

**SOUTH TYNE AND WEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT
PARTNERSHIP JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AGENDA**

Friday, 16 March 2018 at 1.30 pm in the Whickham Room - Civic Centre

From the Chief Executive, Sheena Ramsey

Item Business

1. Apologies

2. Minutes (Pages 3 - 16)

The Joint Executive Committee is asked to approve the minutes of the meetings held on 22 September 2017 and 8 December 2017

3. Declarations of Interest

4. Waste Infrastructure Delivery Programme (WIDP)

Presentation

5. Contracts Update (Pages 17 - 26)

Report attached

6. Qualifying Refinancing Exercise (Pages 27 - 30)

Report attached

7. Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2018-2022 (Pages 31 - 38)

Report attached

8. HWRC Vehicle Permit Scheme Review

Presentation

9. Communications Update

Presentation

10. Date and Time of Future Meetings (to be agreed)

- 15 June 2018 – 1.30pm
- 21 September 2018 – 1.30pm
- 7 December 2018 – 1.30pm
- 15 March 2019 – 1.30pm

Contact: Rosalyn Patterson Email: rosalynpatterson@gateshead.gov.uk, Tel: 433 2088,
Date: Friday, 9 March 2018

Public Document Pack Agenda Item 2

GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL

SOUTH TYNE AND WEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, 22 September 2017

PRESENT: Councillor Linda Green (Gateshead Council) (Chair)

Gateshead Council Councillor Angela Douglas

South Tyneside Council Councillor Allan West

Sunderland Council Councillor Michael Mordey

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gateshead Council Anthony Alder, Fiona Swinburne, Chris Wilson, Gary Smith, Martin Harrison, Marc Morley, Anna Harrison and Rosalyn Patterson

South Tyneside Council Chris Fairhurst and Andrew Whittaker

Sunderland Council Mark Speed and Colin Curtis

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Foreman, Councillor Miller, Councillor Spedding and Councillor Donovan.

The Chair welcomed Councillor Angela Douglas to the meeting as new representative for Gateshead Council.

2 MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting held on 23 June 2017 were agreed as a correct record.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were submitted.

4 CONTRACTS UPDATE

The Committee received a report on the current position regarding the Residual

Waste Treatment Contract and other contracts and activities managed by the Partnership.

It was reported that the joint partnership team signed off the 2016/17 reconciliation exercise with SUEZ and STWER and the final invoice is currently being awaited. The latest performance, April – July 2017, shows the total contract waste of 63,762.21 tonnes. Recycling performance from the Waste Transfer Stations (WTS) is 4.6%, which is above the target of 2.1%, however it was noted that this is expected to level out over the winter. It was also noted that landfill diversion rate continues to be at 100%.

A number of service issues have been encountered recently, for example a half-hourly and daily dust breach was reported to the Environment Agency. An investigation was carried out and it was found that the dust readings recorded were inaccurate and should therefore be discounted, the report was withdrawn. In June and July there were blockages due to bottom ash issues which led to minor down time. Work is ongoing to investigate the incidents and ensure chute blockages are avoided.

Shutdown periods have been scheduled for line 4; between 27 February to 22 March 2018 and for line 5; between 19 February and 7 March 2018.

It was reported that there is an opportunity to refinance the debt associated with the project and STWER has been advised that investigations into the exercise can proceed.

A meeting was held with Defra, STWER and Willis Towers Watson insurers to discuss the joint insurance cost report associated with the STWWMP PFI contract. A revised model from the insurers is currently being awaited.

In terms of the WTS all three have remained available during the year without any significant issues. New procedures for managing waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) are working well. A number of service issues have been experienced due to infringements of site rules, for example use of mobile phones, all staff have been formally reminded of site rules and procedures and some have been re-inducted. A complaint was received regarding litter from service deliveries at Campground, a review of vehicle activity on the Long Bank was carried out and it was found that only the container servicing vehicle from Cowen Road uses the road and no rubbish was escaping as all vehicles were sheeted. It was noted that observations are continuing to ensure that this remains the case. There was an inspection of Campground carried out by the Environment Agency (EA) in July following a complaint from a local resident regarding fly activity. A score of 3 was given relating to the content of the site management plan and Suez resubmitted all site management plans including pest control arrangements. A repeat visit was carried out by the EA and no issues or infestations were found.

It was reported that targeted recruitment and training is continuing to improve local prosperity across the partnership area. A number of positions were advertised for the EfW facility, however no applications were received from residents in the STWWMP area, it is thought that this is due to the location of the site. Five positions

were advertised for Jack Crawford House and Campground and all positions were filled with people from the STWWMP area.

Groundwork North East and Cumbria (GNEC) continues to manage community education and engagement through the Visitor and Education Centre. 969 children and young people have now taken part in waste awareness activities between April and August 2017, and 1027 members of local community groups have also been involved in similar activities during the same period. The Visitor and Education Centre also featured as part of the 2017 Heritage Open Days where tours of the centre could be booked.

In terms of the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) contracts, these continue to be monitored by the joint partnership team. There has been a reduction in the total amount collected for Gateshead and South Tyneside, however there is an overall increase for Sunderland which was attributed to the introduction of fortnightly refuse collection. MRF recycling and recovery rates for comingled materials were identified and it was noted that all MRF contracts are due to end on 31 March 2018. The Officer Project Board is currently looking at various options for appropriate arrangements thereafter.

Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) contracts have been negotiated so that South Tyneside's contract will be co-terminus with the Gateshead and Sunderland contract extensions. This will allow a joint approach between all three authorities to be considered for a new contract commencing on 1 April 2020.

It was reported that the green waste composting contracts have continued to operate without significant service issues and material quality remains at a high level.

It was suggested that consideration be given to working with the Shipley Young People's Library garden to link in with the recycling work at the Visitor and Education Centre.

RESOLVED - That the Joint Executive Committee noted the contents of the report.

5 BLUE BIN RECYCLING

The Joint Executive Committee received a presentation on the blue bin recycling process, from collection to processing.

Gateshead and South Tyneside Councils have a joint contract with Palm and Sunderland has a separate contract with J&B, with both contracts ending at the same time. It was noted that this will allow all partner authorities to come together in the future.

The mixed recycling from the blue bin is often referred to as comingled material. The recycling vehicles tip all recycling at Riverdale, Team Valley Trading Estate, for Gateshead and South Tyneside and at Monument Park in Washington for

Sunderland's recycling. Mixed materials go to the Materials Recovery Facilities (MRF) for processing, this is Palm in Teesside for Gateshead and South Tyneside and J&B in Hartlepool for Sunderland. In terms of newspapers and magazines these go direct to the paper mills at Palm Recycling, at Kings Lynn Norfolk and UPM at Deeside for Sunderland.

