



**TRANSITIONAL WASTE SCRUTINY TASK GROUP
REPORT OF A MEETING HELD ON TUESDAY 10th JUNE 2008
AT COUNTY HALL, TROWBRIDGE**

Present:

Task Group: Mr Alan Hill (NWDC), Mr Dennis Brown (SDC), Mr Graham Hedley (WWDC), Mr Jonathon Seed, Mr Tony Deane (WCC)

Officers: Ceri Williams (Scrutiny Officer), Tracy Carter (WCC – Assistant Director – Operations)

1. Report of the previous Meeting

Members noted the report of the previous meeting.

2. Project Team Update

Tracy Carter provided the task group with a project update. During the presentation some of the following issues emerged:

Performance – May 2008 recycling figures for West Wiltshire had seen the authority become the first district to break through the 50% level.

Customer Access Strategy – the Waste Project Team were working closely with John Rogers in relation to contact with the public post May 2009.

Budget –base line budget information should be agreed by June 20 when the Project Board next met. A series of workshops were scheduled for August and September to develop more detailed budget proposals. It was expected the budget for 2009 /10 would be cash frozen.

Landfill tax – April 2009 the tax would increase £8 a tonne to £40 tonne. This would further increase to £48 per tonne in 2010.

Alternate weekly collections – the task group was not satisfied that transformation of the service would be deferred to the new council. The task group agreed that for future meetings it would explore AWC identifying the strengths and weaknesses of this approach, with the idea to reduce costs. To support this process Kennet and West Wilts District

Councils officers would be invited to attend the next meeting. Tracy Carter highlighted that the ability of the project team to look at transformation was limited by capacity issues. Members were also informed that the IE did not have the authority to determine whether the district councils moved to AWC.

Promotional Work – the task group at its next meeting would be given an opportunity to review a detailed report prepared by the promotional service sub-group.

Agreed

- To thank Tracy Carter for the briefing
- To consider at the next meeting the following areas:

Budget progress
Promotional Report
Alternate Weekly Collections

3. Project Plan

Tracy Carter provided the task group with copies of the new overarching project plan. This had been compiled using Microsoft Project and provided clear timescales for the project targets.

Agreed

To utilise the project plan when reviewing project progress

4. Future Work Programme

The task group considered a series of questions from Councillor Seed, compiled to help the task group shape its future work programme.

Agreed

- The task group to receive an update in November on the list of waste contacts in place within the 5 councils and confirmation that they are legal for continuation in the new authority.
- To receive an update at a future meeting in response to the performance, cost, legal requirements and levels of customer satisfaction associated with the future Waste Service.
- To recommend to the Waste project Board that it should set itself an aspiration target for the future to be the best Waste Authority in the country by.....

5. Date of Next Meeting

July 28th 9.30 am