

JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD

NOTICE OF MEETING

25 JUNE 2008

TO: ALL MEMBERS OF THE JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD

You are invited to attend a meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board on **25 June 2008 at 7.00 pm** at Wokingham Borough Council. An agenda for the meeting is set out overleaf.

Mark Moon
Project Director

Members of the Joint Waste Disposal Board

Bracknell Forest Borough Council:	Councillor Mrs M Ballin Councillor Mrs D Hayes
Reading Borough Council:	Councillor R Duveen Councillor P Glittings
Wokingham Borough Council:	Councillor R Stanton Councillor S Weeks

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JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD
25 June 2008 (7.00 pm)
Wokingham Borough Council.

AGENDA

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|---|----------------|
| 1. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE | |
| 2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST | |
| <p>Members are required to declare any personal or prejudicial interests and the nature of that interest, in respect of any matter to be considered at this meeting.</p> | |
| 3. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD - 19 MARCH 2008 | 1 - 4 |
| <p>To receive the minutes of the Joint Waste Disposal Board held on 19 March 2008.</p> | |
| 4. URGENT ITEMS OF BUSINESS | |
| <p>To notify the Board of any items authorised by the Chairman on the grounds of urgency.</p> | |
| 5. PRESENTATION BY ANDREW WOOLCOCK, GENERAL MANAGER, RE3 LTD | |
| 6. ENGINEERING PROCUREMENT CONSTRUCTION (EPC) AND PLANNING - MONTHLY REPORT 18 MAY 2008 | 5 - 16 |
| <p>(Project Director)</p> | |
| 7. EXCLUSION OF PUBLIC AND PRESS | |
| <p>To consider the following motion:</p> <p>That pursuant to Regulation 21 of the Local Authorities (Executive Arrangements) (Access to Information) Regulations 2000 and having regard to the public interest, members of the public and press be excluded from the meeting for the consideration of item 8 which involves the likely disclosure of exempt information under the following category of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972:</p> <p>(3) Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person.</p> | |
| 8. JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD PROGRESS REPORT - JUNE 2008 | 17 - 30 |
| <p>(Project Director)</p> | |
| 9. JOINT WASTE AUTHORITIES' REPORT | 31 - 34 |
| <p>(Project Director)</p> | |

10. FOOD WASTE REPORT	35 - 38
(Project Director)	
11. BUSINESS RESOURCE EFFICIENCY AND WASTE	39 - 42
(Project Director)	

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Agenda Item 3

**JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD
19 MARCH 2008
(6.00 - 7.45 pm)**

Present: Bracknell Forest Borough Council
Councillors Mrs Ballin and Mrs Hayes

Steve Loudoun, Chief Environment and Public Protection Officer
Janet Dowlman, Waste and Recycling Manager

Present: Reading Borough Council
Councillors Mrs Tickner and Waite

Peter Butler, Street Care Manager
Oliver Burt, Re3 Project Manager

Present: Wokingham Borough Council
Councillors Stanton (Chairman) and Weeks

Mark Moon, Re3 Project Director
Pete Baveystock, Waste and Recycling Manager
Graham Hunt, Street Care Manager

19. Declarations of Interest

There were no declarations of interest.

20. Minutes of the Meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board - 12 December 2007

The minutes of the meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board held on 12 December 2007 were accepted by the Board and signed by the Chairman.

It was noted that the Re3 partnership was 10 years old and the Chairman wished to thank all of those who had been involved during that time.

It was also noted that this was Councillor Waite's last meeting and on behalf of the Board the Chairman thanked him for his contribution and wished him well for the future.

21. Urgent Items of Business

There were no urgent items.

22. Presentation by Project Director

The Project Director gave a presentation to the Board in recognition of the work of the Re3 partnership over the past 10 years. In particular the Board noted:

- (i) the partnership was made out of a shared problem where the landfill infrastructure was not sustainable following the local government reorganisation in 1998;
- (ii) the Re3 partnership was formed in 1999 with the contract being signed in 2006. Drivers for the partnership were the increasing cost of waste treatment and collection, landfill tax escalator, costs of maintaining and increasing

- performance to achieve recycling and landfill diversion targets, increasing population and increasing awareness about the global environment; and
- (iii) the successes from the partnership had been Smallmead, Longshot Lane and Lakeside Energy from Waste.