The Committee viewed a video taken at the MRF at Teesside which showed how the mixed recycling is processed. It was highlighted that there continues to be manual handpicking from the belt, although there is hi tech machinery to separate the materials which in turn produces high quality end product, turning waste into a resource.

It was reported that for Gateshead and South Tyneside the paper from the caddy goes direct to Palms paper mill in Norfolk, which is the widest, largest and most powerful newsprint machine in the world. It was noted that it can run at speeds of 2000 metres of paper per minute, producing 400,000 tonnes of newsprint per year. Each paper roll is 11 metres wide and can be cut to the customer size and specification.

The Committee was provided with information around what material can be accepted in the blue bin and inner caddy in order to avoid contamination issues. It was noted that this information is continuing to be publicised in the partnership area.

The costs associated with processing the recycling were outlined, it was noted that the partnership has to pay the contractor to process every tonne of mixed recycling at a set rate, however the Councils receive a substantial income payment from the contractor for every tonne of paper collected separately in the caddy. Therefore, if the amount of paper collected separately can be maximised this will help reduce the cost of recycling. It was reported that the percentage of paper collected since 2014 is reducing, this is similar to the national picture and is a result of the use of modern technology which has reduced paper readership. It was noted that the partnership continues to promote paper recycling through various communications channels and each Council provides free replacement caddies.

In terms of contamination rates for Gateshead and South Tyneside these have dropped quite significantly since 2015. Sunderland's contamination rates have increased recently due to the introduction of fortnightly collections of residual waste in April 2017. The Committee was reassured that all parties are now working hard to try and ensure the contamination rate reduces in the longer term. Committee was advised that the impact of contamination is an increased cost for the contractor to process the residual waste and also the lost revenue from the recycling. If a load contains a large amount of contamination it can be rejected at the transfer station and ends up going for disposal, which costs more than recycling. It was also confirmed that the quality of the recyclable material can affect how and where it is sold on as it is not sustainable as higher quality recyclables. In order to address the issue of contamination all three councils have employed door stepping staff to speak directly to residents. Gateshead Council has employed three Behavioural Change Officers with the aim of changing the public's behaviour towards waste and recycling. In addition, crews check bins for contamination before emptying, if there is any contamination a sticker or tag is left on the bin to inform the resident.

Communication work is ongoing through leaflets, bin stickers, press releases and information placed on websites, social media and council magazines, the Partnership also has a You Tube channel. It was also reported that staff at the transfer stations record information on contamination and remove larger items of contamination.

Committee was advised that the next steps are to agree the short term contract options up until 2021, then look at the longer term options post 2021 which will involve looking at several different scenarios including collection arrangements, one joint partnership site to build a WTS or MRF and who will operate the facility. It was also acknowledged that consideration will have to be given to the impact Brexit will have on UK legislation and how that will influence national policy and the recycling industry. It was also noted that the situation will be monitored following the announcement about China's National Sword initiative which will result in contaminated loads of imported recycling being turned back at the ports.

It was suggested that the video should be shown in schools and should also include the reuse initiatives coordinated by Groundwork from the Visitor and education Centre.. It was confirmed that Suez and Groundwork are using the You Tube videos in schools and the partnership could look at other videos to show future reuse initiatives

The point was made that currently recycling rates for the partnership are hitting a ceiling, therefore it will cost money to reach the 50% target. However if bottom ash is reclassified as recycling this would take the percentage to over 50%. It was agreed that the Chair would write a further letter to central Government around the reclassification of bottom ash as recycled material.

RESOLVED - That the Joint Executive Committee noted the information presented.

6 COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

A presentation was given to the Committee on waste-related stories that have been in the media.

It was reported that there are fears over new Chinese import restrictions following an announcement from China's ministry of environmental protection that there will be a crack down on materials imported for recycling as part of the National Sword operation and inspection regime. It has been suggested that a maximum contamination rate of 0.3% will be set on all imports to China by the end of the year. This means that metal exporters could face tighter controls on both ferrous and non-ferrous loads that may also include rubber or plastic materials, and exporters of plastics could see a complete ban on some materials which may lead to a short-term glut of plastics in the UK. It was noted that the biggest impact could be on waste paper as China is an important market for many UK paper recyclers, with 3.6 million tonnes exported there last year.

It was noted that the Environment Agency has announced that England has only 6.8

years of non-hazardous landfill life. Data from permitted waste management operators in England shows a steady increase in waste treatment capacity, alongside a decrease in landfill capacity. It was reported that in 2016 England managed 203 million tonnes of waste, of which 44.7 million tonnes was landfilled. Regionally, the East of England landfilled the most, 10 million tonnes, and London the least at 2.3 million tonnes. Committee was advised that the partnership has seen none of its residual contract waste sent to landfill since 2015.

Committee recalled that Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority was seeking to exit its twenty-five year, £3.2 billion PFI contract with Viridor Laing, affecting nine councils across the Greater Manchester area. It has now been confirmed that this will take place from 29 September 2017. The Authority stated that constraints within the new EU Procurement Regulations meant that the savings identified could not be taken forward through the existing contractual arrangements, it also cited 'technical and operational challenges' within the contract. It was noted that interim arrangements have been agreed to enable the Authority to continue providing recycling and waste processing services whilst new services are procured, therefore collections will continue as normal.

It was reported that the Scottish First Minister intends to commit the country to implementing a deposit return scheme (DRS) for plastic drinks bottles. Zero Waste Scotland has been investigating design options and the associated costs and benefits of how a DRS could operate in Scotland. However, the Packaging Recycling Group Scotland has publically opposed the scheme and recommended alternative proposals that promote recycling instead. Other associations have suggested that a DRS would be too burdensome for customers and small shops.

The Committee was advised of an article that was published in the Daily Mail online which made a number of claims regarding CCTV cameras mounted on refuse collection vehicles and what councils are doing to reduce recycling contamination. A number of statements were included in the article about bin men being told to rifle through rubbish and file reports. The article also stated that CCTV is used to catch people out and record infringements carrying £60 fine, with threats of fines of £20,000 for leaving the bins out too long. Committee was reminded of the costs and impact of non-target or offensive materials within recycling loads and the ongoing communication activities the partnership delivers to improve the quantity and quality of materials residents present for recycling. It was highlighted that CCTV is installed on refuse collection vehicles in both Gateshead and Sunderland to help improve health and safety and to support investigations into complaints or service requests for missed bins, as well as providing evidence against malicious or fraudulent claims against the council. It was also highlighted that the cameras are positioned to only record images in the immediate vicinity of the vehicle and do not show a broad view of the location, so no cameras are directly intrusive of private premises.

