

SOUTH WEST WALES REGIONAL WASTE ASSESSMENT AND PLAN
MEETING OF THE REGIONAL TECHNICAL GROUP
Notes of the meeting held on Friday 16th April 2004, at 10.00am
Penllergaer Civic Centre

Present

Ceri Morris (Chair)	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Vaughan Thomas	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Clifford Parish	City & County Of Swansea
Alison Thomas	City & County Of Swansea
Audrey Evans	Environment Agency (SW Wales)
Phil Williams	Carmarthenshire County Council
Neil Bateman	Carmarthenshire County Council
Carol Williams	Pembrokeshire CC / PCNPA
Steve Bool	Bridgend County Borough Council
Huw Jenkins	Bridgend County Borough Council
Sue Martin	Welsh Assembly Government
Andy Rees	Welsh Assembly Government
Ruth Brown	Brecon Beacons National Park Authority
Nick Oakes	Ceredigion County Council
Philip Marks	CYLCH
Miranda Lewis	Environment Agency
Andy Street	SLR Consulting Ltd.

1. **Apologies**

Geoff White	Neath Port Talbot CBC
Cathy O'Brien	Welsh Assembly Government
Graham Dorrington	Ceredigion County Council
Dave Harries	Pembrokeshire County Council
Karin Black	Environment Agency

2. **Minutes of the Technical Group meeting held on 23rd January 2004**

Agreed to be a true record.

Item 3: CM reported that at the last Member Forum meeting on 27th February, the RWP was formally endorsed. The translation of the RWP is not yet available, but should be completed by the end of April.

With regard to the number of copies of the RWP per authority, it was noted that only Swansea and Pembrokeshire had indicated the numbers required. CM requested that all other authorities provide an indication of the numbers required as soon as possible. **Action:** All.

3. **Notes of the meeting with WESA held on 23rd January 2004** - Noted.

4. **RWP Addendum:**

- **Progress on the work of the Environment Agency**

CM reported that a meeting had taken place with Miranda Lewis from the Environment Agency, where the remit of the work was discussed. It was noted that the work is to be divided into two distinct stages, firstly, to agree a criteria list and secondly, the production of the GIS maps. It was stressed from the

outset that the final maps would be under the ownership of the Technical Group as opposed to the Environment Agency.

It was noted that the criterion list would assist in locating 'areas of search' for landfill facilities across the region. Discussion ensued and the following points were noted:

- Care needs to be taken on the development of the list. It is important to maintain flexibility in the model and not rule out any feasible sites;
- The criteria should include National Parks and any other landscape areas protected in UDP's under conservation;
- The criteria should include access by water (transport);
- There is a need to establish how each criterion is weighted. ML confirmed that once a list had been established a 'weighting questionnaire' would be circulated;
- A timetable for the work will be established once the criterion list is agreed;

It was agreed that comments on the list be forwarded to GW/CM by Friday 23rd April. **Action:** All.

- **Progress on the work by the Regional Municipal Waste Group**

Andy Street gave a presentation on the progress being made on the work by the Regional Municipal Waste Group. A copy of the presentation was circulated and is therefore, not repeated.

- **The need for more research?**

As discussed at the last meeting, it was agreed that it would be premature to determine the need for additional research until the work of the Environment Agency is completed.

- **Cost of provision of facilities required for the RWP – request from WLGA**

CM reported that little progress had been made to date. It was noted that the other two regions had made progress on costings so it is imperative that our region produce a report sooner rather than later. **Action:** GW.

CM highlighted that officers are committed to preparing a Draft Addendum for the next Member Forum meeting to be held on Tuesday 4th May. The papers for that meeting need to be circulated by Tuesday 27th April. Due to the current state of progress and tight timescales, the following was agreed:

- An '*Interim Position Statement*' be prepared for Members outlining the current state of play;
- A draft report be circulated for comment by early / mid next week. **Action:** GW;
- All comments to be received, at the latest, by first thing Friday 23rd April. **Action:** All.

5. **The next 3 years – The way forward?**

CM confirmed that at the last Member Forum meeting, it was endorsed that Neath Port Talbot CBC continue to be the lead authority for the South West Wales region.

SM reported that a problem exists relating to an 'exemplar clause' within the Regional Waste Group contract and remains unresolved. WAG is keen to retain the clause but suggest that it could be fine-tuned. It was agreed that the problem should be resolved as soon as possible. **Action:** GW to contact SM.

6. **Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting be held at 10.00am, Friday 28th May at Penllergaer Civic Centre.

7. **Any Other Business**

AR requested that the questionnaire, which had been recently circulated concerning planning applications for waste facilities, be completed and returned to the Environment Agency. It was stressed that the information provided will be very useful. **Action:** CM to circulate questionnaire again.

CM reported that a letter had been received from Mr Carwyn Jones AM for Environment, Planning and Countryside, to congratulate Members and Officers on the completion of the Regional Waste Plan.

AR reported that Consultants ODPM is offering training on the different types of waste facilities in operation. It was agreed that such training would be beneficial to both officers and Members. **Action:** AR to report back on the interest expressed.