



PRESENT:

Councillor C L Strange (Chairman) representing Lincolnshire County 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
Johanna Walker	Lincolnshire County Council
Councillor Mrs Y Bodger	City of Lincoln Council
Caroline Pritchard	City of Lincoln Council
Roy Ormsby	East Lindsey District Council
Councillor B P Burnett	East Lindsey District Council
Councillor G Hazelwood	North Kesteven District Council
Mark Taylor	North Kesteven District Council
David Banks	South Kesteven District Council
Councillor I Parrott	West Lindsey District Council
Glynn Pilkington	West Lindsey District Council
Simon Mitchell	Environment Agency

9. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillors J Brockway (West Lindsey District Council), D Hobson (Boston Borough Council) and J Smith (South Kesteven District Council).

Apologies for absence were also received from George Bernard (Boston Borough Council), Tracey Blackwell (South Kesteven District Council) and Glen Chapman (South Holland District Council).

It was noted that Councillor I Parrott (West Lindsey District Council), attended this meeting in place of Councillor J Brockway (West Lindsey District Council) for this meeting only.

16. MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 9 DECEMBER 2010

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership meeting held on 9 December 2010, be agreed and signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

It was reported that as a result of the previous meeting, a lot of the Members had been to visit the AWS Eco Plastics plant, and it was reported that they were still more

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than happy to welcome groups of 2 or 3 people if there were still any members who would like to visit. West Lindsey District Council informed the Partnership that they currently had 3 visits planned for 12 and 21 April and 4 May 2011, and there were spare places available if anyone else would like to go.

Councillor Y Bodger reported that she had not been able to act as a judge for the competition as the format had been altered due to the tight timescales of the campaign.

17. ENERGY FROM WASTE AND WASTE TRANSFER STATION UPDATE

The Head of Environmental Management provided the Members of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership with a verbal update on the progress of the Energy from Waste (EfW) contract and the provision of the Waste Transfer Stations (WTS) at various locations around the county to support the EfW facility.

It was reported that with regard to the EfW contract, the dialogue was now complete and the contract was expected to be signed the following day, and it was hoped that once this had been done construction would start shortly after.

In relation to the waste transfer station sites, the following was reported:

Boston – there had been an agreement to buy the land.

Sleaford and Grantham – these sites were progressing well and planning permission had been granted.

Gainsborough – negotiations were ongoing and the potential sites had been visited by the Chairman, and it was hopeful that there were two sites which could be progressed well, and by the next meeting of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership, it was thought that something further would be known.

It was also reported that the Rasens Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC), located on Gallamore Lane, Market Rasen, would be opening on Friday 4 March 2011 at 2.30pm. This would be the thirteenth HWRC owned by Lincolnshire County Council, and would be the pilot site for three day opening with the option of being open on a bank holiday Mondays. The visitor date gathered in six months would be reviewed and used to inform decisions of whether opening hours of other sites should be reduced.

It was reported that there would a press release when the Energy from Waste contract had been signed, as this would be a great success for the whole county and the authority would want to promote it. Members would be notified when it was felt that this information could be released.

It was commented that the Energy from Waste facility was a county wide project and not just a county council project as all members of the Partnership had been involved, and should be very proud of what had been achieved as a group. It was also noted that the County Council was working closely with colleagues in economic regeneration to promote the energy which would be produced. However, even though this was good news about the EfW and waste transfer stations, it should be remembered that this was not the end of the project for the Partnership, and the effects on waste collections would still need to be looked at. A suggestion was put forward that the next meeting of the Officer Working Group be dedicated to looking at the issues around waste collections and how to move forward. It was hoped that a

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programme could be worked out for this over the next six months and at the meeting in September 2011, there would be plans in place for how to progress.

A brief discussion also took place regarding plans for a WTS in Skegness, and it was noted that a report would be brought back to the meeting in September 2011 regarding the implications of waste collections and locations of WTSs in the Skegness area. It was thought there was a need to understand what the issues were and to have a detailed discussion about it, but the collection data for all districts had started to be validated to ensure that there was value for money.

RESOLVED

That the current position on the Energy from Waste Contract and the associated provision of Waste Transfer Stations be noted.

18. LOVE FOOD HATE WASTE CAMPAIGN

Consideration was given to a report which provided an update on the progress of the Love Food Hate Waste campaign since the last update at the meeting of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership on 9 December 2010.

It was reported that post campaign monitoring had commenced on 14 February 2011, and would run for a period of 4 weeks, and would establish if there had been a behavioural change within the campaign period. It was noted that 40 events had been organised and delivered to date across the county, with an additional 7 events and cookery demonstrations planned for the remainder of March. This campaign was scheduled to run until the end of March 2011. The Partnership was informed that these events had been very successful and over 4800 people had been spoken to as part of the campaign. Members commented on how impressed they had been with some of the events which they had been able to attend.

The Partnership thanked Lauren Naylor-Morrell and Victoria Frodsham and all the districts for all their help and support with the Love Food Hate Waste campaign over the past 4 months, and it could not have been achieved without the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership. It was suggested that a letter be sent to them on behalf of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership.

It was requested by the Chairman that the Sustainability Team keep working on this if possible, even though the campaign was due to end, support for this initiative should continue in some form. It was queried whether there would be any scope for taking this project into schools in the future as educating people about this issue was important. The possibility of targeting children 16 years and upwards in colleges was suggested as children of that age did not always know what to 'do' with food and tended to purchase a lot of ready to eat food. It was suggested that this be discussed further at the next meeting of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership.