It was reported that Tesco has recently announced that single-use carrier bags will be replaced by a new 'Bag for Life' that is made from 94% recycled plastic. The bags will cost 10p with the sales continuing to fund community projects through the existing Bags for Help scheme, which has already provided more than £33 million to over 6,400 community projects since its 2015 launch. It was noted that this follows a successful 10 week trial in Aberdeen, Dundee and Norwich where sales of bags

reduced by 25%. It was acknowledged that although Tesco now sells 1.5 billion fewer single-use plastic bags since the carrier bag charge was introduced it still sells over 700 million each year. It was also noted that online customers will still be able to opt for a single use carrier bag for their shopping, however 57% already opt for bag-less delivery. Tesco has also announced withdrawal of the single-use wine carriers, however it is lowering the price of bottle bags from £1 to 40p.

RESOLVED - That the Joint Executive Committee noted the information presented.

7 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday 8 December 2017 at 1.30pm.

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GATESHEAD METROPOLITAN BOROUGH COUNCIL
SOUTH TYNE AND WEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP JOINT
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Friday, 8 December 2017

This meeting was inquorate and those members in attendance discussed the following issues

PRESENT: Councillor Linda Green (Gateshead Council) (Chair)

South Tyneside Council Councillor Allan West

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gateshead Council Anthony Alder, Fiona Swinburne, Chris Wilson, Gary Smith, Brendan McNeany and Rosalyn Patterson

South Tyneside Council Andrew Whittaker

Sunderland Council Mark Speed

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor Douglas, Councillor Miller, Councillor Mordey, Councillor Foreman and substitute members Councillor Speding and Councillor Donovan.

2 MINUTES

Due to not being quorate it was recommended that the next meeting of the Joint Executive Committee confirm that the minutes of the meeting held on 22 September 2017 are a correct record.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were submitted.

4 CONTRACTS UPDATE

The Committee received a report on the current position regarding the Residual Waste Treatment Contract and other contracts and activities managed by the Partnership.

It was reported that South Tyneside has announced a new 30 month HWRC management contract, with Remondis JBT, which commenced on 1 December 2017.

The accounts for 2016/17 have been reconciled and the latest 2017/18 performance was highlighted.

During recent months there has been a number of issues, this included lost hours due to a bottom ash drop-off chute blockage. Line 4 was shut down for planned maintenance in September.

It was reported that the refinancing exercise commenced, with a lead officer from Suez being appointed to manage the exercise, financial and legal advisers have also been confirmed.

An insurance review is ongoing and a response regarding a revised model from the insurers is expected to be received soon.

A recruitment exercise is also underway to replace a technical engineer and site manager at Jack Crawford House.

It was noted that between April and October 2017 1,600 children and young people took part in waste awareness activities, including Joseph Swan Academy, Albany Primary School, Keelman's Way School and the Jewish Boys School in Gateshead.

It was reported that the Partnership has been shortlisted as a finalist in the Public / Private Partnership category at the Local Government Chronicle Awards 2018 following the successful WEEE Reduce, Reuse and Recycle project. Also, additional funding of £75,000 has been received to deliver a further dedicated WEEE project building on the work already carried out.

MRF performance was highlighted and it was noted that there has been an increase in the amount of collection. All MRF contracts are due to end 31 March 2018 and preferred options have been identified.

It was noted that Cllr Mordey received media coverage which highlighted the issue of contamination that all three Councils are dealing with.

It was also confirmed that, in relation to the refinancing exercise, it is an ideal time to secure a better deal on the debt. Suez has implemented phase one to go to the market and a financial consultant and legal consultants have been appointed who have an extensive knowledge of the project and the market. Committee was advised that there will be some gain as a result of the refinancing exercise, although the size of that gain is not yet known.

RESOLVED - That the Joint Executive Committee noted the progress of the project.

A presentation was given to the Committee on waste-related stories that have been in the media.

It was noted that the Department for International Trade has urged the European Commission's Market Access Advisory Committee to take action over China's recycling import restrictions suggesting it is contravening international rules. Plastics Recyclers Europe said that whilst the National Sword operation is 'creating turmoil' it is as a result of years of badly collected and sorted waste within the EU, with an excess of low-quality plastics sent there for re-processing because such materials do not meet the EU's own quality requirements and standards. It was reported that China has changed its original proposals by increasing the contamination rate from 0.3% to 0.5%. However, this is still less than the current 1.5% limit, this will be adopted on 31 December 2017 but not come into force until 1 March 2018. Environment Secretary Michael Gove recently stated that he was unaware of the impact of China's ban on the UK but he was confident that UK waste industry could cope. However, a recycling trade body has called for urgent investment in the UK to tackle the expected stockpiling of recyclate after the ban. Resources Minister, Therese Coffey, stated that the ban give an opportunity to reprocess more here, however she has faced criticism by other MPs and the Environmental Audit Committee for the Government's lack of immediacy in dealing with the ramifications of the ban.

A recent episode of BBC's Blue Planet II documentary series highlighted life in the open ocean, and highlighted the issue of plastic waste within the ocean. This included the journey of a female pilot whale and her new born calf which sadly died after being poisoned by its mother's microbead-polluted milk. It was reported that researchers have even found sea creatures living in the deepest seas with plastic in their stomachs. However, the British Plastics Federation claim that there is no supporting evidence that the whale death was linked to waste plastics and that no autopsy had been carried out. The Committee noted the high-profile that the issue of plastic pollution has featured across the media recently, and that this will hopefully increase the responsible recycling of plastic materials.

It was reported that the autumn budget included several environmental announcements, including confirmation that the government will launch a call for evidence in 2018 on a tax system for single-use plastics, aimed at reducing the amount of plastics waste. It is thought that this will include packaging and bubble wrap, takeaway boxes and throwaway coffee cups. This builds on the introduction of the plastic bag levy which has led to an 80% reduction in plastic bags since 2015. The budget also announced that £30m extra funding over the next four years will be provided to help the Environment Agency tackle waste crime and that illegal waste operators will be liable for Landfill Tax. It was reported that a cross-industry group of packaging manufacturers, retailers, material reprocessors, led by recycling charity Recoup, has agreed a roadmap to enable the recycling of all black plastic packaging by the end of 2018. It was noted that many retailers use black plastic trays because they are the most efficient for ready meals but it a non-target material for this partnership because the carbon black pigment is made up of mixing several colours together and it absorbs infra-red light and thus cannot be optically sorted by the

infra-red detection machinery at the MRF. The roadmap aims to introduce the use of a detectable pigment, new technology solutions to sort existing black plastic materials and implement opportunities to change from black packaging to an alternative colour.

