

Joint Scrutiny Panel of Somerset Waste Board

Monday 16 December 2019

10.00 am Broughton House, Blackbrook
Park Avenue, Taunton



To: The Members of the Joint Scrutiny Panel of Somerset Waste Board

Cllr Dunk, Cllr Dyer, Cllr Gibson, Cllr Hamilton, Cllr Hassall, Cllr Hull, Cllr Kennedy, Cllr Leyshon, Cllr Munt and Cllr Trollope-Bellow

Issued By Scott Wooldridge, Strategic Manager - Governance and Risk - 6 December 2019

For further information about the meeting, please contact Carol James on 01823 356859, cdjames@somerset.gov.uk or or Jamie Jackson on 01823 359040, jajackson@somerset.gov.uk

Guidance about procedures at the meeting follows the printed agenda.

This meeting will be open to the public and press, subject to the passing of any resolution under Section 100A (4) of the Local Government Act 1972.

This agenda and the attached reports and background papers are available on request prior to the meeting in large print, Braille, audio tape & disc and can be translated into different languages. They can also be accessed via the council's website on www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers

“Are you considering how your conversation today and the actions you propose to take contribute towards making Somerset Carbon Neutral by 2030?”

AGENDA

Item Joint Scrutiny Panel of Somerset Waste Board - 10.00 am Monday 16 December 2019

****Public Guidance notes contained in agenda annexe****

1 **Apologies for absence**

2 **Declarations of Interest**

Details of all Members' interests in District, Town and Parish Councils will be displayed in the meeting room. The Statutory Register of Member's Interests can be inspected via the Democratic Services team.

3 **Minutes from the previous meeting held on 25 September 2019 (Pages 7 - 10)**

The Committee is asked to confirm that the minutes are accurate.

4 **Public Question Time**

The Chairman will allow members of the public to ask a question or make a statement about any matter on the agenda for this meeting. **These questions may be taken during the meeting, when the relevant agenda item is considered, at the Chairman's discretion.**

5 **Slim my Waste Feed my Face**

To consider this report

6 **New Collection Contract Mobilisation Update**

To consider the report, noting that there is a confidential appendix

Possible exclusion of the press and public

PLEASE NOTE: Although the main report for this item not confidential, supporting appendices available to Members contain exempt information and are therefore marked confidential – not for publication. At any point if Members wish to discuss information within this appendix then the Committee will be asked to agree the following resolution to exclude the press and public:

Exclusion of the Press and Public

To consider passing a resolution having been duly proposed and seconded under Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 to exclude the press and public from the meeting, on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, within the meaning of Schedule 12A to the Local Government Act 1972:

Reason: Information relating to the financial or business affairs of any particular person (including the authority holding that information).

7 **Performance monitoring report Q2 2019/20**

- Item Joint Scrutiny Panel of Somerset Waste Board - 10.00 am Monday 16 December 2019
- To consider the report
- 8 **Draft Business Plan 2020-2025**
- To consider the report
- 9 **Draft Annual Budget 2020-21**
- To consider the report
- 10 **Proposed revisions to the Inter-Authority Agreement**
- To consider the report
- 11 **Somerset Waste Board Forward Plan**
- To review the Waste Board's Forward Plan of Business and identify any items for consideration at the next Scrutiny Panel meeting
- 12 **Any other urgent items of business**
- The Chairman may raise any items of urgent business.

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Agenda Annexe

Guidance notes for the meeting

1. Inspection of Papers

Any person wishing to inspect Minutes, reports, or the background papers for any item on the Agenda should contact the Committee Administrator for the meeting – Carol James on Tel: (01823) 356859 or Email: CDJames@somerset.gov.uk They can also be accessed via the council's website on www.somerset.gov.uk/agendasandpapers

2. Members' Code of Conduct requirements

When considering the declaration of interests and their actions as a councillor, Members are reminded of the requirements of the Members' Code of Conduct and the underpinning Principles of Public Life: Honesty; Integrity; Selflessness; Objectivity; Accountability; Openness; Leadership. The Code of Conduct can be viewed at: <http://www.somerset.gov.uk/organisation/key-documents/the-councils-constitution/>

3. Minutes of the Meeting

Details of the issues discussed and recommendations made at the meeting will be set out in the Minutes, which the Committee will be asked to approve as a correct record at its next meeting.

4. Public Question Time

If you wish to speak, please tell Carol James the Committee's Administrator - by 12 noon the (working) day before the meeting.

