

**North West Region Waste Management Group Joint Committee**  
**Wednesday 5<sup>th</sup> October 2011**  
**Derry City Council Offices**

**Present:**

**Ballymoney Borough Council**

Alderman Cecil Cousley  
Mr Nigel McKeown

**Coleraine Borough Council**

Councillor William King  
Mr Jonathan Wilson

**Derry City Council**

Councillor Shaun Gallagher  
Councillor Michael Cooper  
Mr John Meehan  
Mr Conor Canning

**Limavady Borough Council**

Alderman Jack Rankin  
Alderman Michael Coyle (In the Chair)  
Mr Liam Flanigan  
Mr Noel Crawford

**Magherafelt District Council**

Councillor Kate Lagan  
Mr Andrew Cassells

**Moyle District Council**

Councillor Robert McIlroy  
Mr Aidan McPeake

**Strabane District Council**

Councillor Kieran McGuire  
Councillor Jay McCauley  
Mr Malcolm Scott

**DOE**

Miss Oonagh Warke

**NWRWVG**

Mr Eamon Molloy  
Mr Jonathan Gray  
Miss Joanne Curran

**Item 1 - Apologies**

The following apologies were recorded:

Councillor Evelyne Robinson  
Councillor Catherine McCambridge  
Councillor Sean McPeake  
Councillor W McCandless  
Mr Danny McSorley  
Mr John McLaughlin  
Mr Roger Wilson

Mr Richard Lewis  
Mr John Michael  
Mr John Dempsey  
Mr John Kelpie  
Mr Kieran Doherty

## **Item 2 - Minutes**

The Chair reviewed the previous minutes with the Committee on a page-by-page basis. The Development Officer noted that Mr Wilson's attendance had not been recorded in the minutes. This change was made.

The minutes of the meeting of the 6<sup>th</sup> July 2011 were:

**PROPOSED** by Councillor J Rankin **and SECONDED** by Councillor R McIlroy

## **Item 3 - Matter Arising**

The Development Officer informed the meeting that at the meeting of the Waste Programme Board that took place the 29<sup>th</sup> September 2011 the paper on the economic appraisal of the Efficient Delivery of Northern Ireland's Waste Management Services was discussed. He informed the meeting that he had outlined the Committee's position and that this had remained unchanged from previous submissions and correspondence to the Minister. The minister outlined his view that it was incumbent on him to examine any possibilities that might result in cost savings and he has asked officers to submit a written response. The Development Officer informed the Minister that the paper had not been formally issued with a request for a response and had suggested the need to for the department to write to regularise this position. The group will wait for a formal letter and then respond accordingly.

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

## **Item 4 - Update on the Waste Infrastructure Project - Confidential**

The Development Officer updated members on the progress of the Waste Infrastructure Project. He stated that the financial evaluation is proving complex and as the process had resulted in a single bidder, evaluating the supply chain was an added requirement that had lengthened the timeframe.

He stated that a clarification meeting had been held with the bidder and that clarification and supplemental information had been requested to assist in the completion of the evaluation.

The Development Officer said that the process remains on line for a recommendation to be presented in late November.

### **Item 5 - Proposed Workshops for Council Members**

The Development Officer referred to the previous meeting of the Joint Committee and the suggestion of holding one or more workshops, he recommended that the proposed workshop for members take place on Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> October in Limavady Borough Council at 11am.

He stated that the workshop would be open to all elected members of Council and would be used to further inform members of the work of the Group and the progress of the waste infrastructural project.

Councillor Gallagher suggested an earlier start to accommodate members who might have afternoon meetings.

The Chair then suggested a 10.00am start, this was agreed. The Development Officer stated that he would issue a note on this matter to member Councils and added that if any Council required a presentation Chief Executives should let him know.

### **Item 6- A.O.B.**

The Development Officer said that the issue of the fly tipping protocol was raised at the Waste Programme Board on behalf of councils. Representatives were informed that the matter had now gone through the assembly. It was pointed out that each Council had submitted a response to the department's consultation and without exception had stated their opposition to the quantum contained in the consultation documents. Councils felt that their position had been ignored. The outcome of this discussion was that department officials were to look into this and see what can be done. The development Officer undertook to keep members informed of developments in this matter.

The Development Officer referred to a meeting that had taken place at Glassdon Recycling which officers had attended to discuss contamination. He reported that the operator had stated that the materials supplied by the Councils of the Group were rated highly by his processors. He indicated that materials contained contaminants and that as always there was a job to do in making sure that this was minimised. The Development Officer informed the meeting that the next "push" appeared to be to inform the public what they can't put into their blue bins as this seems to be the problem area.

Various members contributed and there was a consensus that education and awareness will play a key role in councils' ability to increase current recycling rates.

The Project Manager pointed out that in other countries, what was regarded as recycling is considerably different from Northern Ireland and the UK. He said that with our project and harmonised definitions of recycling, the councils could be reaching 50% recycling and that we had headroom to get to 60%. He said that the rate of recycling cannot be equal across every city and district as there are physical limitations i.e. suburban areas can much more easily achieve higher recycling rates than remote rural areas or dense urban areas with social deprivation and multiple occupancy housing.

Councillor Sean Gallagher stated that the right messages had to get out to the public regarding recycling and not to forget we are many years behind Europe. We also need a market to sell recyclables.

The Chair stated that the people need to be educated more as to what's acceptable for recycling as all council areas are different and people get mixed up. A clearer message needs to get out.

The Development Officer gave an update on the proposed site visit. He said that four councils have confirmed participation and as soon as all have confirmed arrangements will be made for the first or second week of November. The Development Officer added that dates were dependent on the ability of the plant operators to accommodate a visit by a large party.

The Development Officer stated that he had spoken with the Chair who had suggested that a letter should be written to the Minister regarding the reinstatement of the SWIF funding in light of the media reports of under spend in some government departments.

Miss Warke assured the meeting that the issue of funding is on the Department agenda and remains so.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor S Gallagher and **SECONDED** by Robert McIlroy that a letter should be sent to the Minister.

The Development Officer advised that the technical team needed to make a site visit as a result of an additional equipment provider being named in the final tender.

It was **PROPOSED** by Councillor S Gallagher and **SECONDED** by Robert McIlroy that the visit should proceed.

**There being no further business the meeting terminated at 2.35pm**

Signed:

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Evelyne Robinson". The signature is written in a cursive style and is positioned above a solid horizontal line.

Cllr Evelyne Robinson  
Chair