

Alliance Environmental Services Ltd (AES)
Minutes of Board Meeting
Thursday 27th April 2023, 10am, Via Microsoft Teams

Present:

Cllr Arthur Moran, Chairman	AM
Kevin Melling, Managing Director	KM
Jane Thomason, Deputy Managing Director	JT
Melanie Henniker, Director HR & Corporate Services	MH
Tracy Baldwin, Group Finance Manager	TB
Mark Trillo, Executive Director AES	MT
Andrew Stokes, Chief Exec SM&HP/Director AES	AS

Other:

Jade Barber (Minutes)	JB
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Apologies Received:

Agenda Item	Notes	Action
1.	AM chaired the meeting throughout AM reported that due notice of the meeting had been given and that a quorum was present. Accordingly, he declared the meeting open.	
2.	Declaration of Conflict of Interest No conflicts of interest were declared	
3.	Minutes of meeting held on 24th March 2023 and Matters arising The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting. All outstanding actions were completed.	
4.	Operational Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The advert for the Regional Operations Manager is now live with a closing date of next week. A provisional interview date has been set for the 17th of May. Early indications are that there has been some good interest, and JT is hopeful someone will be appointed soon. This vacancy follows the retirement of the waste manager, with his role being re-evaluated and changed to encompass all the activities we do under one regional manager. AS asked if this role was for High Peak, and JT confirmed it was. There is an equivalent position in Staffordshire Moorlands. • AES' first apprentice has been appointed within the Grounds team and started just after Easter. The hope will be to appoint more apprentices over time. • In Staffordshire Moorlands, work has begun to reduce the number of properties that are currently on the rural van round that currently covers around 80 properties. This is an ongoing piece of work to reduce the number of days that that van operates. The properties included have been provided with wheel bins in order to access the full array of services. • Easter waste collections went smoothly across both services. 	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In Staffordshire Moorlands, there has been a significantly increased number of fly tipping and street cleansing requests over the last couple of months. This has had an impact on our routine schedule; the team will continue to monitor this closely in order to ascertain whether it is a blip or an ongoing trend. • Grass cutting has commenced and is currently running on schedule. MT asked if No Mow May would be repeated this year. JT advised that this will still go ahead in the allocated areas. • In Staffordshire Moorlands, grave numbers for the Leek cemeteries have been steadily increasing over the last 18 months to 2 years and has occasionally impacted on routine work. This will continue to be monitored closely. • The Market Street depot is under negotiation to be sold subject to a report and must be vacated in the near future. An alternative site needs to be found in order to store bins. AS asked if these bins have to be stored in High Peak all the time, or whether we can look to broader locations such as Fowlchuch or Middlewich. JT advised Fowlchurch has been assessed and does not have enough space. JT is unsure on capacity at Cledford, but the concern would be the round trip required to retrieve bins from this site, and the associated cost implications. KM advised this needs further looking at outside of this meeting to assess the options available. • We are assisting both authorities on the duties related to cemeteries after the Cemetery Officers departure. We have a further meeting with the Commissioning Manager and his team next week in order to assess what needs to be done further. MT advised he has prepared executive reports for both councils to approve and support the remaining parts of the service to be transferred to AES. This was approved in Staffordshire Moorlands on 21st April; MT is still waiting to hear from High Peak. MT thanked everyone for their support with this, including Mark Derbyshire at Orbitas as it was much appreciated. 	
5.	<p>Waste and Strategy Update</p> <p>We are still waiting on the consistent response to the consultation – this was thought to be available last month but has not been circulated yet.</p> <p>There has been a DEFRA survey sent to all authorities related to the extended producer responsibility scheme packaging in order to gather data on waste collections – we have supported Commissioning Manager and his team by providing information to help fulfil this.</p> <p>AS noted the presentation shared by KM at the last meeting titled ‘Improving the quality of recycling and reducing residual waste what is the evidence telling us?’ was useful, and suggested presenting this to the next Commissioning Board along with an update on the Waste and Strategy Update, especially for the benefit of new members to begin considering. KM agreed to this.</p> <p>TB noted she had sat in a presentation targeted to the Finance team around DEFRA, focusing on the end producer responsibilities process. It gave coverage on who would be eligible and the criteria around the calculations amongst other topics, as well as a broad overview on how the basic payments would be calculated, and what some of the adjustments would be. A broad outline of the timetable was also given, indicating that the</p>	

	<p>basic payments would be notified in August 2023, followed by some further engagement August-December 2023, with an estimated payment date of January 2024 to local authorities. The grant determination would be after this.</p> <p>TB is still waiting for the slides from this presentation to come through but will circulate to board members once received. Action TB</p> <p>AS noted he had received some information from the District Councils Network that may of use for TB to review and would circulate it following this meeting. Action AS</p>	<p>TB</p> <p>AS</p>
<p>6.</p>	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>No other business was raised in this meeting.</p>	

The Meeting closed at 11.00
Next Meeting Wednesday 24th May 2023 at 14.00