

# PAPER NO. WRWA 24-05

## WESTERN RIVERSIDE WASTE AUTHORITY

<b>MEETING</b>	8 <sup>th</sup> February 2024														
<b>REPORT AUTHOR/DATE</b>	Interim General Manager <i>(Contact Rachel Espinosa - Tel. 020 8871 2788)</i> 25 <sup>th</sup> January 2024														
<b>SUBJECT</b>	Report by the Interim General Manager on progress on the development of the WRWA Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.														
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<b>STATUS</b>	<b>OPEN</b>														
<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS</b>	None														

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## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

1. This report provides an update of the work undertaken and ongoing to progress the Authority's Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy ("JMWMS").

## **RECOMMENDATION**

2. The Authority is recommended to:
  - a) receive this report for information.

## **INTRODUCTION**

3. The Authority together with the Constituent Councils ("CCs") are preparing a new Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy ("JMWMS"). Ricardo Energy and Environment are providing technical support to the development of the JMWMS and the work is being delivered in accordance with a project plan.

## **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION**

### **PROGRESS UPDATE**

4. Modelling work is continuing on the JMWMS and the Ricardo team has provided results of the future waste flow forecasting. Two meetings have been held with Technical Officers to review and select a set of collection service options for modelling, with the purpose being to understand possible expected levels of recycling performance in order to set joint targets for the JMWMS.
5. Ricardo has begun work on the collections modelling on a Borough-by-Borough basis and the work will culminate in 'whole system models' that include transfer and treatment methods for each option. More information on the forecasting results and collection options is provided below.

### **Forecasting Results**

6. Forecasting of future waste quantities and composition has been completed, which includes waste expected to be collected by the CCs and managed by WRWA during the JMWMS period, 2025-2040. The forecasting takes into account projections of housing growth within the four boroughs, estimates of the impact of a Deposit Return Scheme ("DRS"), Extended Producer Responsibility ("EPR") for packaging waste and Simpler Recycling on expected arisings.

7. In summary, total household waste is forecasted to increase from approximately 288,000 tonnes to almost 427,000 tonnes by 2040, an increase of 48%. This is principally due to a projected increase in the number of households generating additional waste arisings. Boroughwide implementation of household food waste collections across the CCs is expected to result in a reduction in residual waste and further analysis on the expected yields and contribution to recycling levels will be seen through the modelling of collections options.
8. The impact of the DRS and EPR schemes is projected to reduce both residual waste and dry recycling arisings marginally, with the greatest reduction seen in dry recycling materials of approximately 4.7% by 2028, when full implementation of the schemes takes place. Figure 1 in Appendix 1 details the forecasting results in pictorial form on the assumption that the initiatives described in paragraph 6 are introduced, but that there are no further improvements made to enhance the performance of current reuse and recycling services.

### **Collections Service Modelling**

9. Modelling collection service options provides more detail of the expected performances of different waste and recycling service types and their respective impacts on residual waste arisings and recycling rates. To that end, discussions have taken place with CC Technical Officers to consider and select a set of options for modelling purposes. The objective is to understand how the options contribute to the Strategy vision with regard to meeting UK Government and Mayor of London targets.
10. The selected options include the current services provided by the CCs in 2023/24 and take into consideration planned service level changes. The options will be compared against the services that were provided in the Baseline year, 2022/23. The modelling year is 2026/27 as this corresponds with the implementation timetable for the 'Simpler Recycling' reforms. A 'Baseline+' option is modelled in 2026/27 taking into account inflation and household growth, to allow comparison of the Baseline services against the collection options on a like-for-like basis.
11. The outcome of the modelling will provide comparisons of the options against the Baseline services with regard to performance, resource requirements and costs. Table 1 in Appendix 1 summarises the collection options.

### **Public Consultation Methodology**

12. The Authority and the CCs need to begin preparations for consulting on the draft JMWMS vision and key priorities with residents. Meetings have been held with

Communications Officers at the CCs to discuss preferences for how the consultation could take place and to highlight any concerns around the timing of the consultation. There is a general preference for the consultation to include an online survey coupled with the opportunity to discuss the aims and objectives with interested parties in-person. On that basis, it is proposed to deliver the consultation through two key methods:

- a) design a questionnaire that can be completed online by residents at their convenience within the consultation period;
  - b) deliver one or more in-person focus groups that allow more in-depth conversations to take place.
13. Publicising the consultation and sign-posting residents to the online survey and consultation events will be jointly administered, making use of existing publication channels within the CCs.
  14. The Authority's consultants, Ricardo have built in a six-week period for the consultation as a minimum and have advised that this should avoid the school summer holiday period as much as possible, to maximise responses. London Mayoral elections are due on 2<sup>nd</sup> May 2024 and a general election is expected at some point during 2024. The public consultation timetable for the JMWMS may flex to avoid these periods in accordance with Members' preferences.

### **UPCOMING TASKS**

15. Following completion of the collections options modelling, the consultants will complete 'whole system models' that include transfer and treatment methods and then perform environmental assessments of the whole system options. Consideration will need to be given to enhancing waste reuse initiatives within this phase of modelling.
16. Once the modelling tasks are complete, the JMWMS Vision and Ambition will be reviewed to ensure they are aligned and deliverable. Preparations can then begin for the drafting of the JMWMS Strategy document and consultation materials. It is expected that the draft consultation materials will be brought to the June 2024 meeting of this Authority for approval. An updated project timetable is included in as an Appendix to this report.

## **TREASURER'S COMMENTS**

17. The JMWMS is being developed through the existing officers at WRWA (with support from officers in the constituent councils and our external technical advisors). All these costs including consultation materials will be funded within existing approved budgets.
  
