

APPENDIX 1

Extract of Executive Board, Executive Board Sub Committee and Executive (Transmodal Implementation) Sub Board Minutes Relevant to the Urban Renewal Policy and Performance Board

EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 28 JANUARY 2010

82. Approval for Public Consultation: Merseyside Joint Waste Development Plan Document - Preferred Options Report - KEY DECISION

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Environment on the approval for Public Consultation: Merseyside Joint Waste Development Plan Document – Preferred Options Report.

The Board were advised that the Waste Development Plan Document (Waste DPD) had been produced by the Merseyside Environmental Advisory Services (MEAS) on behalf of the six greater Merseyside districts (which included Halton). The process was led by a Steering Group and overseen by the City Region Cabinet. Two public consultation stages had already been completed in 2007 and 2009, the results of which had all been used to inform the preparation of the third public consultation stage – Preferred Options.

The Preferred Options Report outlined the overarching strategy for waste management referred to as the Resource Recovery-led Strategy, and sets out site allocations for waste management together with a supportive policy framework. Key issues covered in the report included:

- Needs assessment and sites requirements;
- Proposed site allocations for built facilities for waste uses;
- Proposed landfill site allocations;
- Policy on energy from waste; and
- Development of management policies.

Members were advised that a six –week public consultation period would start on 18 February and end on 31 March 2010. In addition, the process would include statutory press notices and press releases, email and letter communication with all individuals and organisations on the Waste DPD database, together with copies of the report made available for public inspection at Council offices and public libraries. All responses, once evaluated, would feed into a Submission Document to be published early in 2011 and eventually

submitted to Government for formal consideration and scrutiny in March 2011. The final stage of the process would result in the adoption of the Waste DPD by each of the Merseyside districts as its statutory spatial plan for waste scheduled for 2012.

Three sites had been identified within Halton and the locations detailed in paragraph 4.8 of the report. Members sought to reassure the public in attendance at the meeting that at this stage no decisions had been made about these locations and that the public consultation process would give everyone an opportunity to make their views known.

Reason(s) for Decision:

The Regional Spatial Strategy and government policy (PPS10) required that waste must be dealt with in a sustainable way. The Council was involved in producing a Joint Waste Development Plan Document (DPD) for the Merseyside sub-region. Drafting of the Plan had reached the stage where the policy framework contained in the Waste DPD needed to be subject to public scrutiny.

Alternative Options Considered and Rejected:

The Waste DPD had been prepared through a multi-stage process. Two public consultation stages had been completed:

- Issues and Options took place in March and April 2007.
- Spatial Strategy and Sites stage took place between December 2008 and January 2009.

These reports document the evolution of the Plan and the options for policies and sites that had been considered and rejected. The results of the public consultation, engagement with stakeholders, industry and the Local Authorities and, detailed technical assessments had all been used to inform the preparation of this Report, forming a third public consultation stage. The Preferred Options Report set out the alternative options considered.

Implementation Date:

The Joint Merseyside Waste DPD was scheduled to be adopted by all the six partner Districts in April 2012.

RESOLVED: That Council be recommended that:-

- (1) subject to the detailed comment in paragraph 4.20 to 4.26 of the report, the Preferred Options Report be approved and endorsed for public consultation purposes; and
- (2) the commencement of the six-week public consultation process on the Waste DPD Preferred Options Report during February 2010 be agreed.

EXECUTIVE BOARD SUB COMMITTEE MEETING HELD ON 17 DECEMBER 2010

48. Award of Contract for Widnes Future Flower

The Sub Committee considered a report of the Strategic Director Environment which advised on the tender process for the award of a contract to fabricate and construct the landmark public art piece, Widnes Future Flower, to Cheetham Hill Construction Ltd.

RESOLVED: That the award of the Widnes Future Flower Contract to Cheetham Hill Construction Ltd be noted.

MERSEY GATEWAY EXECUTIVE BOARD MEETING HELD ON 28 JANUARY 2010

11. Progress towards a Secretary of State Decision on the Planning Applications and the Council's Preparation for Procurement

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Environment which advised Members of the progress made towards securing the authority required to commence the procurement process since the last meeting of the Board in November 2009.

The Board was advised that at the meeting of the last Mersey Gateway Executive Board on 19 November, Members had been advised that the formal procurement process for a Mersey Gateway concession contract could only commence once the Council had secured the planning decision by the Secretaries of State and for Ministers to grant Conditional Funding Approval.

The Board was further advised that towards the end of December the project team had contacted the Planning Inspectorate (PINS) to determine if the report had been forwarded to the Department. The team had been advised that it was envisaged that the Department would not receive the report until the end of January 2010.

It was reported that the Authority were optimistic that the Secretary of State would announce a decision before a General Election in May but this may not be the case. Consequently, the authority had raised concerns with senior officials at the Department over the impact of such a delay and a modified programme had been agreed based on the decision being announced by the end of May with contingency arrangements should this not take place until later in 2010.

The Authority had also agreed the procedure for considering the Conditional Funding Approval. This agreed procedure was reflected in the programme set out in Appendix 1 to the report.

In addition, the first draft of the Outline Business Case had been submitted to the Department and discussed with the DfT Major Projects Team at the progress meeting on 19 November. The key issues emerging from the progress meeting were then considered. The main issue to be agreed with the Department over the next few weeks was the revised procurement approach that could be expected to secure best value from the proposed tolling regime. Options under consideration would require the PFI Credits to be increased in return for a greater public sector financial interest in the toll revenue which overall could result in a better deal for the public sector. Draft proposals were due to be put to the Department for Transport Internal Investment Committee in February and the outcome was expected to be available and reported to members at the next meeting of the Board in March.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the progress made and the revised outlook for commencing procurement later this year be noted; and
- (2) the development budget estimated to be required to deliver the Conditional Funding submission to the Department for Transport and to undertake all necessary preparation to enable procurement to commence as soon as Conditional Approval is granted by Ministers be noted.

**12. SCHEDULE 12A OF THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ACT 1972
AND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT (ACCESS TO INFORMATION)
ACT 1985**

Minutes:

The Board considered:

- (1) whether Members of the press and public should be excluded from the meeting of the Board during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of Section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it was likely that, in view of the nature of the business to be considered, exempt information would be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100 (1) and paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972; and
- (2) whether the disclosure of information was in the public interest, whether any relevant exemptions were applicable and whether, when applying the public interest test and exemptions, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighed that in disclosing the information.

RESOLVED: That as, in all the circumstances of the case, the public interest in maintaining the exemption outweighs the public interest in disclosing the information, members of the press and public be excluded from the meeting during consideration of the following items of business in accordance with Sub-Section 4 of section 100A of the Local Government Act 1972 because it is likely that, in view of the nature of the business, exempt information will be disclosed, being information defined in Section 100(1) and paragraph 3 of Part I of Schedule 12A of the Local Government Act 1972.

13. Land Assembly Progress and Land Acquisition Capital Expenditure Budget Forecast 2010/11

The Board considered a report of the Strategic Director, Environment which advised Members of progress to date with the advanced acquisition of land required for the Mersey Gateway in advance of CPO/TWA and the land acquisition capital expenditure requirement for 2010/11.

RESOLVED: That

- (1) the progress made in assembling the land required for the Mersey Gateway be noted; and
- (2) the requested land acquisition capital expenditure

budget for 2010/11 as outlined at Paragraph 3.14 of the report be approved.