



NORTH WALES RESIDUAL WASTE JOINT COMMITTEE

Thursday 4th March 2022 at 9am – virtual meeting hosted via Teams video conferencing service

PRESENT:

Councillor Brian Jones (Vice Chair)	Denbighshire County Council
Councillor Greg Robbins (Chair)	Conwy County Borough Council
Councillor Glyn Banks	Flintshire County Council
Councillor Gareth Wyn Griffiths	Gwynedd Council
Councillor Richard Dew	Isle of Anglesey County Council

ALSO PRESENT:

Flintshire County Council

Gareth Owens (Chief Officer (Governance))
Tina Roberts (Project Accountant)
Gill Ainscow (Parc Adfer Administrative Officer)
Katie Wilby (Chief Officer (Streetscene and Transportation))

Denbighshire County Council

Tara Dumas (Waste and Recycling Manager)

Conwy County Borough Council

Andrew Wilkinson (Head of Neighbourhood Services)

Gwynedd Council

Steffan Jones (Head of Highways and Municipal)

Isle of Anglesey County Council

Meirion Edwards (Chief Waste Management Officer)

North Wales Residual Waste Treatment Project

Steffan Owen (Regional Contract Manager)

1. APOLOGIES

Tony Ward (Denbighshire County Council), Neal Cockerton (Flintshire County Council)

2. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made.

3. APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

The minutes of the meeting of the North Wales Residual Waste Joint Committee held on the 10th June 2021 were submitted for approval. They were accepted as a correct record.



RESOLVED:

- (a) *That the minutes of the meeting of the North Wales Residual Waste Joint Committee held on the 10th June 2021 be approved as a correct record.*

4. MATTERS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MINUTES

No matters arising were raised from the previous meeting.

5. SERVICES UPDATE REPORT

Steffan Owen (SO) went through the Services Update Report, and noted that waste deliveries had continued to site with no significant or recurring issues, noting that this was, of course, during the Covid 19 pandemic. The plant is performing very well in terms of its efficiency, emissions etc, with emissions well below permitted levels.

SO outlined that the high tonnage trends seen during the Covid-19 pandemic appeared to be slowing a little with the most recent months (December 2021 and January 2022) being lower than the previous year.

Meirion Edwards noted that recycling levels in Anglesey had been lower due to the higher levels of residual waste.

Katie Wilby added that the picture in FCC was similar.

SO went on to note that the annual maintenance shutdown was scheduled for June, and that the procedures in place on site are designed to allow the partner authorities' waste to be received throughout the shutdown, with no waste diversions were required. This was successfully achieved in 2021.

SO noted that Parc Adfer is operating to the highest possible and most modern (and even incoming) monitoring and emissions standards, and that in a Natural Resources Wales Compliance Assessment on its all aspects of the site's operations, including emissions, management, records and monitoring etc. In that assessment Parc Adfer had achieved the highest possible assessment score.

SO noted that specialist advisors, Ramboll UK, following a tender process, had been awarded a contract to carry out a study into the use of heat from Parc Adfer to nearby buildings.

SO summarised that operations and performance at Parc Adfer have continued to do well, despite the on-going effects of the Covid pandemic. There have been no disruptions to Partner Authority deliveries, low overall



turnaround times with minimal delays to deliveries, and emission levels have been well below permitted levels and other performance measures have been very good.

RESOLVED:

(a) *That the report be noted.*

6. **PARC ADFER COMMUNITY BENEFIT FUND REPORT**

SO went through the report as issued in the papers giving a background to the Parc Adfer Community Benefit Fund.

SO gave a background to the fund, and went on to give details behind the eligibility and project criteria, and the exclusions.

SO explained that the 5 project criteria are renewable energy, carbon reduction, waste reduction reuse and recycling, biodiversity and improvements to local environment quality and finally de-carbonisation of transport.