Committee was advised that, according to the Environmental Policy Forum, the progress of the Brexit talks mean that the time to effectively transpose EU environmental legislation into UK law is running out. However, Michael Gove has outlined plans to set up an independent commission-like-body to oversee environmental standards in England and hold the government to account after Brexit. There is no indication as to how this new body will work with existing regulatory authorities such as the Environment Agency.

At a recent Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee conference, Therese Coffey stated that her department was 'on a mission' to stimulate some secondary material markets to boost recycling and that she was hopeful for extra cash to extend food waste collections, although no agreement reached has been reached yet in terms of funding. She also highlighted Sunderland City Council's efforts to increase from low recycling rates. In addition a number of areas were touched on, including; collection consistency, waste crime and the efforts to have incinerator bottom ash included in national recycling figures.

It was also reported that local authorities could save up to £35m per year if a deposit return scheme for drinks containers is introduced in England, according to the campaign group Keep Britain Tidy. However, many councils have expressed fears that such schemes will cut their recycling revenue as residents would favour a deposit return scheme ahead of using household kerbside recycling. The report found that Councils could make savings elsewhere, such as lower costs in dealing with litter and lower landfill charges, although the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee suggested that the savings outlined in the report are unlikely to be achieved and called for investment to be made in kerbside collections as an alternative.

It was noted that the latest figures published by the Health and Safety Executive showed that the number of fatal injuries to workers in the waste sector in 2016/17 was 14, which is almost double the average of the last five years. However this is largely explained by a single incident at a scrap metal facility which resulted in five deaths after a partition wall collapsed. It was reported that there has been a total of 39 deaths since 2012/13. The statistics show that the most common reason for waste sector fatalities are due to; being struck by a moving vehicle, contact with machinery and being struck by an object. In addition there are over 5,000 non-fatal injuries that occur each year. The Environmental Services Association said that these latest statistics do not reflect the progress made in recent years.

In local news the Sunderland Echo featured Cllr Mordey's visit to the J&B MRF in Hartlepool to highlight the issue of contamination. During the visit the material sent for reprocessing included what appeared to be a dead ferret which gave a focus for subsequent media coverage.

RESOLVED - That the Joint Executive Committee noted the information

presented.

6 DATE AND TIME OF NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will be held on Friday 16 March 2018 at 1.30pm.

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South Tyneside Council



REPORT TO THE SOUTH TYNE AND WEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

16 March 2018

REPORT OF: Tony Alder, Project Director, South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership

SUBJECT: Contracts Update

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To advise the Joint Executive Committee of the latest position regarding the Residual Waste Treatment Contract and other ancillary waste joint contracts and activities managed by the South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership (STWWMP).

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Residual Waste Treatment Contract (RWTC) was awarded to a consortium led by SITA UK (through SITA South Tyne and Wear Ltd) on 20 April 2011. The contract comprises the energy-from-waste facility (EfW) at Teesside, fed by waste from three Waste Transfer Stations (WTS) situated for use by each of the partner authorities. The contract commenced service on 22 April 2014.

2.2 In March 2015, SITA UK's parent company announced a global rebrand, indicating that all of its subsidiary companies would change their names to SUEZ. In December 2015, STWWMP received formal notification that SITA South Tyne and Wear Ltd had also changed its name, and would now be known as South Tyne and Wear Energy Recovery Ltd (STWER).

2.3 Gateshead and South Tyneside Councils' 48-month Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) contract for dry recyclables commenced service with Palm Recycling Ltd on 1 April 2014.

2.4 Sunderland Council awarded a separate MRF contract to J&B Recycling, which commenced service on 1 April 2015 for a period of 36 months.

2.5 Gateshead and Sunderland councils jointly procured separate contracts for the management of their Household Waste and Recycling Centres (HWRC) with SUEZ. Both incentive-based contracts were two years and seven months in

length, and commenced service at the beginning of September 2014. 36-month contract extension periods were activated from 1 April 2017.

2.6 From 1 December 2017, South Tyneside Council entered into a 30-month HWRC management with Remondis JBT.

2.7 A joint procurement exercise awarded three separate green waste composting contracts for each partner authority. Although contracts were awarded to three different providers, the timing of the contract lengths has been structured to enable a joint partnership contract to be considered at the end of the current arrangements. The current contract providers are:

- Gateshead: A.Willey for 36 months from 01 April 2016
- South Tyneside: SUEZ for 36 months from 01 April 2016
- Sunderland: JBT (now delivered by Remondis following take-over of JBT) for 31 months from 01 September 2016

2.8 The joint partnership team continues to undertake strategic waste management functions on behalf of the partner authorities. This is enabling, amongst other things, a proactive and timely approach to management of the RWTC which is operated under strict timescales. Similar benefits are also afforded to the procurement and management of other ancillary contracts, such as MRF, HWRC, and green waste composting.

3. **RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT CONTRACT**

3.1 The joint partnership team continues to review and verify monthly reports received from SUEZ, which detail materials processed and service issues. Once approved, invoices are processed and apportioned to the partner authorities within contractual timescales.

2017/18 Service Update

3.2 The latest performance information for the 2017/18 contract year (April 2017-January 2018) can be found at Appendix A.

3.3 During recent months, a number of service issues have been encountered, including:

- Line 5 lost 75.5 hours of production on 6-9 November due to a blockage in the bottom ash extractor.
- 1 hour of turbine availability was lost on 21 November whilst a control card was replaced in the turbine PLC (programmable logic controller).
- Line 4 lost 1 hour of production on 20 December due to a waste feed chute blockage, and 12 hours of availability on 25 January due to a bottom ash chute blockage.

3.4 SUEZ has established a working group to further investigate the blockages that are occurring and identify potential recommendations for improvement.

- 3.5 The joint partnership team, supported by Health & Safety officers from the partner authorities, visited the EfW in November to undertake an on-site review of the SUEZ SHEQ (Safety, Health, Environment and Quality Management) protocols, procedures, and reporting systems.
- 3.6 The main 2018 EfW shutdown is scheduled to take place:
- Line 4: 27 February – 22 March 2018
 - Line 5: 19 February – 7 March 2018

Annual Unitary Charge Forecast

- 3.7 The 2018/19 Annual Unitary Charge Forecast (AUCF) is nearing completion. The forecast tonnages have been agreed and final indexation needs applying for the reference point in January 2018. The AUCF forms the basis of what each partner will pay for each month.
- 3.8 The final reconciliation payment is calculated on the actual tonnages and penalty deductions etc. at the end of financial year to establish the difference paid on the AUCF estimates and the actuals observed and verified by the joint partnership team and SUEZ.

