

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

Friday, 23 June 2017 at 1.30 pm in the Whickham Room - Civic Centre

From the Chief Executive, Sheena Ramsey

Item Business

1. **Election of Chair**

2. **Election of Deputy Chairs**

3. **Apologies**

4. **Minutes** (Pages 3 - 8)

The Joint Executive Committee is asked to approve the minutes of its last meeting held on 17 March 2017

5. **Declarations of Interests**

6. **Suez Health and Safety Management**

Presentation – Anna Bell, Regional Manager

7. **Contracts Update** (Pages 9 - 20)

Report attached

8. **STWWMP Joint Partnership Team** (Pages 21 - 24)

Report attached

9. **Communications Update**

Presentation

10. **Date and Time of Next Meeting**

The next meeting of the Joint Executive Committee will be held on Friday 22 September 2017 at 1.30pm

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

Friday, 17 March 2017

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

Gateshead Council Councillor John McElroy

South Tyneside Council Councillor Allan West and Councillor Jim Foreman

Sunderland Council Councillor Michael Mordey

IN ATTENDANCE:

Gateshead Council Anthony Alder, Fiona Swinburne, Chris Wilson, Gary Smith,
Colin Huntington and Rosalyn Patterson

South Tyneside Council Tom Turner

Sunderland Council Mark Speed

1 APOLOGIES

Apologies for absence were received from Martin Harrison, Andy Whitaker and Paul Scrafton.

2 MINUTES

Minutes of the meetings held on 23 September and 9 December 2016 were agreed as a correct record.

3 DECLARATIONS OF INTERESTS

No declarations of interest were submitted.

4 WASTE INFRASTRUCTURE DELIVERY PROGRAMME (WIDP)

The Committee received a presentation by Jim Busby from the Waste Infrastructure Delivery Programme (WIDP).

The Committee was reminded of the EU Landfill Directive, as a result of this DEFRA established the WIDP, which aimed at supporting Local Authorities to develop new infrastructure. Its 25 projects around the country currently cost around £1.5bn.

Support provided is through financial credits, special guidance and access to

transactors who work with the relevant Local Authority to procure the best deal in terms of their projects.

WIDP's action plan aims to ensure; effective communication, stable policy, support planning the process, programme affordability, monitoring progress and project direction, offering incentives for local authorities and stimulating capacity and market development.

Challenges of the WIDP were identified, such as; significant acceleration in infrastructure whilst ensuring value for money, availability of funding and the delivery of national policy through Local Authorities.

It is noted that the WIDP programme currently includes:

- 2 PFI Fully Integrated contracts
- 16 PFI Semi-Integrated contracts (excludes waste collection)
- 7 PFI Treatment only contracts

This equates to four million tonnes per annum across all PFI projects.

With most of these projects being classed as EfW (55%) and BMBT (26%), the projects are contributing to a reduction in Green-House gases (GHG) and the increase in operating capacity has helped the rise in total power output.

In terms of the positives of the STWWMP, the following points were identified;

- Delivered within cost and time parameters
- Performing in line with the contract requirements
- Contract delivery/management in line with other high performing Local Authorities
- Excellent collaborative working within the Committee
- Very hardworking team with a strong continuity of staff
- Clear contract management focus
- Partnership is committed
- There is a close working relationship with WIDP

Future aims of the partnership were suggested, for example;

- Explore more areas of collaboration
- Look at a savings agenda
- Continue to work closely with WIDP

The Chair asked for the presentation to be emailed to all members.

Councillor Foreman asked whether STWWMP was used as a case of best practice, it was confirmed that the network groups held in London and Leeds use STWWMP as a stated example of best practice project.

RESOLVED - That the information presented be noted.

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 2014/15 and 2015/16 reconciliation exercises with South Tyne and Wear Energy Recovery Ltd (STWER) have been completed. The information has been sent to finance officers.

The turbine at the EfW facility is not yet operational following issues in September 2016. It was confirmed that the turbine has been returned to Teesside last week and it is anticipated that it will become operational over the weekend.

