checks so that the procedure can be observed in practice. Housekeeping in this area was considered to be good and there were no issues identified by SLWP.
- 4.10. With specific reference to the fire prevention and detection systems in the pre-treatment building, the operations were observed from waste receipt, inspection through to shredding. The shredding process includes an aqua dust suppression system that continually damps down the waste as it is processed. Whilst the primary function is dust suppression, this system also reduces the risk of potential ignition from items such as batteries that are known to cause fires in mixed waste streams.
- 4.11. The next SLWP site visit will coincide with the weekly fire system test at the ERF and pre-treatment building and the next performance report will include details for review by this committee.

5. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1. It is recommended that the Joint Waste Committee:
- a) Note the contents of this report, and comment on any aspects of the performance of the Partnership's Phase A & B contracts.

6. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

- 6.1. LEGAL -There are no legal considerations arising directly out of the recommendation in this report.
- 6.2. FINANCE - There are no financial considerations arising directly out of the recommendation in this report.

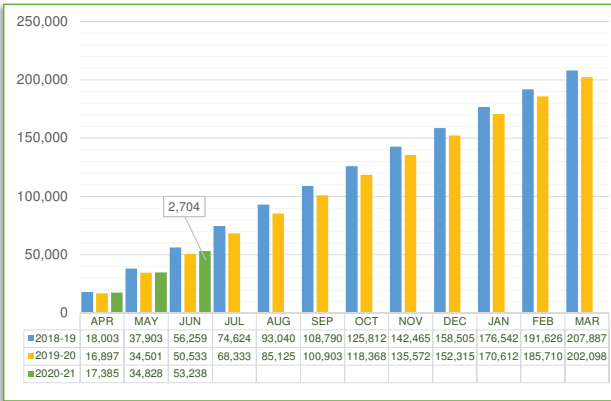
7. Appendices

- 7.1. Appendix A provides data on the performance of the Phase A contracts for the reporting period 1st April 2020 to the 30th June 2020.

SECTION 1: CONTRACT 1 - RESIDUAL WASTE DISPOSAL

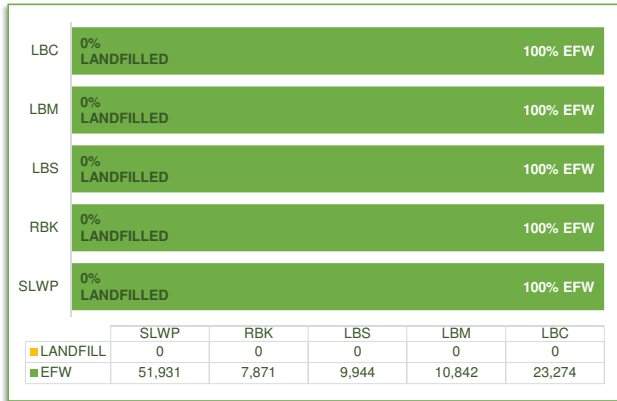
1a - TOTAL RESIDUAL WASTE GROWTH

CUMULATIVE RESIDUAL WASTE - CURRENT YEAR AGAINST 2 PREVIOUS YEARS



1b - DIVERSION FROM LANDFILL

TOTAL TONNES AND % OF WASTE SENT TO ENERGY RECOVERY



SECTION 2: HRRC RECYCLING PERFORMANCE

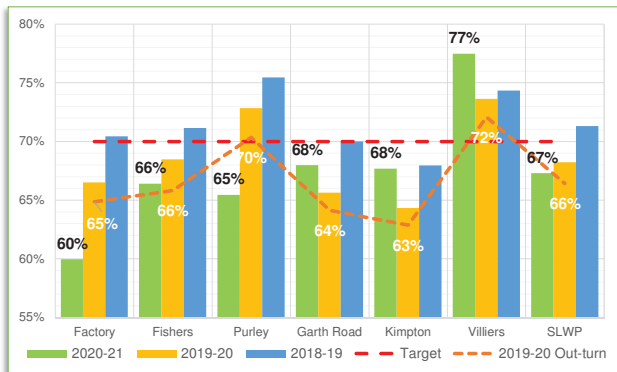
2a: HRRC RECYCLING PERFORMANCE

MONTHLY PERFORMANCE FOR EACH SITE AND SLWP AVERAGE

	FACTORY LANE	FISHERS FARM	PURLEY OAKS	GARTH ROAD	KIMPTON PARK WAY	VILLIERS ROAD	SLWP
APR	All HRRC sites closed during April 2020						
MAY	57%	67%	66%	64%	67%	77%	66%
JUN	59%	66%	65%	69%	68%	77%	67%
JUL							
AUG							
SEP							
OCT							
NOV							
DEC							
JAN							
FEB							
MAR							
YTD	60%	66%	65%	68%	68%	77%	67%