23. Progress Report and Financial Update

The Board considered a report which provided an update on project activities since the last meeting on 12 December. The Project Director highlighted the following:

- (i) the Household Waste Recycling Centre at Island Road in Reading had opened on 11 January 2008, 2 months ahead of schedule;
- (ii) construction of Phase 2 at Smallmead was progressing well with the majority of the Material Reclamation Facility building now in place;
- (iii) construction at Longshot Lane was due to commence on 31 March 2008; and
- (iv) the latest projection for 2007/08 indicated a total overspend of just £16,437.

RESOLVED that progress made since the last meeting on 12 December 2007 be noted.

24. Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) Planning and Licensing Report

The Project Director updated the Board on the progress of the Engineering Procurement Construction (EPC) and Planning since the last meeting of the Board on 12 December 2007:

- (i) work at Longshot Lane was due to commence on 7 April 2008 with the first phase (Transfer Station) finishing around the end of 2008 and the second phase finishing in June 2009.
- (ii) representatives of Prudential were satisfied with the removal of the encroaching earthworks at the flood relief channel alongside the Smallmead development.

RESOLVED that Members noted progress made in the areas of the EPC Contract and planning since the last meeting on 12 December 2007.

25. Draft Waste Strategy and Action Plan

The Board considered a report recommending the endorsement of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for the three Re3 councils. The purpose of the document was to plot a course to achieve statutory targets and the financial and environmental objectives of the PFI contract. The accompanying Action Plan has been written to reflect the direction in the Government's Waste Strategy 2007 and identifies the Council's objectives and steps to be taken to achieve them.

Following discussion by Members it was

RESOLVED that, taking into account any amendments, the current version of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy including the Action Plan be endorsed and recommended to the individual Councils for formal adoption.

26. Schedule of Meetings

The Board considered a report proposing a schedule of meetings for the municipal year 2008/09.

RESOLVED that meetings of the Joint Waste Disposal Board be held at 6.00pm on the following dates:

- Wednesday 18 June 2008
- Wednesday 17 September 2008 (Annual Meeting)
- Wednesday 17 December 2008
- Wednesday 18 March 2009

CHAIRMAN

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**TO: JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD
25 JUNE 2008**

EPC, PLANNING AND LICENSING REPORT (Report by the Project Director)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Joint Waste Disposal Board of progress since the last meeting of the Board on 19 March 2008.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That Members note progress made in the areas of the EPC Contract and Planning since the last meeting on 19 March 2008.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

- 3.1 The Joint Waste PFI Contract was signed with WRG on 31 October 2006. After a short mobilisation period, the service commenced on 4 December 2006.
- 3.2 The Monthly EPC Progress Report for the period up to the end of May is appended to this report for information.

EPC and Planning

EPC

- 3.3 The EPC Contract, for the design and construction of the Key Project Facilities, is being undertaken via a joint venture (JV) between Earthtech and Clugston.
- 3.4 Phase 2 at Smallmead is well underway. The MRF (Material Reclamation Facility) building and office block/education centre have been constructed. Cladding and brickwork are complete and heating, plumbing and electrical works are underway.
- 3.5 Inside the MRF building, the MRF itself is being put together. Commissioning is currently expected to begin in early August - two weeks late against the engineers own 'stretched' timetable. This is currently about 6-8 weeks ahead of the contractual timetable.
- 3.6 Construction at Longshot Lane is also progressing slightly ahead of schedule at present.
- 3.7 The main hurdle facing the engineers, contractor and councils has been in relation to a replacement drainage system for the site. All parties, including Thames Water and the EA, are now nearing an agreeable solution.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

EPC Progress Reports (appended)

CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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Central Berkshire Waste PFI Project EPC Contract



MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT

Report No. 18 – Progress to 31 May 2008

Client:



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Attachments

- Milestone application forecast

- Project programme

SUMMARY

Works are progressing in line with the contract programme for the Smallmead Phase 1A area and the Phase 2 area of site.

All Civil works within the building footprint up to grid line 19 are complete. The area grid lines 16-19 have now been handed over to OKLM on the 2.4.08 who have commenced works with delivery /installation of the MRF Plant, other trades within the building are Tyco and MTL.

