

**PRESENT:**

Councillor G Hazelwood (Chairman) representing North Kesteven District Council

Councillor A H Turner MBE (Executive Support Councillor for Waste)	Lincolnshire County Council
Sean Kent	Lincolnshire County Council
Ian Taylor	Lincolnshire County Council
Lisa Foster	Lincolnshire County Council
George Bernard	Boston Borough Council
Councillor D Hobson	Boston Borough Council
Phil Drury	Boston Borough Council
Councillor Mrs Y Bodger	City of Lincoln Council
Tony Gray	City of Lincoln Council
Councillor B P Burnett	East Lindsey District Council
Roy Ormsby	East Lindsey District Council
Mark Taylor	North Kesteven District Council
Councillor H R Johnson	South Holland District Council
Glen Chapman	South Holland District Council
Councillor J Smith	South Kesteven District Council
Tracey Blackwell	South Kesteven District Council
Councillor I Parrott	West Lindsey District Council
Councillor J Brockway	West Lindsey District Council
Glynn Pilkington	West Lindsey District Council
Simon Mitchell	Environment Agency

Prior to the start of the meeting, the Chairman welcomed Councillor J Brockway (West Lindsey District Council) and Councillor D Hobson (Boston Borough Council) to the meeting as they would be the new representatives for their respective authorities.

33. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor C L Strange (Lincolnshire County Council) and Robin Hall (Government Office of the East Midlands)

34. MINUTES

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Partnership meeting held on 4 March 2010 be agreed as a correct record and signed by the Chairman

35. KERBSIDE GREEN WASTE COLLECTION – BOSTON BOROUGH COUNCIL

A report was received from Phil Drury, Strategic Director at Boston Borough Council, which provided the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership with an opportunity to consider the proposal to support collaboration between Lincolnshire County Council and Boston Borough Council to facilitate a kerbside green waste collection service in the Borough of Boston. This proposal had been put forward as Boston was the only collection district to still be collecting green waste as part of its residual waste stream since the introduction of wheeled bins in 1996. Analysis has shown that over 30% of the residual waste stream was made up of biodegradable green waste which would be suitable for composting. Boston has struggled to improve its recycling performance substantially since the introduction of its Alternate Weekly Collection (twin bin) in 2003, and it was suggested that a separate collection of green waste would increase recycling performance by a further 20%, which would bring Boston more in line with the best performing districts and would also significantly contribute to the County recycling target of 55% which needed to be achieved by 2015.

The Partnership was reminded that if this collaboration went ahead, it was likely that this would lead to savings of between £224,000 and £260,000 as Boston's green waste would be diverted from landfill.

Each district was given the opportunity to respond to this proposal with the result being that the majority were in favour of this proposal in principle with the exception of South Holland District Council, who believed that there should be more promotion and encouragement for home composting. Some of the comments raised were as follows:

- There was a need to consider the best option for the council tax payer
- The details needed to be worked through
- Districts would be supportive of this so that recycling targets can be met
- Whether collections would take place through the year or be suspended during winter months
- Encouragement for residents to do more home composting

It was commented that it was hoped that the partnership as a whole would be able to come to an agreement which would benefit the people of Lincolnshire. It was also noted that Boston had delayed the replacement of their fleet of collection vehicles from April 2010, until this decision had been resolved. However, it would still be necessary to replace the vehicles in 2011, whatever the outcome of this decision.

RESOLVED

That there was support, in principle, for this proposal, from the majority of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership.

36. LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TRADING STANDARDS PACKAGING PROJECT

Lisa Foster, Packaging Team Leader, presented a report which updated the Partnership on the work of the Trading Standards Packaging Team, whose job it is to address the issue of excess packaging. It was reported that the team continue to work with local businesses, sending out newsletters with ways to optimise their

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packaging. Work was also continuing with schools, who had also been involved with the Rethink campaign.

The members of the Partnership were provided with the opportunity to ask questions, and the following points were raised:

- The only negative feedback was that it was sometimes difficult to fit in with the schedules of businesses when inviting them to attend events
- There was a need to ensure that the team was producing outcomes and making a difference instead of just raising awareness

RESOLVED

That the update be noted

37. RECYCLING DVD

The Lincolnshire Waste Partnership watched a DVD which was part of the Rethink initiative, and would be aimed at primary and secondary schools to highlight the issues around recycling and excessive packaging. It was noted that this DVD would eventually be distributed to all schools in the county, and each school would receive a resource box to accompany the DVD. The Partnership was informed that the film was still in a draft format and their comments would be welcomed.

