

Notes of a Waste Group Meeting held on

Wednesday March 30th 2011 at 7 p.m.

at Harrow Council Community Premises 27 Northolt Road Harrow.

Members present :- Mick Oliver MO; Andrew Baker AB; Shahrzad Amoli SA; Beverly McKeon BM; Daniel McKeon DM.

1. **Apologies** :- Evelyn Donald, Eileen Kinnear.

2. **Minutes of the meeting of 26/01/2011** were approved.

3. Harrow Waste Management Report.

3.1 AB reported that an error occurred due to the use of wrong figures in the recycling rate report for the first six months of the 2010/11 report. This was corrected with the

result that the rate for the nine month period now stands at 41.8%. This would indicate that the Borough target of 50% for the year is now likely to be met.

AB was able to give the good news to the meeting that the London Waste and Recycling Board (LWARB) have allocated a grant of £381000 to Harrow Council for the

purpose of providing recycling bins to Harrow's 8000 flats

West London Waste Authority are in process of drawing up a Waste Prevention Plan. Indications are that the Councils in the group are likely to accept this plan.

Sarah Dickinson of West London Waste is hoping to organise a "Swishing Event" in the near future. A swishing event is apparently a clothes swap.

The Authority Procurement section have invited ideas from contractors in connection with the possible upgrade of Waste Transfer Stations to Waste Processing status.

Contracts are likely to be out for tender in autumn 2011.

Discussions are taking place to look at options for the transfer of Civic Amenity Sites from the Boroughs to the West London Waste Authority. Results are to be reported

to the Authority in June. Boroughs are to have the option of keeping their Sites but would lose funding for them.

3.2 MO reported that no members had sent him their own comments but that he had submitted comments for HA21 on the West London Waste Plan by the deadline of March 25th.

4. Projects and Campaigns.

4.1 What Happens to Waste.

The Video which traces the path of some of Harrow's plastic waste from Blue Bin to new product has been completed.

First showings to two residents associations were well received.

4.2 Other boroughs' strategy for collection from flats.

SA reported on efforts made by the London Borough of Sutton to improve its recycling rate. In 2004 a "One Planet" campaign targeted at recycling from flats was launched. The recycling rate from flats in Sutton is now 90%. However the rate from flats above shops remains low.

MC looked at waste and recycling practices in the boroughs of Haringey, Camden, and Brent. All three Boroughs use the Green Box separable collection method

for recyclables in contrast to comingling as used by Harrow. Food waste and green garden waste are also collected separately by these boroughs. The recycling programme from flats is more advanced in these boroughs than in Harrow.

The problem with recycling from flats above shops appears to be common. The lack of space for bins would seem to be the reason.

AB said that bin purchasing for Harrow's flats recycling programme would be a co-operative function with other boroughs.

4.3 Waste implications of hard water - update.

MO reported no developments on this subject.

4.4 Projects and Campaigns for 2011.

MC confirmed that the Waste Group would have a presence at Under One Sky and Canons Park Fun Day.

He also said that a Video presentation on Water should be completed.

5. Report on contact with "Campaign for Real Recycling".

MO reported that the organisation was campaigning in nature and did not have a membership as such. They had invited HA21 to contact MPs to seek their support for Early Day Motion 1101, which was seeking to improve the credibility of recycling by establishing an End Use Register for recycled waste. MO had written to Harrow's 3 MPs to seek their support.

6. Report on visits to Ecobuild and Biffa PRF

MO reported visiting the Ecobuild exhibition, which featured products based on recycled materials, energy-saving and water-saving appliances and techniques.

He also reported a visit to an innovative MRF run by Biffa, which was capable of separating the different plastics in a mixed stream of plastics, which had the potential to stimulate the use of recycled plastics, and hence to both reduce the need for new plastics from virgin raw materials and reduce the perceived need to use waste as a source of energy.

Arising from the visit he had renewed contacts with Recoup and had attended their Recycling on the Go conference, which showed that much waste is generated by people on the move (need to capture it in the street as it is never taken home to be recycled), and considered strategies to do so.

7. **Scrapbook**

Some cuttings on waste matters were brought to the meeting by members

8. **Matters Arising.**

See item 4.4

9. **AOB** -----None

10. **Next meeting** -----25/05/2011 at 7 p.m. in Committee room 5 Civic Centre.