

**ADEPT Waste Group Meeting**

**19 September 2018**

**Attendees:**

Ian Fielding, North Yorkshire (Chair)

Steve Palfrey, Suffolk

Gemma Clinton, Dorset

Joel Hull, Norfolk

Simon Aries, Hertfordshire

Kofi Adu-Gyamfi, Buckinghamshire - DEFRA Secondee

Ian Atkinson, DEFRA

Hannah Bartram, Adept

Kate Hand, London Councils

Jakob Rindegren (ESA))

Karen Farquarson, Proving Services

Sonica Sidhu, LGA

Wendy Barratt, Devon

Tina Benfield, CIWM

Gurbaksh Badhan, Buckinghamshire

Nick Bethell, EA

Mickey Green, Somerset

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| Apologies |  |
| Wayne?? | Gloucestershire |
| Ian Harltey | Torbay |
| Claire Brailsford | Derbyshire |
| Tracy Carter | Wiltshire |
| David Beaver | Kent |
| Adam Smith | Cambridgeshire |
| Verity Palk | Cornwall |
| Annette Dentith | Devon |
| Chris Preston | Defra |
| Paul Bellotti | East Riding |
| Peter Marsh | Cornwall |
| Teresa Mitchell | Oxfordshire |
| Steve Read | West Sussex |
| Hilary Tanner | LGA |
| Andrew Pau | Warwickshire |
| Paul Tripp | East Riding |
| Paul Jones | Northumberland |