Performance for April 2016 until January 2017 was outlined. Turbine availability was 52%, recycling performance was at 4.1%, which exceeded the 2.1% target, and landfill diversion rate remained at 100%.

Shutdowns of lines 4 and 5 have taken place, line 4 took longer than expected because of an issue with an external contractor, however waste was redirected to another EfW facility.

Negotiations are ongoing around the inclusion of Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) within recycling performance figures. It was reported that a conference call was held with Defra and the Environment Agency and Project Integra hosted a visit to the Hampshire EfW which was considered a success.

Engagement work is continuing, with St Mary's RC Primary School in Sunderland becoming involved in a number of waste related activities after identifying that it was producing more waste than was acceptable.

As reported at the last meeting, the VEC outdoor classroom is nearing completion and an opening event will be held on 11 May 2017.

It was noted that the year long Waste Electric and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) project has been completed and has exceeded the 3% target to increase WEEE recycling.

The Jack Crawford House Community Liaison Group meetings continue, with the last meeting being held on 16 February 2017.

Performance of the Materials Recovery Facility (MRF) contracts was provided and it was noted that performance has generally improved for Gateshead and South Tyneside. The current MRF contracts are due to end at 31 March 2018 however contract extensions can apply and discussions are ongoing around potential future joint arrangements. Similarly the Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) contracts are due to end in 2017 and work is underway with all partner authorities around a joint approach thereafter.

It was questioned whether the Community Liaison Group meetings are still beneficial

as concerns were raised that such meetings are becoming more like ward surgeries. It was noted that these meetings were agreed as part of the contract with Suez, therefore it would be a decision of the Partnership if it wished to cease these meetings. It was agreed that Councillors from Sunderland would discuss the issue and feed back to Committee.

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

6 JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY: FIVE-YEAR REVIEW

The Committee received a report on the forthcoming review of the STWWMP Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy. The strategy was agreed in 2007, and included a commitment to carry out a review every five years.

The Officer Project Board will consider options to review through the establishment of a small officer working group. Regular updates will be brought back to the Committee and Committee will also be consulted on the new strategy draft.

It was suggested that it is timely to look at profit margins and opportunities to generate income, for example, construction waste collection.

RESOLVED -

- (i) That the Joint Executive Committee noted the contents of the report.
- (ii) That the Joint Executive Committee agreed to receive further updates regarding progress of the 2017 review of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, as appropriate.

7 COMMUNICATIONS UPDATE

A presentation was given to the Committee on local, national and local authority waste-related stories that have been in the media.

It was reported that the European Parliament's Environment Committee has voted to amend the European Commission's Circular Economy Package. Thereby, increasing the recycling target from 65% to 70% by 2030, and establishing a 50% food waste reduction target. In addition, at least 5% of the 70% recycling target should be in preparation for re-use. However, the Deputy Director of Waste and Recycling at Defra stated that leaving the EU would provide an opportunity to drive up resource productivity in the UK, as much of the UK's resource policy has been driven by the need to meet EU waste targets. It was noted that a recent report by the Policy Exchange suggested that the EU's approach has significant shortcomings with unclear objectives and badly-designed targets. The UK's Environmental Audit Committee has called on Government to introduce a new Environmental Protection Act during Article 50 negotiations, in order to protect the UK's strong environmental standards.

Committee was advised that the On-Pack Recycling Labels company has

announced the introduction of a simplified system. Some of the words have changed on the 'recycle now swoosh' and will now also include helpful advice for recycling, such as 'cap on' or 'rinse'.

It was reported that there was a collision at the UPM Shotton paper mill in Flintshire in which a male pedestrian, later confirmed as a contract worker, was struck by a large bucket loader in a fibre recovery warehouse which was carrying out standard operations to move waste paper from the floor into the recycling lines. Unfortunately paramedics declared the person dead at the scene. The driver of the vehicle was arrested but later released without charge as the collision had not occurred on a public road and the case was handed to the Health and Safety Executive for sole investigation. Committee was reassured that the Partnership recognises the movement of vehicles on all sites as a fundamentally important aspect of the health and safety inspections that are carried out as part of the contract management role.