Qualifying Refinancing Exercise

- 3.9 Stage one of the exercise to investigate the potential opportunity to refinance the debt associated with the RWTC continues to proceed.

Joint Insurance Cost Review (JICR)

- 3.10 Discussions with representatives from the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), STWER, and Willis Towers Watson insurers involving the joint insurance cost report associated with the RWTC remain ongoing. A further response from STWER is currently being considered.

Waste Transfer Stations (WTS)

- 3.11 All three of the WTS have remained available throughout the current contract year, with all sites continuing to accept STWWMP contract waste without significant issues. Recycling activities are ongoing at each site, which includes the segregation of materials, such as street sweepings, wood, and scrap metals.
- 3.12 Routine maintenance of buildings, plant, and control systems continues to be delivered as planned and no significant issues have been identified.
- 3.13 However, a pothole has appeared in the road on the boundary between the SUEZ and South Tyneside Council depot at Middlefields. Following discussions with STWWMP, SUEZ, and South Tyneside Council, the repair schedule has now been agreed.

Targeted Recruitment and Training (TR&T)

- 3.14 The RWTC affords provision for SUEZ to help to improve local prosperity across the partnership area by promoting vacant posts within their facilities. The Economic Development Service at Gateshead Council continues to receive information on local vacancies, which are then cascaded to partner authorities for circulation to their client base. Local vacancies are also raised with the Jack

Crawford House Community Liaison Group, with the group's Chair circulating opportunities to community contacts across Sunderland.

- 3.15 The recruitment process to replace the outgoing EfW operations manager resulted in the appointment of an internal SUEZ candidate who commenced the role in January 2018. Following the resignation of the shift operations technician at the EfW, an internal promotion appointment was made and they also commenced their new employment in January.
- 3.16 The replacement site manager at Jack Crawford House to cover a 12-month secondment period was appointed from elsewhere within SUEZ and took up the position in January.
- 3.17 A recruitment exercise conducted in January has appointed a technical plant engineer at the EfW, who will start in their position in March. Following an internal promotion, a recruitment exercise for the role of maintenance manager has also commenced.
- 3.18 Interviews for the post of WTS weighbridge operator were held in January and the successful candidate - South Tyneside resident - took up the post in February.

Community Education and Engagement

- 3.19 STWWMP remains committed to an ongoing programme of community education and engagement, managed by Groundwork North East & Cumbria (GNEC) at the visitor and education centre, the energy-from-waste facility, and through outreach activities held in local schools and community settings.
- 3.20 Between April 2017 and the end of January 2018, over 3,500 local children and young people, residents, and community group members have now taken part in waste awareness activities and site visits. Recently, this has included:
- A waste awareness session with 120 Year 9 pupils at South Shields School, South Tyneside.
 - A whole school assembly and waste workshop with Key Stage 2 pupils at Barmston Village Primary School, Washington, to launch the Sunderland Recycling Campaign.
 - A whole school assembly and waste workshop with Key Stage 2 pupils at Easington Lane Primary School, Sunderland.
 - An ongoing upcycled art project for children at Hill Top School in Gateshead.
- 3.21 In October 2017, STWWMP received notification that the submission to the Local Government Chronicle (LGC) Awards 2018 highlighting the 2016 WEEE Reduce, Reuse and Recycle project had been shortlisted as a finalist in the Public/Private Partnership category. In January, STWWMP led a joint presentation with project partners Valpak and GNEC to the LGC Awards judging panel in London, which highlighted the partnership approach to the delivery of positive outcomes and results. Winning entries will be revealed at the LGC Awards evening on 21 March 2018.

3.22 Following the successful application for external funding to deliver another dedicated WEEE project, a recruitment exercise enabled a project officer to be appointed and start working with GNEC in January 2018. The official project launch events with schools in each partner authority took place on 9 March 2018.

Community Liaison Groups

3.23 The Campground Community Liaison Group last met on 28 November 2017.

3.24 The group was informed that the site continues to operate and receive waste tonnages as forecast. All materials received continue to be either recycled or sent for energy recovery at the EfW, achieving 100% landfill diversion within the contract year 2017/18.

3.25 The group was advised that the fly complaint received in July 2017, was investigated by the Environment Agency (EA). Some concerns had been expressed that the site was accepting animal carcasses, and SUEZ explained that although small animal carcasses are accepted on site, they are bagged and stored in a freezer prior to their removal, so are not a source of flies. The EA advised that whilst a minor CCS score had been issued, an 'advice and guidance' visit reviewed site practices and the site management plan, and no further issues had been confirmed.

3.26 The group queried the impact of the proposed construction of an EfW facility at Washington, which had featured in local media stories recently. It was confirmed that the plant was not connected to STWWMP or SUEZ, and that it would not be processing any waste from the South Tyne and Wear local authorities.

3.27 The next meeting was scheduled for 8 May 2018.

3.28 The Jack Crawford House Community Liaison Group is next scheduled to meet on 22 March 2018.

4. MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY (MRF) CONTRACTS

4.1 The MRF contracts continue to be monitored closely by the joint partnership team. This includes processing payments, holding regular contract meetings and performance reviews, and Health & Safety site inspections at the various contractor facilities to ensure that recycling performance is maximised.

4.2 Regular discussions at MRF contract management meetings consider ways in which recycling quality and performance can be improved in order to increase the amount of material recycled and reduce the amount sent for energy recovery. This is now even more relevant due to the Chinese restrictions on the import of certain types of waste (including mixed paper and post-consumer plastics), which came into force on 1 January 2018. Some STWWMP materials are currently exported to China, and the partnership is working closely with the MRF contractors to identify any potential impact on the future recycling of STWWMP materials. It is, therefore, important to ensure that high quality recycling is delivered to the contractors to further reduce contamination levels

and help to ensure that STWWMP materials meet the stricter thresholds now in place in China and potentially other countries in the future.