The office block Brickwork/Cladding is now complete with exception to snagging works, works are progressing with M&E, Screeding, window/curtain walling installation, fire protection and finishes.

The external weighbridges have been handed over to RE3 with only some minor snagging items remaining.

External infrastructure and hard standing areas are almost complete and works are progressing with the preparation of the main car park for surfacing and associated footways and paved areas.

Longshot

Demolition works are now complete and reduced level excavation works ongoing, civils works are progressing in line with the programme for the office Block/ Transfer Station.

Erection of the structural frame to the office block is to commence on the 4th June 2008.

1 HEALTH SAFETY & ENVIRONMENTAL

There have been no reportable accidents in the period.

ACCIDENT and INCIDENT RECORD	In Period	To date
Reportable	0	0
Non reportable	0	3
Near Misses	5	209

Total Site Man Hours to date without a Lost Time Accident (LTA) **158,603**
No dangerous occurrences in the period.

A lifting incident occurred on the 27 May 2008, which is currently under review.

2 DESIGN

2.1 Smallmead

This period has seen the continuation of the phase 2 civil works.

Overall progress is summarised below

- Design of the office electrical layouts has now been completed.
- Detailed design of the office Heating and Ventilation system has now been completed.
- Detailed design of the office fire detection and protection systems have been completed.
- Detailed design of the office/visitors centre has continued.
- Design of the external works to the office block has been completed. Samples of the proposed paving are to be submitted and agreed RE3.

MRF – Key summary

Installation of the plant is progressing with the majority of the components having been delivered to site. Site electrical installation work to the MRF equipment to commence in June.

Subcontract progress meetings with OKLM/Re3 continue to be held on a monthly basis. A SCADA review with Re3 was held at the manufacturers offices (RMR) in the period

Longshot

Longshot construction works has got off to a good start, civils works are complete to the office block to take the erection of the structural frame. The transfer gas membrane works are complete and works are progressing to programme for the floor slab and pushwalls.

Overall progress is summarised below:

- Detailed design of the office cladding has been completed.
- Office architectural details including the window/door schedules have been completed.
- Detailed design of the office masonry details is nearing completion
- Preliminary design of the office H&V system has been carried out.
- The detailed design of the MRF/Bulking Bay primary steelwork has been completed.
- Detailed design proposals for the site drainage and attenuation system have now been submitted to RE3 for comments.
- Details of the proposed weighbridge system have been submitted to RE3 for comments.

3 CONSTRUCTION, PROCUREMENT - COMMISSIONING AND OPERATION

3.1 Construction

Phase 1 Main Site - All works in line with the Phase 1 contracted works have been completed, certified and handed over to Re3 Limited to enable WRGB to operate from the 11th January 2008.

Phase 1A area – The main section of the building envelope to grid line 19 is complete with exception to final cladding trims above the office block area.

Works within the building are progressing with The MRF plant installation, fire suppression system and E & I works installation in line with the programme.

Phase 2 – The office block envelope is now weathertight with exception to the lobby area. Works are well underway with the Screeding, Render and Stud work partitions. The plant room flooring and distribution panels are now in place.

Cables have been routed through to the new kiosk position ready for SSE to make the main line connection.

Weighbridges are now handed over to RE3.

3.2 Matters materially affecting the Works

Nothing to report in the period

3.3 Procurement

The following subcontractors have been appointed (works value below £250,000)

Sheet Piling - Stent
Fencing works- Bentley Fencing
Gas Membrane Works – Prestige Air
Pile Cropping Works - Conder Projects
Lightning Protection – Protectis
Mega doors – Crawford doors
Ventilation Roof Fans – Beatsons
Weighbridges – Central weighing
Bliss Brickwork - Brickwork Envelope
HWRC MCC panel – Safronics
Dust Control system – Mist- air Environmental
AMS No Dig – HDD Drilling to bridge
Tarmac Surfacing – Spade oaks
Welfare fit out
Fire protection – CLN
Attenborough Doors – Roller shutters to bulk bays
Landscaping – Grace Landscapes

Signage – Masson Sealy
Armco Barriers – Berry systems
Sealants/Mastic pointing – Construction sealants

The following subcontractors have been appointed and approved (works value over £250,000)

Bulk Earthworks - Killoughery
Pre- cast Concrete Piling – Stent
Structural Steel – SCWS
Civil Concrete works- Brenco Ltd
Cladding – Weatherwise
Fire Protection & Detection – Tyco
Electrical Installation – MTL 2000 ltd

All subcontractors now placed for completion of Phase 1 Works, Subcontract elements will become in play again once office block is fully designed for phase 2 works.

