

PROSIECT GWYRDD JOINT SCRUTINY PANEL

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING HELD AT PENALLTA HOUSE, YSTRAD MYNACH
ON FRIDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER 2012 AT 10.00 A.M.**

Present:

Councillor R. McKerlich - Chairman (Cardiff County Council)

Councillors:

Councillor J. Bevan (Caerphilly County Borough Council)

Councillor B. Derbyshire (Cardiff County Council)

Councillors S. Howarth and Ms V.E. Smith (Monmouthshire County Council)

Councillor R. Traherne (Vale of Glamorgan Council)

Together with:

J. Jones and R.J. Thomas (Caerphilly County Borough Council), R Bowen (Cardiff County Council) and J. Wyatt (Vale of Glamorgan Council)

Prosiect Gwyrdd Officers:

M. Williams (Project Director) and A. Williamson (Technical Manager)

1. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

There were no declarations of interest received at the commencement or during the course of the meeting.

2. APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE

Apologies for absence were received from Councillor S. Kent (Caerphilly County Borough Council), Councillors P. Hannon and M. Spencer (Newport City Council), Councillor Ms A. Moore (Vale of Glamorgan Council), D. Perkins and M.S. Williams (Caerphilly County Borough Council) and J. Thomas (Newport City Council).

3. MINUTES – 13TH JULY 2012

It was agreed that the minutes of the meeting held on 13th July 2012 be approved as a correct record.

4. PRESENTATION : FORECAST WASTE FLOWS

Mr M. Williams, Project Director, gave Members a presentation to illustrate the development and purpose of the Prosiect Gwyrdd waste flow model.

Members were asked to note that developing an accurate waste profile over a 25-year period was a complex undertaking and involved a comprehensive data gathering exercise with each Partner to establish baseline data. A number of assumptions had been made to complete the model, including population/housing trends and local authority recycling performances. Local and global impacts were also taken into consideration.

Local Authority Officers, supported by Jacobs Engineering Ltd, gathered, analysed and processed data from a number of sources and concluded that there would be a fall in waste per head, with a flat lining of waste production per head, in the medium term. However, the predicted population growth in SE Wales would cause a growth in total waste produced over the contract period. The results were also compared with Welsh Government (WG) waste-growth aspirations and Defra Statistical Waste Predictions.

Each local authority committed to a certain level of waste flow and guaranteed minimum tonnage (GMT) equivalent to 80% of the expected waste flow.

Members discussed the report and Mr Williams responded to general questions, in particular with regard to the financial consequences should the waste flow be significantly above or below the expected waste profile. Mr Williams explained that Welsh Government funding for the project was based on expected waste flows rather than actual waste flows and any waste in excess of the expected levels would not be subsidised by the Welsh Government grant.

Action Point : Concerns regarding the impact of WG review of recycling targets to be raised with the Project Board. MW

5. PRESENTATION : CONTRACT MANAGEMENT ARRANGEMENTS

Mr A. Williamson, Technical Manager, gave Members a presentation on the proposed contract management arrangements and how they will be used to monitor contractor performance, ensure services are delivered over the life of the contract (i.e. 25 years) by the contractor.

The presentation illustrated how a failure to deliver agreed targets would lead to 'penalty points' being accrued against the contractor, as well as a financial deduction. Should performance continue to fall below agreed levels an Improvement Plan would be agreed with the contractor. Ultimately the contract could be terminated should performance continually fall below the agreed level as defined by the number of points accrued over a given time.

Following discussion on the content of the presentation, the Panel received clarification as to the monitoring of the contract and of the strict performance requirements expected from the contractor. It was confirmed that a report would be presented to the Panel on enforcement issues.

The Panel were also informed that the parent company of the contractor would be the guarantor and a bond required. Should the parent company net worth fall below a pre-determined level additional financial security would be provided.

In closing the discussion, Mr M. Williams reviewed the future timetable for Prosiect Gwyrdd and advised that this would be sent to all Members once approved by the Board.

Action Point : MW to forward the approved timetable to Members.

The meeting closed at 12.15 p.m.