
MINUTES OF THE NORTH WALES JOINT REGIONAL TECHNICAL GROUP (RTG) AND REGIONAL MEMBERS GROUP (RMG) HELD ON THURSDAY 24th SEPTEMBER 2007 AT THE OPTIC CENTRE, ST ASAPH BUSINESS PARK, ST ASAPH AT 12.30PM.

Members and Officers present for: -

Denbighshire County Council

Councillor Eryl Williams (EW), Mike Pender (MJP), Alan Roberts (AR), Martha Savage (MS), Jonathan Cawley (JC), Samantha Davies (SD) (Admin)

Conwy County Council

Lindsay Weatherall (LW)

Anglesey County Council

Mike Evans (ME)

Flintshire County Council

Councillor Kevin Jones (KJ), Gary Nancarrow (GN), Gabby Yoxall (GY), Nigel Trueman (NT), Andy MacBeth (AM)

Gwynedd County Council

Councillor Emyr Pugh (EP), Dafydd Gareth Jones (DGJ),

Wrexham County Borough Council

Councillor Michael Morris (MM), Wynford Rowlands (WR), John Bradbury (JB), Wayne Anderson (WA),

Snowdonia National Park

Gareth Lloyd (GL)

Welsh Assembly Government (WAG)

Adrian Jones (AJ), Jo Smith (JS)

Environment Agency Wales (EAW)

Cathy O'Brien (COB)

Cylch

Katie Trent (KT)

Wales Environment Trust

Richard Carter (RC)

1. Welcomes and Introductions

MJP welcomed everyone to the meeting.

2. Apologies

Lee Marshall, Powys County Council
Martin Williams, DEIN
Sue Martin, Welsh Assembly Government
Geraint Edwards, Conwy County Borough Council
Councillor Joy Shearer, Powys County Council
Louise Hilder, Cheshire County Council
Colin Priestley, WESA
Helen DeLomas, Cheshire County Council
Peter Evans, Gwynedd County Council
Rhiannon Jones, Environment Agency Wales
Ceri Thomas, Conwy County Borough Council
Councillor John Williams, Anglesey County Council
Meirion Edwards, Anglesey County Council
John Williams (Officer) Anglesey County Council

3. Minutes of last meeting

GL stated that page 10 for Snowdonia should state that the IVC application has been deferred at Planning Committee subject to a site visit. He noted that the capacity for the facility was 5,000tpa.

4. Matters Arising

COB stated that the issue raised on page 4 has been by GL has been resolved. COB stated that there were some errors with the National grid reference and the updated information will be available in the near future.

COB advised the group that the Environment Agency capacity study has been delayed due to technical difficulties and will be ready for December 2007.

MJP asked if there had been any update on convergence. MS stated she attended a meeting on the 10th of September and there are still unanswered questions which it is hoped will be answered at the next meeting on the 15th of October. There is some confusion as to whether or not a project can be developed outside of the eligible authorities if the eligible authorities benefit. RC stated that bids for capital expenditure cannot be made outside of the eligible authority area.

5. Consultation Draft of North Wales Regional Waste Plan

MJP stated that there are two documents which are: -

- The **Core** document which focuses on the main issues; and
- The Technical **Companion** document which contains the appendices.

MJP stated that the documents the group have received will be going out for consultation on 1st October 2007 for 10 weeks. Comments on the documents have already been received from some members of the group and the documents have been amended accordingly. MJP asked the group for any other comments or alterations by the end of the week (28th September) in order the changes to be made ready for the consultation period.

All comments are to be supplied to MS by the end of Friday the 28th of September for comment so that they can be incorporated (where appropriate) within the final documents before the start of the consultation on Monday the 1st of October.

MJP stated documents have the following: -

- The options have been updated following the adoption of the RWP and incorporate more recent data and information on technologies;
- Information has been given regarding the indicative capacities and indicative numbers of facilities required for the each local authority.
- An indicative land take has also been given for each local authority as a guide for local authorities in their Local Development Plans
- There is positive provision in terms of sites and locations
- There are Areas of Search maps for in-built and open-air facilities.
- Provides clearer guidance to local authorities in terms of their Local Development Plans
- Raises the awareness of the waste issue
- Greater prospect for land use

MJP stated that the format of the report will need tidying up and there is still a lot of repetition but once these alterations have been made then the documents will become more readable.

MJP thanked the group for the sites that they had bought forward for the documents.

COB stated that the documents don't ask any questions during the consultation period. MS stated that the Themes paper that Hyder have completed will have all the questions that will need answering but are waiting for the electronic version. MS stated that she would forward the Themes paper to the group as soon as she received the paper.

MS Action

MS stated she would speak to Ceri Thomas to clarify some of the comments provided by Conwy. MS asked LW for the background on the 66ha that Conwy had provided.

MS & LW action

RC stated that the documents are weighted towards municipal waste and there is a need to highlight that the documentation is for all waste streams and not just for municipal waste.

MS to action

GN felt that 'Planning as an obstacle' should be reworded to say 'Planning to enable and facilitate'.

MS to action

COB stated that paragraph 5.6.2 needs clarification that the uncodeable waste deposited in England could have come from England, Wales, and Scotland or further a field. COB stated that if the Region is planning to export waste to North East England then the group should be in contact with North East England to ensure that both Regional Waste Plans has planned for the intention to import and export the regions' waste. MS stated that North West England are on the consultation list for the Regional Waste Plan 1st Review and that they are in discussion with the two adjoining RTABs to explore this issue.

The group agreed the Core & Companion documents to be published for consultation following the amendments requested.

6. Strategic Health Impact Assessment

MS stated that the HIA Non Technical Summary has been circulated and EAW have already provided their comments. The outputs from the consultation will inform the final Strategic Health Impact Assessment document.

MJP added that this is the opportunity to add any comments or views on the HIA.

AM stated that there is only mention of the Regional Waste Plan once in the document and there is a need to add more information about the Regional Waste Plan.

7. Strategic Environmental Assessment

MJP stated that the Non Technical Summary has been circulated for information.

8. The Consultation Period

MS stated that the consultation process will be taking place from 1st October.

MS stated that the following will be taking place: -

- 3 Keystakeholder Focus Group meetings;
- 9 Public Focus Group meetings (3 in each region);
- 22 Community Group meetings (1 in each local authority);
- A postal survey (over 11,000 surveys);
- Information will be put on Local authority web sites;
- Press releases will be released advising everyone of the consultation process; and
- Industry Soft Market day.
- Member training

MS stated that she would be in touch with KT and COB regarding the consultation process.

MS Action

MS handed out some ideas of phrases for the Regional Waste Plan. The group felt that the suggestions were not bold enough. DGJ stated that whatever the group agreed on need to be translated which would need to be as equally catchy in Welsh and English. MJP asked the group to think about some phrases and pass them to MS as soon as possible.

ALL to Action

9. Any Other Business

MS advised the group that there is a meeting on 8th November 2007 for the West Midlands RTAB which she will be attending.

COB stated that EAW are looking at electronic systems to improve the import / export data which should be in place for September 2008.

MJP stated that the Local Authority updates are sent by email to MS. MJP asked if there is anything else the Officers have to report. GN stated that they have received a planning application for an integrated landfill application but do not have not details as yet.

MS stated that CIWM are arranging a site visit to Castle Cement if the group are interested. MS asked the group to let her know if they're interested in attending as soon as possible otherwise the event will be advertised publicly by CIWM.

EW advised the group that MJP is retiring in October and wished MJP all the best for the future.

10. Date of next meeting

MS stated that she would let the group know when the next meeting is taking place.

The meeting ended at 15.00