

**ITEM 4**

**PAPER NO. WRWA 724**

**WESTERN RIVERSIDE WASTE  
AUTHORITY**

<b>MEETING</b>	28 <sup>th</sup> November 2012
<b>REPORT AUTHOR/DATE</b>	General Manager ( <i>Enquiries to Mark Broxup - Tel. 020 8871 2788</i> ) 20 <sup>th</sup> November 2012
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Report outlining progress with operations and other matters since the previous meeting of the Authority
<b>CONTENTS</b>	Page 1          Executive Summary Pages 1- 6      Items being reported on Page 6          Recommendations Appendix        RWR 3 Core Works Programme
<b>STATUS</b>	Open - circulation of this paper is not restricted.
<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>	None

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. This paper brings Members up to date on operational and other matters which, in themselves, do not warrant production of a separate paper. The majority of these matters are for Members' information, but where approval is sought this is referred to in the report. The specific matters covered in this report are as follows:-
  - a) Accident
  - b) Operations
  - c) Reuse Project
  - d) Recycle Western Riverside 3
  - e) Recycle Western Riverside 4
  - f) Street Leaves
  - g) Consultations
  - h) Constituent Council New Recycling Initiatives
  - i) Items costing between £5,000 and £30,000

## **ACCIDENT**

2. As reported to the Authority in September 2012 (Paper No. WRWA 718), on 23<sup>rd</sup> August 2012 an accident occurred at the Smugglers Way Materials Recycling Facility (MRF) when a male operative was trapped by a bale being transported by a forklift truck. The operative, who is an employee of Cory's MRF subcontractor, Smart Solutions, unfortunately suffered a broken pelvis and was taken to hospital. The operative has been discharged from hospital and is undergoing physiotherapy. The Health and Safety Executive continues to investigate the incident.

## **OPERATIONS**

3. There has been no interruption to the main transfer station operation and the service has run well since the last Authority meeting.
4. The newly refurbished Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC) was opened in September 2012, and there have been many positive comments received from residents about the design of the new facility. A tiny percentage of users have pointed out their dissatisfaction with the railing that protects them from falling into the containers, they claim it makes it difficult to lift their waste and recycling materials over the railing. The railings form part of the new 2 level design that keeps members of the public away from the operational function, the railings are an industry standard height for public barriers. Authority staff are advising residents to pack manageable loads that can be easily lifted. If residents do struggle with lifting their bags over the railing then they can leave their bags in a designated area at ground level. However, officers consider that the public will become increasingly aware of the need to pack manageable loads and will alter their behaviour accordingly.
5. A webcam is now up and running to enable residents to view the HWRC entrance ramp so they can assess the situation regarding queuing before visiting the site. A vehicle number plate recognition system is also operational that is designed to detect cars that use the site too frequently and highlight this to the site advisors who can monitor the types of waste

being disposed of by the vehicle owners. This helps to prevent commercial waste operators using the site illegally. This system also records the vehicle details and has a database facility to enable Authority staff to monitor site usage. The table below shows the site usage from Monday 5<sup>th</sup> to Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> November 2012.

Date	Day	08	09	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
05/11/2012	Mon		66	103	93	71	96	118	83		
06/11/2012	Tue		58	90	84	107	65	113	90		
07/11/2012	Wed		59	74	99	95	85	90	99		
08/11/2012	Thu		54	63	66	96	70	90	85		
09/11/2012	Fri		62	87	103	106	85	95	81		
10/11/2012	Sat	61	83	95	149	121	138	139	140	80	26
11/11/2012	Sun	42	92	137	157	149	125	159	142	79	

- The closure of the Household Waste and Recycling Centre at Cringle Dock took place on 30th September 2012. There have been no complaints about the decision to close since its closure. Cory submitted a planning application to Wandsworth Council's Planning Section for the construction of the bulk bays at Cringle Dock on 19<sup>th</sup> October 2012 and they await a response, after which the design will be finalised. Consequently, Cory have also submitted a planning application to Wandsworth's Planning section for a temporary extension to continue to operate Feathers Wharf as temporary bulking facility for an additional 6 months while the construction works at Cringle Dock take place.

### **REUSE PROJECT**

- ReWork, the Reuse workshop at Smugglers Way, continues to operate well and Groundwork who manages ReWork are refurbishing an average of 50 household items for resale via charity outlets per week. Reusable household items are now been donated through both the reuse collection system and the newly opened Household Waste and Recycling Centre (HWRC), providing a steady flow of material. The Reuse area within the HWRC is generating lots of good quality reusable material, especially furniture items. Groundwork are now exploring the possibility of selling some of the better quality furniture items through online auction sites to increase the income into ReWork to ensure its sustainability.
- Authority officers and officers from Groundwork visited Wandsworth Prison in early August 2012 to explore the possibility of passing on reusable items to the Prison for repair and resale. Groundwork are now trialling the delivery of bicycles for repair to the prison and will also trial the delivery of non-reusable domestic appliances that will be dismantled on site at Wandsworth Prison with the aim of extracting the high value metals for resale.