2b: YEAR TO DATE RECYCLING PERFORMANCE

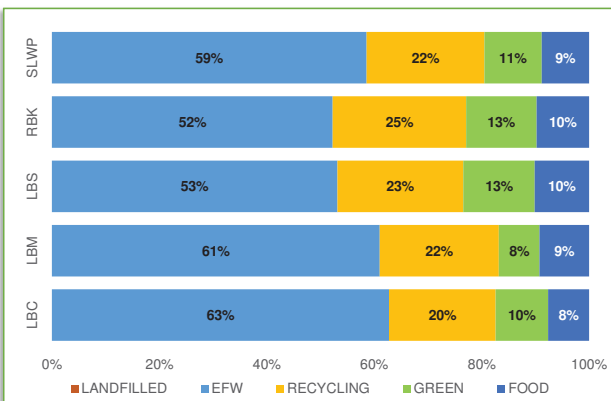
PERFORMANCE COMPARED TO LAST 2 YEARS



SECTION 3: WASTE ARISING

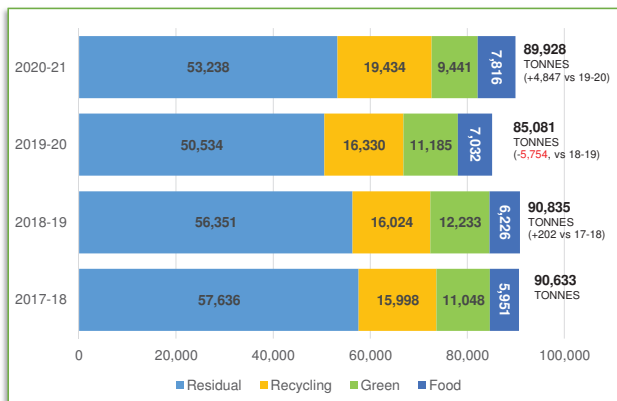
3a: WASTE ARISING BY BOROUGH (PHASE A & B CONTACTS ONLY)

INDIVIDUAL WASTE STREAMS AS % OF TOTAL WASTE (APRIL'20 - JUNE'20)



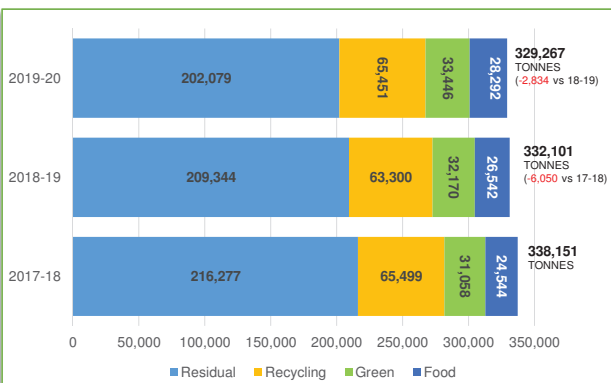
3b: TOTAL WASTE ARISING - YTD (PHASE A & B CONTACTS ONLY)

QUARTER 1 (APRIL'20 - JUNE'20) 2020-21 AGAINST LAST 3 YEARS



3c: TOTAL ANNUAL PARTNERSHIP WASTE ARISING (PHASE A & B CONTACTS ONLY)

TOTAL SLWP TONNAGE BY WASTE STREAM - LAST 3 YEARS





Report to: South London Waste Partnership (SLWP) Joint Waste Committee
Date: 9 September 2020
Author(s): Michael Mackie, Finance Lead
Chair: Councillor Hilary Gander
Report title: South London Waste Partnership Budget Update Month 4 2020/21

Summary

This paper provides an update on the Partnership's budget position for month 4 (July) of the financial year and the projected outturn for the 2020/21 financial year

1. Background

- 1.1 The Partnership sets its budget in December for the forthcoming financial year.
- 1.2 The budget is monitored monthly to allow the budgets to be flexed where appropriate in order to respond to any budget pressures.

2. Financial Position 2020/21

- 2.1 The table below refers to the Partnership's budget position for its Strategic Management activities for month 4 (July) of the 2020/21 financial year. It relates to expenditure in the following areas; procurement, project management, administration, contract management and communications.

Item	Approved Budget £	Actuals & Commitments £	Forecast Outturn £	Variance £
<i>Internal and External Advisors and Accounting</i>	98,400	93,788	188,000	89,600
<i>SLWP Staff Resources and communications management</i>	615,400	165,1309	419,800	(195,600)
<i>Document and Data Management</i>	25,000	7,551	19,000	(6,000)
<i>Communications</i>	26,000	0	26,000	0
<i>Project – HRRC Re-procurement</i>	50,000	0	50,000	0
TOTAL	814,800	266,478	702,800	(112,000)
COST PER BOROUGH	203,700	66,620	175,700	(28,000)

- 2.2 The Partnership's budget for Strategic Management activities at month 4 remains as previously reported and forecasts an underspend of £112k (£28 per borough) for the year. The major variances are as follows:
- 2.3 Staff resources - Project and Contract Management is forecasting a £196k underspend. This is the result of 3 posts currently being vacant. A review of the SLWP staff resource is currently being carried out, and the forecast has been based on all 3 posts remaining vacant for the rest of the financial year pending the completion of the review. The review is due to conclude in September and the forecast will be updated following the completion of this review.
- 2.4 The Internal and External Advisors budget is forecasting a £90k overspend. This is due to advisors being commissioned to cover some of the activities of the vacant posts and to carry out the review of the staff resource.

