

SOUTH WEST WALES REGIONAL WASTE ASSESSMENT AND PLAN
MEETING OF THE REGIONAL WASTE PLAN FORUM
Notes of the meeting held on Friday 3rd December 2004, at 10.30am in the
Council Chamber, Penllergaer Civic Centre

Present

Councillor P Palmer (C)	Carmarthenshire County Council
Councillor D C Evans	Carmarthenshire County Council
Councillor P A Rees	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Councillor D Lewis	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Councillor A Robinson	City & County of Swansea
Councillor B Hall	Pembrokeshire County Council
Councillor R G Harris	Ceredigion County Council

Officers

Geoff White	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Ceri Morris	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Howell Beaton	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Nick Oakes	Ceredigion County Council
Graham Dorrington	Ceredigion County Council
Eifion Bowen	Carmarthenshire County Council
Neil Bateman	Carmarthenshire County Council
Philip Williams	Carmarthenshire County Council
Hugh Towns	Carmarthenshire County Council
Roy Probert	City & County of Swansea
Tony Glacken	City & County of Swansea
Carol Williams	Pembrokeshire CC / Pembrokeshire Coast National Park
Dave Harries	Pembrokeshire County Council
Steve Bool	Bridgend County Borough Council
Audrey Evans	Environment Agency (SW Wales)
Andy Street	SLR Consulting Ltd

1. Apologies

Councillor K Evans	Ceredigion County Council
Mrs M Taylor	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
Councillor P A Hacking	Bridgend County Borough Council
Councillor R R Hayes	Pembrokeshire Coast National Park Authority
Ruth Brown	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
Huw Jenkins	Bridgend County Borough Council

2. Minutes of the Forum meeting on 24th September 2004

It was noted that Cllr. R G Harris had been omitted from the attendance list. **Action:** CM to amend minutes.

There were no matters arising.

3. Notes of the Technical Group meeting 1st November 2004 – Noted.

4. Notes of the Technical Group meeting 23rd November 2004 – Noted.

Item 5: HB clarified the position regarding the additional bill for SLR Consulting Ltd., relating to the work carried out for the Regional Municipal Officers Group.

5. **RWP Addendum:**

- **Progress on the work by the Regional Municipal Officers Group (Presentation by SLR Consulting Ltd)**

Andy Street gave a presentation on the Position Statement Report “*A Regional Approach to the Management of Municipal Waste*”.

The presentation provided a review of infrastructure provision for municipal waste in South West Wales, an assessment of the options available to the Region and a summary of conclusions and recommendations.

Within the context of the Region meeting the various targets, the following four options were outlined:

- *Option 1:* each authority provides its own treatment capacity (a non-regional approach);
- *Option 2:* adopt a partnership approach (joint basis between two or more authorities);
- *Option 3:* ‘Pooling’ allowances (conflicts with the current legal context in Wales); and
- *Option 4:* provide strategically located residual treatment facilities with each authority ‘buying in’ capacity requirement.

In light of the above, the following was recommended:

- Each authority gives consideration to the future need for residual waste treatment capacity;
- This review should be carried out within the context of the RWP, Municipal Waste Strategies and the Landfill Allowance Scheme;
- The review should take place within an agreed timetable (3 months); and
- Agreement is required on an overall regional approach to residual waste treatment.

Discussion ensued and the following main points were noted:

- the WAG would not allow the ‘pooling’ of targets. There will however, be a review of the Regulations in 2007;
- when considering infrastructure requirements, it is essential to include other waste streams (i.e. Industrial & Commercial);
- when considering pooling, the view of the other two regional groups should be taken into account;
- important to consider the capacity of the Industry to provide the necessary infrastructure;
- WESA has indicated that facilities will not be developed unless long-term contracts are in place;
- The issue of hazardous waste should not be overlooked – it was noted that a requirement exists in the contract for each of the three lead authorities in Wales to “*review and consult on potential facilities for hazardous waste*”.

- **Progress Report – Position Statement**

An amended recommendation was tabled at the meeting for consideration. The following was **agreed**:

- For each authority to consider political lobbying concerning the issue of pooling and report back to the Forum; and
- For each waste authority to report within 3 months to the Forum on their proposals to meet the requirements of the Landfill Allowance Scheme (Wales) Regulations 2004 and the need for residual waste treatment capacity in the context of the existing Regional Waste Plan and individual Municipal Waste Management Strategies.

At this point Andy Street left the meeting.

6. GIS Mapping Research: Progress Update

GW reported on the progress being made on the GIS Mapping Research.

WAG has indicated that their GIS team based in Aberystwyth has expressed an interest in implementing the research. However, the final decision on whether the research will be implemented in-house or tendered to external consultants has yet to be confirmed.

7. Date of Next Meeting

To be confirmed.

8. Any other business

None was raised.