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Gareth Owens LL.B Barrister/Bargyfreithiwr
Chief Officer (Governance)
Prif Swyddog (Llywodraethu)

To: Councillor Carolyn Thomas (Chair)

Contact Officer:

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Councillors: Glyn Banks, Richard Dew, Brian Jones,
Dafydd Meuirg, Bob Parry, Greg Robbins, Sam
Rowlands, Julian Thompson-Hill and Catrin Wager

20th November 2019

Dear Councillor

You are invited to attend a meeting of the North Wales Residual Waste Joint Committee which will be held at 2.00 pm on Thursday, 28th November, 2019 in the Venue Cymru, Llandudno LL30 1BB to consider the following items

A G E N D A

1 APOLOGIES

Purpose: To receive any apologies.

2 DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

Purpose: To receive any declarations of interest.

3 MINUTES (Pages 5 - 8)

Purpose: To confirm as a correct record the minutes of the meeting held on 11th June 2019.

4 MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

Purpose: To consider any matters arising from the previous meeting.

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5 COMMISSIONING AND OPERATIONS UPDATE (Pages 9 - 12)

Purpose: To update Members on the progress of commissioning of Parc Adfer and of operations, including haulage and waste deliveries into Parc Adfer.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION) ACT 1985 - TO CONSIDER THE EXCLUSION OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC

The following items are considered to be exempt by virtue of Paragraph(s) 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

The reports contain details relating to the financial affairs of the 5 councils. Those details are commercially sensitive and the public interest in protecting that commercial position outweighs the public interest in revealing the information during the lifetime of the contract.

6 FINANCE REPORT (Pages 13 - 18)

Purpose: To update Members on financial, invoice and payment related matters in relation to the 1st two months of Authority waste being delivered to Parc Adfer.

7 CONTRACTUAL UPDATE (Pages 19 - 24)

Purpose: To update Members on the latest position concerning contractual matters related to the Parc Adfer Contract.

8 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

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Gareth Owens LL.B Barrister/Bargyfreithiwr
Chief Officer (Governance)
Prif Swyddog (Llywodraethu)

Yours sincerely

Robert Robins
Democratic Services Manager

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NORTH WALES RESIDUAL WASTE JOINT COMMITTEE

Tuesday 11th June 2019 at 3:30pm at
Optic Glyndwr, St Asaph

PRESENT:

Councillor Brian Jones
Councillor Greg Robbins
Councillor Carolyn Thomas
Councillor Gareth W Griffith
Councillor Bob Parry

Denbighshire County Council
Conwy County Borough Council
Flintshire County Council
Gwynedd County Council
Isle of Anglesey County Council

ALSO PRESENT:

Flintshire County Council

Colin Everett (Lead Chief Executive) and Gareth Owens (Chief Officer – Governance)

Denbighshire County Council

Tara Dumas

Conwy County Borough Council

Andrew Wilkinson

Gwynedd Council

Steffan Jones

Isle of Anglesey County Council

Meirion Edwards

North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project

Steffan Owen (Regional Contract Manager)

1. **APOLOGIES**

Apologies for absence were received from Gary Ferguson (Flintshire County Council), Lisa Brownbill (Flintshire County Council), Stephen Jones (Flintshire County Council), Tony Ward (Denbighshire County Council), Councillor Julian Thompson-Hill (Denbighshire County Council), Cllr Richard Dew (Isle of Anglesey County Council),

2. **DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST**

No declarations of interest were made.

3. **ELECTION OF CHAIR AND VICE CHAIR TO THE JOINT COMMITTEE**

Councillor Brian Jones was nominated by Councillor Carolyn Thomas as Chair for the Joint Committee. This was seconded by Councillor Bob Parry.



Colin Everett thanked Brian Jones for taking on the role.

Councillor Greg Robbins was nominated by Councillor Brian Jones as Vice Chair. This was seconded by Councillor Carolyn Thomas.

RESOLVED:

- (a) *That Councillor Brian Jones be appointed Chair of the North Waste Residual Waste Joint Committee and Councillor Greg Robbins be appointed Vice Chair of the North Waste Residual Waste Joint Committee.*

4. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

It was pointed out that the attendees from Gwynedd and Anglesey were incorrect. The attendee from Gwynedd was Councillor Gareth Wyn Griffith, and the attendee from Anglesey was Councillor Bob Parry.

5. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

No matters were raised that were not already included in the agenda.

6. ANNUAL ACCOUNTS

Steffan Owen went the Annual Accounts Report, including going through the Lead Flintshire County Council (FCC) Internal Recharge costs for Finance, Legal, Audit, Chief Executive and Democratic Services.

No comments were raised.