3. Recommendations:

- 3.1 To note the content of this report.

4. Impacts and Implications:

Finance

- 4.1 Contained within report.



SOUTH LONDON WASTE PARTNERSHIP

Report to: South London Waste Partnership Joint Committee

Date: 9 September 2020

Report of: South London Waste Partnership Management Group

Author(s):
John Haynes (South London Waste Partnership Communications Advisor)

Chair of the Meeting: Councillor Hilary Gander

Report Title:

**Communications and Engagement
South London Waste Partnership - Phase A and Phase B contracts**

Summary

This paper provides an update to Members of the South London Waste Partnership Joint Committee on communications and stakeholder engagement activities relating to the Partnership's Phase A (transport & residual waste management, HRRC services and marketing of recyclates) and Phase B (residual waste treatment) contracts.

This report focuses on activity that has taken place between July and August 2020.

Recommendations

The Committee is asked to:

- Note the contents of this report and comment on any aspects of communications and engagement activities relating to the Phase A and Phase B contracts.

1. Recycle Week 2020

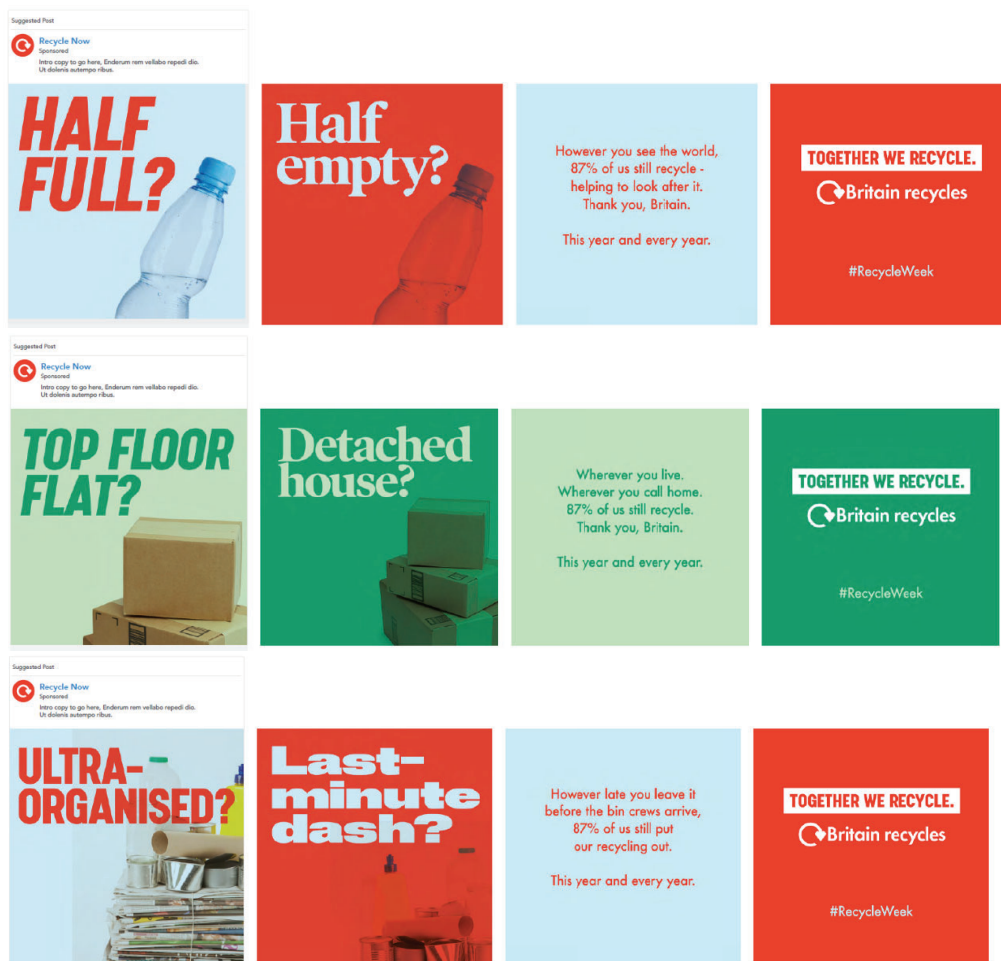
- 1.1 The 17th annual Recycle Week will take place 21-27 September 2020. The theme this year will be 'Together – We Recycle', thanking the nation for continuing to recycle despite the challenges that COVID-19 has presented. Recycle Week 2020 will recognise the sacrifices that key workers and citizens have made to keep recycling going and create positive change in the world around us.
- 1.2 The SLWP Boroughs will once again be working in partnership to mark

Recycle Week in a number of ways:

- Targeted paid-for social media advertising campaign (match-funded by LWARB)
- Organic social media campaign via council-run social media channels
- Launch of a new schools e-learning package (Veolia)

1.3 Targeted paid-for social media advertising campaign

The focal point for this year's Recycle Week will be a high-profile social media advertising campaign. WRAP has developed a suite of eye-catching, animated social media campaign creatives (examples below), which are being localised for our region by the London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB).



