

ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE
Meeting No 030
Hosted by Ards and North Down Borough Council
MINUTES
Thursday 26 April 2018

Members Present:

Councillor M Rea	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
Councillor M Magill	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
Alderman R Gibson (<i>Deputy Chair</i>)	Ards and North Down Borough Council
Councillor A Cathcart	Ards and North Down Borough Council
Councillor D O'Loan (<i>Chair</i>)	Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Councillor R Wilson	Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Councillor B Adger	Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Councillor G Craig	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Councillor D Curran	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Councillor W Clarke	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Members' Apologies:

Councillor B Duffin	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
Alderman A Carson	Ards and North Down Borough Council
Councillor G Milne	Belfast City Council
Councillor J Bunting	Belfast City Council
Councillor M Collins	Belfast City Council
Alderman J Tinsley	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Councillor O Gawith	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Councillor L Poots	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

Officers Present:

J Quinn	arc21
G Craig (<i>Secretary</i>)	arc21
H Campbell	arc21
K Boal	arc21
J Green	arc21
R Burnett	arc21
M Laverty	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
D Lindsay	Ards and North Down Borough Council
T Walker	Belfast City Council
T Smith	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
P Thompson	Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
R Moore	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Officers' Apologies:

G Girvan	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
N Grimshaw	Belfast City Council
C Campbell	Belfast City Council
H Moore	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council

The Chair welcomed Councillor Willie Clarke as the new representative from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council to the meeting. He also welcomed Roland Moore and Tim Smith from Newry, Mourne and Down District Council and Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council respectively.

Item 1 - Conflicts of Interest Statement

The Chair read out the Conflicts of Interest Statement. There were no conflicts noted.

Action: Noted

Item 2 - Apologies

Apologies were noted.

Action: Noted

Item 3 - Minutes

The minutes of Joint Committee meeting 029 held on 29 March 2018 were proposed and seconded.

Action: Agreed

Item 4 - Matters Arising from the Minutes

Page 7 - Annual Declaration of Interests Forms - Mr Craig presented Members with a form to be completed and signed accordingly in compliance with the Joint Committee policy.

Action: Noted

Item 5 - General Data Protection Regulation

Mr Craig presented a report to inform the Joint Committee on the preparations underway for compliance with the new General Data Protection Regulation.

He reported that the Data Protection Act 1998 is being updated and the new General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) comes into force on 25 May 2018.

He advised that Data Protection legislation is governed by the Information Commissioners Office and guidance on the new Regulation has been provided to assist organisations with the process of keeping up to date with the legal requirements. The approach being adopted by the Joint Committee is to follow the guidance provided by the ICO.

Mr Craig advised Members that advice was being sought from the GDPR experts in Belfast City Council and that a Data Protection Lawyer from Arthur Cox Solicitors had also been engaged to provide legal advice on compliance issues.

He reported that the next stage was to carry out an internal audit to ensure arc21 are compliant by the deadline of 25 May and every effort is being made to meet this deadline.

Mr Craig advised that he would provide an update on arc21's progress at the next meeting.

Action: Mr Craig

Following discussion the Joint Committee agreed to note the report.

Action: Noted

Item 6 - NI Kerbside Composition 2017 - Presentation

Mr Burnett presented a summary of the outcomes of the NI Kerbside Waste Composition Study 2017 facilitated by WRAP on behalf of DAERA and undertaken by RPS.

He reported that the study included a sample of 150 households from each council proportional to the overall social economic make-up of the council. The kerbside reciprocals were collected and the materials collected hand sorted to identify what was being put into the various bins. Residents were unaware of their participation in the study and the results were presented through a number of bar and pie charts.

In summary, Mr Burnett reported that the results of the kerbside collection included: food waste at 22.9%; followed by paper and cardboard at 18.5%; garden waste at 14.9%; dense plastic at 9.1%; and glass at 7.1%.

However the residual composition was made up as follows: food waste 24.7%; paper and cardboard at 15.6%; healthcare waste at 12% (this includes nappies); dense plastic at 9.9%; plastic film at 9.9%; and glass at 7% which shows that there is still a lot of waste which is not begin separated out of the black bin. It was agreed that more can be done to extract more waste from the residual bin and that public education was key to this.