Overall, the Partnership thought that this was a very good film and would be of benefit to the schools. However, there was a request that a section of narration which indicated that the plastic in disposable nappies was recyclable should be removed, as there were concerned that this could lead to used nappies being placed in recycling bins, and these were not recyclable.

Following discussion of this item it was suggested that the next meeting of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership should be held at the Caythorpe Recycling Centre, where a tour of the facilities could also take place.

RESOLVED

1. That the content of the DVD and the comments of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership be noted.
2. That arrangements would be made for the next meeting of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership to be held at Caythorpe Recycling Centre.

38. PLASTIC RECYCLING

The Partnership received a report from Ian Taylor, which addressed an issue raised by a partner of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership regarding clarification of the situation with regard to the recycling of plastic within the county. Confusion had arisen as different districts could process different types of plastic.

Concerns had been raised as some people were missing out on the message of what was recyclable, and it was wondered if there was a way to address this. There was a suggestion that an article could be placed in County News which identified the materials that each district accepted in their recycling bins.

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It was considered important to have a countywide strategy on this issue, and it was hoped that one day this would be achieved. The report noted that progress was being towards achieving this objective and that Lincolnshire County Council, as the Waste Disposal Authority, remained committed to increasing the range of materials which could be collected.

RESOLVED

That the position regarding the recycling of low grade plastic packaging be noted.

39. LINCOLNSHIRE JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY – ACTION PLAN UPDATE

Consideration was given to the action plan for the Lincolnshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy, and comments were made on the following items:

- Clarification of what the Junk Mail Campaign was
- Swapping schemes were have a positive response in West Lindsey
- In South Kesteven the County Council was working directly with primary schools to promote recycling initiatives
- The publicity for the WRAP home composter scheme had been completed
- The action to develop contingency arrangements to meet landfill allowance targets had been completed
- How was the issue of using real nappies being promoted to new parents

RESOLVED

That the progress made against the action plan be noted.

40. DEFRA CONSULTATION ON THE INTRODUCTION OF RESTRICTIONS ON THE LANDFILLING OF CERTAIN WASTES

Consideration was given to a report by the Waste Officer Group which outlined the contents of DEFRA's consultation paper on the possible introduction of restrictions on the landfilling of certain types of waste. The Partnership was informed that the proposals were likely to have significant implications on both the Waste Collection and Disposal Authorities if they were implemented. The Waste Officer Group had considered it essential that the Partnership be fully briefed on the consultation and thought it appropriate that a response be sent on behalf of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership.

A draft response to DEFRA's consultation on the Introduction of Restrictions on the Landfilling of Certain Wastes was circulated to the Partnership for their comments. There was unanimous support for this response to be sent on behalf of the Partnership and members felt it was important that the full membership of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership should be listed on the letter. It was also encouraged that the individual districts take the letter back to their respective Chief Executives and Leaders so they could also submit a response if they wished. It was suggested that the response should be also be sent to all local MP's and the Department of Energy. It was commented that introduction of these restrictions would mean local councils would be implementing central government policies which would be deeply unpopular with residents. The issue of enforcement of these restrictions was also

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discussed and it was suggested that an additional point be included in the letter which emphasised the potential issues with enforcement.

It was commented that all the districts being in agreement would send a strong message to DEFRA on the position of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership on this matter.

RESOLVED

That a response be sent to DEFRA on behalf of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership.

41. ENERGY FROM WASTE UPDATE

The Partnership received a verbal update on the progress of the Energy from Waste project from Sean Kent, Head of Environmental Management. He informed the Partnership that a paper had been presented to the Officer Working Group at its last meeting and the Energy from Waste project was progressing well and tenders were down to the two preferred contractors. The tenders would then be going before the Environmental Scrutiny Committee and the Executive in September 2010.

It was hopeful that contractors would be able to start on site in 2011, and the site had already been cleared which meant there would be no delay once a contractor had been selected.

It was also reported that the Waste Transfer Stations were also progressing well, and the only site with any issues was at Sleaford, however, a temporary solution was being worked on. It was thought that the Waste Transfer Stations should be operational by 2012 and it was hoped that a site visit would be able to take place in 2011.

RESOLVED

That the update on the progress of the Energy from Waste Project be noted.

Following the end of the formal business of the meeting, it was suggested that another visit to the Veolia plant in Sheffield be arranged, and that this may be of particular interest to new members of the Partnership. This idea was welcomed and it was requested that if anyone was interested they should contact the Democratic Services Officer, however, at least 10 people would be needed to allow this visit to take place.

The Chairman thanked all members for their attendance at the meeting.

The meeting closed at 12.15pm.