

**Minutes of the 23rd Meeting of SERTAB held on 24 March 2006  
at Marchwood Energy Recovery Facility (Veolia Environmental Services),  
Hampshire**

**Present:**

Pete Raine	Chairman (Kent CC)
Bryan Lyttle	Berkshire Joint Strategic Planning Unit
Marcus Wood	Atkins (for Berkshire JSPU)
Tony Cook	East Sussex CC
Richard Read	Hampshire CC
Bill Murphy	Kent CC
Peter Day	Oxfordshire CC (Secretary)
Hilary Herbert	Surrey CC
Owen Dimond	ESA (Grundon)
Nick Hollands	ESA (Veolia)
Brian Jones	Environment Agency (EA)
Paddy Johnston	SEFS (Greenworks Trust)
David Payne	SEERA

**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
Tony Odam	West Sussex CC
John Boldon	ESA (Cory)
Gareth Phillips	ESA (SITA)
Melvin Caton	SEEDA
Richard Lemon	GOSE
Terry Clarke	GOSE
Chris Waite	SEERAWP
Roy Leavitt	East of England RTAB (Essex CC)
Wayne Hubbard	London RTAB (GLA)

**2. Reflections on the morning's presentations and tour**

- 2.1 It was agreed the presentations by Paul Archer (Hampshire CC) and John Collis (Veolia Environmental Services) and the tour of the Marchwood Energy Recovery Facility had been most interesting and worthwhile. Thanks were expressed to both speakers and also to John Collis for arranging and leading the tour and hosting the meeting.

**3. Minutes of the Meeting held on 12 January 2006 and Matters Arising**

- 3.1 Subject to correction of the first sentence of paragraph 4.2 to read 'approach to using' instead of 'approach of including', the minutes of the SERTAB meeting on 12 January 2006 were agreed.

- 3.2 Item 2.4 – Invoices for 2005/06 contributions have been sent to WPAs by Surrey CC. Hilary Herbert will take responsibility for this in future years.
- 3.3 Item 5.3 – David Payne would be meeting London and East of England representatives the following week and would be attending the preliminary meeting for the London EIP on 6 April.
- 3.4 Item 6.1 – The Chairman had received a reply from Howard Davidson (EA); he will circulate this and his original letter. The Chairman will send a follow-up letter to the EA, Defra and ODPM setting out detailed data requirements.  
**ACTION: Peter Day / Pete Raine**
- 3.5 Other matters arising were covered under items elsewhere on the agenda.

#### **4. Proposed Changes to RPG9 / South East Plan**

- 4.1 Richard Lemon was not present to report, but it was understood that the Changes to RPG9 were with the Minister for approval. Richard Lemon has recently replaced Eike Muller as the GOSE lead for the South East Plan.
- 4.2 David Payne reported that SEERA will submit the Draft South East Plan to GOSE on 31 March, when it will be published for consultation until 23 June. It will incorporate the August 2005 Proposed Changes to RPG9 with some amendments, as previously discussed by SERTAB. The EIP will be held from November to March 2007, with the same Panel as for the EIPs on changes to RPG9. David expected that for waste the EIP will only discuss the amendments to the Proposed Changes to RPG9. If there are any differences in the approved Changes to RPG9, these will be dealt with at the EIP. Waste (and minerals) are expected to be considered in the early part of the EIP.

#### **5. Regional Waste Capacity Survey and Establishment of Methodology and Monitoring Procedure for Regional Waste Management Capacity**

- 5.1 A project update note from ERM had been circulated. David Payne reported that GOSE have agreed to the extension of the period of the project, into 2006/07. ERM consulted WPAs on the definitions to be used and these have been agreed. ERM have circulated a draft questionnaire to WPAs for comment, but the final questionnaire cannot be sent to WPAs until sites data has been received from the EA. Brian Jones will check the timetable for this.  
**ACTION: Brian Jones**
- 5.2 Concerns were raised over the time it would take WPAs to complete the questionnaire in view of the large numbers of sites. The importance of getting good data from the survey was emphasised, even if this meant slipping deadlines. It was felt WPAs would need 2 months to do it. The final report is needed from ERM by August or September, to be in time for use in the EIP. This means the questionnaires need to be sent out in mid April, for return to ERM in June.

