
MINUTES OF THE NORTH WALES TECHNICAL GROUP (RTG) HELD ON
MONDAY 11th APRIL 2005 AT THE CONWY BUSINESS CENTRE,
LLANDUDNO BUSINESS CENTRE AT 11AM.

Present for:

Anglesey County Council

John Williams (JW), Steffan Owen (SO)

Conwy County Borough Council

Barry Bond (BB), Ceri Thomas (CT),

Denbighshire County Council;

Mike Pender (MP), Alan Roberts (AR), Iwan Prys Jones (IPJ), Samantha Davies (SD) (Admin)

Flintshire County Council

Gary Nancarrow (GN), Andy MacBeth (AM), Bob Sheffield (BS)

Gwynedd County Council

Peter Evans (PE), Gareth Jones (GJ)

Wrexham County Borough Council

John Ellis (JE)

Powys County Council

Roanna Manson (RM), Andy Bull (AB)

Welsh Assembly Government

Sue Martin (SM)

Conwy & Denbighshire NHS

Amy Bird (AM), Eddie Adderley (EA)

CPRW

Buddug Owen (BO)

Wales Waste Centre

Alan Thomas (AT)

University of Wales Bangor

Julie Hughes (JH)

Coleg Llandrillo

Francine Smith (FS)

Wales Environment Trust

Richard Carter (RC)

Environment Agency Wales

Lynda Bigland (LB), Steve Parkinson (SP), Cathy O'Brien (CB)

Welsh Development Agency

Gwenllian Owen (GO)

1. Introductions

MP welcomed the members of the RTG Group and asked those present to introduce themselves.

2. Members

MP asked the group if there were any suggestions on how to get a better input from private sector organisations for the North Wales Regional Waste Plan. SM advised MP to keep trying with private organisations.

3. Apologies

Claire Macfarlane, Denbighshire County Council

Geoff Clegg, Wrexham County Council

D Jones, Gwynedd County Council

Stan Yates, Conwy County Borough Council

Gareth Lloyd, Snowdonia National Park

Andrew Dale, CCW

Andy Rees, WAG

Peter Walmsley, CBI

Frances Machin, WAG

Jim Rollinson, University of Wales

4. Urgent Items

Nothing to report

5. Minutes of last meeting

Gareth Lloyd requested an amendment to the last paragraph under item 5 to say "hope that the group would allow the Snowdonia National Park Authority to nominate two members to site on the RMG (the same as the previous RMG arrangements)".

GN wished to raise the same point as in the previous meeting that waste managers from England are invited to future meetings. The group has no objections.

6. Matters Arising

Nothing to report

7. Landfill Report

MP presented the report to the group. MP asked the group of an update on the landfill situation within each authority.

Flintshire CC – Two years for the landfill site in Flintshire is optimistic. There is the option of working with ARUP for Dip Stage 2 of a combined application for MBT but the option is not available now. The facilities required are for commercial and domestic waste.

Conwy – The capacity on table 1 is correct for Conwy. Conwy are also in discussions with Denbighshire County Council regarding landfill for the short and long term of both counties. BB suggested the North Wales technical and planning officers as a sub group.

Angelsey – The trade and commercial waste disposal in Penhesgyn will be stopped within 1 year for municipal solid waste and no trade. There has also been a planning application submitted for municipal waste.

MP raised the point that there are 2 years or less for some sites and there are new regulations and requirements which will be coming in that will affect the landfill figures.

Gwynedd – There are 2 sites with PPC permitted for another 25 years capacity. The Cilgwyn site is used for Gwynedd and Angelsey – there is a possibility of a second quarry with a void capacity of 20 years depending on North Gwynedd or other areas.

Powys – There is a 10 year capacity for PPC permitted and a shortage of industrial/construction and demolition sites.

Wrexham – 1 year is optimistic. Wrexham is considering an application for a proposal of prior treatment before disposal.

Denbighshire – There is no landfill within Denbighshire and are keen to look over the boundary to neighbouring Councils to see what facility is available.

