

## Minutes of the Nineteenth Meeting of SERTAB held on 21 February 2005 at ESA, 154 Buckingham Palace Road, London

### Present:

Craig Ibbetson	Chairman
Marcus Wood	Berkshire Joint Planning Unit (Atkins)
Tony Cook	East Sussex CC
Bill Murphy	Kent CC
Richard Read	Hampshire CC
Peter Day	Oxfordshire CC (Secretary)
Hilary Herbert	Surrey CC
Tony Odam	West Sussex CC
Lisa Bennett	ESA (Cory)
John Prosser	ESA (Cleanaway)
John Gower	Environment Agency (EA)
Paddy Johnston	SEFS (Greenworks Trust)
Melvin Caton	SEEDA
Wayne Hubbard	London RTAB (GLA)
Roy Leavitt	East of England RTAB (Essex CC)
Chris Waite	SEERAWP (observer)
Sam Corp	ESA (for item 5(i))

## 1. Introductions and Apologies for Absence

### 1.1 Apologies were received from:

Graham Liddiard	Buckinghamshire CC
Bryan Geake	Medway Council
Gill King	Milton Keynes Council
John Boldon	ESA (Cory) (represented by Lisa Bennett)
Owen Dimond	ESA (Grundon)
Nick Hollands	ESA (Onyx)
Gareth Phillips	ESA (SITA)
Mike Gwilliam	SEERA
David Payne	SEERA
Richard Lemon	GOSE

### 1.2 Lisa Bennett (ESA – Cory) was welcomed to the meeting.

## 2. Minutes of the Meeting held on 8 December 2004 and Matters

## Arising

2.1 The minutes of the eighteenth meeting of SERTAB held on 8 December 2004 were agreed.

2.2 Item 2.2 – The West Sussex BPEO report was not yet available.

**ACTION: Tony Odam**

2.3 Item 2.3 – Invoices for 2004/05 financial contributions had been sent out by Surrey CC. Any WPA that had not received an invoice or had not paid their contribution is to let the Secretary know.

**ACTION: WPAs**

- 2.4 Item 6.3 – The EA will give an update at each meeting on new hazardous waste management proposals and capacity.  
**ACTION: John Gower**
- 2.5 Item 7.3 – The Secretary was awaiting a reply from Paddy Johnston (SEFS) about a NGO representative to be on SEWAG.  
**ACTION: Paddy Johnston**
- 2.6 Item 8.1 – The Secretary had not been able to submit comments to Defra on the proposed National Waste Data Strategy.
- 2.7 Item 9.1 – The SEERAWP report had been circulated.
- 2.8 All other matters arising were covered by items elsewhere on the agenda.

**3. Future Role and Work of SERTAB**  
**Regional Waste Strategy EIP Panel Report Recommendations**  
**Monitoring: role of SERTAB in light of EIP Panel Report and draft PPS10**

- 3.1 These three items (agenda items 3, 4 (ii) and 7(i)) were taken together. The paper on Issues Arising from the Regional Strategy/RPG Review EIP Panel Report prepared by David Payne (attached to SERTAB 05-1) was used as a basis for discussion.

**Self Sufficiency**

- 3.2 A consultancy brief prepared by SEERA for the project 'Towards a Methodology for the Apportionment of London's Exports of Waste to the South East of England' had been circulated (agenda item 8(iii)). SEERA have appointed Jacobs Babbie to undertake this project, at a cost of £25,541. Defra has agreed to fund £15,000 of the project cost from the WIP Regional Waste Support Fund. SERTAB has been asked to fund the balance of £10,541. This was agreed.
- 3.3 The need for this project was agreed and the brief was accepted. It was recognised it would only look at how waste coming from London into the South East should be apportioned between WPAs, and that the wider issue of how much waste would be exported from London and how that should be split between the East of England and South East regions remained to be addressed. That should be debated further once this project was complete, but it would be useful to have representatives from London and the East of England on the project steering group.