At the Chair's invitation you may ask questions and/or make statements or comments about any matter on the Committee's agenda – providing you have given the required notice. You may also present a petition on any matter within the Committee's remit. The length of public question time will be no more than 30 minutes in total.

A slot for Public Question Time is set aside near the beginning of the meeting, after the minutes of the previous meeting have been signed. However, questions or statements about any matter on the Agenda for this meeting may be taken at the time when each matter is considered.

You must direct your questions and comments through the Chair. You may not take direct part in the debate. The Chair will decide when public participation is to finish.

If there are many people present at the meeting for one particular item, the Chair may adjourn the meeting to allow views to be expressed more freely. If an item on the Agenda is contentious, with a large number of people attending the meeting, a representative should be nominated to present the views of a group.

An issue will not be deferred just because you cannot be present for the meeting. Remember that the amount of time you speak will be restricted, normally to two minutes only.

5. Exclusion of Press & Public

If when considering an item on the Agenda, the Committee may consider it appropriate to pass a resolution under Section 100A (4) Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 that the press and public be excluded from the meeting on the basis that if they were present during the business to be transacted there would be a likelihood of disclosure of exempt information, as defined under the terms of the Act.

6. Committee Rooms & Council Chamber and hearing aid users

To assist hearing aid users the Committee meeting rooms have infra-red audio transmission systems.

7. Recording of meetings

The Council supports the principles of openness and transparency. It allows filming, recording and taking photographs at its meetings that are open to the public - providing this is done in a non-disruptive manner. Members of the public may use Facebook and Twitter or other forms of social media to report on proceedings and a designated area will be provided for anyone wishing to film part or all of the proceedings. No filming or recording may take place when the press and public are excluded for that part of the meeting. As a matter of courtesy to the public, anyone wishing to film or record proceedings is asked to provide reasonable notice to the Committee Administrator so that the relevant Chair can inform those present at the start of the meeting.

We would ask that, as far as possible, members of the public aren't filmed unless they are playing an active role such as speaking within a meeting and there may be occasions when speaking members of the public request not to be filmed.

The Council will be undertaking audio recording of some of its meetings in County Hall as part of its investigation into a business case for the recording and potential webcasting of meetings in the future.

A copy of the Council's Recording of Meetings Protocol should be on display at the meeting for inspection, alternatively contact the Committee Administrator for the meeting in advance.

JOINT SCRUTINY PANEL OF SOMERSET WASTE BOARD

Minutes of a Meeting of the Joint Scrutiny Panel of the Somerset Waste Board held at Broughton House, Blackbrook Park Avenue on Wednesday 25 September 2019 at 2.00 pm

Present: Cllr A Trollope-Bellew, Cllr J Hassall, Cllr M Dunk, Cllr L Leyshon, Cllr B Hamilton, Cllr G Kennedy, Cllr I Dyer, Cllr L Gibson, Mickey Green.

Other Members Present: None

Apologies for Absence: Cllr L Hull

51 Declarations of Interest - Agenda Item 2

Cllr Lyshon and Cllr Trollope-Bellew declared having a local authority pension.

52 Minutes from the Previous Meeting held on 27 June 2019 – Agenda Item 3

The minutes of the meeting held on 27 June 2019 were accepted as being accurate by the Panel and signed by the Chair.

53 Public Question Time - Agenda Item 4

There were no public questions.

55

The Panel were informed that the focus now is on comms and getting the engagement need right. SWP, SUEZ and Kier are working together to achieve this. The new fleet will have new in-cab technology and associated systems aiding the crew. The large fleet of vehicles have been ordered but a No deal Brexit remains a risk due to them being built in different Countries within the EU and are working closely to ensure this does not become a problem. The consideration will be in 2024-25 to have a number of electric vehicles. For the moment supervisor vehicles will be electric as a trial. Mickey will follow up on the stop start technology for vehicle as mentioned by Cllr Munt. Tetrapacks and PPT are still being explored and at the moment as there is no economical way to collect them at the kerb side. Cllr Dunk asked how many vehicles will be replaced in 2024-25 with electric ones, the Panel were informed between 25-34 vehicles, as some of the vehicles cannot be replaced like pods etc for schools which are not suitable for general use.

SWP are spending £17.8 million on vehicles, and Cllr Dunk asked where the money is coming from. The Panel were informed that SWP can obtain loans cheaper and will lend the money to the contractor who will be responsible for maintenance, but the vehicles will be owned by local authority. The new vehicles are stainless steel and will last 10 years which is longer than the current ones. The will generate an Income yearly to the local authority.