SM asked the group if there was any provision in the current UDP/LDPs for landfills. AR confirmed that there is no provision in Denbighshire's UDP for landfill.

LB said that planning permission is needed for landfill sites before PPC permits can be applied for which is a long process which will affect the figures of landfill. LB said that she will check the figures on the licensing database.

LB to Action

COB raised the following points:

- The figures have been misunderstood which need to be checked and time has moved on where PPC permits has not be granted which has an early impact on landfill sites.
- Timescale for planning permission, appeal process and applying for PPC permits takes longer than indicated.
- Insufficient capacity for landfill sites in Wales and there are serious concerns about the amount of space for will be for landfill.

SP added that action is needed now as time is restricted on the void on landfills reducing.

SM said it is important to have up to date data in the table and asked the group where does the landfill waste for North Wales go to at present. SM asked the members to provide a further update on landfill sites

ALL LA TO ACTION

BB suggested looking through the figures again and arranging a separate meeting to go through the amended figures and invite the councillors to attend to get an input

MP concluded that there are 2 issues,

1. There is more work needed on both definitions and figures for the next meeting
2. The life of the landfill sites are reduced but what steps are being taken?

8. Annual Monitoring Report

MP presented the report to the group and asked the members for any comments. MP said that the group can discuss the report in the next report.

9. Regional Members Group

MP explained the format of the RMG meeting to be held in the afternoon to the group explaining that there are three presentations, one from MP, SM and Hyder Consultants. MP asked the group whether they thought holding a NW Event would be a good exercise. GO said that the WDA would be happy to assist with awareness training for the group and invite people from the Economic Regeneration departments to assist.

10. Hazardous Waste

The group raised the following points: -

- There is only 1 hazardous waste site for the whole of North Wales but is located outside (Ellesmere Port) which is more than sufficient and will be have an impact on the long term needs/viability of North Wales
- There is a need for sites for disposal hazardous wastes to comply with the proximity and self-sufficiency principles – but no regional agreement has been arrived at for the North Wales area.
- Has any allowances been made in the various counties UDP/LDP's for disposal of hazardous waste.
- Private sector markets not willing to commit to disposal of hazardous waste unless there is a definite market.
- No proposals on how to deal with hazardous waste in terms of the treatment and disposal.
- No up to date data on hazardous waste only 2003 at present.- difficult to forecast as new/changing definitions
- North Wales is not a viable location for regional disposal of hazardous waste with significant costs.
- Offer financial incentives to private sector companies to dispose of hazardous waste.
- Hazardous waste site in North Wales would affect housing searchers.
- Size of nearby housing estates is an issue for disposal of hazardous waste.
- Hazardous waste is only a small percentage of waste that is disposed and that municipal waste is the bigger issue.
- The construction industry is the largest producers of hazardous waste and generally dispose of own waste.
- Need for a clear definition of hazardous waste.
- Need for a strategy for disposal for hazardous waste.
- Problems obtaining land as Economic Regeneration departments have plans for specified land and will not allow for hazardous waste disposal within the area.

SM asked the members if they were aware who were the contractors of disposal hazardous waste for North Wales were.

BB suggested a sub-group to discuss the next stages of hazardous waste to prepare a strategy for hazardous waste.

11. Digital Mapping – All Wales Exercise re location criteria

SM updated the group advising them of the following: -

- The digital mapping contract is being let is shortly – and when completed will assist the region in finding more suitable locations via areas of search criteria.
- The GIS software would also find any suitable sites for disposal of hazardous waste and landfill sites.
- The mapping project will be completed in June and the information will be available end June/beginning of July and the information will be provided as soon as possible.

12. WAG planning application questionnaire

MP informed the group that a planning application Questionnaire would be going out to them from EAW and asked if they could complete the questionnaires and return to the stated address as soon as possible.

13. Any other business

MP suggested that the group visit MBT site to see how the process works and how the sites look. RC thought this is a good way of education the group, members and businesses who need to dispose of waste.

14. Date of next meeting

Date of the next meeting is 7th June at 10am, WDA Offices, St Asaph.

The meeting ended at 1.45pm