

South Yorkshire Waste Partnership Board
Tuesday 4 March 2025

Present: Councillor Mark Houlbrook (Chair), Councillor James Higginbottom and Cllr David Sheppard. Also in attendance were Paul Castle, Sam Barstow, Paul Hutchinson, Rhonda Fletcher, Carl Hewlett and Kellie Hopkins.

Apologies for absence had been received from Cllr Saghir Alam, Cllr Joe Otten, Matt O'Neill, Huw Russell and Neil Townrow.

102. DECLARATIONS OF INTEREST

No declarations of interest were made at this meeting.

103. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING HELD ON 23 September 2024 AND MATTERS ARISING

There were no matters arising to consider.

Resolved - That the minutes of the previous meeting held on 23 September 2024 be approved as a true and correct record of proceedings.

104. Meeting Attendance / Frequency

PH reported that the agreed meeting frequency has been implemented and all meetings for the year have been diarised. We are just waiting for RMBC governance to agree on the proposed Board meeting dates which will now meet 3 times a year and whereby 6 meetings will be held for Steering Committee and Joint Waste Team meetings. Feedback has been positive all round for the changes in meeting frequency.

Resolved – All agree that the new frequency of meetings is a more effective and efficient method of working.

**105 SY Joint Working
Waste & Resource Strategy/Legislation Changes**

Consideration was given to the report presented by the BDR Manager which had been circulated as part of the agenda. PH reported having pulled together an initial scoping document but is conscious of mayoral elections in DMBC, so due to Purdah we will need to be mindful of this until elections conclude in May, with a full draft to be presented by the end of Summer.

Cllr MH shared there is a consensus to work together on the strategy and as each council has its own policies these will need to be aligned to these.

Cllr JH the strategy will help to support wider policies within councils.

SB is about S Y commitment but is mindful that all councils will be required to bring the Strategy and any endorsements through each individual council's cabinet for final approval as necessary.

Cllr MH asked, as SCC is not represented today and has regularly offered apologies in the recent past, can we find out what their input and commitment going forward will be?

Action—PH will review the MOU around partnership working and will speak to SCC about their input into the strategy and SY Waste Board moving forward.

Resolved – All are happy to continue work on the strategy and provide an update at the next meeting.

106 Portfolio Updates

- **BMBC**

Cllr JH continuing to focus on H & S within the workforce which is challenging but continue to work on resolving this.

- **DCC**

Cllr MH has extended the Suez contract for 2 years for waste services. Following on from the contamination campaign which was a big success, they will be introducing pots, tubs and trays collections commencing in April and they will be publicising this shortly.

- **RMBC**

Cllr DS waste services have trialled hydrogenated oil vehicles and are just waiting for the report, so will share the findings.
Route optimisation is still being worked on.

- **SCC**

No representative was present to provide an update.

107 Letter to Secretary of State Update

PH reported a response was received, but did not specifically address the questions asked, however more focused on the New Government goals and commitment

Resolved – All agreed will keep the response on review as the Government rolls out their agenda but with the option to respond further should the Board require further dialogue and clarifications.

108 ANY OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business to consider.

109 DATE, TIME AND VENUE OF THE NEXT MEETING

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday 24 June 2025 at 9.30am in Rotherham Town Hall.

Cllr MH asked if we can look at changing further meetings from morning to afternoon to make it easier for people to attend.

Action – PH to speak to RMBC governance about changing the timings of these meetings (on the same planned dates) from Mornings to afternoons.