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South London Waste Partnership Joint Committee

Meeting of held on Wednesday, 9 September 2020 at 6.30 pm

MINUTES

Present:

London Borough of Croydon

Councillor Stuart Collins - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Clean Green Croydon
Councillor Stuart King - Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment;

Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames

Councillor Hillary Gander - Portfolio Holder for Environment & Sustainable Transport

London Borough of Merton

Councillor Mark Allison – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance

London Borough of Sutton

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

Apologies:

Councillor Stephen Alambritis – Leader of the Council (London Borough of Merton)

Councillor Tim Cobbett – Deputy Leader and Portfolio Holder for Communities and Engagement (Royal Borough of Kingston upon Thames)

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SOUTH LONDON WASTE PARTNERSHIP JOINT COMMITTEE WEDNESDAY 9 SEPTEMBER 2020

6:30 pm – 7:27 pm

London Borough of Croydon

Councillor Stuart Collins - Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Clean Green Croydon

Councillor Stuart King - Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment

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

London Borough of Merton

Councillor Mark Allison – Deputy Leader and Cabinet Member for Finance

Councillor Stephen Alambritis – Leader of the Council

London Borough of Sutton

Councillor Manuel Abellan - Chair of the Environment & Neighbourhood Committee

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

***Absent**

1. Welcome and introductions

Councillor Gander welcomed everyone to the virtual meeting.

2. Apologies for absence

Councillor Cobbett sent his apologies and Councillor Ryder-Mills attended as his substitute.

3. Minutes of the previous meeting

Appendix 1

RESOLVED: That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 July 2020 be confirmed and approved as the correct record.

Voting: Unanimous

4. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

5. Phase A & B Contract Management Report

Appendix 2

The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager presented the update report and explained that there were no issues to report with Contract 1 (Waste transfer station bulking and haulage, operated by Viridor Waste Management Ltd.).

An update was provided for Contract 2 (Management of the Household Reuse and Recycling Centres, operated by Veolia), whereby a key highlight was that the recycling rate for quarter 1 was 67%. This was a 1% drop in comparison to the last

financial year's quarter 1. This reduction was attributed to a much higher demand as well as the closure of the sites for 6 weeks during a usually busy period. The SLWP has been carrying out ongoing work with Veolia to improve the recycling rate although initiatives such as the black bag splitting project have had to be placed on hold.

There were no performance issues to note in regards to food and garden waste within the Contract 3 services (Materials Recycling Services, Composting, and additional treatment services carried out by Viridor Waste Management Ltd.).

An update was provided on the Phase B Residual Waste treatment Contract, operated by Viridor South London Ltd, whereby it was highlighted that 100% of residual waste delivered by SLWP partner boroughs was treated via ERF, with none being sent to landfill. The report also outlined the outcomes of the site visits undertaken from May onwards, particular attention was drawn to the ERF site visits and the review of the fire detection and prevention systems.

In response to a request for an update on the Reuse shop at Fisher Farm, it was confirmed that the project will be going ahead and more updates will be provided at a later date. The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager asserted that the technology at the ERF plant is the most efficient currently available to treat residual waste and agreed with calls from the Committee to develop relations with Viridor Waste Management Ltd through a workshop. The Committee also provided high praise to the booking system at the various HRRCs with additional emphasis placed on residents recycling as much as possible.

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

Voting: Unanimous

6. Budget update - Month 4 (2020/21)

Appendix 3

The head of Finance Operations and Resident Support provided an update on the SLWP's budget outturn position for month 4 (July). It was noted that there remains a forecasted £112,000 underspend and the remaining variances are unchanged from those reported at the previous SLWP Committee meeting.

RESOLVED: To note the contents of the report

Voting: Unanimous

7. JWC Communications and Engagement report

Appendix 4

The Communications Advisor for the SLWP provided an update on communications and stakeholder engagement activities relating to the SLWP's Phase A and B contracts. The use of social media to promote the Partnership's various recycling programmes was highlighted. It was emphasised that the Beddington Community Newsletter provides updates on the Beddington ERF plant alongside the most recent emissions report for August 2020 published by Viridor. In response to queries as to the primary ages of those residents that were being targeted for the social

media recycling campaigns, the Communications Advisor explained that the primary ambition is to target as wide a group of people as possible.

The Committee also sought clarification on whether the shift towards more online promotional work rather than in-person campaigns in response to the impact of Covid has had a more positive impact on younger residents. The Communications Advisor explained that the availability for school visits had already declined due to how busy many schools are becoming, therefore the emphasis on social media advertisements should potentially prove to be a more preferable alternative.

RESOLVED: To note the contents of the report

Voting: Unanimous

8. JWC Risk Report Q1 (2020/21)

Appendix 5

The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager presented the report and updated the Committee on the primary risks facing the Partnership. Due to the proximity to the previous Waste Committee, there was little change to address the Committee on. The risks associated with the impact of Covid was carried forward, with the consequential increase of kerbside residual waste of about 5% for Q1. There has also been an increase in food waste and recycling tonnage, although a positive increase, the change does have a budgetary impact. The ongoing risk associated with Brexit was carried forward, with the increasing likelihood of a 'No-deal Brexit'. Work is ongoing with contractors to ensure that contingency plans are in place. The Interim Strategic Partnership Manager does not anticipate any forms of Brexit to prohibit the ability for the Partnership to safely dispose of residual, food and green waste.

RESOLVED: To note the contents of the report

Voting: Unanimous

9. Exclusion of the Press and Public

This item was not required.

10. Dates of the next meetings

The Chair notified the Committee that the dates of the next SLWP Committee meetings were confirmed as:

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

Signed.....Date.....

Chair

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