- 4.3 JEC Members Briefing Issue 6 provides more information on the impact on STWWMP of the Chinese restrictions.
- 4.4 Table A, at Appendix B, highlights the total amount of material collected by each authority between April 2017 – January 2018, broken down between the paper collected separately in the inner box and the comingled materials collected in the main section of the blue bin. There has been an overall increase in the amount of materials collected in Sunderland, which can be attributed to the introduction of fortnightly refuse collections in April 2017.
- 4.5 Appendix B also shows Table B, which highlights MRF recycling and recovery rates for comingled materials only since Quarter 1, 2016/17.
- 4.6 The impact of the introduction of fortnightly collections in Sunderland can be seen in the 2017/18 Quarters 1-3 recovery rates. The joint partnership team and officers from Sunderland City Council continue to work closely with J&B Recycling to identify actions to further reduce the level of materials sent for recovery and, therefore, improve recycling rates.
- 4.7 The Gateshead and South Tyneside recycling rates are approximately 88% and 85% respectively.
- 4.8 The current MRF contracts for all partner authorities are scheduled to end on 31 March 2018. However, the partner authorities have now agreed to activate the contract extension periods until 31 March 2021. This will still ensure that the contracts are co-terminus, and enable a joint approach between all three partner authorities to be considered for a new contact commencing on 1 April 2021.

5. HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING CENTRE CONTRACTS

- 5.1 The joint partnership team also closely monitor all aspects of contract management in relation to the Gateshead and Sunderland HWRC contracts. This includes processing payments, regular contract meetings, and health and safety site inspections at the HWRCs. The South Tyneside contract is managed directly by officers from South Tyneside Council.
- 5.2 The latest performance information April 2017 – January 2018 can be found at Appendix C.
- 5.3 The end dates for all three HWRC management contracts are co-terminus. This will enable a joint approach between all three partner authorities to be considered for a new contact commencing on 1 April 2020.

6. **RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 The Joint Executive Committee is requested to note the contents of this report.

Contacts:

Chris Wilson, Contract Manager (Policy), STWWMP Tel: 433 7478

Fiona Swinburne, Contract Manager (PFI), STWWMP Tel: 433 7428

Gary Smith, Contract Manager (Ancillary), STWWMP Tel: 433 7480

RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT CONTRACT

2017/18 latest performance: April 2017 – January 2018

Total contract waste	160,432.74 tonnes
Contract waste delivered to WTS: - Campground - Middlefields - Jack Crawford House	Gateshead 49,391.35 tonnes Sunderland 14,400.35 tonnes South Tyneside 42,157.56 tonnes Sunderland 54,513.448 tonnes
Total contract waste delivered to EfW	156,322.50 tonnes
Line 4 availability Line 5 availability Overall EfW availability	98.6% 98.8% 98.7%
Average turbine availability	99.9%
Electricity generated Electricity exported Electricity imported	170,317 MWh 150,572 MWh 20.4 MWh
Recycling performance	Target 2.1% Performance 4.3%
Recovery performance	Target 95.5% Performance 95.7%
Unprocessed landfill diversion rate	100%
Health and safety: - RIDDOR - Injuries and accidents - Near misses - Property damage - Fires	0 9 69 30 0

MATERIALS RECOVERY FACILITY CONTRACTS

Table A: 2017/18 latest blue bin tonnage data: April 2017- January 2018

	Gateshead	South Tyneside	Sunderland
Comingled tonnage	10,750	8,095	15,310
Paper tonnage	2,166	1,443	1,888
Total tonnage	12,916	9,538	17,198
<i>Comparison to April 2016- January 2017 - paper</i>	<i>12.1% decrease</i>	<i>7.5% decrease</i>	<i>31.1% decrease</i>
<i>Comparison to April 2016- January 2017 - comingled</i>	<i>0.5% increase</i>	<i>4.5% decrease</i>	<i>18.5% increase</i>
<i>Comparison to April 2016- January 2017 - all materials</i>	<i>1.8% decrease</i>	<i>4.9% decrease</i>	<i>9.8% increase</i>

Table B: MRF recycling and recovery performance

Period	Gateshead		South Tyneside		Sunderland	
	Recycling	Recovery	Recycling	Recovery	Recycling	Recovery
Q1 2016/17	89.1%	10.9%	87.0%	13.0%	85.4%	14.6%
Q2 2016/17	87.8%	12.2%	86.0%	14.0%	82.5%	17.5%
Q3 2016/17	88.1%	11.9%	85.1%	14.9%	79.9%	20.1%
Q4 2016/17	86.1%	13.9%	86.1%	13.9%	81.4%	18.6%
Q1 2017/18	89.8%	10.2%	84.9%	15.1%	73.4%	26.6%
Q2 2017/18	88.1%	11.9%	84.2%	15.8%	75.6%	24.4%
Q3 2017/18	88.6%	11.4%	85.7%	14.3%	76.4%	23.6%

HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING CENTRE CONTRACTS

2017/18 latest recycling performance (excluding inert materials, such as rubble):

HWRC	April 2017 – January 2018
Campground	62.03%
Cowen Road	64.63%
Beach Street	59.69%
Middlefields (Recycling Village)	51.05%



South Tyneside Council



REPORT TO THE SOUTH TYNE AND WEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

16 March 2018

REPORT OF: Tony Alder, Project Director, South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership

SUBJECT: Qualifying Refinancing Exercise

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To advise the Joint Executive Committee of the progress of the Residual Waste Treatment Contract refinancing exercise.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 STWWMP signed a £727m contract to provide a high quality, efficient solution for waste treatment and disposal, and successfully secured Private Finance Initiative (PFI) credits of £73.525m (which equates to £137.5 million over the life of the contract) to support the investment required for the solution.

2.2 The technological solution chosen enabled the construction of the partnership's own energy-from-waste facility, supported by three waste transfer facilities and a visitor and education centre.

2.3 The 25-year Residual Waste Treatment Contract (RWTC) commenced service on 22 April 2014.

3. REFINANCING

3.1 The current contract documentation accommodates Qualifying Refinancing exercises, which is defined as "any Refinancing that will give rise to a Refinancing Gain greater than zero that is not an Exempt Refinancing".

3.2 The Contract stipulates that the Contractor shall obtain the Authority's prior written consent to any Qualifying Refinancing and both the Authority and the Contractor shall at all times act in good faith with respect to any Refinancing or any potential or proposed Refinancing.