1.4 LWARB has commissioned a specialist media buying agency to plan and deliver a targeted social media campaign using the London-ised campaign creatives. In July, LWARB announced that it was looking to partner with 20 London Boroughs to provide match-funding (£1,000 per borough) to deliver the targeted advertising campaign.

1.5 Following an application process, the SLWP boroughs of Croydon, Kingston and Merton have been selected as campaign partners. £3,000 of funding will be provided from the SLWP communications budget*,

along with a further £3,000 of match-funding from LWARB. LWARB is also paying the media buying agency fees, meaning that 100% of our £6,000 budget will be spent on advertising.

** £1,000 will be allocated from the SLWP Communication Budget to support Sutton's local 'Spick & Span Sutton' campaign*

1.6 **Organic social media campaign**

The social media campaign creatives will be made available to all London boroughs to use on their Council-run social media channels. A social media content plan will be developed for the four SLWP boroughs by the SLWP Communications Advisor.

1.7 **Launch of a new schools e-learning package (Veolia)**

In previous years, Veolia's SLWP team have supported Recycle Week activities by delivering a series of school visits to talk to young residents about the importance of recycling. That will not be possible this year as schools are unlikely to welcome visits by external parties, as they focus on new COVID-secure ways of working.

- 1.8 So instead, this year Veolia's SLWP communications team will use Recycle Week 2020 to launch a new e-learning package for schools. The *Recycling Rockstars* package will enable primary school children across the boroughs of Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton to learn about the journey of their recycling and waste from collection to disposal, whilst encouraging them to reflect on their own recycling behaviours and attitudes. At the end of their journey, they will graduate as *Recycling Rockstars*, ready to voice their new knowledge and skills to influence their families and friends to encourage waste reduction and recycling behaviours.

2. London Repair Week 2020

- 2.1 The inaugural London Repair Week will take place 12-17 October 2020. Coordinated by LWARB, this awareness week will focus on moving Londoners to the top of the waste hierarchy by reducing the amount of rubbish and recycling they generate in the first place.
- 2.2. The SLWP is keen to support this event. The objective is to use London Repair Week as a catalyst to identify local residents with an interest in reuse and repair, and then encourage them to establish their own community-led repair network (i.e. we don't want this to be a one-off event; we want it to lead to something more permanent). This could take the form of a monthly or quarterly 'repair cafe', for example.
- 2.3 The aim is to run online repair-themed events during London Repair Week (initial in Kinston and Sutton) to attract residents with an interest in reuse and repair and help us build a database of motivated local people

who may be willing to help develop a community-led repair network that crosses SLWP boroughs boundaries.

4. PHASE A BACKGROUND

- 4.1 The Phase A contracts encompass transport & residual waste management, HRRC services and marketing of recyclates.
- 4.2 From a communications and stakeholder engagement perspective, the elements of the Phase A contracts that are of most significance are:
 - the management of the six Household Reuse, and Recycling Centres (HRRCs), and
 - the landfill operations at Beddington.

5. HOUSEHOLD REUSE AND RECYCLING CENTRES (HRRCs)

- 5.1 Site user customer satisfaction surveys continue to take place on a rolling basis across the sites. The findings are reported back to this Committee in the Phase A & B Contract Management Report and are also published on the SLWP website.
- 5.2 Borough communication teams continue to inform residents about the temporary additional measures and restrictions in place at the six HRRC sites across the SLWP region. These arrangements are working well with the sites operating smoothly.

6. BEDDINGTON LANDFILL OPERATIONS AND RESTORATION

- 6.1 This contract is operated by Viridor on behalf of the Partnership.
- 6.2 The focus of communications and engagement activities has been two-fold:
 - Educating local residents and key stakeholders about the landfill operations at Beddington – i.e. how it has provided vital waste disposal capacity for hundreds of thousands of local households and businesses and how the site is being managed in order to minimise any negative environmental impacts;
 - Providing information on how the 120-hectare Beddington Farmlands site (which incorporates the landfill) is being restored into a rich patchwork of habitats for wildlife with public access.
- 6.3 An update on progress on the work to restore the former landfill site into a network of wildlife-friendly habitats was included in the summer edition of the Beddington Community Newsletter (copy attached at Appendix A). This newsletter was published and distributed to c.16,000 households in the Beddington and surrounding areas in August. An electronic copy of the newsletter is available to those who live outside the distribution area via the SLWP website.

7. PHASE B BACKGROUND

- 7.1 The Phase B contract (residual waste treatment) was awarded to Viridor in 2012. In order to fulfill the contract, Viridor have constructed a £205m state-of-the-art Energy Recovery Facility in Beddington. Household waste from the four Partner boroughs that has not been sorted by residents for recycling is treated at the facility and used to generate electricity.
- 7.2 The SLWP Communications Advisor continues to work closely with Viridor to:
- Ensure Viridor are meeting their contractual requirements with regards to communications and stakeholder engagement around the construction and operation of the Beddington ERF
 - Ensure local people understand why it is we need an ERF and provide reassurance around the safety of modern, well-run facilities such as this
 - Ensure the Partnership understands the views of local people with regards to waste treatment and ERF technologies in particular.

