Lincolnshire COUNTY COUNCIL
Working for a better future

LINCOLNSHIRE WASTE PARTNERSHIP
7 MARCH 2019

PRESENT: COUNCILLOR E J POLL (LINCOLNSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL) (CHAIRMAN)

Councillor David Brown	(Boston Borough Council)
Matt Fisher	(Boston Borough Council)
Councillor Mrs Sandra Harrison	(East Lindsey District Council)
Victoria Burgess	(East Lindsey District Council)
Councillor Fay Smith	(City of Lincoln Council)
Steve Bird	(City of Lincoln Council)
Councillor Peter Burley	(North Kesteven District Council)
David Steels	(North Kesteven District Council)
Charlotte Paine	(South Holland District Council)
Ian Yates	(South Kesteven District Council)
Gary Smith	(South Kesteven District Council)
Councillor Jeff Summers	(West Lindsey District Council)
Ady Selby	(West Lindsey District Council)
Councillor D McNally	(Lincolnshire County Council)
Mike Butler	(Lincolnshire County Council)
Matthew Michell	(Lincolnshire County Council)
Rachel Wilson	(Lincolnshire County Council)

18 APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Nicole Hilton (Lincolnshire County Council), Christian Allen (Boston Borough Council), Councillor R Gambba-Jones (South Holland District Council), Emily Spicer (South Holland District Council), Councillor Dr P Moseley (South Kesteven District Council) and Simon Mitchell (Environment Agency).

19 DECLARATION OF INTERESTS

There were no declarations of interest at this point of the meeting.

20 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 12 JULY 2018

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 12 July 2018 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

21 MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD ON 10 SEPTEMBER 2018

RESOLVED

That the minutes of the meeting held on 10 September 2018 be signed by the Chairman as a correct record.

22 CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

There were no announcements by the Chairman of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership. However, the Chairman welcomed Mike Butler, Strategic Waste Consultant and Rachel Stamp, LWP Programme Delivery Manager to their first meeting of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership.

23 TERMS OF REFERENCE

Consideration was given to a report which asked the Partnership to discuss any necessary changes to the Terms of Reference. At the meeting held on 2 March 2017, the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership approved a revised Terms of Reference. Paragraph 16 stated that "The Lincolnshire Waste Partnership will biannually review its governance and the Terms of Reference in the spirit of robust self-assessment and identify where/if changes are appropriate in order to permit the Partnership to better meet its main roles."

During discussion the following was suggested:

- That the make-up of the Partnership should reflect that the strategic leads for waste, both officer and elected member were attending the Partnership.
- That the review period for the Terms of Reference should be amended from biannually to two yearly.
- That paragraph 13 be amended to show that the Partnership would meet formally three times per year.
- That the process for the election of Chairman be amended so that where there is no opposition the Chairman would remain in place.

RESOLVED

That the Terms of Reference be amended to reflect the above changes.

24 PARTNER UPDATES

Each partner authority was provided with the opportunity to update the rest of the Partnership on any developments or updates which may be of interest to the Partnership. The following was reported:

North Kesteven District Council – since the last meeting, the depot was now fully up and running, and the authority was starting to implement some of the planned changes. A lot of these involved either back office or operational changes. A new back office system had been introduced which was helping with efficiencies. Officers were also starting to

look at maintenance contracts and what that would mean for the authority in the future alongside the rest of the Partners.

South Holland District Council – officers had recently attended the PCC Fly Tipping Forum, which was very well received. Officers were currently waiting to see what actions would come out of that. There had been a presentation from a representative of the Hertfordshire Waste Group who were doing a lot of work around fly-tipping and litter and had developed a toolkit. It was suggested it may be beneficial for someone to attend a future meeting of the LWP to give a presentation. It was noted that the PCC forum was well-attended and one of the key actions was to start mapping hot spot areas for fly-tipping.

