

DEVON AUTHORITIES STRATEGIC WASTE COMMITTEE

19 JUNE 2019

Present:

Councillors D Harvey (Chair), A Davis, G Jung, A Dewhirst, C Mott and C Leather

Apologies:

Councillors N Pearson, M Morey and L Taylor

* **35** Minutes

RESOLVED that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2018 be signed as a correct copy.

* **36** Items Requiring Urgent Attention

There was no item raised as a matter of urgency.

* **37** Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

RESOLVED that Councillor Harvey and Councillor Davis be elected Chair and Vice-Chair respectively for the ensuing year.

* **38** Announcements

The Chair welcomed Mr Hodgins who was attending the meeting in his capacity as a Co-opted Member of the Council's Standards Committee to observe and monitor compliance with the Council's ethical governance framework.

* **39** Introduction to Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee

The Committee received the Report of the Head of Highways, Capital Development and Waste (HIW/19/47) which outlined, for the benefit of new Members, the work and history of the Committee and its operating rules and terms of reference.

The Report highlighted, in particular:-

- that joint working had helped move Devon's recycling rate from 2% to 54% and in 2010/11 Devon was the top recycling county in the country;
- residual waste disposal in Devon had reduced from 292,295 tonnes in 2000/01 to 163,587 tonnes in 2017/18 (down 56%);
- similarly, Torbay's recycling rate had increased to 42.6%, with a reduction in residual waste from 49,570 tonnes in 2003/04 to 34,340 in 2017/18;
- key progress made under the Committee had been the adoption of the 'aligned' waste collection scheme - a weekly collection of food waste, a weekly collection of a range of recycling materials, a fortnightly residual waste collection and charged for garden waste collection;
- the main objective of the Committee for the coming year would be the development of a new Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon.

The Report also set out the major projects that the Councils were working together on in part or in full, which included joint procurement of e.g. vehicles, bins and in-cab technology; joint materials contracts; Waste Prevention and Reuse Strategy for Devon County Council; Clean

Devon – Litter and Fly tipping Partnership proposal; and the Waste and recycling advisors' contract.

RESOLVED that an update on the progress of the Clean Devon project be reported to a future Committee meeting.

* **40** **Local Authority Collected Waste - the national and local picture**

The Committee received a presentation from the County Waste Manager which gave an overview of the Government's Resource and Waste Strategy and Waste Management in Devon.

The presentation included information on waste statistics for Devon and Torbay, demand management measures, re-use, recycling, composting and residual waste management. It also highlighted key aspects of the Government Resources and Waste Strategy published in December 2018 and the four subsequent consultations.

The Committee noted the presentation and requested that copies be circulated to Members.

[N.B. a copy of the presentation is attached to these Minutes]

* **41** **Industry view on how the Government's new policy tools need to work collaboratively to deliver successful outcomes**

The Committee received a presentation by Mr S Hayward-Higham, Technical Development Director of SUEZ Recycling and Recovery Ltd, which gave an overview of the Government's Resource and Waste Strategy and tools, including:

- Policy
- Synchronised systems
- Collaborative action/detailing
- EPR Systems and DRS Systems
- Targets
- Recycling
- Collection costs and funding

[N.B. a copy of the presentation is attached to these Minutes]

* **42** **Budget Outturn 2018/19 and Budget Position for 2019/20**

The Committee received the Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure and Waste (HIW/19/48) summarising the 2018/19 budget outturn and the 2019/20 budget position. Key areas of spend in 2018/19 included Reuse Credits, Don't Let Devon go to Waste, and the Waste and Recycling Advisors Contract.

At its meeting on 17 October 2018 the Committee had approved a budget of £182,800 for 2019/20 and approval was now sought for the 2019/20 budget to be increased by £13,259 and for this sum to be allocated from the remaining 2018/19 underspend.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Leather, **SECONDED** by Councillor Dewhirst and

RESOLVED that the 2018/19 budget outturn be noted and that the revised 2019/20 budget be endorsed.

* **43** **Contracts Position Statement**

The Committee received the Report of the Head of Highways, Capital Development and Waste (HIW/19/47), summarising the joint contracts procured by the Council on behalf of

Devon District Authorities, including the Glass, Paper and Textiles contracts, and the Waste and Recycling Advisors' contract.

It was noted that the joint contracts continued to offer economies of scale and economic benefits to all local authorities using them.

Members however voiced concern at the distance of travel involved to other parts of the UK for the disposal of glass and paper. Officers reported that this was due to the lack of facilities in the South West, where the nearest facility was Avonmouth.

RESOLVED that the Chair of the Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee write to Devon MPs and the Government concerning the long-distance travel involved to the nearest reprocessing plants across the UK due to lack of reprocessing facilities in the South West, and the impact this was having on climate change.

* **44** **Forward Plan**

The Committee considered the draft Work Plan for future Committee meetings as follows:

October 2019	Reuse Credits Scheme Budget setting 2020/21 Waste Data/Performance Review 2018/19
February 2020	Government Consultations Part II Progress report Devon Resource & Waste Strategy Clean Devon
June 2020	Draft Devon Resource & Waste Strategy for approval Waste and Recycling Advisors' contract update

The Chief Officer for Development, Infrastructure Development and Waste explained that the previous Strategy was last reviewed in 2013 and it was now considered appropriate to develop a new Strategy. Any Member interested in joining a Strategy Working Group should contact the County Waste Manager directly.

Any other additions to the Work Plan would be welcome.

* **45** **Future Meetings**

The next Committee dates were 17 October 2019 and 19 February 2020.

Future dates for the Committee could be found here:
<https://democracy.devon.gov.uk/ieListMeetings.aspx?CId=294&Year=0>

***DENOTES DELEGATED MATTER WITH POWER TO ACT**

The Meeting started at 2.25 pm and finished at 3.50 pm