18. This strategy will inform future operations (and that combined with new legislative requirements) such as the Deposit Return Scheme, Extended Producer Responsibility and Emissions Trading Scheme will have financial implications for both the WRWA and the boroughs. These implications are being assessed and evaluated and will be reported in separate future reports including the annual budget report.

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INTERIM GENERAL MANAGER

25<sup>th</sup> January 2024

**WRWA Waste Arising Forecasting Results**

**Figure 1. Future Waste Arisings**

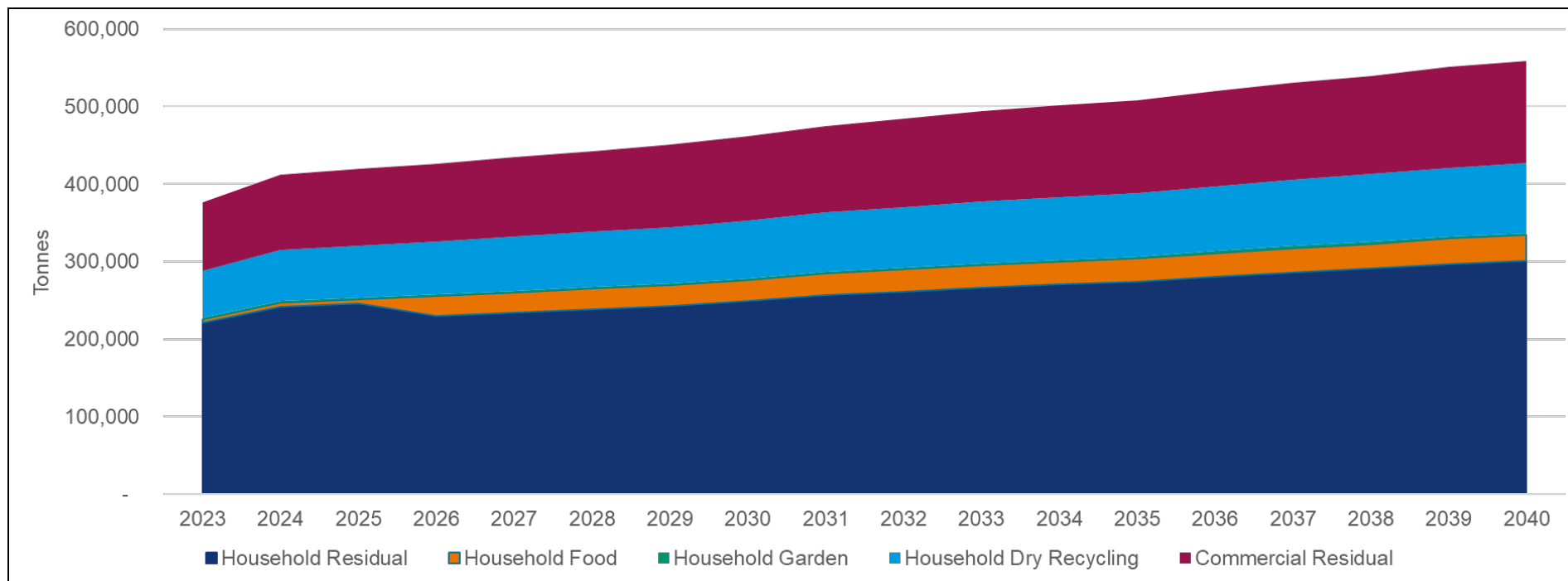


Figure 1 illustrates the quantities of waste arisings expected to be managed, including commercial waste collected by Borough waste services. The orange wedge depicting ‘household food’ waste assumes that Boroughwide services are in place by the end of 2026 in line with Simpler Recycling. The overall increase in waste arisings for all waste streams is forecast on the assumption that increases in the number of households will equate to corresponding increases in waste arisings. Household projections are sourced from a combination of Borough and GLA data sets.

**Table 1. Modelling Selected Waste and Recycling Collection Service Options**

	Residual Waste	Dry Recycling	Food Waste	Garden Waste	Additional information
<b>Baseline +</b>	Same as Baseline but with waste arisings and housing projected for future year – 2027/2028				
<b>Option 1</b>	Separate collection, frequency to stay the same as baseline	Separate collection, frequency to stay the same as baseline	Borough-wide, separate weekly collection	Separate, fortnightly, charged	
<b>Option 2</b>	Separate collection, frequency to stay the same as baseline	Separate collection, frequency to stay the same as baseline	Borough-wide, mixed weekly collection		
<b>Option 3</b>	Co-collection of residual with DMR – frequency to stay the same as baseline		Borough-wide, separate weekly collection	Separate, fortnightly, charged	
<b>Option 4</b>	Co-collection of residual with DMR – frequency to stay the same as baseline		Borough-wide, mixed weekly collection		
<b>Option 5</b>	Separate collection, fortnightly, 140L bins (where possible), no side waste	Comingled, weekly, 240L bins (where possible)	Borough-wide, separate weekly collection	Separate, fortnightly, charged	This option represents a 'high performing' collection system so will include an increased set-out rate, recognition rate, and participation rate



## Project Timetable Update

		Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Jan-25	Feb-25
<b>Task</b>	<b>Sub-Task</b>														
<b>JMWMS</b>	<b>Milestone 3: Collections Modelling to be complete including collections options</b>	*													
	<b>Milestone 4: All Modelling to be complete</b>				*										
	<b>Milestone 5: Draft Strategy for Public Consultation to be prepared</b>						*								
	<b>Milestone 6: Public Consultation to be delivered</b>									*					
	<b>Milestone 7: Final Strategy document prepared for Member approval</b>										*				
	<b>Take Final Strategy document to Authority Meeting (February 2025)</b>														