8. BEDDINGTON ERF COMMUNICATIONS AND STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

- 8.1 Viridor continues to upload Emissions Monitoring Reports to the Beddington ERF Virtual Visitor Centre (www.beddingtonerf.info) twice per month. These reports provide information on all the emissions covered by the Environmental Permit (regulated by the Environment Agency). This represents one of the most open and transparent approaches to the publication of emissions monitoring data from an ERF in the country.
- 8.2 An update on activities at the Beddington ERF site was included in the summer edition of the Beddington Community Newsletter (copy attached at Appendix A). See paragraph 6.3 for further details.

9. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

Legal

- 9.1 None

Finance

- 9.2 The South London Waste Partnership's Communications Advisor post is funded through the core activities budget.

9.3 A £25,000 annual Communications Budget is available to support communications and engagement activities.

10. RECOMMENDATIONS

10.1 The Committee is asked to:

- Note the contents of this report and comment on any aspects of communications and engagement activities relating to the Phase A and Phase B contracts.

APPENDIX A
Viridor Beddington Community Newsletter – Summer 2020

Connect



Summer 2020

Beddington Community Newsletter

Welcome to the summer 2020 Beddington Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) construction newsletter.

A lot has happened on-site since the last edition of the newsletter.

Viridor has now formally taken control of the Beddington Energy Recovery Facility from its construction partners, who remain on-site to finish the last components of the construction project. This marks a significant milestone in the project, and we are now completing the final construction activities including putting the finishing touches to the administration building and completing the roads around the facility.

In the coming months, the landscaping around the facility will continue to be established and the construction village (the temporary buildings that were used while the facility was being built) will be removed. This will allow that area to be restored into wet grasslands for the benefit of local wildlife.



Aerial photograph of the Beddington Farmlands (looking south).

Speaking of wildlife, one of the most recent activities on-site was to install swift nesting boxes on the side of the energy recovery facility.

The administration building at the ERF has a brown living roof and will provide a habitat for swifts to feed on before making their homes in the nesting boxes on the north-facing side of the building.

On the wider Beddington Farmlands (the green space stretching from Beddington Park to Mitcham Common) there is plenty of activity planned as wildlife habitats continue to be created, with Viridor delivering the Beddington Restoration Management Plan to establish a network of wildlife habitats and public access for the community – more information on page 5.

Energy recovery facilities, like the plant at Beddington, play a vital role in attaching a purpose to non-recyclable waste by generating electricity and heat to keep the lights on in the UK, contributing to energy security and powering UK industry.

At Beddington, our combined heat and power plant feeds enough electricity into the National Grid to power 57,000 homes. The facility will also soon start delivering low-carbon heating and hot water supplies to the New Mill Quarter development in Hackbridge as part of the Sutton Decentralised Energy Network (SDEN). The highly insulated pipelines from the ERF to New Mill Quarter have been installed and are now being tested.

COVID-19 update

Viridor staff, including those based at Beddington ERF, were classified as 'key workers' during the COVID-19 pandemic, recognising the essential role they play in ensuring rubbish can be disposed of safely and lights can be kept on. Viridor is grateful to its dedicated team of employees who continue to go above and beyond to provide vital service during these challenging and uncertain times.

What is the Beddington ERF & why do we need it?

The Beddington ERF is a vital facility that:



Deals with non-recyclable waste in a safe and environmentally sustainable way.

Provides local residents and businesses with an alternative to landfill.



Treats

95%

of the non-recyclable

rubbish collected from households in Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton (the South London Waste Partnership), instead of burying it in the ground.

Generates enough electricity to power

c.57,000
homes.



Will provide low-carbon hot water and heating to nearby homes and businesses.

Understanding more about what comes out of the ERF

An essential part of turning waste into energy is combustion. When waste is combusted (burnt), it produces gases (emissions) which the sophisticated technology in modern energy recovery facilities is designed to treat. One-third of the Beddington plant is dedicated to capturing and cleaning these gases. Each month a summary emissions report on the energy recovery facility is published on the Virtual Visitor Centre. The facility is monitored and regulated by the Environment Agency.

Learning more about energy recovery



Members of the community are now able to explore the Beddington Energy Recovery Facility from the comfort of their sofa or on-the-go through their smartphone as the interactive Virtual Visitor Centre is now live.

The Virtual Visitor Centre is a website for members of the community to learn more about the Energy Recovery Facility, including what happens to their non-recyclable waste after it is collected from their doorstep.

By visiting the Virtual Visitor Centre, you can follow the journey of your waste from the kerbside to how it helps to generate energy and heat to keep your lights on and homes warm!

Visit today at
beddingtonerf.info



The waste is combusted at very high temperatures under strictly controlled conditions to generate energy. The facility produces enough electricity to power itself plus around 57,000 homes.

Did you know?



Come to the Energy Recovery Facility to learn more about your waste



We're delighted to announce that the on-site Education Centre has opened its doors. Located on the first floor of the ERF Administration Block, this fully accessible room can accommodate groups of approximately 15 visitors.

The purpose-built room is fully equipped with modern presentation facilities. Eye-catching information boards on the walls tell the fascinating story of the Beddington Farmlands site and tactile displays allow visitors to get hands-on with the challenge of tackling waste.