### **RECYCLE WESTERN RIVERSIDE (RWR) 3**

- The current Recycle Western Riverside Campaign (RWR) work falls into two categories: the Core Works Programme and the Additional Works Programme. The appendix to this report provides a quarterly progress report describing the core work that took place from July to September 2012.

10. Officers have been successful in applying for support and funding from Recycle for London with the objective to reduce the amount of contamination in recycling collection services through the delivery of a targeted contamination campaign to Authority residents. The Authority has been awarded £99,750 that must be spent before 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013. The table below details the agreed activities that will take place between November 2012 and March 2013.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Additional doorstepping to target the crew areas with the highest levels of contamination	£40,000
Local advertising in Council publications, local newspapers, council tax inserts and production and design costs.	£20,500
Adverts on refuse collection vehicles	£15,000
Adverts on the rear of buses	£14,250
Contamination stickers	£ 5,000
New residents packs	£ 5,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>£99,750</b>

11. Officers have also been successful in bidding for support and funding from Recycle for London to complement RWR 3's Love Food Hate Waste 2012/13 Campaign. The Authority has been awarded £25,450 to promote the campaign between November 2012 and March 2013. The table below details the agreed activities that will take place between November and March 2013.

<b>Activity</b>	<b>Cost</b>
Cookery Workshops	£13,750
Outdoor Advertising	£ 2,800
Vehicle Livery	£ 8,900
<b>Total</b>	<b>£25,450</b>

#### **RECYCLE WESTERN RIVERSIDE (RWR) 4**

12. At the previous Authority meeting, Members instructed officers to explore in detail the possibility of bringing the RWR 4 programme in-house. The RWR 3 core work programme will end on 31<sup>st</sup> March 2013, when the current contract between Waste Watch and Cory Environmental Ltd expires. Officers have explored the possibility of bringing the RWR programme in-house with the management of the schools programme and communications work being carried out by Authority staff and have concluded that it is feasible to undertake both functions from 1<sup>st</sup> April 2013. Investigations have also confirmed that financial efficiencies will be achieved by bringing the RWR programme in-house.

#### **Schools Programme proposal**

13. The proposal is that the schools education programme will be carried out at the Smugglers Way MRF Education Centre and will be run by two Education Officers employed directly by the Authority. The officers will be employed to work during term time only, on a part-

time basis and will have the responsibility for hosting and conducting the educational talks and tours for schools, colleges, community groups, residents' association and other interested parties based in the Authority area.

14. The focus of the talks will be Reduce, Reuse, Recycle and an emphasis will be placed on the importance of clean recycling materials; the talks will be carried out in the main education room that has a viewing gallery looking into the Materials Recycling Facility. The updated "Wealth Hidden in Waste" film will also be shown during the talk. A tour of the Transfer Station will follow that incorporates a visit to a viewing gallery looking out on the transfer station tipping operation, a look at the ReWork process and a stroll along the walkway that looks out onto the cranes and river transportation process and the Household Waste and Recycling Centre.
15. The two Education Officers will have additional responsibilities that will include the promotion of the education services i.e. talks and tours, some limited outreach work in schools when requested and providing assistance with the general Recycle Western Riverside communications programme.

### **Recycle Western Riverside Communications Strategy**

16. At the time of writing this report, a RWR communications seminar has been planned to take place in the Smugglers Way education facility on 22<sup>nd</sup> November 2012, with the aim of developing a longer term strategy for dealing with the high levels of contamination being delivered to the MRF. Technical officers, communication officers and policy officers from the four constituent councils have been invited to attend to discuss potential infrastructure changes and possible RWR brand changes that could make communicating the message to householders about the importance of only placing the requested materials into the recycling bags and banks more effective when compared to the current brand.
17. An oral update will be provided at the Authority meeting about the outcomes agreed at the seminar but as an interim measure it is proposed to establish a communications and new brand budget of £150,000 for 2013/14. It is envisaged that external funding could also be sought to support the campaign. A Communications and Marketing strategy will be presented to the next Authority meeting for approval in February 2013.
18. Cory has made a financial contribution to the current RWR 3 programme consisting of £75,000 per annum. Officers have made an approach to Cory concerning the continuation of a contribution but have had no feedback.
19. It is proposed to move away from the Core Works and Additional Works programmes and introduce a strategy-based communications plan that can be reviewed annually in consultation with Technical Officers. The communications programme would be directly managed by Authority staff and by procuring marketing expertise on a 'needs must' basis. The table overleaf compares the current RWR 3 programme with the proposed in-house programme that excludes a financial contribution from Cory. The main benefit of bringing the campaign in-house is the financial saving of £60,000 per annum assuming that there will be no financial contribution from Cory. Other advantages include increased flexibility on the delivery of the programme and complete control over the messages being communicated ensuring they are focused on the priorities requested by the constituent councils.

