

EAST LONDON WASTE AUTHORITY

16 OCTOBER 2006

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

CONSIDERATION OF ADDITIONAL WASTE SITES FOR ELWA AND THE CONSTITUENT COUNCILS	FOR DECISION
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The purpose of this report is to give some preliminary consideration to whether ELWA should investigate further waste sites for the extension of services to the public.

2. Background

- 2.1 The map attached at Appendix A identifies the current main sites used for waste recycling and disposal by ELWA, in conjunction with Constituent Councils and Shanks.east london
- 2.2 An additional site for green waste and other composting would provide a very useful additional facility which would complement existing facilities and provide a more complete disposal service.
- 2.3 The map also clearly demonstrates that in respect to public sites it is the central and southern parts of the area that are well served by the current Reuse and Recycling (RRC) sites. There are of course a large number of 'bring' sites which are distributed more evenly across the whole area.

3. Composting

- 3.1 In February 2006 Members agreed to allocate £20,000 for a feasibility study into developing an ELWA composting facility, perhaps at one of ELWA's closed landfill sites.
- 3.2 No external expenditure has yet been incurred but the feasibility study has progressed well in conjunction with Shanks Waste Management.
- 3.3 It is likely that there will be a further detailed report in the near future on a proposal which would be aimed at 3 sites across the area. Two sites would be ELWA's closed landfill sites at Aveley I (which already has a small composting facility) and Gerpins Lane. These sites can be viewed on the site visit prior to the next Authority meeting on the 16th October 2006. It has not yet been possible to identify a site in the west of the

ELWA area. Planning permissions for developments would be required in respect of any of these sites.

4. Additional Reuse & Recycling Centres

4.1 The map at Appendix A clearly identifies that the west and the North east of the ELWA area are rather remote from existing Reuse and Recycling Centres. A better, more local, service could be provided to more residents if there was to be one site to the north east (near the borders of Barking and Dagenham, Havering and Redbridge) and one site to the west, perhaps relating to the Olympic site developments, serving the densely populated areas around Stratford.

5. Cost And Performance Issues

5.1 The composting facilities are likely to significantly increase ELWA's recycling and composting performance. It is probable that at least part of the cost of constructing and managing such facilities would be met by Shanks east London because of the high cost to them of alternative waste destinations (e.g. landfill). Further information will be contained in the next report on this issue.

5.2 The cost and performance in respect of additional RRC sites are more complex. It is likely that additional RRC sites will slightly boost ELWA's overall recycling achievement, because a significant proportion of the waste should be recyclable. There could be additional cost if the RRC sites lead to an overall increase in the amount of waste received by ELWA for disposal. In other words the additional RRC sites may not just divert existing waste streams but also generate new waste streams. If an extra RRC site handled 5,000 tonnes p.a. of which 2,000 tonnes was additional waste, the cost of disposal of the latter would be approximately £100,000 p.a. Furthermore there would be site management costs. Small sites might cost, depending on the capital investment, at least £100,000 p.a. each in revenue costs. These figures exclude the cost of purchasing land on the assumption that some existing Borough owned land might be available.

6. Conclusions

6.1 The pursuit of additional local composting facilities is likely to produce a good outcome for ELWA in terms of a significant increase in recycling and diversion from landfill. The additional costs to ELWA are likely to be moderate.

6.2 The provision of additional RRC sites produces a better service to residents and slightly increased performance in terms of recycling and diversion from landfill. The additional costs could be significant in terms of waste generation and management costs but this would be dependent upon the size of site, facilities provided and the controls adopted.

7. Recommendation

7.1 It is recommended that:

- a) the development of composting facilities is supported, subject to a further detailed report in due course;
- b) a preliminary site survey is conducted in respect of potential additional RRC sites prior to further decisions on this subject;
- c) a sum of £5,000 is withdrawn from the contingency to pursue the employment of specialist advice in respect to the preliminary site survey.

Tony Jarvis
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Appendix
A Area map