Large glass doors lead out to a balcony, offering views across the northern wet grasslands, Hackbridge and St Helier Hospital in the distance.

The Education Centre is located immediately adjacent to the ERF, making it the perfect base for tours of the facility itself.

Councillor Hilary Gander, Chair of the South London Waste Partnership Joint Committee, said: "I am delighted that the Beddington ERF Education Centre is now open for business. It's a fantastic resource and will prove invaluable in helping the four SLWP boroughs share important messages around how waste is managed. The tour of the facility itself is very informative and thought-provoking; standing in the Operating Room looking down on a week's worth of rubbish in the bunker that hasn't been sorted for recycling makes the scale of the challenge we face really hit home. If there was ever an advert for the importance of waste reduction, that's it! It's also fascinating seeing and hearing about all the technology and procedures in place at the ERF to ensure our non-recyclable waste is treated (and turned into energy) safely. I would encourage all local residents, teachers and community group leaders to get in touch with Viridor to arrange a visit to this fascinating site."

If you're interested in visiting the site, please go to the 'More Information' section of the Virtual Visitor Centre (www.beddingtonerf.info) where contact details can be found. Due to COVID-19 we will take bookings for tours in the coming months once restrictions are lifted.



Making sure we put the Right Stuff in the Right Bin



Whilst the ERF can process a wide range of materials safely, things like scrap metal, batteries and gas cylinders impact upon the operational performance of the facility and can result in increased maintenance periods, so please help us by making sure these items don't end up in your rubbish bin. Materials including gas cylinders, lithium ion batteries, electrical items and scrap metal should be taken to your local Household Reuse and Recycling Centre. None of these items should be placed in your rubbish bin and sent to the ERF.

Households across the four London boroughs of Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton (which make up the South London Waste Partnership – the 'SLWP') are recycling more and wasting less. Over the last three years, the four boroughs have made significant changes to their collection services. With the support of residents, these changes have seen the average recycling rate across the SLWP region jump from 39% to 46%. This is great news: the SLWP and Viridor are keen to ensure that materials that could be recycled don't end up at the ERF.

But to achieve that, we need residents to put the right stuff in the right bin. Remember, food waste, paper and card, plastic packaging, glass bottles and jars, cans and cartons can be easily recycled using your household recycling collection service.

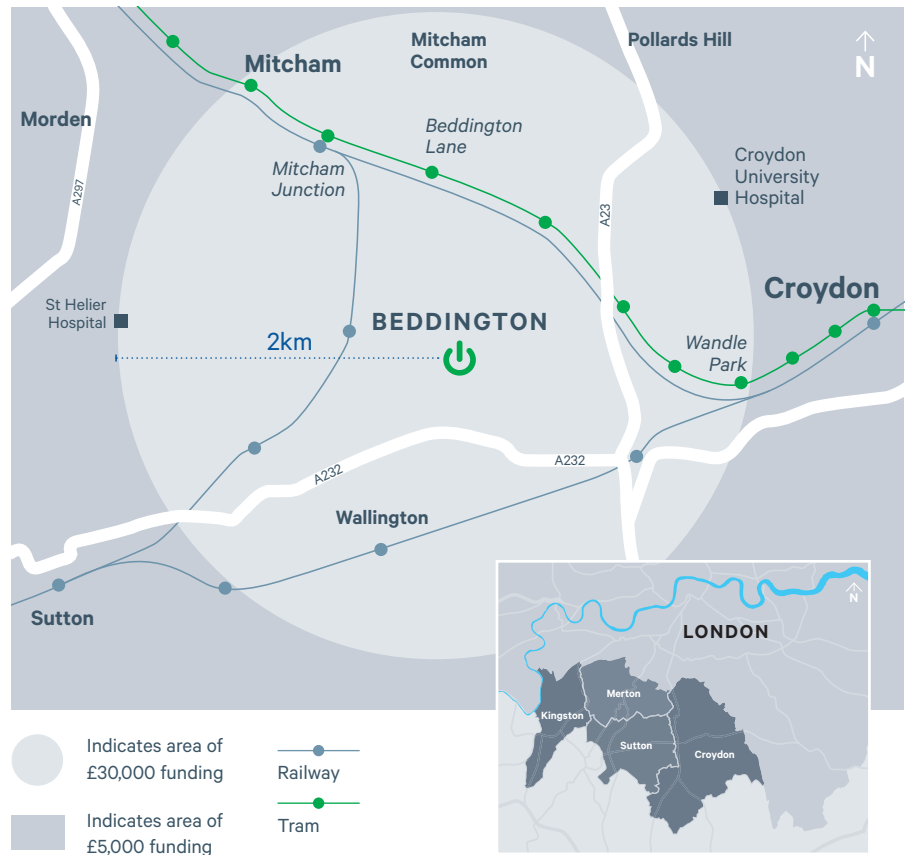
For more information about what you can recycle in your borough, visit your local council's website. Thank you for helping us to recycle more and waste less.

Community Benefit Fund update



Community projects within a 2km radius of the Beddington Energy Recovery Facility can apply for up to £30,000 and projects within the four boroughs are eligible for up to £5,000. In total, the fund will see around £1 million being made available to local community groups over the next 25 years.