3.4 **Commissioning and Operation**

Works have been completed for the installation of the external permanent weighbridge's with training planned for the 2 June 2008.

4 **COMMERCIAL**

Application for the Longshot office retaining wall was made in the period.

QUALITY ASSURANCE

O & M Manuals (for Phase1 at Smallmead) have been put forward complete, and issued in CD format

Quality inspections will continue within the PH1A / PH2 areas as works progress in line with the EPC contractor's procedures.

5 **OUTSTANDING ISSUES AND ACTIONS**

Nothing to report

6 **KEY ACTIVITIES IN FORTHCOMING PERIOD**

Smallmead- Commencement of finishing trades to the office building, 2nd fix electrical works and Mechanical heating and plumbing works.

Longshot – Structural frame completion to the office block and commencement of cladding works.

Civils works to the transfer station and bulkbay foundations.

7 THIRD PARTY / PUBLIC INTERFACES / COMMUNITY LIAISON

Third party services covered elsewhere in the report

Forecast Milestone Application dates

Smallmead

Nr	Milestone	Date
18	Road Drainage highway connection – foul drainage connection to island road	Apr 08
19	MCC Room building – Completion of building for MRF MCC panels	Jul 08
20	MRF Equipment delivery – Delivery of Mechanical equipment to site for installation to MRF plant	Jul 08
21	Weighbridge - Completion of mechanical installation of weighbridge equipment	Aug 08

Longshot

Nr	Milestone	Date
4	Office retaining wall – completion of retaining wall	May 08
5	Bulking bays concreted – completion of concrete works to bulking bays	Jun 08
6	M&E to transfer station - commencement of M&E installation works to the transfer building	Jul 08
7	Ph 1 overlay to concrete paving – completion of overlay works to the area occupied by phase 1 of the works	Aug 08

Summary Programme – as attached

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TO: **JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD**
25 JUNE 2008

JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD – JOINT WASTE AUTHORITIES **(Report by the Project Director)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The Department for Communities and Local Government's Strategic Partnering Taskforce's final report, published in 2004, described strategic partnerships as one of the main service delivery options available to local authorities in their quest for efficient and effective high quality services.
- 1.2 In 2006, a group of excellent-rated councils that had been set up to look at the barriers and potential solutions to joint working between local authorities, published their findings. Their key finding was that the limited legal basis for joint working between authorities could, they felt, cause difficulties in working with the private sector.
- 1.3 In response, Government has passed legislation (The Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007) setting out powers to allow the establishment of Joint Waste Authorities (JWA).
- 1.4 Despite the experiences and findings of the aforementioned excellent-rated councils, the re3 councils have been in a formal partnership since 1999. In that time we have secured significant investment in waste management facilities, procured a long-term contract with a private sector partner and have worked together less formally on issues such as communications campaigns, education, waste strategies and currently on business waste.
- 1.5 The re3 councils have recently responded to a consultation from DEFRA on the subject of JWA's. The results of the consultation will be used to produce guidance for local authorities wishing to become a JWA.
- 1.6 This report looks at the likely characteristics of a JWA with specific reference to, and discussion of, the potential benefits for the re3 councils.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the contents of this report be noted.**
- 2.2 **That Members request further investigations be carried out on the subject of Joint Waste Authorities leading to a decision report being brought back to the JWDB before the end of 2008.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

- 3.1 The draft guidance document from DEFRA says that JWA's should seek to modernise and improve waste services through integration. The guidance also

suggests that the establishment of a JWA should contribute to the sustainability/carbon agenda.

