

**North West Region Waste Management Group Joint Committee
Wednesday 4th April 2012
Coleraine District Council**

Present:

Ballymoney Borough Council

Councillor Evelyne Robinson
Alderman Cecil Cousley

Coleraine Borough Council

Councillor William King
Jonathan Wilson

Derry City Council

John Kelpie
Conor Canning

Limavady Borough Council

Alderman Michael Coyle
Councillor Jack Rankin
Noel Crawford

Magherafelt District Council

Andrew Cassells

Moyle District Council

Councillor Robert McIlroy
Aidan McPeake

DoE

Oonagh Warke

NWRWMG

Eamon Molloy
Jonathan Gray
Keith Swerdlick
Joanne Curran

Item 1 - Apologies

The following apologies were recorded:

Councillor Michael Cooper
Councillor Kieran McGuire
Councillor Jay McCauley
Councillor Sean McPeake
Councillor William McCandless
Councillor Kate Lagan
Councillor Shaun Gallagher
Councillor Catherine McCambridge
Danny McSorley

John Dempsey
Roger Wilson
Liam Flanigan
John McLaughlin
Richard Lewis
John Michael
Malcolm Scott
Kieran Doherty
Alan McVicker

Sharon O'Connor

Item 2 - Minutes

The Chair reviewed the previous minutes with the Committee on a page-by-page basis.

The minutes of the meeting of the 7th March 2012 were:

PROPOSED by Councillor W King and **SECONDED** by Alderman M Coyle

Item 3 - Matter Arising

There being no matters arising the Chair moved to the next item of business.

Item 4 - Election of Audit Committee

The Development Officer referred Members to the paper on this matter and reminded the meeting of the agreement to set up a Risk and Audit Committee in line with the recommendation of the NIAO report for the year ended 31st March 2011. He gave a brief summary of the core functions and advised members that the audit committee should be independent and objective and that each member should have a good understanding of the objectives and priorities of the organisation.

He added that the Risk and Audit Committee would be elected at the AGM in June each year but to ensure good governance the Committee should elect now and again in June.

The Chair asked for clarification on any exclusions, the Development Officer informed the meeting that as per the Memorandum of Understanding the only stipulation is that the Chair of the Audit Committee should not be from the same Council as the Chair of the Joint Committee.

Alderman Coyle suggested that there while there should be representative coverage he felt that four members would be sufficient.

The Chair then asked for the nominations.

Alderman Michael Coyle was **Proposed** by Councillor J Rankin **Seconded** by Councillor R McIlroy

Councillor Robert McIlroy was **Proposed by Alderman C Cousley** **Seconded by Councillor W King**

Councillor W King **Proposed by Councillor Jack Rankin** **Seconded by Alderman C Cousley**

Councillor Sean Gallagher **Proposed by Councillor W King** **Seconded by Councillor E Robinson**

The Chair thanked Members for the nominations and the Development Officer stated that he would proceed to arrange a date for the first meeting of the Risk and Audit Committee.

Item 5 - Project Update Report - Confidential

The Development Officer updated the meeting on the current status of the project. He informed the group that until the outcome of the NIROCs Consultation was known that he was unable to move the process forward. He added that at present the best estimate for a conclusion in this matter was the end of June 2012

Mr Gray told the members that there was a need for an analysis of the 2020 Residual Waste infrastructure Requirements in Northern Ireland, because of the change of the definition of Municipal Waste. He told members that he is in the process of gathering data for growth projections and that the study is near completion. This will then be submitted to the Department for further scrutiny.

Oonagh Warke told members that from the Departments prospective, the programme is on track and the NW project is an integral part of achieving compliance.

Item 6 - Regional Landfill Cam Road - Confidential

The Development Officer gave members an update on the recent letter sent by B Mullan and Sons regarding Cam Landfill Facilities. He informed the meeting that he has had various meetings with B Mullan and Sons over the last 2 years and that legal advice had been sought throughout. In all of these meetings Mullans had been informed of the reduction in waste, the implications of the infrastructure project and the need for the Group to utilise Craighulliar landfill site, therefore the prospect of the Group putting waste to Cam Road was minimal at best.

He explained to members that after seeking further legal advice the group has responded to B Mullan and Sons and he referred to the attached letter is for member's information. The group had a discussion regarding this matter and the Development Officers undertook to keep Members informed of any further developments.

Item 7 - Review of Governance

The Development Officer reminded members of the discussion at the last meeting regarding the outcome of the NIAO report. It was agreed to undertake a review of the governance arrangements for the Joint Committee to ensure that they remain fit for purpose.

The Development Officer advised that as agreed instructions have been given to Belfast Legal Services in this matter. The Development Officer will keep Members apprised of developments.

The Development Officer continued that in addition to the above a service level agreement will be put in place with Derry City Council for the various services it supplies to the Group as Lead Council. Again this is considered by audit to be good practice.

Item 8 - Annual Report (Draft) for adoption

The Development Officer stated that at the last meeting there was some confusion regarding the Annual Report as not all members appeared to have received it. He stated that he had checked this matter out and that the report had been emailed to the Committee. A hard copy had been sent with the papers for consideration by the meeting.

The adoption of the report was **Proposed by** Alderman M Coyle **Seconded by** Councillor J Rankin

Mr Gray informed members that as in the previous year the Annual Report had been prepared in-house and therefore no additional cost had been incurred in its production.

The Chair recorded the Committee's thanks for the report.

Item 9 - AOB

The Development Officer stated that the members are aware of the writ issued regarding the Mixed Dry Recyclables Contract and that the group has asked RecyCo,

the preferred bidder to provide information to enable the Group to make a decision in this matter. He informed the Group that he is still awaiting the outstanding response to his correspondence and that on legal advice has issued RecyCo with a deadline of 4th April 2012 at 5.00pm (today).

The Development Officer said that in the interim Glassdon Recycling had been offered an extension on a rolling month to month basis as agreed at the previous meeting. He added that unfortunately he was unable to give a definitive answer as to how long it might take to resolve this matter.

A lengthy discussion ensued and it was decided that a tender should be prepared and if necessary issued for an interim period until this matter is fully resolved.

This was **PROPOSED** by Alderman M Coyle and **SECONDED** by Councillor R McIlroy

The Development Officer informed members that the date in the next meeting is the 2nd May 2012 in Ballymoney Borough Council offices.

There being no further business the Chair thanked members for their attendance and closed the meeting.

The meeting terminated at 2.30pm

Signed by: Evelyn Robinson
Cllr Evelyn Robinson
Chair