- 3.4 The following volunteered to be on the steering group: Hilary Herbert (Surrey CC); Bill Murphy (Kent CC); Richard Read (Hampshire CC); Peter Day (Oxfordshire CC); Wayne Hubbard (GLA); Roy Leavitt (Essex CC). The ESA should be invited to participate as well; Lisa Bennett will follow this up. The Secretary will also invite a representative from Buckinghamshire CC. The Secretary will co-ordinate the first steering group meeting. Wayne Hubbard offered to find a room at City Hall. At the first meeting, the steering group should agree the details of the project with the consultant. At the second meeting, the consultant's draft report should be considered.

**ACTION: Lisa Bennett / Secretary**

### **Recycling**

- 3.5 It was agreed that a working group on Material Resource Streams should be set up to work in conjunction with SEEDA and WRAP on identifying the possible scale and type of regionally significant recycling/reprocessing facilities needed and their broad location. Melvin Caton said SEEDA was currently negotiating a memorandum of understanding with WRAP, which should be helpful for this work.
- 3.6 Richard Read suggested Ian Avery (Hampshire CC) to lead the working group, because of work being done in this field in Hampshire, and will speak to him about it. John Gower (EA) and Bill Murphy (Kent CC) both volunteered to be on the group, and Hilary Herbert will seek a representative from the WDA side of Surrey CC. Lisa Bennett will find out whether the ESA wishes to participate. The Working Group will be asked to prepare a draft report for the next SERTAB meeting.

**ACTION: Richard Read / Hilary Herbert / Lisa Bennett / Secretary**

### **Delivery and Monitoring**

- 3.7 The issue of data availability and consistency is central to monitoring, and has been raised at the National RTAB Chairs meeting. The new SWMA is due to be published by the EA this summer. John Gower said the intention is to mirror the data in the SWMA 2000, but an internal meeting was to be held shortly to sort out what data was to be provided how, and how and when. It was felt clarification is needed of what data will be available in the South East, in particular what the EA will and will not be collecting and making available. John Gower will let the Chairman and Secretary know.

**ACTION: John Gower**

- 3.8 The EA's policy on release of data from site returns in the light of the

Freedom of Information Act was queried. John Gower thought there would be no change, since landfill void figures are confidential, but he will check.

**ACTION: John Gower**

- 3.9 In view of the central role of the EA in data and monitoring, clarification is needed of the staff time the Agency will be able to make available to SERTAB. The Chairman will write to Howard Davidson, Regional Director of the EA's Southern Region.

**ACTION: Chairman**

- 3.10 It was agreed SERTAB should initiate a system of annual monitoring of new waste management capacity. John Gower pointed out that the EA could only provide data on licensed sites. It was agreed WPAs should be asked to provide information on new waste management capacity granted planning permission. Chris Waite (SEERAWP Secretary) offered to draft a survey form, based on the form used for SEERAWP surveys of new mineral working permissions. Chris Waite will also find out about Bedfordshire CC's system of annual surveys of waste management capacity.

**ACTION: Chris Waite**

### **Recycled Aggregates**

- 3.11 It was agreed SERTAB should participate in the research project proposed by SEERA to establish a methodology for the sub-regional apportionment of alternative aggregates supply, including recycled construction and demolition waste. The following names were put forward to be on a project steering group: Tony Cook (East Sussex CC); Mike Hare (Kent CC); Jeremy Smith (Hampshire CC); Peter Day (Oxfordshire CC); David Lamb (Surrey CC). Chris Waite will canvass SEERAWP members, particularly the aggregates recycling industry, for steering group representatives. The Secretary will liaise with David Payne to set up a steering group meeting when the project consultant has been appointed. Wayne Hubbard offered to provide a paper on apportionment of waste arisings based on indicators of future development activity which was prepared by the GLA for the London Plan EIP.

**ACTION: Chris Waite / Secretary / Wayne Hubbard**

### **Waste Management Capacity Requirements**

- 3.12 A consultancy brief prepared by SEERA for the project 'Updating the Model of Future Waste Management Capacity Needs in the South East' (Annex 1 of the Regional Waste Management Strategy) had been circulated (agenda item 8(iv)). SEERA have appointed ERM to undertake this project, at a cost of £24,430. Defra has agreed to fund £20,000 of the project cost from the WIP Regional Waste Support Fund. SERTAB has been asked to fund the balance of

£4,430. This was agreed.