Boston Borough Council – it was reported that Boston had been very active in terms of enforcement. The contract with 3GS had come to an end in February 2019 rather abruptly as they were not issuing sufficient fixed penalty notices to make it viable (leading to the assumption that Boston must be very clean). Officers were looking at alternative options as there was not sufficient additional capacity for the authority to run the service themselves. There had been a number of enquiries in terms of getting the service up and running.
It was also commented that the Fly-Tipping forum had been a very positive and worthwhile event and that a lot could be achieved by working together.

East Lindsey District Council – it was reported that the previous evening, the full council had agreed its capital programme for the new fleet of vehicles.

South Kesteven District Council – the authority had been carrying out on street enforcement and had employed its own enforcement officer. So far it had been relatively successful bringing in £24k of income. Payment rates had also been quite high. Penalty notices were mainly being issued for dropping cigarette stubs and this was being promoted through social media. The fine had been set at £100 slightly higher than the minimum of £75, but it was hoped that this would help people to behave better. It was noted that officers would have conversations with the other partners as it was suggested it could be a good idea to have a 'hit squad' approach to enforcement.
It was also reported that a grounds maintenance company had been set up which would be delivering grounds maintenance services for South Kesteven District Council.

City of Lincoln Council – Waste management was part of the general street scene service and included street cleansing and grounds maintenance. The current contract would be due for renewal in 2022 and so work was commencing now on what the authority wanted the contract to cover. A lot of work would be taking place behind the scenes.

West Lindsey District Council – the green waste collection was now in year 2 and collection of payments had started in January 2019, and payments could only be made online. A service redesign was being worked on to put the customer at the heart of everything they did.
There was due to be a session the following week with the Leaders Panel about the Waste Strategy.

It was reported that a representative of WLDC also attended the fly tipping conference, and it was thought it was very positive.
Partners were advised that a query had been received about the sack collection, and it was noted that currently 2000 sacks were collected, and large piece of work had been carried out around this. It was determined that currently there was no better way to collect waste in this area and would stay in place.

Some of the Gainsborough schools had recently visited the Energy from Waste facility in North Hykeham, and it was hoped to hold a workshop and carry out some communications work around waste and recycling. It had been suggested that a competition was held for school children to design a poster about contamination and the winning design could be put on the side of a collection vehicle. It was positive that schools wanted to go on that environmental journey.

The following comments were made in response to the updates:

- It was queried whether there was anything that could be done in relation to litter picking on the highways, and the amount of litter discarded on the sides of roads was shocking. Members were advised that this was not just an issue of resources, it was also about keeping people safe on the highway, and there was also the issue of whether there was a need for road closures, or barrier vehicles. It was queried whether there was a need for a working group to be set up to look at what alternatives there are.
- It was suggested there was a need to make people of their responsibilities. For example, in Scotland there were signs advising that throwing litter put the workforce in danger.

The Chairman requested that litter picking on the highways be added to the work programme for the Officer Working Group.

RESOLVED

1. That the updates provided be noted
2. That officers arrange for a representative of the Hertfordshire Waste Group to give a presentation on their fly-tipping toolkit at the next meeting of the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership
3. That the Officer Working Group look into the options for litter picking on the highway.

25 COMMUNICATIONS

The Partnership received a report from David Steels, North Kestevevn District Council, which set out a methodology for the engagement and commitment for the work to deliver the Lincolnshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS), which would cut through all work streams.

It was reported that a workshop was held on 26 February 2019 and was attended by various waste and communications officers representing all partners. During this workshop the following topics were discussed:

- Review of JMWMS strategy actions that primarily dealt with communications, education and engagement.
- Other actions needed not necessarily covered by the actions within the strategy (it was noted that separate discussion took place to generate ideas around the subjects of 'education' and 'communications')
- Next steps – consideration of a draft terms of reference for future working.

Partners were advised that there was a lot of enthusiasm at the workshop for this work and participants were keen to meet again in the future. A draft terms of reference had been produced and there was a clear steer in terms of the delivery of the actions within the action plan. There was still work to do in establishing timetables for delivery of the actions.