Since the launch of the Community Benefit Fund (designed to help support local community projects within the London boroughs of Kingston, Merton, Croydon and Sutton) we have been able to support community projects, with over £95,000 being donated so far to support new fridges, football kits and even a composter!



The most recent donations include:



The Beddington Cricket Club renovations are continuing and all of the asbestos in the changing rooms and roof has now been removed. Over the summer, the club received new solar panels and will be completing the makeover Viridor is helping to fund in 2020. Howzat!



Maggie's at The Royal Marsden in Sutton, provides free support for people with cancer, their families and friends, further enhancing The Royal Marsden's world-leading treatment and care. The Community Benefit Fund made a donation to provide printed information materials, publications, a projector and stationery to support their activities at the centre.



The Commonside Trust works to improve the lives and environment of people living in Merton. The Community Fund donated money to support with new kitchen appliances and a leaf composter to create a soil conditioner for the on-site allotment.

To speak to the Community Benefit Fund administrator or for further information about Beddington's Community Fund please visit our website or email: beddingtonercommunityfund@viridor.co.uk



The history of the Farmlands

As well as a small Roman villa dating back well over 1,000 years, during the Victorian period the site was used as a sewage works. Wastewater from across south London was treated at the Beddington Farmlands. It was spread onto the site and left to dry out in man-made sludge drying beds. Now the sewage treatment works returns clean water into the river Wandle. The sludge drying beds are now drying out. Viridor is creating new wet grassland as replacement habitat for the wildlife.



Beddington Farmlands restoration programme

Now that the Beddington landfill site is closed to waste (with this waste now being sent to the Beddington Energy Recovery Facility), the team at the Beddington Farmlands is working to deliver the Restoration Management Plan. This will create a network of habitats including wet grassland and meadowland.

Between now and 2023 the restoration team will create a network of habitats across the Farmlands. Once they are established Viridor will work with the community and the on-site warden to establish access points from Beddington Park, the western footpath and Beddington Lane.

Continued on back page >

A UK-wide network of charity partners



As part of the commitment to develop lasting relationships within communities around its operational sites across the UK, Viridor is committed to supporting the fantastic work of local charitable causes. Nationally Viridor has selected, with the help of its employees, 12 charity partners and three are located near the Beddington site.



Members of the three charities took a tour to explore inside the Beddington Energy Recovery Facility.

Delegates from each of the charities visited the Beddington Energy Recovery Facility (ERF) in Sutton to receive a cheque for £3,333. St Raphael's Hospice is a local charity that provides exceptional end-of-life care to the people of Merton and Sutton. Based at the Chaucer Centre in Morden, Merton Mencap supports children and adults with a learning disability, and their family carers. The British Home is based in Croydon and offers care for people with severe disabilities and long-term medical conditions.



A view along the Beddington permissive footpath

Beddington Farmlands restoration programme

(continued from page 5)

In the coming months we will start the final work of shaping the northern wet grassland (viewable from the northern-most bird hide) along with digging out the southern wet grassland (near to Beddington Park).

The Conservation and Access Management Committee (CAMC) is the overarching community scrutiny body to ensure the Farmlands is restored to meet the needs of the wildlife and the community. The CAMC includes community representatives, elected members and technical representatives.

We share a regular short restoration snapshot of activity and monitor progress against our restoration roadmap. Please check out our website and social media.

In the coming months we hope to hold further open days to enable the wider community to explore the Beddington Farmlands. If you would like to register for notifications of these events and updates of the Beddington Farmlands please email beddingtonfarmlands@viridor.co.uk.



A plan of the restored habitats to be created at the Beddington Farmlands

Did you know?



One of the bird hides at Beddington

You can walk along the Beddington Farmlands permissive footpath from Beddington Park, north towards Micham Junction.

Along the footpath there are three bird hides that are free to access and look out across the lakes and wet grassland. It takes around 35 minutes to walk the whole way.

Need to get in touch?

If you have any queries relating to the Beddington ERF, please contact us on beddingtonerf@viridor.co.uk or for operations at the Beddington Farmlands contact us on beddingtonfarmlands@viridor.co.uk

For more information about the ERF and to request a visit, please go to our website www.viridor.co.uk or Virtual Visitor Centre www.beddingtonerf.info

You can also write to us at
Community Relations, Beddington ERF
105 Beddington Lane, Beddington, Sutton
CRO 4TD



Report to: South London Waste Partnership (SLWP) Joint Waste Committee
Date: 9 September 2020
Author(s): Andrea Keys Interim Strategic manager
Chair: Councillor Hilary Gander
Report title: SLWP Risk Report

Summary

This report summarises key risk areas which are facing the partnership boroughs in relation to the waste disposal functions of the Joint Waste Committee.

Recommendations

The Joint Waste Committee is asked to note the contents of this report.

Background Documents

Confidential risk register is held by the Interim Strategic Partnership Manager, Andrea Keys

1. BACKGROUND

1.1. This report summarises key risk areas for the waste management contracts overseen by the Joint Waste Committee, based on the South London Waste Partnership team's risk register. This report summarises the key risks that should be noted at committee level. The full risk register is considered at the SLWP's Strategic Management Group.