- 3.2 The guidance asks that proposals maintain or improve the following:
- Performance against local authority waste obligations, e.g. LATS;
 - The quality of waste management services delivered to residents at affordable cost;
 - Responsiveness to local issues.
- 3.3 The draft guidance document goes on to say that a JWA must be responsible to a managing board in almost exactly the same way that the management of our PFI contract is to the Joint Waste Disposal Board.
- 3.4 In fact, the re3 councils have already taken the majority of any necessary steps towards establishing a JWA in setting up the administration of our PFI contract. We have in place an administrative structure, financial arrangements and a shared service. As far as we can tell, none of the existing arrangements would require substantive changes.
- 3.5 There are some advantages to JWA status which are not currently accessible to the re3 councils, via their partnership. The advantages could, officers feel, assist the councils in the further improvement and development of their relationship on waste management.
- 3.6 A JWA would be able to pool targets and LATS obligations, simplifying the reporting procedures and, for the re3 councils, the existing mechanisms for sharing the benefits from contractual facilities such as Lakeside. It would not prevent the individual efforts of member councils/residents from being recognised.
- 3.7 The pooling of targets also means that Borough boundaries need not be a limit to collection service efficiency. Member councils would, if they so chose, have more freedom to collectively arrange their waste collection resources on the basis of greatest efficiency rather than on being constrained by a Borough boundary.
- 3.8 A JWA has corporate body status and so could manage existing contracts on behalf of member authorities. It could also let contracts on behalf of its member authorities, simplifying the process of future shared services if, or as, appropriate.
- 3.9 A JWA would enable councils to consider a reorganisation and pooling of their staff involved in waste management. For the re3 councils, there are almost certainly some advantages to greater co-ordination and avoiding duplication at this level, both in terms of the councils retained waste responsibilities and those relating to the PFI contract.

Options

- 3.10 Officers are in the process of arranging a meeting with DEFRA to discuss the process of application for JWA status in further detail.
- 3.11 In addition to meeting DEFRA, the re3 councils will scrutinise the results of the recent consultation when they are published.
- 3.12 In most circumstances, applying for JWA status might be done on the basis of improvements that a group of authorities are making, or are planning to make.

- 3.13 As councils who have already moved towards JWA status in everything but name, we'd like DEFRA to clarify whether or not the re3 councils can apply for JWA status in recognition of the existing partnership.
- 3.14 Each of the criteria at 3.2 above could be satisfied by the improvements delivered, or being delivered, by our PFI contract.
- 3.15 If a retrospective qualification is permitted, the advantages to JWA status (described above at 3.5 to 3.9) would then be accessible to the re3 councils to assist them in further developments and improvements.
- 3.16 Qualification as a result of existing partnership would allow re3 more flexibility in moving forward with subsequent developments and improvements. Officers feel that JWA status is something worth working towards, even if we are not able to qualify retrospectively.

Financial

- 3.17 There are no direct financial implications to this report.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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**TO: JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD
25 JUNE 2008**

JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD - PROJECT UPDATE (Report by the Project Director)

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 This report has been written in response to a request from the Board (at the March 2008 meeting) for a report on the options for food waste collections available to the three councils.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the contents of this report be noted.**
- 2.2 **That Members receive a further briefing and update at the first meeting of the Joint Waste Disposal Board in 2009.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

- 3.1 Appended to this report is the executive summary of a study conducted by the Waste and Resources Action Plan (WRAP) entitled "The food we waste". The report contains many statistics on food waste, not least the discovery that on average we appear to be wasting 1/3rd of the food we buy.
- 3.2 Our own waste composition analysis (conducted in 2007) in the re3 council area supports the WRAP findings. It suggests that bin or bag waste, destined for disposal from the re3 area, may contain on average, up to 3.3kgs (or 32%) of food waste.
- 3.3 The Central Berkshire Waste PFI contract does not currently include a processing facility for food waste although it was considered during the procurement process.
- 3.4 Members may remember that both of the bids at the Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) stage included an In-Vessel Composting facility. The cost of IVC at that point was £37m. WRG, the successful bidder, removed food waste processing from their proposals prior to the Best and Final Offer (BaFO) stage because they concluded it would not represent best value to the councils.
- 3.5 The procurement process was heavily scrutinised, involving as it did Treasury, DEFRA, and advisors for both the councils and the bidders. With specific reference to the processing of food waste, however, the bidders were never able to show how it could be processed economically within the criteria set for our PFI contract.
- 3.6 In essence, it was concluded that it would be inadvisable to pay extra for a technology, throughout the entire life of the contract, which might not, on performance grounds, be required until the later stages of the contract - if at all.