RESOLVED:

- (a) *That the Joint Committee approve the Annual Return for the year ended 31st March 2019.*

7. EXEMPT ITEMS: LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972, SECTION 100A AND SCHEDULE 12A (ACCESS TO INFORMATION)

RESOLVED *that the Public and Press be excluded from the meeting under the provisions of Section 100A of the above Act during consideration of the following items as they involves the likely disclosure of exempt information as defined in paragraph 14 of Part 4 of Schedule 12A to the Act and that in all the relevant circumstances, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information.*



Steffan Owen and Colin Everett gave an update on the construction and preparations on site for Commissioning. He noted that Health and Safety had been kept up to a high standard on site, and that the most recent programme was for first waste delivery to take place in late July.

A discussion was had in relation to preparations for 1st waste delivery, given that no written date had been received to date.

RESOLVED:

(a) *That the report be noted.*

8. **COMMISSIONING PREPARATIONS UPDATE**

Steffan Owen went through the report as issued in the papers, with updates on the progress on preparations for the start of commissioning. The report covered preparations with relation to the following areas:-

- resourcing and staffing;
- invoicing, payment flows and data management;
- operational preparations;
- Haulage Contract(s), and
- Preparations with WTI.

RESOLVED:

(a) *That the report be noted.*

5. **HAULAGE CONTRACT AND WASTE TRANSFER STATIONS REPORT**

Steffan Owen went through the report as issued in the papers, outlining progress in each of the partner authorities in relation to the waste transfer stations (or waste transfer service). Each authority outlined their preparations and plans in relation to waste transfer stations for the start of Commissioning.

Conwy and Denbighshire outlined that they had worked in partnership and awarded a contract to private sector company, Thorncliffe's, for reception of both authorities' waste for onward haulage to Parc Adfer. This contract would be in place whilst their longer term plans for waste transfer stations are developed.

Gwynedd would continue to utilise their existing two waste transfer stations in Harlech and Caernarfon.

Discussions were held in relation to the haulage of waste from the partner authorities. Steffan Owen informed the Members that LWT had been



awarded the contract for hauling Conwy and Denbighshire's waste to Parc Adfer.

A discussion was also held in relation to the options for the haulage of Anglesey's waste, and options were considered and discussed.

RESOLVED:

- (a) *Note the Content of the report;*
- (b) *Agree the longer term haulage service option for Anglesey, subject to Project Board approval of the detail.*

10. **COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND REPORT**

Colin Everett went through the content of the report providing a background to progress on the fund within Flintshire. He noted that the fund was in development and was not scheduled to go live for applications until mid-2020.

RESOLVED:

- (a) *That the Joint Committee notes the progress report and delegates the development of the CBF to Flintshire as the beneficiary authority.*

11. **WELSH GOVERNMENT FUNDING (VERBAL)**

Colin Everett gave an informal update the Welsh Government's Revenue Support Grant. A discussion was had on the budget planning within the partner authorities based on the outcome of discussions with the Welsh Government in relation to the grant.

12. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

It was suggested that the next meeting of the Joint Committee take place around October 2019.

(The meeting ended at 5.00 pm)



REPORT TO: NWRWTP JOINT COMMITTEE

DATE: 28th NOVEMBER 2019

REPORT BY: CONTRACT MANAGER

SUBJECT: COMMISSIONING AND OPERATIONS UPDATE

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1. To update the Joint Committee on progress on the Commissioning and on the early months of operations of Parc Adfer.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1. It was reported to the Joint Committee on the 11th June 2019 that Wheelabrator Technologies Inc (WTI) had been given formal notification of commencement of "Readiness Tests" (the start of the Commissioning process) by their Engineering, Procurement and Construction (EPC) contractors, CNIM, with an expected date for first waste delivery of mid July 2019.
- 2.2. "Readiness" was formally achieved on Saturday 24th August 2019 (this is when the Independent Certifier issued the "Readiness Test Certificate"), which meant that the first day waste deliveries from the partner authorities was Tuesday, 27th August 2019. It was on the Tuesday as the Monday of that week was a bank holiday and it was felt that given it was the first day of deliveries, it would be preferable to be on a normal working day rather than a bank holiday.
- 2.3. A summary of progress on the Commissioning of Parc Adfer and operations since the 1st waste deliveries is provided below.

3. CONSIDERATIONS

Commissioning

- 3.1. When facilities such as Parc Adfer achieve "Readiness", this means that they are deemed to be capable of receiving and treating waste. It does not, however, mean that the facility is complete. At the Commissioning stage, there may remain areas of the site / facility that are not fully complete, however it is deemed complete enough that the plant and process can operate safely. During the Commissioning phase, the site can receive and treat waste, however remains in the control of the EPC contractors, CNIM.
- 3.2. During Commissioning, the site operates under a rigorous safety, reliability and performance testing regime. During this period, the day to day operation of the site is carried out WTI (under their special purpose operating arm for Parc



Adfer, Parc Adfer Operations Ltd (PAOL)), however the EPC contractor goes through a process of “hand over” to PAOL including training of staff, safety and operating procedures etc.

