

SOUTH WEST WALES REGIONAL WASTE ASSESSMENT AND PLAN
MEETING OF THE REGIONAL TECHNICAL GROUP
Notes of the meeting held on Thursday 11th December 2003, at 2.00pm
Penllergaer Civic Centre

Present

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| Geoff White (Chair) | Neath Port Talbot CBC |
| Ceri Morris | Neath Port Talbot CBC |
| Vaughan Thomas | Neath Port Talbot CBC |
| Audrey Evans | Environment Agency (SW Wales) |
| Graham Dorrington | Ceredigion County Council |
| Nick Oakes | Ceredigion County Council |
| Phil Williams | Carmarthenshire County Council |
| Neil Bateman | Carmarthenshire County Council |
| Sue Martin | Welsh Assembly Government |
| Cathy O'Brien | Welsh Assembly Government |
| Ruth Brown | Brecon Beacons National Park Authority |

1. **Apologies**

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|-----------------|---------------------------|
| Alban Forster | SLR Consulting Ltd |
| Ruth Henderson | City & County Of Swansea |
| Clifford Parish | City & County Of Swansea |
| Philip Marks | CYLCH |
| Bleddyn Jones | Ceredigion County Council |

2. **Notes of meeting held on 28th November 2003** - Noted

3. **Types of facility to be considered sub-regional:**

GW confirmed that over the next 6 months there is a need to agree an addendum to the RWP for dealing with sub-regional facilities and that a consensus has to be reached on what type of facilities need to be included.

Discussion ensued and the following was agreed.

- **Landfill:** Agreed to be a sub-regional facility;
- **MBT:** Agreed to be a sub-regional facility. There is a need to gain views from officers of the six municipal waste authorities in the region;
- **Composting:** Agreed that potentially there could be sub-regional facilities for Commercial & Industrial waste streams; however, not so for municipal waste;
- **Eco-Park** (including facilities for dealing with recyclates etc.): Agreed not to be a waste facility as such;
- **Hazardous Waste:** Agreed to be a sub-regional facility. It was noted that there are two potential sites in the region that can deal with hazardous waste, but that these are not currently open gate.

The following points were noted.

- The development of any sub-regional facility will be down to market forces;
- With regard to hazardous waste, there is a need for more research into the scale of the problem and to be clear about what we need to plan for;
- There is an all Wales Hazardous Waste Forum on Tuesday 13th January 2004;

- Corus has indicated that they will continue to deal with their own hazardous waste;
- With regard to composting, local authorities only drive facilities dealing with municipal waste, industry drives the other waste streams;
- In terms of facility development, there is a need for research into economies of scale. Larger facilities will be more cost-effective.

4. **How to take this forward?**

GW briefly outlined potential options for the way forward. The following points were noted.

- When considering landfill, a potential starting point could involve identifying voids and land raising opportunities, identifying good transportation corridors and studying the geology and hydrogeology of the region. **Action:** CO to discuss producing a map for the region with the EA;
- There is need for extensive research e.g. a feasibility study;
- In order to make use of LANDMAP there would need to be full coverage across the region;
- Potential to use a process assessing options against a series of indicators (similar to assessing aggregate demand and supply);

The following was agreed.

- Invite Catherine Peasley (WDA - Aberystwyth Office) to the next meeting. **Action:** GW.
- Contact Adrian Stewart (WESA) to discuss 'areas of interest' for landfill. **Action:** GW.
- Check if similar regional boundaries exist within any Economic Development forum. **Action:** GW.

5. **Date of next meeting**

It was confirmed that the next meeting is to be held at 2.00pm, Friday 23rd January, Penllergaer Civic Centre.

6. **Any Other Business**

In light of the emerging RWP, SM requested an update with regard to the status of individual UDP's.

Neath Port Talbot: GW confirmed that the issues in the RWP are likely to be incorporated into the UDP.

Ceredigion: GD to report back.

Brecon Beacons: RB reported that elements of the RWP would be incorporated.

Carmarthenshire: NB to report back.