

EAST KENT (JOINT SCRUTINY) COMMITTEE
WASTE MANAGEMENT WORKING SUB-GROUP

15 January 2009

Minutes

Present:

Councillor M Harrison, Chair (TDC)
Councillor M Fisher (CCC)
Councillor D Lloyd-Jones (DDC) Substitute for Cllr K Mills
Councillor J Simmonds (KCC)
Councillor Clifton-Holt (SDC)

Officers
Present:

John Bunnett, Deputy Chief Executive (TDC)
Lorraine Burley, Senior Committee Administrator (SDC)

Also
Present:

Chris Stannard, Project Manager
Rebecca Brough (DDC)

1. Apologies for absence

There were no apologies for absence.

2. Declarations of interest

There were no declarations of interest.

3. Minutes

The minutes of the meeting of 3 December 2008 were agreed and signed as a true record.

4. Presentation and verbal update on the project

The presentation had previously been made to the Programme Board on 13 January 2009 and is attached to these minutes as Appendix 1.

Points covered:

Meeting Objectives

Technical Update

a) Recycling service Options for Change

- Dry recycle options reviewed
- Food waste options reviewed

b) Implications of Project for Districts

c) Implications for County

Finance Update

Legal Update

Timescale

Discussion Issues

John Bunnett asked what matters would be regarded by individual authorities as 'Dealbreakers'.

Thanet – public resistance, political repercussions, food and garden waste co-mingled. However, a 'dealmaker' would be the glass collection.

Dover – public resistance and problems regarding the suitability of use of wheelie bins. Dealmakers would be glass collection and being able to convince the public that taxes were being kept down.

Canterbury - collection of glass is positive, as is co-mingling food and garden waste (at present Canterbury does not collect garden waste during the winter). Lines of communication should be open at all times and a contractual arrangement, rather than a joint board, would be preferred.

Shepway – No savings being made; drop in service to the public; too many changes; and if the MURF breaks down and the material is taken to landfill.

KCC - Economies are to be made; needs to be 'sold' correctly, needs briefing to make it happen. There is a government drive towards single authorities, we must co-operate or be forced.

John Bunnett stated that it should be made very clear that this should not be seen as the next step towards unitary government. This group does not consider this project as the thin end of the wedge towards a unitary authority – we are working together for value for money.

5. Time, date and venue of the next meetings

It was agreed that the following meetings be held on:

Monday 9 February at 10am, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone

Monday 23 March at 2pm, Civic Centre, Castle Hill Avenue, Folkestone.