

**ANNEX**

**Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority  
Municipal Waste Management Strategy**

**Memorandum of Understanding**

**May 2004**

# **Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority**

## **Municipal Waste Management Strategy**

### **Memorandum of Understanding**

**Between:**

**Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority**

**Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Bury Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Manchester City Council**

**Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Salford City Council**

**Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council**

**Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council**

## **Introduction**

Management of municipal solid waste (MSW) is one of the most important and challenging environmental issues faced today. The change to more sustainable waste management systems and long term global environmental protection is now backed by substantial legislation and detailed policies at European, national and regional level.

In response to these new drivers, the GMWDA and the WCAs have formulated a Municipal Waste Management Strategy (MWMS) based on joint working and development of integrated waste management systems. This is driven by a fundamental need to maximise the value of waste resources, increase recycling and composting, minimise waste production at source and, as a minimum, meet legislative targets.

In order to deliver the aims and objectives of the MWMS, GMWDA and the WCAs each have a significant role to play and it is imperative that all parties confirm their commitment to these common goals. This initial memorandum of understanding (MOU) will consolidate this commitment from the partnership to joint working and delivery of the MWMS. The MOU is not a legally binding document.

As the GMWDA and the WCAs progress through the procurement process, the MOU will be developed to provide further, significant detail on the responsibilities of all parties. The final document will constitute a formally binding relationship through an Inter Authority Agreement (IAA) and shall be included in the Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) documentation used to procure the contract. The IAA will aid the long-term delivery of the MWMS whilst recognising the ambitions and aims of individual WCAs.

## **The Municipal Waste Management Strategy**

The main purpose of the MOU is to ensure co-ordinated delivery of the MWMS and detail the areas that will be covered in the IAA. The key aims of the MWMS are to:

- arrest the increase in MSW arisings to no more than 2% per annum by 2010 and zero by 2020
- reduce non-household waste by 50% in proportion to the MSW arisings outlined in the MWMS, reducing total tonnage by 10%
- adopt a recycling and composting led strategy
- set targets for recycling and composting of household waste of 20%, 33% and 50% by 2005/6, 2010 and 2020 respectively
- take account of new and emerging technologies
- meet landfill permit allowances and biodiversion targets
- collect adequate data on individual waste streams
- adopt a partnership approach
- derive best value for the WCA and WDA services
- achieve WCA and WDA individual Authority statutory targets
- provide facilities and markets for waste derived materials in line with BPEO

The strategy encompasses the following guiding principles in delivering sustainable wastes management:

- Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO)
- Waste management hierarchy
- Proximity principle
- Best Value

## **The Memorandum of Understanding**

### ***Scope of agreement***

This MOU is between the GMWDA and the nine constituent WCAs detailed on page 2. The MOU (and subsequent IAA) is to be considered as the strategic link between the parties in the development and delivery of the MWMS. The purpose of the MOU is to define the aims, objectives, roles and responsibilities of the respective authorities in delivering Best Value, legislative targets and the aims of the MWMS. All signatories will use all reasonable endeavours to comply with the terms of the MOU.

### ***Duration of the Agreement***

In order to deliver sustainable waste management on the scale required, long-term investment will be necessary. This investment must be matched by a firm commitment to abide by the terms of this agreement and the IAA and deliver the MWMS. Therefore, the terms of the MOU will reflect the duration of any contractual arrangement entered into between GMWDA and the service provider. This is anticipated to be for a period of 25 years effective from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2006.

### ***Relationship to the contract***

GMWDA will be entering into long-term contractual arrangements for sustainable waste management services. Imperative to the success of the contract is the input of the WCAs, in terms of recycle collection and design of collection services, which do not adversely affect the reception and handling arrangements implemented under the contract by mutual agreement between all parties.

This MOU will not form a part of the contract, however, it demonstrates a formal commitment from the GMWDA and WCAs to work in partnership with the appointed contractor to deliver the common goals of the MWMS.

### ***Management of the contract***

The GMWDA shall involve representatives of the WCAs in matters relating to contract management, in circumstances where there may be an impact upon the functions and activities of a WCA, including any matters subject to this MOU. The issue of contract management will be a standing item on the agenda for Chief Officers Group meetings and the GMWDA meetings.