- 3.3. Once the safety, reliability and performance testing regime is complete and the independent certifier is satisfied with the conclusion of that process, the plant’s completion can be signed off. At that point the facility will achieve “Acceptance”. From a purely operational perspective this will have no impact on the partner authorities as the waste will continue to be delivered to Parc Adfer as it currently is during the Commissioning period, however the contract will formally enter the “Services” phase and the contract will come into force in full.
- 3.4. Commissioning has been progressing well on site with the performance of all aspects of the process performing well, with the emissions monitoring showing that emissions have been well within permitted limits.
- 3.5. The Incinerator Bottom Ash (IBA) has been undergoing a rigorous testing process to verify that it is of a quality good enough to be recycled. At the time of writing the IBA material in all the tests carried out so far has passed quality standards, and the is expected begin to be processed for recycling in the near future.
- 3.6. The most recent programme provided by CNIM for achieving “Acceptance” and Parc Adfer entering into the Services phase is the 9th December 2019.

Waste Diversion

- 3.7. Overall the Commissioning process has been progressing well, with only one issue that affected acceptance of partner authority waste, an unprogrammed shutdown was required to fix defects in the water system, requiring diversion of waste to contingency locations between Tuesday 15th October and Monday 21st October.
- 3.8. Following repair works and testing, Parc Adfer was able to receive waste again on Tuesday 22nd October, meaning waste was diverted to other sites for 5 days in total (including Saturday deliveries).
- 3.9. Whilst a diversion event is never welcome for any party, such diversion events are not wholly unexpected given that the facility is undergoing commissioning and testing and complications and issues are a normal part of this period. A Contingency Plan had been created for such occurrences which was implemented.
- 3.10. It is also important to note that WTI/PAOL, the partner authorities, the hauliers and the waste transfer site operators all worked well together in order to secure contingency locations and deliveries were taken to those locations at short notice. The Contract Management Team would like to extend thanks to all partner authorities for their support and work during that period.
- 3.11. On the first day of diversion (Wednesday 16th October), due to the late notice, WTI were only able to secure a certain amount of waste tonnage capacity with



third party suppliers with waste treatment such as Energy from Waste as the destination. This meant that unfortunately Gwynedd and Anglesey had to send their residual waste to a landfill (Hafod landfill, near Wrexham) for one day. For the remainder of the waste diversion period (4 days), all partnership waste was diverted from landfill.

- 3.12. As noted above, Parc Adfer resumed accepting waste on Tuesday 22nd October 2019, and has been operating without any major issues since then.

Operations

- 3.13. As noted above, deliveries of the partner authorities' waste (Contract Waste) began on the 27th August 2019. Only Contract Waste was accepted at Parc Adfer during that first week. Third Party (commercial) waste deliveries started on site the following week on Monday 2nd September. The process itself was also started and waste started to be treated on the 3rd September.

- 3.14. Operations on site and the interface between the partner authorities, hauliers and Parc Adfer has been positive overall. There were a very small number of deliveries where waste was delivered that didn't meet WTI's waste acceptance criteria during the first week (bulky items), however this has been the only issue with waste acceptance thus far, with the Partner Authorities settling in to an operational pattern.

- 3.15. WTI have reported that the waste composition / calorific value (cv) of the waste is within expectations.

- 3.16. One area where some minor, but not unexpected, issues have been experienced is in relation to the time taken to accept, weigh in, empty and weigh out vehicle deliveries, known as "turnaround times" which is a key project metric. Average vehicle turnaround times have to date been good overall. A small number of delays have occurred whilst operational procedures are refined, drivers become more familiar with site and management systems are put in place for duty of care paperwork. WTI and the Authority have been working constructively together to optimise turnaround times..

Haulage

- 3.17. The partner authorities' waste is taken to site through a variety of hauliers. Anglesey's waste is delivered to the site by Potters Group, Gwynedd undertake their own haulage, and Conwy, Denbighshire and a proportion of Flintshire's waste is delivered by LWT Contractors. Some of Flintshire's waste is delivered directly to site (e.g. some of the refuse collection round vehicles).

- 3.18. Overall, all the haulage services have been successful and largely trouble free. There have been a small number of minor issues in relation to queuing to get into site and time taken to empty their loads on site (as noted in 3.16 above), however these have been minor on the whole and the majority of deliveries have been smooth. As noted above, WTI have been working to minimise any disruption to deliveries to site, ensuring that Contract Waste is prioritised.



Summary

3.19. In summary, the Commissioning of Parc Adfer has been progressing well and despite some minor “teething troubles”, overall the early operations have been successful. A seamless and trouble free transition to full services is expected in December 2019.

4. RECOMMENDATIONS

4.1. Note the content of the report

5. FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

5.1. Financial implications of Contract has previously been reported to the Joint Committee.

6. ANTI-POVERTY IMPACT

N/A

7. ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

N/A

8. EQUALITIES IMPACT

N/A

9. PERSONNEL IMPLICATIONS

9.1. As described in the body of this report

10. CONSULTATION REQUIRED

None.

11. CONSULTATION UNDERTAKEN

11.1. As outlined in the report.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACCESS TO INFORMATION ACT 1985

Background Documents:

None

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of the Local Government Act 1972.

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