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MINUTES OF THE NORTH WALES REGIONAL WASTE PLAN REVIEW  
REGIONAL MEMBERS GROUP (RMG) HELD ON TUESDAY 7<sup>th</sup> JUNE 2005 AT  
THE WDA OFFICES, ST ASAPH BUSINESS PARK, ST ASAPH AT 2PM.

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Members present for:

***Conwy County Borough Council***

Councillor Brian Cossey (BC) – with Officer Barry Bond (BB),

***Denbighshire County Council;***

Councillor Eryl Williams (EWW) - with Officers Mike Pender (MP), Claire MacFarlane (CM), Samantha Davies (SD) (Admin)

***Gwynedd County Council***

Councillor Peter Evans (PE)

***Wrexham County Borough Council***

Councillor Andrew Bailey (AB), Councillor Howard Moysen (HM)

***Powys County Council***

Councillor Joy Shearer (JS)

***Snowdonia National Park***

Councillor Ernest Williams (EW),

**1. Apologies**

Councillor Emyr Pugh (EP)

Councillor Kevin Jones (KJ)

Councillor A C Todd (ACT)

**2. Minutes of last meeting**

The Members asked for correction for the name of Councillor Ernest Pugh to Councillor Emyr Pugh.

**3. Matters arising**

MP confirmed that the figures from Sue Martin relating to waste management facilities are still being awaited.

**SM to do**

MP informed the Group that the North Wales Waste Event, Item 11, has not been arranged as yet and are hoping to arrange a meeting after August. Letters will be sent out to Members after the July interim meeting regarding this event.

**MP/CM to action in July**

#### **4. Landfill update**

MP reported to the Group the Local Authorities that have the greatest immediate need for landfill capacity are Anglesey and Flintshire County Councils, with Anglesey experiencing the greatest problem.

The Members agreed that immediate action is needed in order to solve the problem of lack of landfill capacity. The Local Authorities will be facing planning problems if action does not occur. MP stated that the issues with the planning for waste management facilities are: -

- Demand for facilities
- Capacity/Technologies
- Commercial Viability
- Funding mechanism

Members raised the following points: -

- Specific sites need to be allocated for facilities
- The Government should follow Europe's example in waste management
- No national indicators are available to measure progress in waste management facilities
- Legislation is an increasing factor in waste management
- Invite Assembly Members to attend future meetings to provide an input on waste issues
- With UDP/LDP's at an early stage, it would be appropriate to allocate land for waste management facilities.

Cllr. AB raised the point that 12 months after the approval of the North Wales Regional Waste Plan there were no new developments. There was a crisis then and there is a bigger crisis now.

MP raised the issue that there are many industrial estates in North Wales where waste management facilities could, in principle, be suitably situated (as a B2 use) and suggested working as a Group to identify suitable sites. This would mainly be a design and delivery exercise.

Members agreed to ask all Local Planning Authorities to supply the RMG with a schedule of sites on general industrial estates that were available and to justify those that were unsuitable (with the assumption being that most are suitable).

MP confirmed that he would request each Local Authority to provide details of sites that are, or can be, allocated for waste management use and to also approach the WDA for any information which they may have.

**MP/CM to Action**

EW suggested inviting the Chief Executives, Lead members and Finance Officers of North Wales Local Authorities to future meetings after the information on available sites has been received.

**MP/CM to Action**

EW also stated that the Assembly Members and Members of Parliament should be kept informed at each stage.

**5. Hazardous Waste Supplement**

MP advised the Members that the situation relating to the production of a Hazardous Waste Supplement to the Regional Waste Plan is the same for the South East and South West regions. MP stated that there are two areas of the Supplement to be addressed:

- Additional information is required to assist the production of the document
- Lack of provision for developing future hazardous waste facilities in the Region.

MP informed the Group that comments and suggested amendments are being awaited from WAG, and the Supplement would be altered to reflect these changes. MP requested the Group to agree the Supplement for consultation, along with subsequent alterations. The Group agreed this as an appropriate document for consultation.

**6. WLGA procurement exercise**

MP advised the Group of this exercise for their information and to draw attention to the work being carried out by WLGA regarding waste facilities procurement.

**7. Report of three Regional Coordinators meeting with Carwyn Jones AM**

MP reported to the Group on the meeting held on 25<sup>th</sup> April in Cardiff with Carwyn Jones AM and the three Regional Waste Plan Coordinators. The meeting was convened to discuss the lack of funding available for waste facilities, after two bids in South Wales for large scale facilities were rejected despite having secured sites, all necessary permissions and collaborative working. The option of Prudential Borrowing was raised but this was not considered a feasible avenue for several Authorities. The Minister requested further evidence of collaborative working on the two rejected South Wales bids, and also advised Local Authorities

to make early applications for the next round of funding, which would become available in 2007.

The Group were advised that an additional fund for waste management facilities has recently become available. The deadline for Local Authorities to access this fund is the end of June 2005.

EW suggested that an update be provided at the next meeting in September of each Local Authorities position in accessing the additional funding.

## **8. Any Other Business**

Nothing to report

## **9. Timetable/future meetings – to report**

Items for the next meeting

- Funding for waste management facilities
- Central Financial information received
- Attendance of CEO's, AM's and Economic Regeneration Officers
- Visits to waste management facilities.

The next meeting will be the Interim RMG meeting which will be 15<sup>th</sup> July at 12pm in the large conference room in Trem Clwyd, Ruthin.

The following meeting will be 7<sup>th</sup> September at 2pm in the large conference room in Trem Clwyd, Ruthin.

**The meeting ended at 3.10pm**