

**AUTHORITY REPORT: ANNUAL REPORT ON THE JOINT STRATEGY FOR EAST LONDON'S RESOURCES AND WASTE (2027-57)****1. Confidential Report:**

1.1 No.

**Executive Summary**

**Purpose of Report** – To present Members with the first Annual Report on the Joint Strategy for East London's Resources and Waste (2027-57)

**Position** – The Joint Strategy was formally adopted by ELWA and the Constituent Councils in early 2022, following strategy development work with the Constituent Councils, liaison with the London mayor, a public consultation, and a 'Strategic Environmental Assessment' review. The Annual Report provides a first high-level report on progress against actions and performance indicators set out in the Joint Strategy

**Recommendation** – It is recommended that the Authority notes the Annual Report 2022 on the Joint Strategy for East London's Resources and Waste (2027-57)

**2. Background:**

- 2.1 The Joint Strategy was formally adopted by the Authority and the Constituent Councils in early 2022, following strategy development work with the Constituent Councils, liaison with the London mayor, an eight-week public consultation in 2021, and a 'Strategic Environmental Assessment' review over some three-years (including the Covid-19 pandemic).
- 2.2 Feedback received during the consultation included a need for the Joint Strategy to be a live document that would be reported against, with a review to be undertaken once circumstances had changed sufficiently to justify revisiting the assumptions and modelling that had underpinned its development.
- 2.3 In the final draft of the Joint Strategy that was subsequently adopted, a commitment was made to undertake a full review of the Joint Strategy by 2028, with the start of that review being triggered by a combination of new national policies on resources and waste having been implemented alongside there being clarity on the design of future waste and recycling collection and treatment services in East London. In practice, much work will be done on this as officers progress with the procurement of the next generation of waste services, which will include consideration of a number of options sought and options presented by bidders.
- 2.4 ELWA officers identified a need to provide Members with an annual report on progress against the actions and performance indicators that were set out in the Joint Strategy, as part of the process of determining when and how a review of the overall document should begin. It was anticipated that annual reporting would take place each September/October, and this proposal was put to the Authority as part of the adoption process for the Joint Strategy at the February 2022 meeting (and accepted by Members).

- 2.5 However, the Government's auditing and sign-off of annual tonnage data has taken longer for the 2021-22 year than usual, and consequently the Annual Report was delayed. Unfortunately, at the time of writing the sign-off of national data is still outstanding, but rather than delay the Annual Report until February a provisional version has been drafted.
- 2.6 This paper presents the first Annual Report on the Joint Strategy for Members to review.

### **3. Annual Report:**

- 3.1 The Annual Report 2022 is attached as Appendix A. The Joint Strategy and its supporting documents can be downloaded from the ELWA website at [www.eastlondonwaste.gov.uk/jointstrategy](http://www.eastlondonwaste.gov.uk/jointstrategy).
- 3.2 Chapter 1 of the Annual Report provides an introduction to the Joint Strategy. It also notes the delays to the release of further information on the Government's proposed implementation of some of the key policies from the national Resources and Waste Strategy. These national policies are relevant to the Joint Strategy, as assumptions were made about some significant changes to policy and legislation for the waste and resources industry in the coming years.
- 3.3 The Joint Strategy applies from the year the existing long-term IWMS Contract ends (2027) for a thirty-year period, and the priorities and actions set out in the Joint Strategy therefore apply for this same period from 2027.
- 3.4 Progress is already being made against some of the actions by both ELWA and the Constituent Councils, and the Annual Report therefore provides narrative on these in Chapter 2. This chapter also looks at developments in the governance arrangements relevant to the delivery of the Joint Strategy.
- 3.5 The forecasting and modelling work that underpinned the development of the Joint Strategy was based on the amounts and types of waste that were collected and managed in East London in the 2018/19 financial year. Performance charts set out in the Joint Strategy as part of the context-setting use figures from that year.
- 3.6 The first Annual Report therefore tracks performance against a number of indicators, from the baseline year of 2018/19 through to 2021/22 (albeit using provisional data for the latter). Narrative is provided to help interpret the changes in performance that can be seen, along with notes of reported trends from other parts of London. It should be noted that the Government is not expected to publish data for local authority performance until February / March 2023, so general trends are set out for the rest of London based on discussion officers have had with peers from other councils and waste disposal authorities.
- 3.7 There is also commentary on the development of indicators that look at wider environmental issues, such as greenhouse gas emissions and air quality. The performance report is in Chapter 3 of the Annual Report.