SO added that the fund had been allocated with approximately £30k - £50k per year being allocated to support the use of the Visitor Centre at Parc Adfer, through sessional workers for student / school groups and subsidised school / college transport to the facility for the 5 partner authorities.

Cllr Glyn Banks (GB) asked about the eligible area for the fund, so which SO responded that the area was set as the Deeside Partnership Area.

Tara Dumas (TD) asked whether groups would be expected to provide some match funding for applications.

SO noted that applicants would indeed be expected to provide some level of match funding, and that applicants will be assisted with their applications at all stages.

KW proposed an annual review of the criteria.

Agreed:- for the Joint Committee to carry out an annual review of the Fund's project criteria.

RESOLVED:

(a) *That the report be noted.*

(b) *That the Joint Committee receives updates on the fund's allocation and successful projects at Joint Committee meetings going forward*

(c) *That the Joint Committee undertake an annual review of the fund's project criteria.*



7. VISITOR CENTRE AND EDUCATION PROGRAMME REPORT

SO went through the report as issued in the papers. He provided a description of the Visitor Centre and each of the rooms, and went through the next steps and timetable for the procurement of the education programme supporting materials, including a range of resources to support the Visitor Centre, including web based resources.

SO outlined the work being undertaken to ensure the staffing needs of undertaking the visits to site are met.

SO went on to note that part of the element of the fund that has been set aside for the Visitor Centre and education programme is to be allocated to subsidise school/college transport to the facility for the partner authorities. The details of the subsidy will be developed as part of the development of the work outlined in the report.

Councillor Brian Jones (BJ) noted that he was very supportive of the development of the use of the Visitor Centre, and added that it needed to be kept fresh and exciting.

GB agreed with Councillor Jones that the centre was a fantastic resource, but added that the visits and the education programme needed to be in line with the wider education curriculum.

SO agreed and noted that this was a critical part of the development.

Councillor Bob Parry (BP) commented on the importance of the facility and that it was a magnificent building.

It was suggested that the Contract Manager liaises with Keep Wales Tidy and their Schools projects. All agreed with suggestion, and that it should be actioned.

RESOLVED:

(d) *That the content of the report be noted.*

8. FINANCE REPORT (Part 2 Item)

SO went through the report as issued in the papers, with updates on the contract costs for the project for 2021/22, and the forecast costs for 2022/23. The report highlighted areas that affect the costs, notably the tonnage throughput into Parc Adfer and indexation (inflation).

RESOLVED:

(a) *That the content of the report be noted*



9. **COMMERCIAL ITEMS REPORT (Part 2 Item)**

SO went through the report as issued in the papers, with updates on the through the report as issued in the papers, with updates on the progress on discussions with Enfinium in relation to two contractual matters, and a proposal from enfinium that would be forthcoming over the coming months that could benefit the Authority. A discussion was held on progress on dialogue with WTI, the next steps and basis for reaching agreement with Enfinium.

RESOLVED:

- (a) *That the content of the report be noted*
- (b) *Provide approval to enter into further discussions and negotiations with Enfinium in relation to contractual matters outlined in the report;*
- (c) *Provide approval for the Lead Authority (with the support of the project's financial and legal advisors) to carry out appropriate, robust and thorough due diligence of the proposals and its potential implications;*
- (d) *Delegate authority to the Project Board to guide those discussions and negotiations, with a view to providing a recommendation on whether to accept the proposals or not, and any conditions or stipulations of acceptance.*
- (e) *Note that the final approval will be in line with the Inter-Authority Agreement.*

10. **ANY OTHER BUSINESS**

Councillor Brian Jones stated that it had been a pleasure sitting on the Joint Committee with the other Members, noting that with the Local Government elections coming soon. There would possibly be a change in membership of the Joint Committee.

Councillor Greg Robbins echoed those comments, noting that it had been a privilege to Chair the committee, and noted that the team worked extremely well. He wished all Members well for the future.

(The meeting ended at 10:48 am)
