
MINUTES OF THE NORTH WALES REGIONAL WASTE PLAN REVIEW
REGIONAL MEMBERS GROUP (RMG) HELD ON THURSDAY 10th
NOVEMBER 2005 AT THE CONFERENCE ROOM, TREM CLWYD, RUTHIN AT
10.00AM

Members present for:

Conwy County Borough Council

Councillor Brian Cossey (BC)

Denbighshire County Council;

Officers Mike Pender (MP), Claire MacFarlane (CM), Samantha Davies (SD)
(Admin)

Gwynedd County Council

Councillor Emyr Pugh (EP)

Powys County Council

Councillor Gwilym Evans (GE)

Snowdonia National Park

Councillor Arthur Todd (AT)

Flintshire County Council

Councillor Kevin Jones (KJ)

1. Apologies

Councillor Eryl Williams (EW), Denbighshire County Council
Councillor Joy Shearer (JS), Powys County Council
Councillor Andrew Bailey (AB), Wrexham County Borough Council
Barry Bond, Conwy County Borough Council

2. Minutes of last meeting

The minutes of the last meeting were agreed to be an accurate record.

3. Matters arising

No matters arising from the minutes of the last meeting.

4. Employment/Industrial land data

MJP advised the group that a letter has been sent to Carwyn Jones AM providing him with the requested examples of sites experiencing marketing problems and are currently awaiting a response. MJP has been advised via the Minister that the WDA do not have a marketing policy for discouraging waste management facilities on their sites.

MJP stated that both he and CM are meeting with the regional coordinators and WAG in Mid Wales next week and will also be meeting with Aled Davies from the WDA South East in the near future. It is proposed that an all-Wales schedule of available employment land be produced and this meeting will discuss a method for achieving this.

BC stated that an industrial site in Llanrwst had been proposed as a location for a waste transfer station, and was also used as a highways depot, but the WDA, as the owners of the site, refused this. BC advised that this could be used a further example.

MJP asked the group if they felt a meeting would be appropriate once Carwyn Jones has responded. The group agreed that this would be beneficial.

MJP to action

5. Hazardous Waste Supplement

MJP advised the group that the supplement is out for consultation and the deadline for comments is 25th November. There has been very little response so far.

MJP advised the group that the comments were made at the RTG that the hazardous waste categories are difficult to define and makes allocating different facilities to land use classes problematic.

6. WAG/RPS Mapping Area of Searches Exercise

MJP made the group aware of the completion of the WAG/RPS mapping exercise and resultant maps. MJP informed the group that this is a strategic tool to identify suitable areas of search for sub-regional waste management facilities in Wales.

WAG is hoping to send a DVD containing the maps and a covering letter to all Local Authorities next week.

The group stated that some areas which have been identified are, in reality, not suitable even though the necessary waste management licences are still in

place. MJP advised the group that if there are sites identified incorrectly to advise the Regional coordinators who will report this to WAG.

MJP stated that a letter could be sent out to the Local Authorities asking them to advise MJP of any anomalies/queries in this exercise.

MJP to action

MJP also raised the Habitats Directive, how this affects waste management facilities in terms of social economical considerations, the future of species (newts) and the possible cost implications for Local Authorities. The group enquired whether an Advice Note would be issued by WAG, on which MJP agreed to report back at the next meeting.

MJP to action

7. WAG Wales Spatial Plan - Regional Coordinators to Report

MJP informed the group that SE and SW Wales Regions have identified waste as a priority in their Wales Spatial Plan areas. MJP had previously asked Iwan Prys Jones to raise this in the WSP North Wales officers meeting last week. Although IPJ raised the issue, no firm conclusion was reached. The group agreed that this issue should be pursued and requested MJP raise this again with IPJ.

MJP to action

MJP felt that it would be beneficial if waste was identified in the WSP in order for the issues of funding and location of facilities to be addressed. GM highlighted the cost of achieving high levels of recycling and the requirement for increased funding in this area.

8. Regional Waste Plan Options

MJP advised the group of the 7 options. CM added that EAW are hoping to provide the 2004/05 data for the Regional Coordinators by December. This data would then feed into the next Annual Monitoring Report (March 2006), after which the options can be modelled using EAW's WRATE software.

AT felt that the public needed to be kept involved and informed in the planning process for waste management facilities.

MJP to update the group next year

9. Representation of private sector on RTG

MJP asked the group for suggestions on how to obtain more input from the private sector in the Waste Plan process. Only those who are members of umbrella organisations are currently permitted to attend the RTG meetings, but no such organisations have members located in North Wales. MJP suggested that all waste management businesses in the region could be invited, in the interests of inclusiveness, but the group agreed that this was not a realistic option. The group advised that MJP continue to contact the various umbrella organisations in case their membership situation changes.

MJP to action

KJ suggested that other types of businesses from the waste sector should be targeted, rather than just those dealing with waste management and technologies. KJ advised the group that he attends EPAC meetings where representatives from the private sector attend.

KJ to ask representatives from EPAC to attend future RTG meetings

10. Any other business

No matters were raised.

11. Timetable/future meetings - to report

The next meeting will take place on 19th January 2006 at 10am in Trem Clwyd, Ruthin.

The meeting ended at 11.20am