

Alliance Environmental Services Ltd (AES)
Minutes of Board Meeting
Wednesday, 27th September, 2pm, 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 KM noted that when talking about AES Bereavement Services, he is also the Managing Director of Orbitas Bereavement Services.	
3.	3.1 Minutes of meeting held on 23rd August 2023 and Matters Arising The minutes were agreed as an accurate record of the meeting.	
4.	Operational Update Sickness levels have reduced over the last few months. Both areas have a number of vacancies currently; as part of the in-year savings review, it will be decided whether these do need to be filled or if they can be delayed. JT previously mentioned the review of rural properties, and the work that was being done to reduce the number of days the rural van was in use by moving households onto regular collection crews. This piece of work will be finalised by the end of the month and will give the crews capacity to pick up more Trade work. The Commissioner is aware that a larger bin review is underway and aims to reduce the amount of larger bins in circulation that households are no longer eligible for. The AdBlue tanks in Fowlchurch and Waterswallows are now being used, and small savings are being seen associated with this. The doorstepping campaign around contamination in recycling has now been completed and has been successful. The baseline figure will be monitored to see if contamination rates come down. Market Street depot has now been sold, and we have agreed with Ansa to use part of the old Commercial Road depot in Macclesfield as a temporary measure. There will be a cost associated with both the move and the additional resources needed. These costs will be finalised and sent to the Commissioning Manager once ready.	

	<p>Fowlchurch Waste Transfer Station terms are currently being agreed, and the SCC has confirmed that they will start the work mid-January subject to these being agreed and will take around 12 weeks to complete. Again, there will be additional costs in relation to this. Within Bereavement Services, The Business Manager is working with the team in order to catch up on the memorial inspection programme. These are due to commence in October. The ability to buy a grave was paused, and is hoped to reopen in October, along with the memorial bench purchase scheme in the new year. The service is going very well. JT noted that the bulky waste provider had previously approached us to ask for £20k in order to continue their service. It is not thought this value is proportionate to the work being done – meetings have been ongoing around this, and it is thought if an agreement cannot be reached this service will be taken back in house.</p> <p>JT raised Organic Waste disposal and that the team have been advised that Staffordshire County Council may want to take this service back in house. This was advised today as being definite but has been done verbally with nothing in writing being provided to AES as yet. If written confirmation is not received, procurement will have to commence as planned next week. AS/MT will be looking into this further and will report information back as received. Action AS/MT</p>	AS/MT
5.	<p>Waste and Strategy Update</p> <p>Last week, the Prime Minister set out a change to Consistency and Recycling, now to be referred to as Simpler Recycling – we believed that it was a given that fibre would be separated from collections as part of the Waste and Resource Strategy, but we now know there will not be any separation needed from the householder. No further details have been provided beyond this, but it is thought the strategy is likely to be pushed back further.</p>	
6.	<p>Any Other Business</p> <p>AS has been getting varied comments around Grounds Maintenance, particularly in the High Peak area. There appears to be concerns about the equipment being used not being up to standard, but it is not clear where this concern has come from originally. KM advised he knew there was a previous issue with being able to get certain equipment but wasn't aware it could be a current issue. JT and KM will look into this further. Action JT/KM</p>	

**The Meeting closed at 3.20pm
Next Meeting Friday 20th October 2023 at 10am**