#### **6. Information and Monitoring**

- 6.1 A note of a meeting held on 7 March on Waste Data Collection, attended by SEERA officers and Bryan Lyttle, had been circulated. Bryan Lyttle will be pulling together what is required for regional monitoring, for the South East Plan EIP and the next Regional AMR. This will need to link into the Defra

- Waste Data Strategy and the Environment Agency's new SWMA. WPAs should also report against the indicators in the meeting note in their AMRs.
- 6.2 A further meeting of WPAs and SEERA is needed to agree standard monitoring systems for county and regional AMRs, if possible in May. Richard Read volunteered Hampshire (Jeremy Smith) to organise this.  
**ACTION: Richard Read / Jeremy Smith**
- 6.3 It was agreed it would be most useful to invite Paul Franc, the Defra Waste Data Project Manager, to the next meeting to give an update on the Waste Data Strategy.  
**ACTION: Secretary**
- 7. Defra Consultation on Review of England's Waste Strategy**
- 7.1 It was generally felt the consultation document did not contain anything radical or unexpected. It was noted it said nothing about waste minimisation, but that it did take a more positive stance on incineration.
- 7.2 SERTAB members were asked to put down bullet point comments and send them to the Secretary for circulation by the end of March, to share initial thinking and help WPAs / WDAs and SEERA put together their responses. SEERA will respond to the consultation (rather than SERTAB).
- 8. Planning for Sustainable Waste Management: Companion Guide to PPS10 (Living Draft to support DEFRA / ODPM seminars)**
- 8.1 It was understood the final version should be published in April and would be little different from the draft. It was agreed that PPS10 and the Companion Guide should be discussed together at the next SERTAB meeting. A discussion paper would be needed, highlighting the main relevant points, if possible using work already done. It was suggested a suitable paper may be available from an event being held by the LGA in June, or that ERM might be able to provide something. Richard Read and David Payne will follow this up.  
**ACTION: Volunteer required / Richard Read / David Payne**
- 9. Defra Consultation on Policy for the Long Term Management of Solid Low Level Radioactive Waste (LLW) in the UK**
- 9.1 Traditional disposal routes for LLW are drying up; in particular capacity at the Drigg site is diminishing and disposal of LLW is a poor use of this important national resource. It seems that ODPM and Defra want LLW to be brought into the normal planning system and its management to be planned for in the same way as other waste streams, through RSS and WDFs.
- 9.2 The following issues were raised in discussion:  
Does the way we plan for waste need to be different for LLW, or can it be dealt with in the same way as hazardous waste?  
Is current planning policy for hazardous waste sufficiently flexible to be able to cover LLW as well?  
Is there a need for regional policy on LLW, as for hazardous waste?  
Should the issue of LLW be raised at the South East Plan EIP?  
Do we have enough information on what LLW arises in the region, from where and what it comprises, and on how and where LLW is currently managed?  
What will be the public reaction to inclusion of LLW in WDFs? and will it delay

the adoption of WDFs?

- 9.3 It was felt to be important that WPAs respond to the consultation and that SEERA should also respond. The Hazardous Waste Task Group were asked to consider the issues and provide advice from SERTAB to SEERA on a response. Owen Dimond offered to coordinate comments. WPA members were asked to send copies of their responses to him.

**ACTION: WPAs / Hazardous Waste Task Group / Owen Dimond**

## **10. Report from SEEDA Waste Market Development Group**

- 10.1 David Payne reported on this item, in Melvin Caton's absence. He had met Melvin and Alan Potter of Beyond Waste recently about work Beyond Waste are doing for SEEDA on markets for recycled materials, within and beyond the region. They are mapping where different materials currently go: paper, glass, metals, plastics, and WEEE. David will circulate a paper by Beyond Waste. Beyond Waste are also working for SEEDA on a European project, to find out where recycled materials go from EU countries. It was agreed Alan Potter should be asked to give a presentation on this work at the next SERTAB meeting. David Payne will ask him.

**ACTION: David Payne**

## **11. Liaison with Other Regions**

### **11(i) London**

- 11.1 David Payne said SEERA will be attending the London Plan Alterations EIP in May. SEERA support what the Mayor is trying to achieve and acknowledge that what is proposed is far more than has ever been done before, but there is an important issue of whether what is proposed in the Alterations is sufficient to meet the targets. Further analysis is needed of what the Mayor is proposing. Also, agreement on figures with the East of England is needed.

- 11.2 The Mayor is carrying out a review of the London Municipal Waste Management Strategy. A draft is being prepared for Autumn 2006, with public consultation in Spring 2007, and adoption aimed for Autumn 2007. In parallel, the Mayor is also preparing a Wider Wastes Strategy, covering the other waste streams. Stakeholder engagement on both is underway.