It was noted that Government is likely to reject proposals for a deposit return scheme on plastic bottles, despite claims that it would increase the collection rate. It was reported that 38.5 million plastic bottles are used every day in the UK, which makes up approximately 40% by volume of the litter found in the environment. The Green Party, Greenpeace and Coca-Cola have supported such a scheme, as well as a petition signed by 190,000 people. However, Defra is currently developing a new litter strategy for England in which 'single use' plastic bottles may feature.

The think tank 'Green Alliance' has stated that local authorities have an unfair share of the responsibility for reducing waste and increasing recycling. It stated that waste packaging and food waste over Christmas alone will have cost Councils £72m. It was confirmed that the research showed that local authorities spend £300m every year dealing with waste packaging, yet they have no control over how products are designed or packaged. Committee was advised that the research recommended; standardised council recycling collections, producer responsibility payments from packaging companies to Councils, allowing Councils to charge households that are not recycling. In addition a Freedom of Information Act request by Sky News found that less than 10% of councils in England considered their recycling scheme as compulsory for residents. It was noted that this meant that of the 200 councils that responded, only 12 said that they considered their recycling scheme as mandatory and imposed fines for those households not recycling. Committee was advised that no financial penalties have been imposed for households within the partnership area.

It was reported that Aberdeen City Council has recently announce changes to their kerbside waste and recycling collection services, including a reduction in the capacity of their general waste bins. However, collection will continue to be made on a fortnightly basis. Existing bins will be kept to replace the current recycling system and become mixed recycling bins, enabling a wider range of materials to be recycled than previously. It was acknowledged that these changes are linked to the opening of Aberdeen's new materials recovery facility, which is due to begin service in the Spring. It was highlighted to Committee that a key factor in the Aberdeen service changes is because there is also a separate fortnightly food waste kerbside collection service already in place.

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

8 DATE AND TIME OF FUTURE MEETINGS (TO BE AGREED)

RESOLVED - That the Joint Executive Committee agreed to the following schedule of meetings for 2017/18;

- 23 June 2017 – 1.30pm
- 22 September 2017 – 1.30pm
- 8 December 2017 – 1.30pm
- 16 March 2018 – 1.30pm



South Tyneside Council



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

23 June 2017

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 treatment 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 South Tyneside Council entered into a different contract for HWRC management with SUEZ, which commenced on 1 April 2013. The contract allows the council to manage the end outlets for the waste streams and includes regular market-testing to ensure value for money is being received. A short-term extension until 30 September 2017 has been undertaken with the current contractor, whilst a procurement exercise remains ongoing.

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 audit SUEZ monthly reports, which detail materials processed and service issues. Once approved, invoices are processed and apportioned to the partner authorities within contractual timescales.

2016/17 Contract Year

3.2 Details of the performance results for the 2016/17 contract year can be found at Appendix A.

3.3 The joint partnership team continues to discuss the 2016/17 reconciliation exercise with SUEZ and STWER. This includes reviewing the contract year tonnage data and invoices processed, with the aim of progressing this year's reconciliation in line with contract timelines.

3.4 On 14 March 2017, notification was received from Sunderland City Council that the two conditions associated with the planning consent to permit use of the emergency road at Campground Waste Transfer Station had been satisfactorily discharged.

3.5 Following the maintenance issues experienced in late 2016, the turbine was repaired in Austria and returned fully operational on 10 March 2017. However,

a subsequent fault was experienced onsite, which was attributed to a loose component in the control panel and a cable shorting to earth. Once this was rectified, the turbine was able to return to normal operations on 26 March.

- 3.6 The annual EfW major maintenance shutdown of both Lines 4 and 5 took place during February and March 2017. The shutdowns were staggered and third party waste redirected to ensure that there was no impact on the partnership's waste.
- 3.7 However, Line 4 came back online two days later than originally planned due to a delay in receiving parts from Germany. This resulted in the diversion of approximately 2,500 tonnes of STWWMP contract waste to SUEZ's EfW facility at Wilton. This demonstrated that the new contract contingency arrangements could be operated effectively and has continued to ensure that STWWMP contract waste is diverted from landfill.
- 3.8 The repair to the water tank appears to have been successful, and SUEZ worked with HZI to ensure that it was added to the latent defect agreement.
- 3.9 On 22 March, STWWMP officers attended a meeting in London with representatives from the Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs (Defra), STWER, and Willis Towers Watson insurers to discuss the joint insurance cost report associated with the STWWMP PFI contract. A revised model has been submitted and negotiations are ongoing.