There would be a communications group set up, which would report through to the Officer Working Group. There would be a clear line of accountability to the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership. It was commented that it was positive that there was to be a joined up communications approach.

RESOLVED

That the progress to deliver a communications work plan to assist in delivering strategy actions within JMWMS, and allocation of appropriate resources be noted.

26 FOOD WASTE COLLECTION TRIAL UPDATE

The Lincolnshire Waste Partnership received a presentation from Ian Yates, South Kesteven District Council which provided an update on the Food Waste Collection Pilot (Month 8 of 12) which was being carried out in the district.

The presentation provided Partners with further information in relation to the following areas:

- Rationale – nationally and locally
- Objectives
- Methodology – collection
- Publicity and disposal
- Interim results – Month 8 – Pre-trial and current waste streams by weight
- Food waste contained 'set out' rate and Average weekly Food Weight
- Dry Recyclable Contamination Rates
- Interim conclusions
- Next steps

During the presentation, the following was highlighted to Partners:

- This was an update of month 8 of 12 and therefore there would be some limitations with the data.
- There had been significant variation in the volume of waste, but the amount collected could be influenced by many different factors.
- The figures in the data did not include the green waste or other waste collected.

- The data provided gave a good level of confidence of what the trial was trying to achieve.
- The costs of the trial were not representative of how it would be modelled if it went forward on a countywide basis. There had been additional costs identified due to it being a trial.
- Data so far indicated that 12% of waste collected was food waste, which was quite a significant amount of the total.
- In terms of the 'set out' rate, it was noted that a household could be participating, but they had forgotten to put the caddy out that week. If a household had put the caddy out three times, it was recorded as participating.
- It was thought that the communications work which had taken place had helped with the participation rate.
- In terms of disposal, the container at the waste transfer station would be filled every two days and then it was transferred to the AD plant at Hemswell Cliff.
- The by-product of the AD process was a product of sufficient quality that it could be sold as a soil improver or fertiliser.
- It was the role of the crew to record those caddies which were not set out.
- There had been very good participation, but there was a need to look at some tolerances in order to understand behaviours, and why people did not participate. Evidence suggested that more people took part when others on the same street did.
- More work was needed to understand the data showing the reduction in levels of contamination.

Partners were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report and some of the points raised included the following:

- WRAP were clear that success was linked to communications campaigns, and it was queried whether the communications work was continuing throughout the trial. It was noted that a communications plan had been agreed at each stage. There was agreement that the amount of communications work did have an impact on success. A survey would be circulated near the end of the trial, and it was hoped this would provide further understanding about participation rates.
- It was queried what had informed the choice of the round. Partners were advised that officers had tried to pick a route which was representative of the area, with a mixture of urban and more rural properties.
- Officers were asked if they could start the trial again whether they would do anything differently. It was noted that as a trial, the current arrangements were ok, but for a countywide collection officers would like more information about a number of collection methods, such as separate collection vehicles. It was noted that Peterborough had not yet moved to dedicated vehicles. For the trial, the simplest and cheapest method for collection was chosen.
- It was queried how the caddy liners were chosen and how they were distributed. It was noted that the liners were biodegradable and would be able to share the details. Questions about the liners would be included in the questionnaire to help with further understanding about participation. It was considered important to try and remove as many barriers as possible to participation. It was noted that there

had been a suggestion to try another trial of not using liners with a small group of current participants.

