

PROSIECT GWYRDD JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING

21 November 2023, 11.00 am

LOCATION: Remote Meeting

Present:

Elected Members:

Councillor Caro Wild, Cardiff (Chair)

Councillor Chris Weaver, Cardiff

Councillor Jamie Pritchard, Caerphilly

Councillor Chris Morgan, Caerphilly

Councillor Catrin Maby, Monmouthshire

Councillor Yvonne Forsey, Newport

Councillor Laura Lacey, Newport

Councillor Gwyn John, (substitute member for Vale of Glamorgan)

Officers:

Andrea Redmond

Andrew Williamson

Sian Humphries

Colin Smith

Julie Baker

Matt Wakelam

Gareth Harcombe

Liese Mills

Emma Reed

Marc Falconer

Hayley Jones

Carl Touhig

Silvia Gonzalez-Lopez

No	Item	Action
15	Apologies for Absence Apologies had been received from Cllrs Wilson and Sivagnanam. Cllr Gwyn John attended as a substitute member.	
16	Declarations of Interest None received.	
17	Minutes The minutes of the meeting held on 22 May 2023 were agreed as a correct record.	
18	Matters Arising A discussion took place around air pollution control residue, some going into landfill and how this relates to the contractors guarantee percentage of maximum contracted waste to landfill, where it is indicated that they try to achieve 0%. Members sought clarification on the amount and where it sits as a percentage recorded. Officers explained that the percentage refers to unprocessed waste to landfill, so waste that has not been through the incineration process, so is processed waste. They further explained that the APCR is generated at the back end of the process so is processed waste and the percentage is less than a quarter of a percent.	
19	Cardiff Heat Network Update Officers provided Members with a presentation on the Cardiff Heat Network – Update, and the Chairperson invited questions and comments. Members asked where the waste heat goes at the moment and were advised that lots of the steam is condensed to make water again but the residual heat escapes currently, through the chimneys. Members asked if it was always the plan to have combined heat and power. Officers advised that it was, the original permission for Viridor was to do exactly that but as its such a big project it has taken a bit longer to get to this point. Members asked if the balance between heat and electricity would change when the heat network is complete. Officers advised that at the moment they are working on 15 mega watts of heat, if this expands dramatically, a discussion will take place with Viridor to change the balance but currently it is negligible. Members considered it to be an exciting project and asked if there was any scope to go further than the plans that have been seen to date. Officers explained that this plan is the reach of the 15 mega watts, which doesn't really	

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	<p>upset the balance at Viridor. Other options have been looked at and two studies have been undertaken on potential heat sources. The first being an open water body (Docks and River) and the second being Groundwater. The cost of extracting from these is a bit higher at the moment, but it is the direction that the heat networks are going in; research is ongoing, but this is likely to be 5-10 years into the future.</p>	
<p>20</p>	<p>Update Report</p> <p>Officers provided Members with a comprehensive outline of the information contained in the Update Report and the Chairperson invited questions and comments.</p> <p>Members referred to the Heat Network and discussed the possibility of unintended consequences of potentially creating a demand for waste to produce heat for the heat network, when we are also aiming for a decrease in residual waste and an increase in recycling. Officers explained that the contract runs until 2041, it is envisaged that there will be a change in waste in that time. There will be an opportunity to extend the contract by 5 years depending on the situation such as waste quantities, qualities, what technology is around etc, before extending the contract. The facility has a life span of 35/40 years, there is only one other facility which is in North Wales, so lots of waste is moved around with a potential to bring it to us; there would be small carbon footprint to bring it here, but it would be better than it going to landfill.</p> <p>Members considered it would be useful to have the Carbon Emissions Infrastructure included in the reports. Members also asked if there was anything on the horizon in terms of Carbon Capture as yet. Officers said that this information could be included in reports going forward. Officers added that reporting for Carbon Net Zero is based on the oil/fossil carbon and not the biological carbon from food waste etc. There is lots going on in Viridor to move themselves towards net zero and lots of drives coming from the Government to push emissions down, so carbon capture and storage is something that Viridor has been looking at. They have a facility in Runcorn and are running a trial on carbon capture and utilisation with Government funding, to demonstrate how it would work at one of these facilities. They are liquidising carbon into sludge, this is then taken and pumped back under the sea and into existing oil fields. Viridor has a net zero road map to extend this to other facilities in their fleet and Trident Park has been mentioned as a potential option in the future. It is not cheap as it is still very new and uses lots of electricity to do it, so there are lots of lessons to be learned from the trial.</p> <p>RESOLVED: To note the content of the report.</p>	

No	Item	Action
21	<p>2023/24 Month 6 Monitoring Position and Projected Outturn 2024/25 Budget</p> <p>Officers provided Members with a comprehensive outline of the information contained in the Update Report and the Chairperson invited questions and comments.</p> <p>Members asked if this report is discussed at the other Local Authorities finance officer meetings in advance of coming to this committee. Officers advised that it is, the report goes to the meeting of the Contract Management Board for visibility.</p> <p>It was noted that the financial position is fairly stable/static currently, but there may be a need to review the current arrangements in November.</p> <p>Members asked if there were any issues raised at Contract Management Board, would they come to this Committee. Officers advised that they would, discussion has been minimal due to the static financial position so far.</p> <p>RESOLVED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. That the Joint Committee notes the 2023/24 projected outturn forecast including the projected year-end balance for the Joint Committee Reserve Account. b. That the Joint Committee recommends the 2024/25 budget, including the proposed drawdown and closing balance of the Reserve Account, to the Partnering Councils for approval as part of their respective budget planning frameworks for 2024/25. c. The Joint Committee asks the Partnering Councils to note the indicative budgets, and associated partner contributions, outlined for the financial years 2025/26 to 2027/28. 	
22	<p>Date of next meeting 21st May 2024.</p>	