2017/18 Service Update

- 3.10 Appendix A also contains the latest performance for the 2017/18 contract year, which, due to the contractual deadlines associated with the submission of monthly reports by the contractor, is for the month of April only.
- 3.11 During this contract year:
- A turbine high vibration trip on 7 April as a result of a faulty vibration sensor meant that 45 minutes of plant availability were lost. As a consequence of this, the turbine was unavailable for 4 hours, and then again on 26 April for a further 30 minutes during the replacement of the sensor.
 - 1 hour and 45 minutes were lost on 10 April due to issues experienced whilst carrying out maintenance work on the emergency diesel generator (EDG). During the replacement of the EDG control panel, a temporary loss of power was experienced which subsequently caused a trip to the main plant essential services power board.
 - 33½ hours were lost on Line 4 on 25/26 April as a consequence of a jamming issue on the bottom ash extractor chain conveyor. Work is ongoing to prevent further occurrences by ensuring that council collection crews identify large items at the waste transfer stations, so that they can be dealt with before transportation to the EfW.

Waste Transfer Stations (WTS)

- 3.12 The three WTS have been available throughout the new contract year and no specific service issues were experienced. Recycling activities are ongoing at each site, which includes segregation of materials, such as street sweepings, wood, and scrap metals.

Targeted Recruitment and Training (TR&T)

- 3.13 The RWTC also affords provision for SUEZ to help to improve local prosperity across the partnership area by promoting vacant posts within their facilities. The Economic and Housing Growth Service at Gateshead Council continues to receive information on local vacancies, which are then cascaded to partner authorities for circulation to their client base.
- 3.14 The level of local residents employed by SUEZ within the range of RWTC activities continues to remain stable. 7% of the operational posts available at the EfW and 70% of those employed at the three WTS or in the management and administration of the RWTC are residents of Gateshead, South Tyneside, or Sunderland.
- 3.15 Nationally, SUEZ has reviewed its corporate position regarding Apprenticeships and agreement has been reached within the organisation regarding key issues, such as apprentice terms and conditions and the identification suitable training providers, etc. Further discussions will now be scheduled to consider the local impact and how this can be taken forward to further support TR&T opportunities for local STWWMP residents.

Community Education and Engagement

- 3.16 STWWMP remains committed to an ongoing programme of community education and engagement, delivered by Groundwork North East and Cumbria (GNEC) in both the Visitor and Education Centre and through activities held in local schools and community settings.
- 3.17 The final community engagement results for 2016/17 have now been confirmed. Between April 2016 and March 2017, a total of 4,932 children and young people participated in events at either the Centre itself or through school outreach activities. Similarly, 680 members of local community groups and organisations have also participated in events during the same period.
- 3.18 In March, notification was received from letsrecycle.com that a submission highlighting the partnership's community education and engagement programme has been awarded four-star status in the Investors in Zero Waste recognition scheme. The scheme acknowledges the innovation and commitment of businesses, public authorities, and third sector organisations who are striving to eliminate waste. Winners will receive a certificate and plaque later in the year.
- 3.19 During April and May 2017, 224 children and young people have taken part in waste awareness activities. This included Year 6 pupils from three Gateshead primary schools (Parkhead, Winlaton West, and Blaydon West) who participated in a waste awareness session held at Sage Gateshead as part of a marine pollution and litter transition voyage project. Three separate visits to the EfW facility were also delivered to pupils from Greenside Primary School (Gateshead), Westoe Crown Primary School (South Tyneside), and Diamond Hall Primary School (Sunderland). An opportunity was also provided to the Gateshead West Transition Group to enable them to undertake a visit to the facilities at Campground, including a tour of the Household Waste and Recycling Centre and Waste Transfer Station.