RESOLVED

That the progress made to date be noted and that the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership continue to support the Love Food Hate Waste Campaign.

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19. LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL TRADING STANDARDS PACKAGING PROJECT

The Lincolnshire Waste Partnership received a report from the Packaging Team Leader which provided a summary of the achievements of the Packaging Team since it was established in April 2008, as the funding stream would be coming to an end on 31 March 2011, and the experience gained within the team would be used to mainstream the packaging work within the Trading Standards Service. A number of examples where Trading Standards had successfully managed to encourage companies to change the way they packaged their products were shown to the Partnership, and it was noted that a lot of work had been carried out with internet based companies.

The team had worked with consumers and businesses to raise awareness and reduce excessive packaging, as well as working in partnership with a number of district councils and other government agencies and key partners such as WRAP, DEFRA and BIS. There had also been heavy involvement with the County Councils Sustainable Schools work and the team had been asked to attend many of the county's schools Environment Days and speak to Eco-Clubs, and they have also facilitated competitions to encourage students to think about items were packaged. One project which was highly successful and well received was the 'Rethink' initiative which was developed in partnership with other departments of the County Council. This included the Rethink box/class toolkit, the Rethink DVD and the Rethink packaging.

It was also reported, that in relation to enforcement activity in the area of packaging, Lincolnshire was now one of the leading authorities in the country when it comes to securing compliance within the regulations. Lincolnshire was also viewed as an example of best practice and was regularly contacted by other Trading Standards services wishing to share in the extensive knowledge and expertise which has been built up over the last three years.

The members of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership, Officer Working Group and Recycling Officers Group were thanked for their support towards the work of the Packaging Team.

It was queried whether the successes of the work on reducing excess packaging would have a detrimental effect on whether the county managed to achieve its recycling target of 55% by 2015. However, it was noted that even though the quantity of waste had reduced, the rates were increasing and so it was likely that the target of 55% would be met, although progress towards this target had slowed down, it was going in the right direction. Reassurance was given that even though the Packaging project would end on 31 March 2011 as scheduled, it would remain a priority for Lincolnshire, and would be incorporated into existing trading standards work. The Partnership was also informed that as Lisa Foster, the Packaging Team Leader had been appointed the Trading Standards Institute Lead Officer for the Environment she would continue to feed information into other local authorities and central government on this issue. She was also appointed to the Government's Advisory Committee on Packaging in January 2010, working alongside representatives from all sectors of the packaging industry.

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The Partnership was informed that some of the work being carried out by the Team was in trying to influence market sectors as a whole rather than individual companies, to change the way they packaged their products.

RESOLVED

That the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership note the report and the achievements of the Packaging Team.

20. HOME COMPOST BIN SCHEME

Consideration was given to a report which outlined the new pricing structure which had been proposed by Straight plc for a totally managed service for 2011/12. It was reported that the current home compost bin scheme with Straight plc had been in operation since September 2009 and would end on 31 March 2011. The scheme would mean that customers would place orders directly with Straight plc, and the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership would only need to promote the scheme.

It was noted that Straight plc had proposed a small price increase, but there would also be a larger range of products available for residents to purchase.

It was reported that all deliveries had to be to a residential address, and so at this time it would not be possible for them to be delivered to allotment sites.

RESOLVED

That the proposed changes to the pricing structure be accepted so that residents could take advantage of these preferential rates.

21. DEFRA CONSULTATION ON THE REVIEW OF THE CONTROLLED WASTE REGULATIONS (AS RELATED TO SCHEDULE 2)

The Partnership received a report which provided background information to the Defra consultation on the review of the Controlled Waste Regulations (CWR) which was released in November 2010. However, due to the timing of the release it was too late for it to go to the December meeting of this Committee and the consultation period finished before this meeting could take place. Instead, the issue was considered in great detail by the Waste Officers Group at its meeting on 6 January 2011, and a response sent to Defra in time for the deadline date for responses which was 14 January 2011.

It was reported that this consultation did not cover the whole of the Controlled Waste Regulations, but just Schedule 2 waste.

(At this point in the meeting Councillor B P Burnett declared a personal interest as a director of a furniture re-use company)

The problems around disposal of asbestos were discussed and it was suggested that a paper be brought to the next meeting on this issue, as the County Council should be able to provide this service.

RESOLVED

That the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership note and approve the response sent by the Chairman to Defra on behalf of the LWP.

22. LINCOLNSHIRE JOINT MUNICIPAL WASTE MANAGEMENT STRATEGY –
RISK ASSESSMENT OF THE ACTION PLAN

The Lincolnshire Waste Partnership was invited to consider the Risk Assessment for the Action Plan which had been completed by the Waste Officer Group. The activities and measures highlighted on the risk assessment were discussed and it was suggested that this be referred back to the Officer Working Group so they could examine in more detail the three actions which had been rated as 'N' or not adequately controlled.

It was queried how objective 2 could be classed as a not adequately controlled risk, but it was reported that the partnership could demonstrate that this was a priority, and the rating did not mean that it was not being managed effectively but that it presented a risk due the influence of outside factors.

RESOLVED

1. That the Risk Assessment of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy Action Plan be adopted;
2. That the three actions rated as 'N' be referred back to the Officer Working Group;
3. That the contents of the updated Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy Action Plan and the Archived Action Plan be noted.

It was suggested that the Environment Agency prepare a report for the next meeting regarding illegal waste sites, and what was being done to tackle them.

The meeting closed at 12.20pm.