

**AUTHORITY MINUTES**

**MONDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2020 - PART 1 PUBLIC ITEMS: - (9.30 AM–10.36 AM)**

Present:

Councillor John Howard (Chair / Redbridge), Councillor James Asser (Vice Chair / Newham), Councillor Dorothy Akwaboah (Barking & Dagenham), Councillor Syed Ghani (Barking & Dagenham), Councillor Robert Benham (Havering), Councillor Osman Dervish (Havering), Councillor Genevieve Kitchen (Newham) and Councillor Sheila Bain (Redbridge)

**1. Apologies for Absence**

There were none.

**2. Declaration of Members' Interests**

There were none declared.

**3. Minutes -To agree Part 1 (Public Items) of the minutes of the Authority's meeting held on 29 June 2020 and authorise the Chair to sign the same.**

**Members requested that** a correction be made to the public minutes of the Authority Meeting held on 29 June 2020 at Item 6. (Five Year Service Delivery Plan), to show in reference to the separation of street cleansing and bulky wastes that this was agreed provided that changes should not include additional collection costs that the Constituent Councils would have to pay. Due to the remote nature of this meeting, the Chair will be sent papers to authorise and sign the same and return to the Authority for the record. The Chair also requested a Forward Plan to be included in future agenda packs. The Managing Director agreed to discuss with the Chair what form this should take.

**Members confirmed** as true and accurate the public minutes of the meeting held on 29 June 2020 subject to the amendment above.

**4. Statement of Accounts and Audit Results report 2019/20 – Oral Update.**

**Members** were updated by the Finance Director orally that the external audit was still not finalised, due to delays in receipt of audit assurance from the auditors of the London Pensions Fund Authority (LPFA) attributed to COVID-19, and that this was affecting many local authorities. She thanked Members for their understanding and said she had been advised that the final report should be available imminently, and that an Extraordinary General Meeting may be required in order to sign off the report within the extended statutory deadline of 30 November 2020.

**5. Budgetary Control and Contract Monitoring to 31 July 2020**

The Finance Director noted an error in the figures listed in Appendix B where the *Actual Tonnage Profile* for July 2020 should be 44,736 and not 44,776. *Totals of Actuals* should be 161,006 and *Total Variance* should be 5,426; she confirmed the figures in the body of the report were correct.

The Finance Director highlighted the main areas of variances from budget and the reasons for these, noting a total underspend of £2.273m to July 2020.

She also noted that recycling performance was broken down by Constituent Council showing recycling percentages as at the end of July have improved compared to the previous year.

Members enquired about capital expenditure, and the Finance Director explained the key issues and agreed to give more detail in the report to the next Authority meeting.

Members noted that the recycling levels at the RRCs appeared low and asked if savings plans had yet been developed with Renewi. The Managing Director acknowledged performance of the RRCs is below average, but he and his team are encouraging and supporting Renewi to raise RRC recycling rates and to achieve the 33% household waste recycling target this year; however, COVID-19 may impede progress.

**Members noted** the report and forecast outturn.

## **6. Impact of Covid-19 on Operations**

The Managing Director presented the report. A webcam is due to be installed next week at Jenkins Lane, and other sites are under review with Gerpins Lane still proving to be the most challenging.

In response to questions from Members, the Managing Director advised that if it appears ELWA may be liable for any additional costs of Renewi's arising during the COVID-19 pandemic, he will liaise with the Chair; and that weekly meetings with Renewi and ELWA Limited had resumed to discuss the risk of a 'second wave' and ensure that all necessary contingency plans were in place.

**Members noted** the report.

## **7. Strategy – Preparations for Future Wastes Management Arrangements in East London - update**

Members received a report from the Head of Strategy & Development (HSD) and Managing Director on preparations for future wastes management arrangements in East London. The HSD advised that a meeting has been arranged with the GLA to discuss ongoing engagement on the strategy and establishing a path to 'general conformity' with the London Environment Strategy for the strategy and the future procurement. The HSD also noted that according to Government announcements the next round of consultations on the Government's Resources and Waste Strategy is expected in early 2021, with implementation of new policies and legislation in 2023.

Members requested that Officers put together a road map of the decisions and time-critical activities for developing the strategy and delivering future waste treatment solutions.

**Members noted** the report.

## **8. Any other public items which the Chair decides are urgent**

None.

## **9. Resolution**

**Members resolved** to exclude the public and press by moving to a second meeting by reason of the nature of the business to be discussed which included information exempt from publication by virtue of paragraph 3 of part 1 of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972 (as amended).

**10. Minutes - Part 2 (Restricted Items) of the Minutes of the Authority's meeting held on 29 June 2020**

**Members confirmed** as true and accurate Part 2 (Restricted Minutes) of the Authority's meeting held on 29 June 2020.

**11. ELWA Limited Update (Confidential)**

**Members noted** the report.

**12. Any other confidential or exempt items which the Chair decides are urgent**

There were none.

Chair: .....

Date: 30 / 11 / 20  
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