3.20 The reduce, reuse, and recycle-themed bench seating for the outdoor classroom at the Visitor and Education Centre's outdoor classroom were installed in April 2017 and an official opening event was held on 11 May 2017. Children from Fell Dyke Primary School (Gateshead), Keelman's Way School (South Tyneside), and St. Mary's RC Primary School (Sunderland) took part in a range of outdoor activities including pond dipping, vegetable planting, and mini wormery making.

3.21 Supported by the Donnison Heritage and Education Centre, Groundwork continues to progress a clippie mat art project, which is linked to a range of outreach work with local schools and community groups.

WEEE Reduce, Reuse and Recycle Project

3.22 The year-long waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) project complemented the general education and engagement programme and aimed to increase WEEE reuse and recycling rates across the partnership area. Project results illustrated a 10% overall increase in WEEE recycling and a 1.6% reduction in residual waste tonnages.

3.23 Letsrecycle.com notified the partnership that a separate submission to the Investors in Zero Waste scheme, focusing on the WEEE project, also received four-star status.

3.24 Furthermore, STWWMP was also invited to address the national WEEE Conference 2017 which was held at the Cavendish Conference Centre in London on 21 June 2017. The partnership presented how the Distributer Takeback Scheme Improvement funding enabled the WEEE project to encourage residents to reduce, reuse or recycle WEEE materials.

Community Liaison Groups

3.25 The Campground Community Liaison Group met on 13 June 2017. The group were informed that the WTS continues to operate as expected. The tonnage of waste received is as forecast and all materials are either recycled or sent for recovery at the EfW, with 100% diversion from landfill in the contract year 2016/17.

3.26 The group also took the opportunity to view the outdoor classroom, including the dipping pond; reduce, reuse, and recycle benches; and plastic bottle greenhouse, and were impressed by the facilities available.

3.27 A discussion was held regarding queues at Campground HWRC. It was noted that that, at busy times, site operatives may not be able to see if residents require help so site users should always ask the 'meet and greet' operative on arrival if they require assistance.

3.28 The next meeting for the Campground Community Liaison Group was scheduled for 28 November.

3.29 The Jack Crawford House Community Liaison Group meeting was originally scheduled for 8 June 2017. However, due to the subsequent clash with the general election, the meeting was cancelled and rescheduled for Thursday 6 July 2017.

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 and safety site inspections at the various contractor facilities to ensure that recycling performance is maximised.
- 4.2 The final 2016/17 blue bin tonnage data has been confirmed and can be found at Appendix B).
- 4.3 Table A highlights the total amount of material collected by each authority between April 2016 and March 2017, broken down between the paper collected separately in the inner box and the comingled materials collected in the main section of the bin. It demonstrates that, generally, the total amount of material collected has reduced slightly in each of the three partner authorities in comparison to the previous year.
- 4.4 Table B highlights MRF recycling and recovery rates for comingled materials only during 2016/17. The identical results for Gateshead and South Tyneside are due to a trial joint exercise which sampled both authorities' materials together.
- 4.5 Recycling and recovery rates at MRFs are discussed regularly at contract meetings. Contractors continue to consider ways in which the processes can be improved to increase recycling performance, and STWWMP partner authorities also examine their own processes to help to ensure that the quality of materials received by contractors is improved.
- 4.6 Table C provides the latest blue bin information for the 2017/18 financial year (April only), once again broken down between the paper collected separately in the inner box and the comingled materials collected in the main section of the bin.
- 4.7 The current MRF contracts for all partner authorities are scheduled to end on 31 March 2018. The Officer Project Board continues to discuss the various options available. As part of this process, discussions are also taking place with the current contractors to inform option appraisal exercises.

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 year-end performance information for 2016/17 (compared to 2015/16 performance), and a separate table highlighting the latest results for 2017/18, can be found at Appendix C. However, it should be noted that because the South Tyneside HWRC contract is delivered in a different way to the Gateshead and Sunderland contract, when recycling performance for each HWRC contract

is calculated in the same way, the South Tyneside results will always be slightly lower.