- It was noted that the Leader of the County Council was very supportive of this trial, as the trial covered part of his area. People thought that this was the right thing to do, and if people were supportive of the idea that was half the battle.
- It was queried how the Partnership would be made aware if a decision was made to extend the trial. It was noted that decisions were taking place already, and there was a lot of positivity around this so far. The future for an extended model needed to be informed by evidence.
- It was commented that it would be useful to try a method that was more replicable, as it was now known that people could be encouraged to participate.
- It was suggested it would be useful to continue the trial on the current route for another year, and those people in South Kesteven who were keen to get involved could trial it with a different collection method.
- It was queried whether the bags were truly biodegradable or whether they were nano plastic and held together with starch. Officers would need to confirm this, but they did liaise with the facility at Hemswell Cliff on the most appropriate bags to use.
- It was important that any new collection methodology was carried out in an ethical way. One form of pollution should not be changed for another.

The Chairman thanked those involved with the food waste trial for all their efforts.

RESOLVED

That the update in relation to the food waste trial be noted.

27 WASTE STRATEGY FOR LINCOLNSHIRE AND NATIONAL RESOURCES & WASTE STRATEGY

Consideration was given to a report which summarised the contents, with regard to municipal waste, of the new Resources and Waste Strategy for England. The report focused on the synergies between that national Strategy and the recently-adopted Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS) for Lincolnshire. It was reported that all eight LWP partners had now formally adopted the JMWMS.

Partners were advised that the report also set out how the objectives of those strategies were beginning to be enacted through the emerging JMWMS action plan, as well as how the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership could be involved in the consultations promised in the national Strategy.

Officers thanked all those that had participated in the project.

Partners were provided with the opportunity to ask questions to the officers present in relation to the information contained within the report and some of the points raised during discussion included the following:

- The Chairman thanked Matthew Michell, Senior Commissioning Officer (Waste), for all his work on the Strategy as it had been very well received by all authorities.

- It was noted that officers had been tying up some loose ends on the Strategy with the officer working group, which could be shared with members if they wished.
- Some hard copies of the Strategy would be produced, as this was a requirement of the SEA in the event that members of the public wanted to inspect the document.
- Four consultations had been launched, and it was queried whether there should be a combined response from the Partnership, or individual responses from districts. It was highlighted that the preferable option would be for both. It was proposed that the Strategic Officer Working Group produce a response to all consultations on behalf of the partnership. It was acknowledged that partners would have different views they would want to make clear.
- LCC was keen to submit an individual response and the Environment and Economy Scrutiny Committee had asked to input into the response.
- It was highlighted that the closing dates for the consultations were either 12 or 13 May 2019 and the local elections would be taking place with on 2 May 2019. It was queried whether this would cause an issue for getting a response agreed.
- From the outset, the LWP had always tried to do what was best for the people of Lincolnshire. However, this did not mean that every district had to do the same thing, Lincolnshire was a diverse county and there needed to be room for individuality. One size did not fit all. It was emphasised that there was no intention to force a common method of collection on everyone.
- Officers attended the LWP and the Officer Working Group, and were there to be part of the conversation and part of the solution going forward. South Holland District Council reported that they were willing to be part of the conversation.

RESOLVED

1. That Lincolnshire Waste Partnership note the common themes of the respective Lincolnshire and national strategies and ensured that these were commissioned in the ongoing delivery of the strategic objectives through the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy Action Plan.
2. That the Lincolnshire Waste Partnership responds to all relevant consultations arising from the Resources and Waste Strategy for England.
3. That any Lincolnshire Waste Partnership partner authority making their own separate consultation response to address local issues considered how to align that response with the joint Lincolnshire Waste Partnership submission.

28 HEALTH AND SAFETY UPDATE

It was requested that health and safety should be a standing item on the agenda as it was of critical importance. The Lincolnshire Waste Partnership would be receiving regular reports.

It was noted that the Officer Working Group had become more strategic in order to focus on the JMWMS, but it had become clear that officers were missing out on the benefits of sharing operations knowledge, therefore an operational group had been formed separately, but the two groups would be connected.

It was queried whether a health and safety assessment had been carried out regarding the collection of the food waste trials, and it was confirmed that the weight of the caddies would not exceed 25kg, it was reported that the average weight of collection per household was 1.8kg.

RESOLVED

That the update be noted.

The meeting closed at 12.35 pm

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