

## DEVON AUTHORITIES STRATEGIC WASTE COMMITTEE

15 OCTOBER 2020

Present:-

Councillor J Atiya-Alla (Torbay Council)  
Councillor K Baldry (South Hams District Council)  
Councillor A Davis (Devon County Council)  
Councillor A Dewhurst (Teignbridge District Council)  
Councillor D Harvey (Exeter City Council)  
Councillor G Jung (East Devon District Council)  
Councillor C Mott (West Devon Borough Council)  
Councillor N Pearson (North Devon District Council)  
Councillor C Slade (Mid Devon District Council)

\* **56**      **Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

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

*Post meeting note: Immediately after the meeting, the Council became aware that Councillor Atiya-Alla did not hold Executive responsibilities for waste management thus his election to the Chair under Minute \*56 was in contravention of the Committee's Operating Rules and Terms of Reference. The election of Chair will therefore be undertaken at the next meeting.*

\* **57**      **Minutes**

**RESOLVED** that the Minutes of the meeting held on 17 October 2019 be signed as a correct copy.

\* **58**      **Items Requiring Urgent Attention**

There was no item raised as a matter of urgency.

\* **59**      **Announcements**

The Chair welcomed Mr Hipkin 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.

\* **60**      **Hot Topic - COVID-19: Lessons Learnt**

Members reported on lessons learnt during the Covid-19 lockdown which in the majority of cases had gone well, with good cross communication with Devon County Council, Torbay Council and the Districts.

\* **61**      **Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon and Torbay**

The Committee considered the Report and presentation of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/20/34), which introduced the new draft Resources and Waste Management Strategy for Devon and Torbay.

A Review of the 2005 Strategy was published in 2013 and since then there had been many developments in waste management. The Government had published its own Resource and Waste Strategy in 2018 and was currently planning further consultation on it, and the Environment Bill was progressing through Parliament, although it had been delayed due to

Covid-19. Given these changes, it was concluded that a new Strategy for Devon and Torbay should be written to reflect the direction of travel and changes in national waste policy.

The Strategy provided the basis for the management of local authority collected waste across Devon and Torbay to 2030. Its objectives were aimed at reducing waste, reducing the carbon impact of managing waste and conserving natural resources. It was proposed that the draft Strategy be consulted upon and further considered at this Committee next year prior to final approval.

Members' discussion points with Officers included:

- Concern that a third of food waste was still going into black bins, and also the amount of textiles ending up in black bins, especially during the Covid-19 lockdown.
- How consistency of colours for containers across Devon would help residents' recycling.
- The problem of extra litter and fly tipping experienced across the summer especially on seafronts.
- The scarcity of electric recycling vehicles.
- Support for local processing.
- Torbay's [draft Resource and Waste Management Strategy](#) was open for online consultation and feedback welcomed.

It was **MOVED** by Councillor Davis, **SECONDED** by Councillor Jung and

**RESOLVED** that the draft Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon and Torbay be approved for public consultation.

\* **62**      **Budget Proposal for 2021/22**

The Committee considered the Report of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/20/35) summarising the options for the proposed funding allocations for 2021/22. It included a report on the Waste and Recycling Advisors' contract and bids for the funding of Reuse Credits, Don't let Devon go to waste, Clean Devon and an allocation for a Waste Audit to be carried out in October 2022. It also summarised the current position with respect to the 2020/21 budget.

The budget proposal for 2021/22 would enable Devon and Torbay local authorities under the auspices of the Committee to continue with the valuable work benefitting from the economies of scale that partnership working brought.

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

**RESOLVED** that the proposed budget for 2021/22 be agreed and the re-tender of the Waste and Recycling Advisors' Contract for two years with a potential three-year extension be confirmed.

\* **63**      **Waste Performance Statistics 2019/20**

The Committee considered the Report and presentation of the Chief Officer for Highways, Infrastructure Development and Waste (HIW/20/36) which provided Members with an overview of waste performance statistics for Devon and Torbay for 2019/20, with individual authority performance tabled at Appendix 1.

Devon remained one of the highest performing Waste Disposal Authorities in England achieving its highest ever recycling rate of 56.6% in 2019/20 and, according to provisional national data, placed them second highest nationally.

Torbay had achieved a recycling rate of 40.4% in 2019/20, reflecting a slight reduction from the previous year, with North Devon at 49.5%, Torridge at 54.1% and East Devon all

recording their highest rates to date. Members commended East Devon on their 60.5% achievement which put them as the 9<sup>th</sup> highest performing Waste Collection Authority nationally, according to provisional data.

It was noted that the majority of Devon authorities exceeded the EU (2020) national target of 50%.

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

**RESOLVED** that support for the Devon Authorities Strategic Waste Committee Authorities be continued to provide comprehensive waste services for residents in accordance with the objectives outlined in the Resource and Waste Management Strategy for Devon and Torbay (2020-2030).

**64**      **Future Meetings**

Next meeting -10 February 2021.

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

The Meeting started at 2.15 pm and finished at 4.00 pm