- 5.3 Recycling performance at the Gateshead and Sunderland sites continues to exceed contractual targets. However, recycling levels can fluctuate as the markets for some materials are either no longer available or are not viable. For example, until recently, mattresses collected at partner authorities' HWRCs were recycled, but there is now a lack of facilities that are able to recycle such materials. SUEZ, therefore, constantly review the markets to ensure that waste hierarchy principles can be followed and waste is diverted from landfill.
- 5.4 South Tyneside has negotiated a short-term HWRC contract extension until 30 September with the current contractor, SUEZ. A procurement exercise for a new Recycling Village contract from 1 October 2017 remains ongoing, with an end date that will be co-terminus with the Gateshead and Sunderland contract extensions. This will enable a joint approach between all three partner authorities to be considered for a new contact commencing on 1 April 2020.
- 5.5 The joint partnership team and colleagues from the partner authorities continue to consider how efficiencies and/or savings can be delivered through HWRC service provision. This includes reviewing: the permit system for vans and trailers; opening times; and the potential introduction of charges for construction and demolition-type materials brought to sites. However, the recently-published Litter Strategy for England states that DIY waste resulting from 'work that a householder would normally carry out' should be classed as household waste and, therefore, cannot be subject to charges at HWRCs.

6. **GREEN WASTE COMPOSTING CONTRACTS**

- 6.1 The joint partnership team provide all aspects of contract management for the Gateshead and Sunderland contracts, with officers from South Tyneside Council directly managing their contract. This includes processing payments, regular contract meetings, and health and safety site inspections at the various facilities.
- 6.2 Contract meetings and site inspections have recently taken place at facilities provided under the Gateshead and Sunderland contracts. This included auditing both contracts' composting facilities, which are located on farms at Chopwell in Gateshead and near Hexham in Northumberland.
- 6.3 Colleagues from South Tyneside Council have indicated that there are no significant service issues with their green waste composting contract.

7. **RECOMMENDATION**

7.1 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 7478

RESIDUAL WASTE TREATMENT CONTRACT

2016/17 year-end performance

| | |
|---|--|
| Total contract waste | 198,492.65 tonnes |
| Contract waste delivered to WTS: - Campground - Middlefields - Jack Crawford House | Gateshead 58,618.03 tonnes Sunderland 17,461.86 tonnes South Tyneside 72.24 tonnes South Tyneside 48,663.97 tonnes Sunderland 73,676.55 tonnes |
| Total contract waste delivered to EfW | 189,516.76 tonnes |
| Overall EfW availability | 90.7% |
| Average turbine availability | 44.7% |
| Electricity generation | 94,156 MWh |
| Recycling performance | Target 2.1% Performance 4.1% |
| Recovery performance | Target 95.5% Performance 95.9% |
| Unprocessed landfill diversion rate | 100% |
| Health and safety: - RIDDOR - Injuries and accidents - Near misses - Property damage - Fires | 1 12 108 42 2 |

2017/18 latest performance: April 2017 only

| | |
|---|--|
| Total contract waste | 14,635.60 tonnes |
| Contract waste delivered to WTS: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Campground - Middlefields - Jack Crawford House | Gateshead 4,743.79 tonnes Sunderland 1,87.39 tonnes South Tyneside 3,963.42 tonnes Sunderland 4,741.00 tonnes |
| Total contract waste delivered to EfW | 13,904.50 tonnes |
| Overall EfW availability | 97.3% |
| Average turbine availability | 99.1% |
| Electricity generation | 16,674 MWh |
| Recycling performance | Target 2.1% Performance 3.9% |
| Recovery performance | Target 95.5% Performance 96.1% |
| Unprocessed landfill diversion rate | 100% |
| Health and safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - RIDDOR - Injuries and accidents - Near misses - Property damage - Fires | 0 1 5 2 0 |