- 3.7 It is however possible, within the contract, that in the future food waste from the re3 councils could be processed at a third-party (merchant) facility or, if so desired, at a facility constructed for the councils themselves.
- 3.8 Previously, local authorities have been most concerned with reducing and recycling the packaging used to deliver food products into the home. The WRAP findings suggest we have at least as big a problem on our hands with the contents of the packaging.

Options

- 3.9 In addressing the issue of food waste, the dilemma for local authorities is in where to focus effort. Should they lean towards the more proactive approach and work to reduce the amount of food waste being presented for collection by residents? Or, should they direct the majority of available resources one step further down the chain and procure the treatment of food waste?
- 3.10 The first option is arguably the most sustainable but the harder to achieve successfully. It would require a sustained and effective communications campaign on a scale rarely (if ever) attempted by local authorities. The challenge would be to present a case strong enough to consistently withstand the marketing prowess of retailers. Clearly we'd need to work with retailers whilst acknowledging the reality of the influences which can lead to 4.1 million tonnes of 'avoidable' food waste¹ being purchased per annum. In tandem with efforts to reduce the generation of food waste at source, the councils would also want to ensure that some processing of food waste could be done at home – something which RBC is beginning via the subsidised promotion of 'Green Cone' food digesters.
- 3.11 The second option has the benefit of being easily measurable but would, by necessity, be more costly. There would be an element of planning risk associated with procuring new technology to be built within the re3 council area – and it may be necessary to find new land on which to build. The other option is to wait for a third party facility to be constructed in the region and, with WRG, procure processing capacity.
- 3.12 What sort of technology is available to us? There are two main treatments for processing food waste. At present, neither is available to the re3 councils.
- 3.13 In-Vessel Composting (IVC) is basically composting carried out within an enclosed unit which allows a far higher degree of process control than normal windrow composting. The composting process is carried out in the presence of oxygen, via forced aeration, and can take as little as 6-8 weeks. IVC is suited to processing food waste and green waste which may have been co-collected.
- 3.14 Anaerobic digestion (AD) is the biological treatment of organic waste, using microbes, in the absence of oxygen. It results in the creation of a biogas which can be used to generate heat and energy (and is eligible for Renewable Obligation Certificates (ROC's)), a fibre which can be used as a soil conditioner, and a liquor which has potential as a liquid fertiliser. AD is an ideal process for food wastes. It is less suited to the processing of green waste but is also used for the treatment of livestock manures and sewage.

¹ 'The food we waste' WRAP (2008)

- 3.15 There are a number of other technologies that could process food waste as part of residual waste (i.e. with no need to separately collect). Mechanical Biological Treatment and Autoclaving use different means to recover recyclables but are primarily focused on producing a refuse derived fuel (RDF) which can be used to generate energy. In the UK, the market for this form of fuel is almost non-existent and extremely uncertain.
- 3.16 Collecting food waste might prove to be challenging. BFBC and RBC already make use of wheeled bins for green waste collections and so it's possible, with due consideration given to suitability, capacity and frequency issues, that it could be co-collected with food waste.
- 3.17 The re3 councils will want to be mindful of the number of receptacles given to residents whilst still ensuring that adequate source separation can be achieved.
- 3.18 Co-collection of food and green wastes would also greatly increase the volume of material to be processed and thus, potentially, the cost.

Financial

- 3.19 The cost of a new IVC or AD facility for the re3 councils might be £30-50m, spread over 20-25 years. That price might still keep the councils within the original 'do nothing' comparator of £656m. A new facility, would not however qualify for the PFI support available to the councils for the existing elements of the contract.
- 3.20 It's possible that the cost of procuring access to processing at a third party facility would ultimately end up close to the same cost as developing our own facility.
- 3.21 The cost of landfill has risen above that which was modelled during procurement as a result of the £5 increase (from £3 to £8 pa) in the landfill tax escalator during 2007.
- 3.22 A potentially groundbreaking, if complex, option may be for councils that are developing processing capacity to design in capacity that exceeds their existing and estimated need. In partnership with the private sector, those councils could then market the 'spare' capacity to regional neighbours. It is one way in which the originally procuring councils, and their partners, might offset some of the development and ongoing costs.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

None.

CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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TO: JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD
25 JUNE 2008

**JOINT WASTE DISPOSAL BOARD – BUSINESS RESOURCE EFFICIENCY & WASTE
(BREW)
(Report by the Project Director)**

1. INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to inform the Joint Waste Disposal Board of the successful application made on behalf of re3 by Wokingham Borough Council to BREW for a grant of £40k to develop a Business Waste Action Plan to complement the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy approved by the Board on 19th March and to update the Board on the progress of the project.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS

- 2.1 **That the successful application and the resulting work to be carried out under the grant as laid out below be noted.**
- 2.2 **That the progress of the project be noted.**

3. SUPPORTING INFORMATION

Background

- 3.1 During early 2008 Wokingham's Income Generation Officer, Alison Munro, highlighted the opportunity to apply for a grant to BREW (Business Resource Efficiency & Waste) to assist in the reduction, reuse and recycling of business waste. Consultations took place with other re3 Officers on the option to put in a joint bid to BREW for funding. This was a timely opportunity to carry out research into business waste as it has become an important area of concern for Local Authorities, in line with the Waste Strategy for England 2007. This project will also dovetail with the re3 Draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy which has specific actions related to business waste and was endorsed on 19th March by the Waste Board.

4. Scope of Project

- 4.1 A research and feasibility project into waste and support needs of nearly 10,400 businesses across the re3 area. The information gathered will be used to formulate proposals that will enable re3 to contribute to a reduction in business waste to landfill across the area, with a particular focus on SME needs.

5. Key objectives of the project

- 5.1 To establish a comprehensive picture of business waste and advice support needs across the re3 Boroughs (Baseline data)
- 5.2 To develop feasible and innovative solutions that address the needs and issues identified by stage 1 of the project and which enable greater levels of business waste avoidance, reduction and recycling across the area, with potential impact beyond partner LA boundaries.

- 5.3 To produce a Business Waste Action Plan to be implemented by the *re3* Partnership as part of their Joint Municipal Waste Strategy
- 5.4 To contribute to the coordinated promotion of existing advice and support available to businesses on recycling and waste minimisation and related environmental issues.
- 5.5 Enhanced sharing of information between *re3* partners, businesses and other partner organisations.

6. Key outcomes of the project

- 6.1 *re3* LAs have a greater understanding of business waste needs within the local area and existing recycling/ waste minimisation provision.
- 6.2 Proposals worked up for feasible options, including social enterprise as well as private and public sector, to address identified need.
- 6.3 Business Waste action plan is incorporated into the *re3* Joint Municipal Waste Strategy, and potentially through targets in Local Area Agreements.
- 6.4 Businesses have a greater awareness of waste legislation, best practice, support and opportunities available to them.
- 6.5 Enhanced relationships between *re3* Partnership and local businesses on waste issues.
- 6.6 Enhanced coordination between *re3* Partner LAs and support services such as Business Link, Envirowise and other related organisations and networks such as Social Enterprise Berkshire and Connect Reading.

7. Project Update

- 7.1 Following a series of meetings the following project team was formed to deliver the project:

- *re3* Waste Officers and *re3* Project Manager
- Income Generation Officer WBC
- Economic Development Officer WBC
- Business Link (Government funded business support)

- 7.2 Partner Organisations

- Envirowise
- Connect Reading
- Social Enterprise Berkshire
- NISP South East (National Industrial Symbiosis Programme)
- Selected Consultant
- Businesses for *re3* area
- Economic Development Officers from *re3* Councils

- 7.3 Following the official offer from BREW and acceptance by WBC on behalf of *re3* of the grant 5 consultants were selected to bid for the work based on delivering similar projects. Submissions are due to be returned by 6th June with 2 or 3 to be selected to present their bids to the Project Team during week starting 16th June. Further progress on the project will be reported to future meetings.

8. Appended

- 8.1 BREW Bid
- 8.2 Project Specification

9. Financial

9.1 There are no budgetary implications to this project

10. BACKGROUND PAPERS

10.1 BREW Agreement

10.2 Other project documents

CONTACTS FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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