<b>COMMENTS</b>	<b>RWR 3 (CURRENT)</b>	<b>20012/13</b>	<b>PROPOSED RWR 4 3 YEAR PROGRAMME</b>		<b>COMMENTS</b>
		<b>£</b>		<b>£</b>	
<b>Core Works operated by Waste Watch</b>	<b>Core Works</b>				
Education programme carried out in schools.	<b>Schools Programme</b>	<b>130,000</b>	<b>Education Room Staff and Resource budget</b>	<b>50,000</b>	2 part time and term time only officers and a small resource budget. Includes overheads.
Love Food Hate Waste Campaign budget was reduced in 2012/13 as consultation with Technical Officers revealed that it is not a high priority. Currently running a one year Zero Waste Project.	<b>LFHW and Zero Waste</b>	<b>45,000</b>	<b>Communications and Marketing</b>	<b>150,000</b>	Communications Strategy funding to focus on promoting 3Rs and improving material quality.
Doorstepping (face-to-face contact has been a priority with Technical Officers but could be incorporated within proposed communications and marketing budget).	<b>Doorstepping</b>	<b>50,000</b>		-	Doorstepping (face-to-face contact has been a priority with Technical Officers but could be incorporated within proposed communications and marketing budget).
Essential.	<b>Website maintenance</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>Website maintenance</b>	<b>10,000</b>	Essential.
Requested by Technical Officers.	<b>No junk mail stickers</b>	<b>3,000</b>	<b>No junk mail stickers</b>	<b>3,000</b>	Requested by Technical Officers.
	<b>Cory contribution</b>	<b>-75,000</b>		-	
Various projects agreed with Technical Officers annually.	<b>Additional projects</b>	<b>120,000</b>			Budget incorporated into proposed communications and marketing budget.
	<b>Total</b>	<b>273,000</b>		<b>213,000</b>	£60,000 saving with no contribution from Cory.

20. These proposals have been incorporated and referred to within the Budget Forecast paper (Paper No. 723) elsewhere on this agenda.

21. Members are recommended to approve the proposal discussed in paragraphs 12 to 19 above, in relation to Recycle Western Riverside 4.

### **STREET LEAVES**

22. In September 2012, the Environment Agency issued a circular concerning the composting of street leaves. The circular stated that due to the findings of a trial carried out in four local authority areas in Wales, street leaves should no longer be sent for composting.

The circular stated the “the outcome from the trial signalled the need for a precautionary approach to composting of this waste due to the presence of metals such as nickel, copper, chromium, molybdenum, zinc, and other contaminants”. Parks leaves are not affected and are still being sent for composting. However, the organic material delivered to the detritus bay is also not suitable for composting. The Environment Agency plan to carry out more trials within the next few months to sample more leaves from various parts of the country and Authority officers have registered an interest in taking part.

### **CONSULTATIONS**

23. There have been no consultation documents published requiring a response by the Authority since its September 2012 meeting and, as reported at that meeting (Paper No. WRWA 720), a consultation by DEFRA on “Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategies” is still expected at some time in the future as is a response by the Port of London Authority to its consultation on proposed Technical and Operational Standards for Commercial Vessels on the Tidal Thames (Thames Freight Standard) 2012.

### **CONSTITUENT COUNCIL NEW RECYCLING INITIATIVES**

24. At the meeting of the Authority on 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010 (Paper No. WRWA 668) Members instructed the Clerk to write to each of the constituent councils to inform them that, in future, should they wish to make arrangements themselves to recycle any significant tonnage of waste then, in accordance with Section 48 of the Environment Protection Act 1990, they must, as soon as reasonably practicable, notify the Authority in writing. The Authority will then approve or object to any such proposal at its next available meeting. The Clerk wrote to the constituent councils, as instructed, on 27<sup>th</sup> October 2010.
25. The constituent councils have not notified the Authority of any new initiatives since the previous meeting.

### **ITEMS COSTING BETWEEN £5,000 AND £30,000**

26. The following item of expenditure has been authorised by officers under delegated powers within the band range of £5,000 to £30,000 since the last Authority meeting.

Lambert Smith Hampton	Asset Valuations in accordance with IFRS Requirements	£7,500
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### **RECOMMENDATIONS**

27. The Authority is recommended to:-
- a) approve the proposals set out in paragraphs 12 to 19 above to bring the Recycle Western Riverside programme in-house and to establish a communications and new brand budget of £150,000 for 2013/14; and

b) otherwise, receive this report as information.

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20<sup>th</sup> November 2012