- 3.13 The need for this project was agreed and the brief was accepted. The Chairman stressed the importance of WPAs participating fully in this project, particularly in checking the waste capacity data to be used in the modelling work that ERM would be sending to them. It is important to get this data as correct as possible, as it will feed into policy in the RSS on distribution of waste management capacity requirements. It is also important that WPAs attend the two proposed workshops programmed for: w/c 14 March, to discuss data; and w/c 11 April, to test the model.

#### **4. Regional Waste Strategy EIP Panel Report and South East Plan**

- 4.1 The Panel Report on the Regional Waste Management Strategy EIP was published on 6 January 2005. The recommendations of the Panel with particular relevance for the work of SERTAB were considered under item 3. In the absence of a GOSE representative, the expected date of publication of proposed changes for consultation could not be confirmed.
- 4.2 The draft South East Plan has been published for informal consultation from 24 January to 15 April 2005. SEERA have included the waste policies from the Regional Waste Management Strategy, March 2004, but consultation on these is being dealt with through the process of alteration to the waste policies in RPG9. The outcome of that process will be fed into the South East plan at a later stage.
- 4.3 Hilary Herbert reported on the SEERA Sustainability Appraisal Sounding Board. Waste has been identified as a key cross-cutting issue that links with other development issues, particularly housing. Consultants ERM have been asked to do more work on what the key crunch points on sustainability are.

#### **5. Hazardous Waste**

- 5.1 Sam Corp (ESA) was welcomed to the meeting for this item. He outlined what the ESA saw as the main issues on hazardous waste, which were:
- Lack of real-time data flow information – apparent discrepancies between arising and disposal figures since July 2004, but amounts are uncertain;
  - Lack of any significant treatment of hazardous waste at present;
  - Lack of clarity on legal framework for hazardous waste, particularly on Waste Acceptance Criteria; insufficient action and guidance from Defra;
  - Concern that there will not be time to prepare for changes in July 2005;
  - Lack of treatment capacity and lack of investment in new capacity.

- 5.2 John Gower supported most of what Sam Corp had said. The EA needs certainty in order to be able to provide guidance. Not much has changed recently on capacity of facilities. There are two current landfill proposals, at Purton, Swindon (just outside the region) and in Oxfordshire.
- 5.3 A discussion followed on how to establish the need for new hazardous waste management capacity, particularly for treatment facilities. Recent work by a Cabinet Office Task Force on contaminated land and development and by the Hazardous Waste Forum was referred to as being potentially helpful. SEERA intends to engage consultants to provide an overview of the current situation on arisings of hazardous waste and adequacy of waste management capacity.
- 5.4 It was agreed that further work needs to be done by the Hazardous Waste Task Group. It should be asked to look again at the Atkins Report, the work of the Hazardous Waste Forum and the EIP Panel Report, and to use these as a basis to come up with a framework for further work needed to establish hazardous waste arisings and capacity requirements in the region. This should set the context for the research work that SEERA is proposing to fund. The Secretary will contact Owen Dimond about this.

**ACTION: Secretary / Hazardous Waste Task Group**

**6. South East Waste Advisory Group**

- 6.1 The note of the second meeting of the South East Waste Advisory Group (SEWAG) on 15 December 2004 had been circulated. Bids from SEERA (supported by SERTAB and SEEDA) to the WIP Regional Waste Support Fund totalling £50,000 had been agreed, for the following projects:
- a) Methodology for the apportionment of London's exports of waste to the South East (£15,000);
  - b) Updating model of future waste management capacity needs in the South East (£20,000);
  - c) South East Regional Waste Summit 2005 (£15,000).
- 6.2 The next meeting of SEWAG is on 16 March 2005.

**7. Monitoring**

- 7.1 The role of SERTAB in monitoring in the light of the EIP Panel Report and draft PPS10 had been discussed under item 3.
- 7.2 The wider issue of prioritising and resourcing monitoring work was discussed.