### **4. Next steps:**

- 4.1 Officers from ELWA and the Constituent Councils will continue to work together to deliver the Joint Strategy, including through the Procurement and Contract Expiry programme.

**5. Relevant officers:**

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Jon Hastings, Head of Strategy & Development / email:  
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**6. Appendices attached:**

- 6.1 Appendix A Annual Report 2022 on the Joint Strategy for East London's Resources and Waste (2027-57)

**7. Background papers:**

29 Jun 2018 Preparations for Future Wastes Management Arrangements Report and Minute 13

17 Sep 2018 Preparations for Future Wastes Management Arrangements – Update Report and Minute 7

Various Reports under the title of "Preparations for Future Wastes Management Arrangements – Update" were brought to every general Authority Meeting from 28 June 2019 to 01 October 2021. A verbal update was provided at the Authority Meeting on 03 December 2021.

4 Feb 2022 Adoption of the Joint Strategy for East London's Resources and Waste (2027-57)

**8. Legal considerations:**

- 8.1 The development of a strategy for future waste management is an essential component to the proper administration of the Authority. As a waste disposal authority, it is under a duty required by section 51 of the Environmental Protection Act 1990 to make arrangements for the disposal of waste collected by the Constituent Councils in its area. Furthermore, as ELWA is a best value authority, there is a further duty on the Authority under the Local Government Act 1999 in that it works to secure continuous improvement and achieve the best combination of quality and value for money in its function of waste disposal. Developing a coherent future waste joint strategy which serves both the interests of the Authority and the Constituent Councils will require proper consultation which ensures that the emerging joint strategy is fair and reasonable in how it impacts the residents of the four Constituent Councils. Furthermore section 32 of the Waste and Emissions Trading Act 2003 places a duty on both waste collection and disposal authorities to have a joint strategy for the management of municipal waste and carry out such consultation as they consider appropriate. This joint strategy must be kept under review and authorities must have regard to any guidance given by the Secretary of State and in Greater London the authorities are further required to have regard to the Mayor of London's London Environment Strategy.
- 8.2 The Constitution at Part A paragraph 4 states that the Authority Members are collectively the ultimate policymakers and those responsible for strategic and corporate management functions of the Authority as a Waste Disposal Authority. In the development of the Joint Strategy, when sitting as Members of the Authority, Members are obliged to act to approve such measures and proposals in what they

consider is in the best interests of the Authority and its residents and not their respective councils or political affiliations.

**9. Financial considerations:**

9.1 Budgetary provision of £1.000m per annum (total £5.000m) for the costs associated with procuring the Authority's future post-2027 services following the Joint Strategy was made in the budget and levy setting for 2022/23 to 2026/27 approved in February 2022. There have been minimal costs incurred against this budget in 2022/23 to date.

9.2 The Medium-Term Financial Strategy 2023/24 to 2027/27 presented for approval elsewhere on the agenda currently continues to include provision of £1.000m per annum relating to the development and procurement of post-2027 waste services. This budget will be refined once all professional advisers are appointed and will be updated for the Budget and Levy report 2023/24.

**10. Risk management considerations:**

10.1 The Procurement and Contract Expiry (PACE) programme has been established to oversee delivery against a number of the actions set out in the Joint Strategy, including those for which ELWA is primarily responsible. A full risk register has been compiled for this programme, which is monitored regularly by the PACE Programme Board.

10.2 Wider risks of relevance on partnership working, legislative compliance and the existence of a valid joint strategy are covered in ELWA's Strategic Risk Register, which is reviewed by the Authority on an annual basis.

**11. Equalities considerations:**

11.1 An equalities impact assessment has been produced for the Joint Strategy (it is one of the supporting documents noted above), which identifies no impacts on groups with protected characteristics at this stage. As further plans, strategies, projects and services are developed to deliver against the priorities set out in the Joint Strategy, it will be important to undertake further assessment of any impacts on specific groups within the local community.

**12. Follow-up reports:**

12.1 A second Annual Report on the Joint Strategy will be brought to the Authority in the autumn/winter of 2023.

**13. Websites and links for further information:**

13.1 [www.eastlondonwaste.gov.uk](http://www.eastlondonwaste.gov.uk)

**14. Glossary:**

Constituent Councils / the Councils = London Borough Councils of Barking & Dagenham (LBBD), Havering, Newham & Redbridge

ELWA / the Authority = East London Waste Authority

IWMS = Integrated Waste Management Services

PACE = Procurement and Contract Expiry programme

Partner Authorities = ELWA and the Constituent Councils

**15. Reviewed by Management Board:**

15.1 14 November 2022.

**16. Confidentiality:**

16.1 Not applicable.