Cllr Hassell asked the question why glass cannot be recycled locally rather than going to Sunderland? The Panel were informed that it is better economically the current and out ways the carbon foot print cost. Avonmouth will run power off Somerset plastics collected and elephant grass does not cost much to fuel a bio plant which is another consideration. There will be a phased roll out of Recycle More with Mendip going first in June 2020, due to an extra piece of land next to the Evercreech depo for expansion. The route the vehicle will take from Evercreech to Avonmouth has been considered and has been looked at by Highway. Dimmer is the transfer centre where the waste goes from Evercreech before going to Avonmouth. Cllr Hamilton mentioned to the Panel that this has been successful in Bristol but local people are saying why spend all this money. The Panel were informed that the information will be out there in the New Year.

The Recommendations going to the Board, the Panel are happy with.

56 Performance Monitoring Report Q1 2019-20- Agenda item 7

The report summarises the key performance indicators for the period from April 2019 to June 2019 and many areas are on track. Safety is an area which is being monitored. There has been a small reduction in recycling, but still remains at 62% in Somerset compared to 92% in the rest of the UK. PPT centres are growing and missed collections is an area of consist focus. Mendip were having issues with maintenance and recruitment and a new maintainance has now been contracted. SWP is battling against the low number of HGV drivers and the low unemployment in Somerset. There will be in-cab technology to help with missed collections, enabling crews to go back and carry out assisted collections. An app used in East Devon will be similar in Somerset called my Waste Services.

The Recommendations going to the Board, the Panel are happy with.

57 Finance Performance Update 2019-20 and Development of the Annual Budget 2020-21 – Agenda Item 8

Currently the position is £46,243,485 with an £804,000 underspend in July being 1.74% of the budget. This does not include Recycle More at a cost of £919,700 with current recycling spend of £11,000 resulting in a £791,000 underspend. All savings are on target and fly tipping compensatory payment scheme will be phased out. The cost of landfill will rise to £94.15 per tonne from April 2020 and the standstill cost for the disposal budget is therefore £2,372,100 for 2019/20 showing on 8.4% increase on the original budget. When Recycle More is rolled out, no savings will be taken out, seen until 2022-23. Each district is borrowing £5,000,000 on behalf of SWP at a return of PWLB plus 1% with loan agreements set up between SCC and the Districts. Additional pressure for Avonmouth is being financed with saving after the contract was in place and is a payback benefit to SWP and is cheaper than landfill. The reserve will be 20% which is around 600k but will be reviewed annually.

Confidential Paper – there are 12 people left from Kier going back to 2007. There have been unsuccessful solutions and independent advice has been sort who found the solution was to dispute 50-50, which Kier have capped, however this is at the “In principle stage” and are seeking approval from the Board. Cllr Lyshon mentioned that at Audit pensions have seen a 7.2% increase since the Brexit referendum and would this affect this and has been factored in when it ends on 31 March 2020.

The Recommendations going to the Board, the Panel are happy with.

58 Proposed Fees and Charges – Agenda Item 9

Fees and charges are reviewed annually and recycling centres can no longer charge an entrance fee which will be recommended we remove. Materials not classified as residential will remain chargeable. Bulk and garden waste will remain 2 weekly, with the cost of garden waste decreasing from £56.90 to £55.50 next year, as well as the cost of £28.40 decreasing to 27.50 the sacks. Bulky waste collection will rise to £60 each item for up to 3 items and £55 for up to 5 items, as well as people being asked to use the Freecycle web page before requesting collection. If suitable for recycling in house collection is being considered as well as other centres looking at items disposing of them. Replacement bins will not be charged for next year, with lids and wheels being replaced on returned bins. There is no reduction in fees and charges for pensioners or disabled people and as SSDC are the only district to offer a 2 year renewal this will be stopped. The garden sack service will require people to phone for collection so that drivers are not driving around unnecessarily looking for unwanted collections.

The Recommendations going to the Board, the Panel are happy with.

59 Outline Business Plan 2020-25 – Agenda Item 10

The Business Plan will be circulated in December 2019 for sign off in February 2020, with the focus being on schools, Recycling More and centralising payments for green waste. The Panel were reminded of the climate emergency workshop being held on 3 October and encouraged to attend. Section 3 of the Plan is implementing the longer term future with only 8% being sent abroad for disposal.

The Recommendations going to the Board, the Panel are happy with.

60 Somerset Waste Board Forward Plan – Agenda Item 11

The Panel agreed that this had been cover in item 10.

61 Any other items of urgent business – Agenda Item 12

None raised.

(The meeting ended at 4.10pm)

CHAIR

DRAFT