It was noted the East of England Regional Assembly (EERA) is funding a half-time post dedicated to working on waste and supporting the RTAB. A clearer definition is needed of what work is going to be done and by whom, so that gaps in data and analysis can be seen and work needed and consequent resource requirements established. The Chairman will redraft his paper on SERTAB Future Work Programme (considered at the meeting on 8 December 2004) to provide a report to SEERA on what information is required and what the gaps are. He will circulate a draft for comment. It was suggested that a bid could be made for money from the WIP Regional Waste Support Fund for 2005/06 to help plug the resource gap.

**ACTION: Chairman**

- 7.3 The question of whether monitoring should be over calendar or financial years was raised, but no conclusion was reached. It was thought that legislation may require data collection for calendar years, although waste data has always collected for financial years.

## **8. Research**

### **(i) Inter-Regional Waste Movements Project**

- 8.1 The final report of the consultants MEL / Beyond Waste had been circulated.

### **(ii) Modelling of New Waste Management Capacity Requirements**

- 8.2 The final report of the consultants MEL / Beyond Waste had been circulated.

### **(iii) Towards a Methodology for Apportionment of London's Exports of Waste to the South East of England**

- 8.3 This project had been discussed and agreed under item 3.

- 8.4 Roy Leavitt said that EERA wishes to progress work on inter-regional waste movements (principally from London to the adjoining regions) to move towards agreement on this matter. He will ask Deborah Sacks at EERA to contact David Payne about setting up an initial inter-regional officer-level meeting.

**ACTION: Roy Leavitt**

### **(iv) Updating Model of Future Waste Management Capacity Needs in the South East of England**

- 8.5 This project had been discussed and agreed under item 3.

### **(v) Future Research Priorities**

- 8.6 Additional research work on hazardous waste proposed by SEERA had been

discussed under item 5.

## **9. SEEDA Waste Market Development Group Update**

- 9.1 Melvin Caton reported on the last meeting of the Group. The Group is developing a programme of work including: materials efficiency; market intelligence; awareness raising; barriers to investment; sustainable procurement and data collection. The main thrust is to build regional capacity, working in conjunction with WRAP. SEEDA will carry out strategic lobbying of Defra and DTI on waste management matters. The proposed Regional Waste Summit in June 2005 is part of the programme of work. Particular studies are being carried out on: barriers to private sector investment, and the feasibility of anaerobic digestion for abattoir and catering wastes. Reports will be available from these studies.

## **10. ODPM / Defra Consultation Documents**

- 10.1 The following consultation documents were considered:
- (i) Consultation on PPS10 'Planning for Sustainable Waste Management';
  - (ii) Consultation on Changes to Waste Management Decision Making Principles in Waste Strategy 2000;
  - (iii) Consultation on Draft Guidance on Municipal Waste Management Strategies and Draft Outline of Practise Guidance on Municipal Waste Management Strategies;
  - (iv) Advice on Data and Forecasting.
- 10.2 It was decided that SERTAB should not separately respond to these documents, but should provide comments for inclusion in a response by SEERA, in particular:
- the lack of reference in draft PPS10 to inter-regional co-ordination, despite the statement in paragraph 7 about taking into account the needs of neighbouring regions; this will rely on adjoining regions reaching agreement, but draft PPS10 says nothing about the importance of doing this; it was agreed that Mike Gwilliam be asked to raise this issue with the Inter-Regional Forum;
  - that adequate resourcing of RTABs is needed if the regional planning work envisaged in PPS10, and the work stemming from the EIP Panel Report, is to be done effectively.

**ACTION: Secretary / David Payne**

- 10.3 The statement on waste management development within green belts in paragraph 3 of draft PPS10 was also discussed, but it was felt the ODPM had

probably gone as far as is possible on this within the policy of PPG2.

## **11. Update on Waste Local Plans / Development Frameworks and Major Waste Management Development Proposals**

- 11.1 Each WPA present gave a brief update on the programme for their waste local plan and/or development framework and on any current major waste management proposals.

**Oxfordshire:** Minerals & waste development scheme not yet finalised; proposing to prepare core strategy and minerals and waste sites documents in parallel over next 3 years.