Mr Quinn advised that the Environment Secretary, Michael Gove, has initiated a review of packaging legislation which is a very topical issue at present with new targets for Producer Responsibility in Europe. He further advised that he had been invited to participate in a workshop in London examining the Producer Recovery Note system.

Following discussion, it was agreed that Mr Burnett would circulate a copy of the presentation to Members and Officers for information.

Action: Mr Burnett

The Chair advised Members that the meeting would now go In Committee which was proposed and seconded accordingly.

In Committee

The Chair read out section 4.15 of the Councillors' Code of Conduct.

Matters of a confidential and commercially sensitive nature were discussed under this agenda item and recorded accordingly.

Following discussion on the commercially sensitive matters, the Chair advised Members that the meeting would now return to the main agenda but whilst 'in committee' there were four matters discussed as follows:

<u>Item 7 - In Committee Minutes of Joint Committee Meeting No. 029 held on 29 March 2018</u>	Action: Agreed
<u>Item 8 - Matters arising from the Minutes</u>	Action: Noted
<u>Item 9 - Residual Waste Treatment Project</u>	Action: Noted
<u>Item 10 – MRF Contract Dispute and Variation Proposal Update</u>	Action: Noted

Out of Committee

The Chair advised Members that the meeting would now return to the main agenda which was further proposed and seconded.

Item 11 - Contracts and Performance Update

Ms Boal and Mr Burnett presented a report to advise the Joint Committee on the prevailing monthly situation pertinent to the operational performance of the service and supply contracts.

A summary of the key discussions is replicated as follows:

- *On track for compliance with 2017/18 NILAS targets.*
- *Deliveries for Compost Awareness Week 2018 have commenced.*
- *Contractual obligations result in the MRF monthly payments increasing in line with CPI i.e. 2.5%.*
- *There was one rejected load into Bryson Recycling in March 2018.*

There were no further issues raised.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee agreed to note the report.

Action: Noted

Item 12 - Call for Evidence on Using the Tax System or Charges to Address Single-use Plastic Waste

Mr Burnett presented a report to advise the Joint Committee on the call for evidence originating from HM Treasury relating to the possible introduction of a tax on single-use plastic waste.

He reported that in January, the Prime Minister launched the 25 Year Environment Plan, outlining the government's new ambitions for protecting the environment. The plan sets out steps to tackle a wide range of environmental issues, including plastic waste and the impact it has on the marine environment. The Prime Minister announced that the government has pledged to eradicate all avoidable plastic waste by the end of 2042 and will publish a Resources and Waste Strategy later this year.

A key element of the government's plan to eliminate avoidable plastic waste was to examine how economic incentives can be used to encourage more sustainable behaviour.

This call for evidence will explore how changes to the tax system or charges could be used to reduce the amount of single-use plastics we waste in order to deliver better environmental outcomes, which would be the primary objective of any such intervention. Specifically, the government would like to understand how further economic incentives can be effective in continuing to reduce waste from single-use plastics by reducing unnecessary production, increasing reuse, and improving recycling.

Mr Burnett reported that consultation with a number of parties is currently ongoing with a view to ensuring a response is submitted which will be in the best interests of local government generally and arc21 in particular. This may entail a response which does not specifically follow the questions suggested in the document.

He advised that arc21 will be attending a select meeting of Council Officers in London on the 11 May 2018 at which the call for evidence will be discussed and this will further help to inform our response.

The closing date for submissions is 18 May 2018.

Following discussion, the Joint Committee agreed to note the report.

Action: Noted

Item 12 - AOB

Mr Craig advised Members that with Councillor Stephen Burns stepping down from the Joint Committee last month, a vacancy had arisen on the Audit Committee and sought nominations from Members for this position. Councillor Alistair Cathcart was proposed and seconded by Members to serve on the Audit Committee.

Action: Agreed

Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next scheduled meeting of the Joint Committee was due to be held on Thursday 31 May 2018 at 10.30am and hosted by Belfast City Council.

Action: Noted

Date: 31. 05. 2018

Chairman: D. O'Leary