2. KEY RISK AREAS

2.1. Areas have been included in this report where they are considered strategically important, for example because they are high scoring in terms of impact and/or likelihood, or have changed significantly in score.

2.2. COVID19

2.3. The risk register includes the following risks: Residual waste increases leading to increased disposal costs not covered in budgets; and cost of recycling increases beyond forecasted rates. The recent COVID19 pandemic has resulted in an increase in both residual waste tonnes and recycling tonnes collected at the

kerbside during quarter 1. This will result in higher levels of disposal and recycling costs. As lockdown measures ease, we are seeing waste levels return to projected levels pre-COVID19. This risk will be monitored and further details presented as part of the quarter 2 report.

- 2.4.** The COVID19 pandemic presents the risk of staff shortages due to sickness. This risk has been effectively managed by both Veolia and Viridor through a combination of communications, revised operational measures, a rapid response to reviewing and, where required, amending risk assessments, and delivering on-going staff training. Both contractors responded swiftly to the crisis and have maintained the staffing levels required in order to deliver the services.
- 2.5.** A further risk presented by COVID19 is the availability of PPE due to a sudden increase in global demand. This risk has been managed successfully by both contractors who have pooled resources across their national operations to ensure continuity of supply. Due to the potential of a second wave this remains a notable risk.

2.6. Recycling materials market changes

This area continues to present a significant risk. Following significant changes to global recycling material markets, the value of some recycling materials has decreased significantly. As reported at previous Joint Waste Committee meetings, this will impact borough budgets (as some of our material has the potential to generate income depending on the recycling's sale value) and also has an impact on our contractors as recycling income is built into the financial models of several of our waste management contracts. This continues to present a risk and the impact of a worsening level of income for recycling will continue to be managed through budget and contract management processes.

- 2.7.** As a consequence of the market changes, reprocessors remain increasingly strict on the level of contamination they will accept in the recycling material. Material which is too contaminated requires further sorting if any of the material is to be recycled. Extra sorting increases the reprocessing costs for recycling and so some impact on budgets continues to be expected, as above.

Action undertaken to protect the quality of our recycling:

- An increasingly harmonised approach to recycling across the SLWP area means that messages about what to recycle can be simple and effective across our whole region. All boroughs now follow broadly the same recycling regime.
- Material which doesn't meet the contamination thresholds is being sent to specialist sorting facilities where the recyclable material is extracted.
- The poorest quality material we collect typically comes from communal collection containers where it is difficult to identify who might be putting the wrong material in the wrong bin, which can make communications work hard to target; we're working with organisations and networks to look at what we can learn from others and what good practice we can share in this area.
- The communal containers are typically collected on separate collection rounds which protects all the other recycling material we collect from unnecessary contamination.

- We're closely monitoring the quality of the materials being collected for recycling and the processes being followed to manage contamination.
- The "Destination Recycling" films highlight the importance of sorting materials into the correct containers and these films are available on the SLWP website and have been promoted through the boroughs.
- The 2021/22 SLWP Communications Plan presented at the July 2020 JWC further builds on our work to reduce contamination.

2.8. Impact of recycling value changes on our contracts

Financial issues within contracts can have a significant impact on contract performance and the likelihood of contract disputes - ultimately contracts cannot operate unless they are financially sustainable. Pressures such as the current global recycling market must be carefully considered when we formulate our approach to procurement of contracts and services. The changes and unpredictability of the recycling markets, which affects all our contracts, mean that this continues to be a key focus for us at the present time.

2.9. Defra strategy consultation

As reported to previous committee meetings, following the publication of their Resources and Waste Strategy, Defra ran a consultation which closed in May 2019 on the following matters:

- Reforming the packaging producer responsibility regulations in the UK
- Introducing a deposit return scheme for drinks containers
- Measures to accelerate consistency in recycling for both households and businesses in England.

Formal second stage consultations will now take place in early 2021

In addition, the Treasury has run a consultation on a plastic packaging tax.

The SLWP team and the boroughs considered the proposals set out by Defra and continue to participate in the consultation process. SLWP will continue to manage any risks as well as opportunities that the proposals might present to the boroughs and the partnership.

2.10. Brexit

The UK is now in the 'transition period' until the end of 2020 while the UK and EU negotiate additional Brexit arrangements. Current rules on trade and travel will continue to apply and any new agreement will take effect on 1st Jan 2021. We will continue to monitor the potential impact of a 'no deal' scenario at the end of the transition period. Potential impacts, including those relating to the workforce, recycling markets and supply of consumables, will continue to be considered. We will continue to work closely with our contractors on the management and mitigation of any developing risks. As before, we do not expect any type of Brexit to prevent us from being able to safely dispose of our residual waste because of the waste disposal arrangements we have within the partnership's own area.

Recycling markets and exports could be impacted by Brexit and in particular any scenario where transport movement through UK ports is affected.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 3.1. It is recommended that the Joint Waste Committee note the contents of this report.

4. IMPACTS AND IMPLICATIONS

4.1. Legal

There are no legal considerations arising directly from the recommendation in this report.

4.2. Finance

There are no financial considerations arising directly from the recommendation in this report.