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

- 11.3 The East of England Plan EIP session on waste in January was attended by David Payne for SEERA. The very general nature of the waste policies had been criticised and there is pressure for the East of England policies to include quantification similar to that in the South East policies.
- 11.4 The East of England Region proposes to carry out work on apportionment of waste exports from London. They propose to do this in two stages: apportionment between the East of England and South East, via an officer sub-group of the Inter-Regional Forum; and apportionment between the sub-regions of the East of England. A brief is being prepared for the second stage. It was felt that it could be difficult for the East of England to reopen the issue of apportionment of exports between the two regions, but much would depend on the EIP Panel Report

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

**12.1 Berkshire**

A review of the LDS has been submitted to GOSE and a holding objection has been received because stages of the LDF are being put back by more than 12 months. Core Strategy Options are now proposed to be published in January / February 2007.

**12.2 East Sussex and Brighton & Hove:**

The Waste Local Plan was adopted on 21 February.

A revised LDS has been agreed by GOSE.

Thousands of objections have been received to the planning application for an incinerator at Newhaven.

The public inquiry into the appeal against non-determination of an application for a waste water treatment works in Brighton & Hove will be held in June.

A planning application has been submitted for a MRF in Brighton.

**12.3 Hampshire**

The Minerals and Waste Core Strategy is to be submitted in May, with examination scheduled for January / February 2007. It is thought this will be the first minerals and waste DPD to be submitted.

There has been a spate of construction waste recycling appeals.

**12.4 Kent:**

The Allington Incinerator is on track to start taking waste in the next 2 months.

Arisings of MSW were down 1.8% over the last year, the first fall in 8 years.

This seems to have been the case across the region and could be due to a decrease in green waste caused by dry weather.

A revised LDS is to be submitted to GOSE, with the timetable for the Minerals and Waste LDFs being put back.

An application for a bottom ash treatment facility at Ridham Dock has been approved; the process involves screening and grading the ash inside a building to recover metals and aggregate.

**12.5 Oxfordshire:**

A revised LDS has been prepared for submission to GOSE, with an extended timetable and the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy being prepared slightly ahead of the Minerals and Waste Sites Documents.

**11.6 Surrey**

Preferred options consultation on Waste DPDs has been completed and submission is scheduled for June, with examination in February 2007.

Consultation on Minerals preferred options will be in April 2006.

Discussions are being held with GOSE about sites in Green Belt.

Appropriate assessments are being done by in-house ecologists and consultants (ERM), with advice from English Nature.

Bill Murphy suggested appropriate assessment should be covered at the proposed meeting of WPAs, and asked if Surrey could present their work.

**11.7 Grondon**

Owen Dimond said the Lakeside EFW plant at Slough is now under construction and should be completed in 2008.

**11.8 Veolia**

Nick Hollands raised the issue of depletion of landfill resources. Landfill will continue to be needed, particularly as an interim measure, but many landfills in

the South East are closing leading to longer movements of waste and applications to extend remaining sites. There seems to be a reluctance in South East WPAs to approve landfills, but there is a continuing need. Bill Murphy saw a parallel with the issue of depletion of the sand and gravel landbank which SEERAWP had been looking at recently. He asked whether SERTAB should be looking at this issue, perhaps when new capacity figures are available from the ERM survey.

Richard Read asked where the applications for landfill are if there is a need? He also felt there is a lack of engagement by the waste industry in LDFs. This view was echoed by Hilary Herbert, who cited Thames Water in particular. Bill Murphy referred to work done by Alan Potter on the views of industry on engagement in the planning process.

#### 11.9 **SEERA**

David Payne expressed concern that an apportionment of waste management provision had not yet been carried out as required by PPS10.

### 12. **Future Role and Composition of SERTAB**

12.1 Pete Raine reported on the responses he had received to his questionnaire for SERTAB members. There was no consensus on a change of name from SERTAB. The proposed site visits were welcomed. He had felt local authority waste management representation should be increased, but most members seem to be happy with a predominance of planners from local authorities.

12.2 The Chairman will chase up outstanding responses and will prepare a summary of responses for the next SERTAB meeting.

**ACTION: Pete Raine**

### 13. **Date of Next Meeting**

13.1 6 June 2006 – meeting only (morning), if possible in London;  
21 September 2006 – meeting plus site visit (whole day);  
12 December – meeting only (half day).

**ACTION: Peter Day**

13.2 Milton Keynes Council have offered to host the 21 September meeting, with a visit to their refurbished MRF.

The Light Brothers WEEE dismantling plant at Lewes was also suggested as an interesting possibility for a site visit. The Chairman and Secretary will consider suggestions for a site visit for the 21 September meeting.

**ACTION: Pete Raine / Peter Day**

### 14. **Any Other Business**

14.1 The Chairman would like more forethought to go into future meeting agendas, with issues being identified well in advance and people nominated to prepare papers or presentations.