- 3.3 STWWMP was approached by South Tyne and Wear Energy Recovery (STWER) during 2017 for them to progress a Refinancing exercise as they had identified a significant opportunity to renegotiate the Contract however the issues experienced with the EfW facility turbine led to the exercise being postponed.
- 3.4 STWER have now asked us if they can resume the exercise and their approach offers the partnership a real opportunity to achieve significant savings. We have entered into initial discussions with STWER and their lenders and we have engaged Local Partnerships and Pinsent Masons LLP as our financial and legal advisors to ensure that any proposals submitted for consideration are in our best interests.
- 3.5 Initial discussions with Defra indicated there will be no need to change to the PFI credits received as a simple refinancing exercise does change the projects risk profile significantly. We are involving Defra throughout the exercise to ensure there remains no impact upon the Partnership's Waste Infrastructure Credits.
- 3.6 The contractual terms ensure that benefits of any re-financing exercise are shared between the Partnership and STWER. This is calculated by considering the impact of the re-financing exercise on the Net Present Value (NPV) of the projected distributions over the term of the contract.
- 3.7 Eligible professional fees associated with the progression of the exercise are deducted as part of the calculation of the potential gain and the Council will be reimbursed for any costs incurred relating to its advisor team within 20 business days of the re-financing exercise being finalised.
- 3.8 The Partnership would benefit from a share of the following:
- 50% of a re-financing gain of up to £1m;
 - 60% of a re-financing gain of up to £3m;
 - 70% of a gain exceeding £3m.
- 3.9 There are a number of options permitted regarding how the Partnership receives its share of any re-financing gain, which will need complex analysis from both a Contractor and Partnership perspective to determine the optimum approach, including:
- A single payment, provided this sum is less than the previous distributions to shareholders;
 - A reduction in the unitary charge payment over the remainder of the Contract Period;
 - A combination of both of the above.
- 3.10 At this stage, it has been suggested that the existing funders will need to be maintained to ensure we do not have to pay any early termination or

compensation fees, as the cost associated with moving away from the current financiers is likely to be prohibitive when compared to other options.

- 3.11 The process is likely to involve three stages, the first was completed by STWER to ensure the terms of a refinancing would be possible within the current financial market and beneficial, the second of which will provide an outline of the potential terms considered to be available, an understanding of the potential re-financing benefits and key risks. The third stage will involve the development of a detailed programme and financial modelling, market engagement and a consideration of tax and accounting treatment implications.
- 3.12 We are expecting to be provided with a detailed proposal in the near future and at that stage if the results prove acceptable to the Council, the re-financing exercise and detailed negotiations will formally commence in earnest and move to financial close.
- 3.13 The exercise is likely to take up to 12 months to complete but it is hoped it will be completed within 2018.

4. **RECOMMENDATION**

- 4.1 The Joint Executive Committee is requested to:
- (i) Note the contents of this report and agree to the progression of the exercise to release the financial benefits.
 - (ii) Agree to receive further updates during the exercise

Contacts:

Fiona Swinburne, Contract Manager (PFI), STWWMP Tel: 433 7428

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South Tyneside Council



REPORT TO THE SOUTH TYNE AND WEAR WASTE MANAGEMENT PARTNERSHIP JOINT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

16 March 2018

REPORT OF: Tony Alder, Project Director, South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership

SUBJECT: Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2018-2022

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

1.1 To advise the Joint Executive Committee of the progress of the five-year review of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

2. BACKGROUND

2.1 The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) was agreed by each partner authority Cabinet in 2007. It covers the management of municipal waste for the period 2007–2027, including:

- Waste collected from households
- Recycling collections
- Waste taken to recycling banks
- Collections of bulky waste
- Street sweepings
- Collection of household clinical waste
- Commercial/trade waste collected by the local authorities
- Fly-tipped waste
- Waste accepted at household waste recycling centres

2.2 It does not consider most industrial, commercial, construction, or demolition wastes, which are generally managed by the private sector.

2.3 Whilst there is no statutory requirement on STWWMP to produce a JMWMS, the Partnership considers the publication of a strategy as 'best practice', and has committed to undertake a further review every five years. The first review was undertaken during 2012 and published in January 2013, but this is the first review since service commencement of the residual waste treatment contract in 2014.

3. **2013-17 JMWMS – PROGRESS**

3.1 Partner authorities' waste services have changed significantly since the last JMWMS review. However, STWWMP is able to celebrate many key successes over the last five years, including:

- Service commencement of the residual waste treatment contract and redevelopment of the waste transfer infrastructure to facilitate the transportation of waste to STWWMP's newly-constructed energy-from-waste facility at Teesside.
- The development of a community education and engagement programme, managed by Groundwork North East & Cumbria from the new, state-of-the-art, visitor and education centre at Campground, is now well-established across the partnership area. It has now engaged with over 15,000 children, young people, residents, and other community members, both within the centre itself and in local community settings. Even though the programme is linked to the RWTC requirements, activities are waste hierarchy-related and target reuse activities or encouraging residents to become responsible recyclers.
- The establishment of the joint partnership team and further enhancement of their role to provide Waste Disposal Authority functions and day-to-day contract management roles with a range of external service providers across several waste contracts. This has also enabled back office functions to be harmonised and ensured further data robustness across the partner authorities in the reporting of waste-related data to Government.
- Across STWWMP, joint procurement exercises are now embedded into ancillary waste contract tendering processes. Working together in this way has brought tangible financial savings to partner authorities, with subsequent joint contract management arrangements ensuring that services remain fit-for-purpose and meet the operational requirements of the partner authorities.
- The partner authorities have enhanced mutual support arrangements to ensure service continuity during unforeseen circumstances by sharing vehicles and resources, including management and staff expertise between partner authorities.
- Partner authorities have been able to consider an individual authority's service issues and learn from each other's experiences to develop consistent procedures and processes that meet common goals. This has also enabled other operational benefits to be undertaken, such as shared staff training and toolbox talks.
- Close and effective working relationships have been developed at all levels with SUEZ, Groundwork North East & Cumbria, and other external recycling contractors.

3.2 In 2013, JMWMS objectives and priorities were underpinned by policies targeting the development, delivery, and management of all aspects of waste collection and treatment services. Each policy identified specific actions, sub-

actions, and activities to support their delivery. In many circumstances, actions and activities have now been embedded within the day-to-day functions of the partner authorities and joint partnership team. However, since the publication of the previous review, several actions, whilst well-intended, could now possibly be considered as too aspirational for the ongoing financial challenges facing waste services. For example, several actions were linked to the delivery of voluntary commitments, or identified links to legislation or recommendations from national projects and issues that had, at the time, not yet been published, and the subsequent final outcomes/implications were not as had been previously anticipated.

- 3.3 Other actions that considered potentially significant changes to the delivery of waste services, such as the introduction of separate food waste collection services, have not required further investigation at the current time due to several challenges that would be associated with its implementation. However, key service options such as this remain appropriate to future service delivery models and will remain 'under consideration' for further discussion as appropriate.

