

ARC21 JOINT COMMITTEE
Meeting No 027
Hosted by Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
MINUTES
Friday 26 January 2018

Members Present:

Councillor M Rea	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
Councillor B Duffin	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
Councillor M Magill	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
Alderman A Carson	Ards and North Down 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 M Collins	Belfast City Council
Councillor O Gawith	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Councillor D O'Loan (<i>Chair</i>)	Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Councillor B Adger	Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Councillor G Craig	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Members' Apologies:

Councillor G Milne	Belfast City Council
Councillor J Bunting	Belfast City Council
Councillor L Poots	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Alderman J Tinsley	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
Councillor R Wilson	Mid and East Antrim Borough Council
Councillor S Burns	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council
Councillor D Curran	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

Officers Present:

J Quinn	arc21
G Craig (<i>Secretary</i>)	arc21
H Campbell	arc21
K Boal	arc21
J Green	arc21
L Mayne	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
T Walker	Belfast City Council
H Moore	Lisburn & Castlereagh City Council
P Thompson	Mid and East Antrim Borough Council

Officers' Apologies:

R Burnett	arc21
G Girvan	Antrim and Newtownabbey Borough Council
D Lindsay	Ards and North Down Borough Council
N Grimshaw	Belfast City Council
C Campbell	Belfast City Council
A Wilkinson	Newry, Mourne and Down District Council

A summary of the key discussions is replicated as follows:

- *Continuity of service had been maintained in all Contracts during recent periods of inclement weather;*
- *An update was provided on the issues facing the market following the restrictions that had been placed by China on imported material and their impact on the MRF and Bring Site contracts was considered. It was noted that one of the current MRF operators was changing their operations to take account of the prevailing market conditions. The ongoing market situation and effect on arc21 contracts would be kept under review;*
- *Contract Year Organics 2016/17 tonnages up 14% overall on previous Contract Year tonnages and it was noted that food waste tonnages had been higher than in previous years over the winter period;*
- *There was a slight fall in the total tonnage delivered to the MRF from November to December 2017 and the reasons behind the differential between contamination figures for the two Lots was clarified;*
- *Reduction of over 25,000 tonnes sent to landfill through the arc21 contract since April 2017 in comparison to same period in 2016 and it was noted that this was influenced by a number of factors; and*
- *arc21 overall NILAS position remains positive.*

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

Action: Noted

Item 6 - Audit Committee Update

Mr Craig presented the Joint Committee with an update on the issues to be dealt with at the next Audit Committee meeting to be held on 26 January 2018.

The key issues for discussion included the following:

- *Internal Audit progress report tracked against the agreed Audit Plan;*
- *Risk Management report including the Corporate Risk Map;*
- *External review of AGRS, specifically relating to the internal audit services they provide to ARC21;*
- *Supplier payments summary April-December 2017;*
- *NI Audit Office update including:*
 - *the final Report To Those Charged With Governance and the Annual Audit Letter; and*
 - *the Audit Strategy for 2017/18; and*
- *NIAO presentation regarding the function and role of the local government auditor and its relationship with the Joint Committee.*

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

Action: Noted

Item 7 - Briefing on Northern Ireland Budgetary Outlook 2018-20

Mr Craig presented a report advising the Joint Committee of a consultation issued by the Department of Finance in December 2017 setting out its broad strategic issues that will inform an incoming Executive's decision on a budget for 2018-19 and 2019-20. He reported that responses were sought by the deadline of 26 January 2018.

Mr Craig presented the proposed arc21 response for consideration and following discussion the Joint Committee agreed to endorse the response for submission to the Department by the deadline.

Action: Agreed

Item 8 - arc21 Conference 2018

Mr Quinn presented a report to update the Joint Committee on the arc21 2018 Conference.

He reported that, as previously advised, the arc21 Conference 2018 has been arranged to take place in Belfast Metropolitan College, Titanic Campus on the morning of Friday 2 March 2018 and that a number of eminent speakers have now been confirmed as the programme begins to take shape.

He reported that the event is free and open to all Councillors and Officers in our Constituent Councils with prior registration.

He urged all Members and Officers to attend and asked that they encourage their colleagues to attend what should be a most informative and interesting event.

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

Action: Noted

In Committee

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:

Item 9 - In Committee Minutes of Joint Committee Meeting No. 026 held on 5 December 2017

Action: Agreed

Item 10 - Matters arising from the Minutes

Action: Noted

Item 11 - Residual Waste Treatment Project

Action: Noted

All Officers were asked to leave the meeting due to the discussion on the next agenda item.

Mr Steve Traynor and Ms Pat Hughes in attendance.

Item 12 - Payscales Review

Action: Agreed

Mr Steve Traynor and Ms Pat Hughes left the meeting and accordingly all the Officers returned.

Out of Committee

The Chair advised Members that the meeting would now return to the main agenda.

Item 13 - AOB

There was no further business discussed.

Action: Noted

Next Meeting

The Chair advised that the next scheduled meeting of the Joint Committee was due to be held on Thursday 22 February 2018 at 10.30am and hosted by Newry, Mourne and Down District Council. However, as an important NILGA Conference was due to be held on the same day, and a number of Members noting their apologies to arc21, it was proposed to move the Joint Committee meeting to Friday 23 February. Ms Campbell is to make the necessary arrangements and to confirm the details accordingly.

Action: Ms Campbell

Date: 23.02.2018

Chairman: Debra O'Leary