MATERIAL RECOVERY FACILITY CONTRACTS

Table A: 2016/17 blue bin tonnage data: year-end performance

| | Gateshead | South Tyneside | Sunderland |
|--|----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Comingled tonnage | 12,808 | 10,114 | 15,552 |
| Paper tonnage | 2,929 | 1,863 | 3,246 |
| Total tonnage | 15,737 | 11,978 | 18,798 |
| <i>Comparison to 2015/16 - all materials</i> | <i>3.2% decrease</i> | <i>2.0% decrease</i> | <i>2.8% decrease</i> |
| <i>Comparison to 2015/16 - paper</i> | <i>7.3% decrease</i> | <i>26.7% increase</i> | <i>16.8% decrease</i> |
| <i>Comparison to 2015/16 - comingled</i> | <i>2.2% decrease</i> | <i>5.9% decrease</i> | <i>0.7% increase</i> |

Table B: 2016/17 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% |

Table C: 2017/18 latest blue bin tonnage data: April 2017 only

| | Gateshead | South Tyneside | Sunderland |
|---|-----------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| Comingled tonnage | 974 | 765 | 1,290 |
| Paper tonnage | 205 | 125 | 195 |
| Total tonnage | 1,179 | 890 | 1,484 |
| <i>Comparison to April 2016 - all materials</i> | <i>7.6% decrease</i> | <i>9.9% decrease</i> | <i>4.0% decrease</i> |
| <i>Comparison to April 2016 - paper</i> | <i>17.1% decrease</i> | <i>6.4% decrease</i> | <i>31.8% decrease</i> |
| <i>Comparison to April 2016 - comingled</i> | <i>5.3% decrease</i> | <i>10.4% decrease</i> | <i>2.3% increase</i> |

NB. Comparison between April 2017 and April 2016 based on an unequal number of collection days

HOUSEHOLD WASTE AND RECYCLING CENTRE CONTRACTS

Year-end recycling performance comparison (excluding inert materials, such as rubble):

| HWRC | 2015/16 | 2016/17 |
|----------------------------------|----------------|----------------|
| Campground | 66.89%* | 65.57% |
| Cowen Road | 62.72%* | 63.29% |
| Beach Street | 66.71%* | 65.85% |
| Middlefields (Recycling Village) | 49.7% | 51.00% |

* Following final reconciliation exercise

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

| HWRC | April 2017 only |
|----------------------------------|------------------------|
| Campground | 62.73% |
| Cowen Road | 63.85% |
| Beach Street | 63.70% |
| Middlefields (Recycling Village) | 53.00% |



South Tyneside Council



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

23 June 2017

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

SUBJECT: STWWMP Joint Partnership Team

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To provide the Joint Executive Committee with an update following the establishment of the joint partnership team to deliver strategic waste activities on behalf of STWWMP partner authorities.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 In 2008, a core joint STWWMP team was established to support the procurement of a residual waste treatment solution for the partner authorities. Once the preferred solution had been identified, the Joint Executive Committee agreed to the establishment of a dedicated partnership team of specialists to oversee the construction phase of the 'project'.
- 2.2 To support the residual waste treatment contract (RWTC) service commencement in 2014, officers from South Tyneside and Sunderland were seconded into the joint partnership team at Gateshead Council to support the further development of joint working between authorities in relation to waste management and, in particular, the day-to-day contract management of the RWTC. This also enabled the STWWMP team to take on all Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) functions on behalf of the partner authorities.
- 2.3 Since then, its role and remit has continued to extend, and the team is now responsible for a number of roles for the partner authorities, including: leading joint procurement exercises for ancillary waste treatment contracts; delivering day-to-day contract management functions of a range of ancillary waste treatment contracts; supporting

the development and implementation of policy and strategy; and supporting the development of new ways of working, such as the introduction of joint communication activities.

- 2.4 The establishment of the joint partnership team has enabled expertise from each of the partner authorities to be pooled. This has led to best practice being shared between authorities and harmonisation in the delivery of 'back office' functions, such as waste data reporting requirements to government.