**Surrey:** Minerals & waste development scheme approved; issues and options consultation currently in progress; waste core strategy and sites document to be prepared in parallel; preferred options consultation in Autumn 2005.

**Kent:** Minerals & waste development scheme not yet finalised; consulting on statement of community involvement; will be consulting on issues and options in Summer 2005 and on preferred options in February 2006.  
Current application for a mono-cell landfill for incinerator residues, but not yet clear where the waste would come from.

**West Sussex:** Waste local plan being progressed under transitional arrangements; local plan inquiry later in 2005; minerals and waste development framework commenced with consultation on statement of community involvement.  
Application for MRF refused because location unacceptable; this will affect delivery of waste management strategy; 2 current major landfill proposals.

**Berkshire:** Minerals & waste development scheme not yet finalised; preparing for issues and options consultation.

**East Sussex:** Minerals and waste development scheme approved; proposed modifications to waste local plan published.  
Current proposal for non-hazardous landfill near Lewes.

## **12. Liaison with Other Regions**

### **(i) London**

- 12.1 The London RTAB met on 26 January 2005; John Boldon represented SERTAB. The role of the RTAB was discussed and it was concluded that

better representation from London Borough planning officers is needed. Guidance on Planning for Waste was issued by the Association of London Government in November 2004. A study of waste sites capacity by consultants is due to be completed in Spring 2005. Land Use Consultants have been appointed to work on a Wider Waste Strategy for London, with the aim of publishing a draft later in 2005. The review of the waste aspects of the London Plan is proceeding; a date for the EIP has not yet been set, but it is expected the review will be completed by 2006. A special meeting of the London RTAB is being held on 24 February to consider draft PPS10.

#### **(ii) East of England**

- 12.2 The East of England RTAB met on 26 January 2005; SERTAB was not able to send a representative. A waste management capacity study is to be carried out by consultants. EERA is preparing a monitoring report on waste for 2002/03. The East of England Plan has been published for consultation, from 8 December 2004 to 16 March 2005. SEERA will be responding to it and will support the change to the policy for regional self sufficiency in waste management provision to bring it in line with the equivalent policy for the South East (by extending to 2015 the date after which imports of waste from outside the region will be restricted to landfill of residual waste).

#### **(iii) National**

- 12.3 A meeting of RTAB Chairs was held on 27 January 2005, which the Chairman attended. Notes of the meeting had been circulated. It mainly discussed draft PPS10 and resourcing of RTABs. A meeting of the National Forum for RTABs had also been held on 27 January 2005, which the Chairman also attended. Topics discussed included draft PPS10, the WIP Regional Waste Support Fund and the review of Waste Strategy 2000 due to be carried out in Autumn 2005. A strong message had been given to ODPM that draft PPS10 is too vague to achieve the objectives for delivery of new waste management facilities that the Government is seeking.

### **13. Waste Summit 2005**

- 13.1 A second Regional Waste Summit is to be held on 27 June 2005 (changed from 29 June) at Gatwick. It is being organised by SEEDA in conjunction with SEERA, with funding from the WIP Regional Waste Support Fund. It will focus on delivery of the Regional Waste Management Strategy, with a slant towards MSW but also covering C&I and C&D wastes. It is planned to include a session on good practice, using examples from an SME, a large company and a local authority. Melvin Caton asked for suggestions of suitable examples and possible speakers, preferably from within the region. He also

asked for suggestions of who should be invited.

**ACTION: All**

**14. Date of Next Meeting**

14.1 Tuesday 24 May 2005, 1.30pm at ESA, 154 Buckingham Palace Road, London SW1W 9TR.

**15. Any Other Business**

15.1 SERTAB has been invited by Kent CC to send a representative to a workshop on the Kent Minerals and Waste Development Framework on 18 March 2005. The Secretary asked if anyone was interested in attending.

15.2 The consultation by SEERA with LPAs on the Proposed Schedule of Planning Applications on which SEERA is to be consulted was raised, particularly how minerals and waste applications are to be handled. Bill Murphy thought another region, possibly the East of England, had agreed a lead authority to handle minerals and waste applications. Roy Leavitt will check what has been agreed in the East of England.

**ACTION: Roy Leavitt**