### ***Changes to the agreement***

Any proposed amendments to the MOU and subsequent IAA will be raised at the Chief Officers Group meetings. Proposed changes will be reviewed and formally recommended by the Chief Officers of the WCAs and Director of GMWDA and approved by the GMWDA. Changes to the agreement must serve to enhance the delivery of the goals and objectives of the MWMS without prejudicing any of the relevant parties.

### ***Charging mechanism***

A wholly tonnage based charging mechanism will be introduced that acts as an incentive to reduce waste arisings.

### ***Development of facilities and collection systems***

The delivery of the MWMS will require significant investment in new facilities including new processing plant, composting sites, materials recovery facilities (MRFs) and bulking stations. The level of recycling and composting required by the MWMS is most likely to be achieved via an effective working arrangement between collection and disposal systems.

In order to mitigate any adverse effects on existing collection and contractual arrangements eg vehicle leases, GMWDA will phase the development of facilities to tie in with these arrangements.

### ***Siting of facilities***

The MWMS will require significant additional waste management facilities within the Greater Manchester area, in accordance with the proximity principle. GMWDA and the WCAs are undertaking an exercise to identify potential waste management sites within each WCA area in order to provide reception facilities that will not result in excessive transport requirements for collection services.

In order to ensure that these facilities are commissioned in accordance with the required timetable for delivery of the targets in the MWMS, all WCAs will use all reasonable endeavours to facilitate the establishment, siting and construction of these facilities.

### ***Recyclate collection***

GMWDA and the WCAs, by agreement, will specify the form and quality requirements for collected recyclable and compostable materials. The WCAs shall take all reasonable measures to ensure that materials delivered to GMWDA facilities comply with the agreed specification.

### ***Sale of recyclate***

In order to manage the bulk input of recyclables and resources into the market place, GMWDA will assume responsibility for the disposal of all delivered recyclables and composts. This will give economies of scale for reprocessors and attract reprocessing industries to the area, in accordance with the proximity principle. The WCAs will benefit through long term, stable prices and reduced risk.

### ***Residual wastes***

GMWDA will, in agreement with the WCAs, be responsible for the reception and treatment of all residual wastes and the delivery of biodegradable municipal waste (BMW) diversion targets. Reception facilities for residual wastes will be provided by GMWDA and the WCAs will be directed as to where to deliver residual waste arisings and in what form.

### ***Penalties***

Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS) penalties will be apportioned on the basis of the performance of WCAs and the GMWDA in reducing the biodegradable content of municipal solid waste landfilled.

### ***Communication***

It is imperative that all signatories to the MOU communicate effectively. This is particularly so when determining the viability of any new initiatives and working practices that may have an impact upon both the council tax payer and the development and implementation of the MWMS.

In order to ensure effective communication between GMWDA, WCAs and the appointed contractor, the relevant fora will be utilised as the arena for discussion in relation to any matters that may impinge upon the MWMS or the MOU.

***With effect from the date of the signing of this memorandum of understanding, all parties will have regard to the terms of the MOU and abide by the principles enshrined within it. All parties will undertake to develop systems compliant with the aims and objectives of the MWMS.***

Signatures

Neil Swannick

On behalf of Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority

Paul C. Bosh

On behalf of Bolton Metropolitan Borough Council

McConally EXECUTIVE MEMBER ENVIRONMENT & TRANSPORT

On behalf of Bury Metropolitan Borough Council

Mark

On behalf of Manchester City Council

B. Kanagan

On behalf of Oldham Metropolitan Borough Council

John Pether

On behalf of Rochdale Metropolitan Borough Council

Michael

20th July 2004

On behalf of Salford City Council

Paul Stables

COUNCIL SECRETARY AND SECRETARY

On behalf of Stockport Metropolitan Borough Council

Ahmed Ahmed

On behalf of Tameside Metropolitan Borough Council

Geoffrey (STRATEGIC DIRECTOR)

On behalf of Trafford Metropolitan Borough Council