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| **Item** |  |
| **1** | **Welcome and Apologies**  IF welcomed attendees. |
| **2** | **Proving Services - Karen Farquharson**  Presentation on current work with ADEPT. Existing benchmarking club on Highways services. Looking to establish similar for waste & recycling. Offers a ‘value for money’ baseline assessment and benchmarking, which can then be used to identify opportunities for service reform and savings.  Also starting to be used for assessing increased collaboration/JWA proposals.  Q&A discussion.  HB – recommend talking to Highways colleagues. ADEPT looking to establish a reference group on waste which could evolve into the benchmarking club.  ADEPT to  Looking for volunteers – N.Yorks, Somerset, Dorset, Suffolk, Norfolk in addition to those already sourced by Proving. |
| **3** | **EPR/DRS Discussion and Updates**  **(**Ian Atkinson (DEFRA), Jakob Rindegren (ESA))  IA – DEFRA has run a series of stakeholder engagement workshops over summer, and is now looking to pull that together into: W&RS to be launched in 2018 (post budget whenever that is), closely followed by consultations (3 month) on EPR; new targets for packaging recycling, and DRS system. There will also be a separate consultation on consistency. Also a further separate consultation on banning single-use plastics. Intention is further consultation then legislation in 2019.  EPR options:  1 - PRN plus; 2 – PMO; 3 - Deposit model  NB: EPR funding will effectively make recycling credits redundant, so DEFRA keen to ensure WCAs are not forgotten.  Timing:  Packaging targets will apply from 2021  EPR flows from Circular Economy so implementation dates 2023  IF requested a statement with some clarity for councils and industry on timetable and expectations, as lack of clarity is preventing procurement and investment.  ESA view (JR) – emerging view is ESA membership would prefer a market-based system, not a monopoly system. Also the linkages into wider circular economy, e.g. consistency; increasing recycled content; product design. Interested in how full cost recovery will work.  **ACTION: DEFRA suggestion – understand the options and marshall and clarify your views to feed into consultation.** |
| **4** | **ADEPT Policy Position**  HB – ADEPT has started to develop policy positions on big ticket topics that don’t change too quickly. 2 already done. Working on another 3 by Christmas, of which waste is one, to be published asap. Group discussion on the draft circulated by IF. Key feedback:  WB – full cost recovery to include disposal cost  WB – ‘no cost barrier ‘ to recycling is generally true, but mattresses, carpets, paint?  MG – what will ADEPT do? Need to be stronger on how LAs will deliver this.  KH – too even-handed – need to be more punchy on LA view  KH – DRS – is it required? Should we be including it in the essential ingredients list? Should it be more focussed on outcomes? (so we can challenged on whether DRS is best way of achieving an outcome). Where’s the evidence?  KH – language – reflect Gove’s, i.e what do we think are the game-changing reforms?  NB: ‘Pull not push’ discussion with NB from EA.  **ACTION: ALL – to provide further detailed comments, and esp those who have attended the workshops.**  **Who to revise document?** |
| **5** | **Single Use Plastic Directive**  KH – feedback from an informal stakeholder engagement session. Single-use plastics legislation will probably follow Brexit but implement the EU Directive. LEDNET has drafted a briefing outlining their views on the Directive. Major cross-over with EPR/DRS.  IF has circulated LEDNET draft response. IF agreed this can be adopted as ADEPT response.  **ACTION: ALL – to provide feedback on the draft response.** |
| **6** | **Incineration Tax**  Continued concern from LAs and industry (ESA) about the potential unintended/negative consequences.  JH – alternative view – if tax coming then are CHP/R1 facilities to be exempted (to drive improved outcomes), and costs/funding incl link to EPR to be transparent.  KH – LEDNET assumption is this would add £16M (based on £10/T tax).  JH – be ready to rebut arguments from Treasury.  **ACTION: SS and IF** – to pursue DCLG contacts ref ‘New Burden’ impact.  **ALL:** consider whether can raise through local MPs? |
| **7** | **Consistency** – feedback on DEFRA workshops on consistency and performance  Wayne’s notes circulated.  KA-G - big link to EPR – i.e. LAs only get EPR funding if meet ‘voluntary’ consistency requirements. Core set of materials and minimum service standards (wider than recycling) almost certain, but local flexibility on how this is delivered. Consultation to come.  No further consultation planned at this stage. |
| **8** | **Topic Groups**  IF to collate info on this.  ALL: to respond if haven’t already??? |
| **9** | **ADEPT Conference**  Autumn conference rapidly approaching. One workshop is on waste & resources (Chair = Paula Hewitt, Somerset). HB encouraged all to attend. More details on ADEPT website (insert link) |
| **8** | **Stakeholder Updates (discussion on updates circulated in advance)**   1. Adept Envt Board – HB – quick verbal update – last mtg helped inform ADEPT response to some Govt consultations; 25 Oct = next mtg, and has a waste focus. 2. Adept Leadership Team – HB – read the update 3. Environment Agency – NB – China restrictions item – stay vigilant on end markets; EA keen on resource efficiency in strategy; NAO report on packaging waste. 4. LGA - SS – Thanks to everyone who has returned survey, and request to do so to those that haven’t yet. **ACTION: ALL** 5. WRAP - JH asked if others had IT problems with RecycleWeek resources? 6. CIWM – No questions for TB |
| **9** | **Minutes of Last Meeting**  Approved. No matters arising not covered on agenda. |
| **10** | **Any Other Business**  SP – uncertainty on strategy making procurements difficult  K? - Dorset LGR ongoing. Most staff will TUPE into Dorset Council; the other new council will be Bournemouth, Christchurch and Poole Council.  JH – Norfolk charges on DIY waste (incl timber) introduced 1 April 2018; working well although Q1 spike in fly-tipping.  MG – extending disposal with Viridor and collection procurement difficult – likely to insert a review clause.  Herts – interim disposal contracts whilst await; HWRCs – Amey are losing money on contract; high profile work on fly-tipping delivering results.  KH -  WB – Viridor planning app being considered today to reopen a local landfill site.  GB – consultation ongoing for closure of 2 HWRCs, implementation planned 1 Apr 2019; LGR decision awaited.  IF – cabinet decision taken to remove credits on garden waste, and now writing to WCAs.  KA-B – DEFRA tracking ECJ case on Durham collections. |
| **11** | **Date of Next Meeting**  18 December 2018 – LGA Offices |
| **12** | **Meeting close**  IF thanked everyone for attending and their contributions. |