4. **JMWMS 2018-2022 – KEY ISSUES**

- 4.1 The UK waste sector is experiencing a period of uncertainty, which the five-year review of the JMWMS must take into account. For example, on a global-level, in China, the National Sword operation and inspection regime has challenged the quality of the materials imported for recycling, with much lower than anticipated contamination rates introduced, which is significantly impacting on the already volatile recycling markets. In addition, the JMWMS and future delivery of waste services must, somehow, also be considered alongside the ongoing, complex, negotiations for the UK to leave the EU and the impact that 'Brexit' will have on the retention of EU-led waste-related legislation or how resource management will be delivered in the UK.
- 4.2 Furthermore, the impact of austerity has brought an unprecedented financial landscape to the public sector. These financial constraints have extensively impacted on waste services and it would appear that this will continue in the years to come. However, it is also clear that the waste services provided by the partner authorities have been able to deliver significant changes over recent years to meet these challenges, and the amended service delivery models must also be considered in reviewing the JMWMS.
- 4.3 Service commencement of the residual waste treatment contract in April 2014 has been a major milestone, which has resulted in a significant achievement for STWWMP, with no RWTC waste requiring direct disposal by landfill since April 2015. Furthermore, joint working by the partner authorities has further supported additional efficiencies and savings in service delivery, which has enabled partner authorities to focus on other key operational areas.
- 4.4 Therefore this review of the JMWMS needs to ensure that high-level guidance is provided to support decisions on future service delivery issues/models, and inform short-to-medium term budget planning cycles. The refreshed strategy has been designed to:

- Be easy to understand, follow, and enable progress to be monitored.
- Consider the context of partner authority waste services within the current financial climate.
- Be clear about priorities and not commit partner authorities to deliver actions with unknown external outcomes and/or influences.
- Be proportionate and realistic about issues STWWMP are able to directly influence at a number of levels, e.g. nationally; within their own operational activities; and across other groups and services within their own council

5. **JMWMS 2018-2022 - STRUCTURE**

- 5.1 Due the ongoing uncertainty in the waste sector and the unknown implications of several external factors highlighted above, at the current time, it is not proposed to realign the JMWMS timeline to complement the residual waste treatment contract timeline.
- 5.2 The existing JMWMS objectives and policies are still relevant to STWWMP aims and aspirations. However, there is currently some duplication across a number of objectives and policies, so it is proposed to merge them into a new set of six simplified objectives, which are shown at Appendix A.
- 5.3 As highlighted above, it is also important to acknowledge that, in reviewing the JMWMS, the partner authorities do not speculate on the delivery of specific actions or activities where the full implications are not yet known. Therefore, to enable the partner authorities to focus on the strategic aims and aspirations of STWWMP, it is not proposed to continue to identify specific actions within the JMWMS. This will support waste services to focus on key service issues and challenges within the resources available. Furthermore, this approach does not 'second guess' the outcome of external actions or issues that may result in the partner authorities adopting unsuitable actions or commitments - for example, by continuing to commit to weight-based waste targets if new resource management-focussed targets could be introduced in the UK.
- 5.4 As an alternative, it is proposed that specific actions are replaced by five broad, over-arching, themes which encompass the aspirations of the refreshed objectives (see Appendix B). This will support flexibility in delivering day-to-day services and activities, yet provide opportunities to be considered, as appropriate, to further joint partnership working or new ways of working through the development of trial activities or dedicated 'projects' targeting priority issues.
- 5.5 To ensure that the refreshed JMWMS is as accessible as possible, a public-focussed approach has been utilised and the strategy structure will be presented as follows:
- A foreword from the Chair of the Joint Executive Committee;
 - An introduction to the waste framework/ relevant legislation and current issues within the waste sector;
 - A description of waste services delivered to residents across STWWMP and the waste contracts that are in place with external service providers;

- The successes, achievements, and the challenges associated with the delivery of the JMWMS objectives policies, and actions for the period 2013-17;
- The objectives and delivery themes for the 2018-2022 JMWMS; and
- An appendix highlighting a full analysis of 2016/17 waste data across the partner authorities.

6. **RECOMMENDATION**

6.1 The Joint Executive Committee is requested to:

- (i) Note the contents of this report.

Contacts:

Chris Wilson, Contract Manager (Policy), STWWMP Tel: 433 7478

JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2018-2022: OBJECTIVES

Objective 1: The South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership will continue to follow the waste hierarchy to prioritise the management of waste and provide opportunities to:

- Reduce the amount of waste that is generated;
- Reuse materials wherever possible;
- Recycle and/or compost waste responsibly, maximising participation and minimising contamination levels; and
- Recover energy from any waste that remains.

Objective 2: The South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership will continue to provide environmentally sustainable waste services and facilities that offer value-for-money and are accessible to all who live, work, and/or visit Gateshead, South Tyneside, and Sunderland, so that waste can be managed in a way that avoids environmental damage or danger to human health and considers the potential needs of future generations.

Objective 3: The South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership will continue to develop and deliver a wide-ranging community education and engagement programme across all ages, to raise awareness of waste management and encourage behavioural change through the promotion of waste reduction, reuse, and recycling information.

Objective 4: The South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership will continue to work with Government, other local authorities, trade associations, and industry organisations to support the development of waste strategy and policy.

Objective 5: The South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership will continue to identify opportunities to access external funding to investigate service changes and share the costs and benefits in the delivery of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

Objective 6: The South Tyne and Wear Waste Management Partnership will continue to review the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy objectives as required, and undertake ongoing monitoring of progress in the delivery of their aims and aspirations.

JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY 2018-2022: THEMES

Community education, engagement, and communications

To ensure more materials are moved further up the waste hierarchy to improve recycling performance and material quality, and ensure that more people have a better understanding of what happens to their waste and the services available to them.

Joint working opportunities

To continue to deliver joint procurement exercises and day-to-day management of waste treatment contracts and waste disposal authority functions; to work closely with contractors to improve services and identify further efficiencies; to investigate opportunities to further develop links with the third sector; and to consider the further development of joint operational opportunities, where appropriate.

Income generation and external funding

To maximise opportunities for partner authorities to enhance traded waste services, such as commercial waste recycling services; to continue to support economic growth and local prosperity, through the promotion of job opportunities within the waste sector; and to source additional external funding opportunities as appropriate to develop and deliver dedicated waste-related projects and/or trial new, alternative, service delivery models etc.

Environmental benefits

To enable household waste to be managed in the most sustainable methods available, including green treatment services; to reduce the number of high value, high carbon materials (such as plastics and metals) disposed within the residual waste stream; and to reduce the carbon footprint and improve the energy efficiency of the waste transport and vehicle fleet.

Lobbying activities

To ensure that, where it is appropriate to do so, the STWWMP is able to engage with Government, other local authorities, trade associations, and industry organisations, on the implications of changes to relevant waste-related legislation and/or issues affecting local authority waste services.

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