3. TEAM STRUCTURE

- 3.1 Prior to RWTC service commencement, the project director was supported by a contract manager who led a joint partnership team consisting of eight staff, including:
- two officers seconded from Sunderland City Council;
 - one officer seconded from South Tyneside Council; and
 - one officer seconded from Gateshead Council.
- 3.2 At RWTC service commencement in April 2014, the dedicated Communications Officer role was removed, therefore reducing the number of partnership staff by 11%, to a total of eight.
- 3.3 During 2015, staff levels reduced by a further 12½% following the retirement of the Contract Manager. This resulted in the restructure of the management roles in order to ensure certain PFI contractual requirements could still be delivered within the remaining seven posts, which now reported directly to the STWWMP project director.

4. UPDATE

- 4.1 The joint partnership team's structure remains under regular review to ensure that it remains fit-for-purpose and able to deliver all aspects of the WDA functions and associated contract management responsibilities. However, in the ongoing challenging financial environment, it is also necessary to continue to consider how the joint partnership team can support the delivery of further efficiencies to partner authorities.
- 4.2 However, from 1st April 2017, the total number of joint partnership team staff reduced to six officers (see Appendix A). Therefore, since the completion of the EfW construction phase in 2014, the joint partnership team has reduced in size by 33%, yet continues to provide effective WDA and waste contract management functions on behalf of the partner authorities. These reductions are, therefore, in line with the challenging efficiency targets and savings that are also being implemented across the partner authorities and public sector in general.

- 4.3 Restructures of the joint partnership team have also enabled financial savings to be realised. However, to ensure that a fair and accurate comparison between the team costs prior to RWTC service commencement and the most recent restructure of the team (i.e. to prevent distortion by inflation, incremental advances, or pay awards), the joint partnership team cost comparisons have been calculated for staff in post at each time using their salary points at 2017/18 salary scale levels.
- 4.4 Therefore, including oncosts (National Insurance and superannuation contributions), the comparative costs for the joint partnership team since the energy-from-waste construction phase are:

| 2013/14 staff | 2017/18 staff | Difference |
|----------------------|----------------------|-------------------|
| £469,142 | £305,974 | -£163,168 |

5. RECOMMENDATION

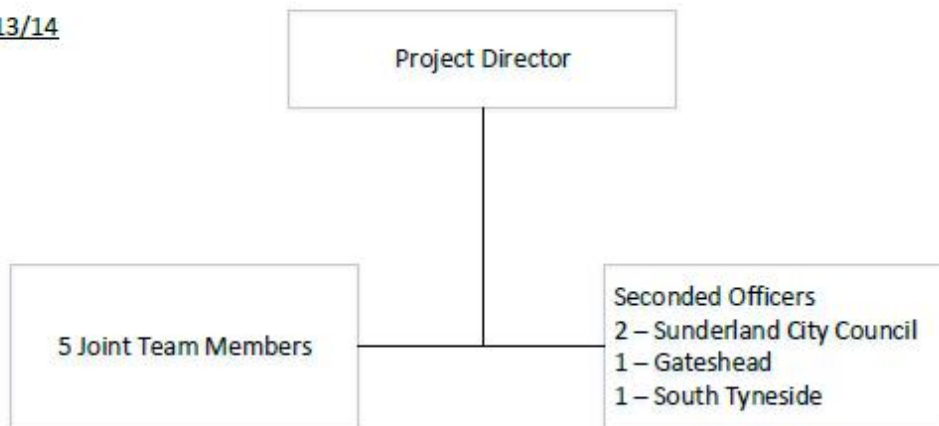
- 5.1 The Joint Executive Committee is requested to:
- i) Note the contents of this report, in particular the role of the joint partnership team and the reduction in staffing levels since 2014.

Contacts:

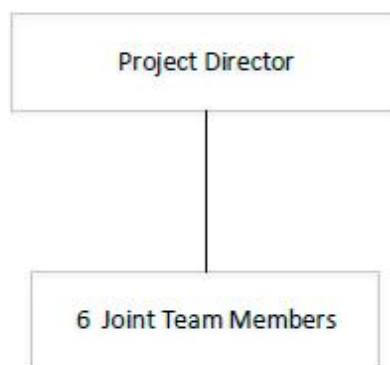
Chris Wilson, Contract Manager (Policy), STWWMP

Tel: 433 7478

2013/14



2017/18



Saving £163,168