

Kent Waste Partnership

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Kent Waste Partnership changes name to KENT RESOURCE PARTNERSHIP and announces characteristics of 'ADVANCED RESOURCE PARTNERSHIPS'

At its Annual Conference in Canterbury on 21 June 2013, Councillor Paul Barrington-King, Chairman announced the change of name from the Kent Waste Partnership (KWP) to the **Kent Resource Partnership (KRP)**.

Cllr Barrington-King said, 'This change in name to the KRP signals our clear intent to recover value from 95% of discarded household resources by 2020, whilst ensuring recycling and composting remains our number one treatment option. The use of landfill in Kent has reduced remarkably since 2005 and that journey will continue following our refresh of the KRP's strategic direction up to 2020'. [The KRP's strategic direction up to 2020 is set out in Annex 1 attached].

Welcoming the KRP announcement, **Defra Resource Management Minister Lord de Mauley** said: "This name change shows the importance in recognising waste as a valuable resource. I firmly believe that dealing with waste and recycling properly is good for business as well as the environment and has the potential to boost economic growth and create jobs.'

Mr Mark Pawsey MP, Chair of the All Party Parliamentary Group on Packaging, and speaking at the Annual Conference said, 'I'm very pleased to support the name change. The KRP has a great record on supporting the role and value of packaging. Its work this year on launching the Fresher for Longer campaign with industry bodies is top quality.'

Liz Goodwin, CEO of Wrap and speaking at the Annual Conference in Canterbury said, 'This move makes perfect sense given the KRP's stated strategic intentions and direction. We look forward to continuing to work closely with them on initiatives such as the recent successful launch of *Fresher for Longer*, in which they played a key role'.

David Greenfield, Director of Improvement & Efficiency Social Enterprise, and speaking at the Annual Conference, said, 'Both IESE and the KRP are taking important strides to manage resources, whether household materials or finances, through better procurement and contracting opportunities. Like the KRP, iESE is moving with the times by offering public bodies the potential to save millions of pounds through innovative procurement frameworks.'

Andrew Speck, Marks & Spencer plc also speaking at the Annual Conference said, 'This name change is but one example of the forward looking approach the KRP takes in identifying the resources that are generated through the recycling services they provide for Kent residents.'

Steve Lee, CEO of the CIWM said, 'The CIWM has a leading role in developing the industry's skills around resource management, which is helped enormously by the advancements such as that which the KRP is taking'.

Matthew Farrow, Director of the ESA said, 'Kent's councils have a strong record of partnership working between themselves and with ESA's membership. We look forward to developing stronger public and private sector working towards achieving the KRP's strategy up to 2020'.

Andy Doran, Chair of the Resource Association said, 'The KRP was a founder member of the RA and an early signatory to the End Destinations of Recyclates Charter. This latest announcement is a natural development and I'm delighted councillors have taken this large step forward'.

Dick Searle, CEO of The Packaging Federation said, 'The KRP has proved itself to be a leading light among councils in working so well with the supply chain and recognising the role and value of packaging in reducing food waste. Our work with the KRP on the Fresher for Longer campaign is a model for others to follow.'

Jane Bickerstaffe, Director of the Industry Council for Packaging & the Environment said, 'Our projects with the KRP on packaging issues have given my members confidence of what can be achieved when the private and public sectors work well together. The KRP is a great example of a fully-effective partnership, which was demonstrated so well in the delivery of the Fresher for Longer campaign.'

Chris Dow, CEO of Closed Loop Recycling said, 'The new name is testament to the KRP always looking forward to the next challenge. It's so pleasing and refreshing to see what the KRP is doing whether on practical projects, strategic direction or influencing policy.'

Jonathan Short, CEO of EcoPlastics said, 'Today's announcement is no surprise to us given the KRP's contributions to the work of the Resource Association, and its involvement in the ACPs Plastics Taskforce. We welcome this news and support the KRP's direction.'

Advanced Resource Partnerships

An audience of around 100 industry experts, with a 50:50 mix of public and private sector attendees, also heard the Chairman go on to identify what the KRP believes could be the characteristics of '**advanced resource partnerships**' (ARPs) over the coming years.

Cllr Barrington-King said, 'It is right the KRP works with organisations in the public and private sectors towards becoming an 'advanced resource partnership'. The focus on the word 'advanced' means councils and businesses should question whether a third or more of valuable resources going to landfill is acceptable in this day and age. The KRP believes 'advanced' partnerships should have an overall of 80% recycling and recovery as a minimum, and ideally as close to zero untreated waste to landfill as possible – if they wish to be called 'advanced'. Our announcements today start a debate on what a full set of characteristics for an ARP could be'.

Improvement & Efficiency Social Enterprise (IESE) is set to work with the fifty-plus existing 'waste' partnerships via its National Waste & Resource Partnerships Forum to finalise the characteristics of an ARP and to work with early adopters.

David Greenfield, IESE Director said, 'The KRP has started a debate that many partnerships will wish to take part in. Becoming an advanced resource partnership means setting a clear direction for high quality achievements by 2020, and committing to meet them. Our challenge now is to define what makes partnerships 'advanced' and I'm delighted IESE is taking this forward'.

The KRP's suggested characteristics for ARPs includes nine issues within three categories: direction of travel; performance for customers, and supply/value chain co-operation. [These are set out in full in Annex 2 attached].

Importantly, the suggested characteristics embrace the challenges of whole cost approaches to managing costs to taxpayers; greater openness on end destinations of recyclates; high recovery rates of which recycling/composting has to be the number one treatment option; supporting materials security, and green economic growth.

Cllr Paul Barrington-King said, 'The time is absolutely right for the KRP to be making the changes announced today and to work even harder with colleagues in the public and private sectors towards shared goals. I'm extremely proud of where the KRP has come from, and where it is going to.'

END

Editors Notes

1. The KRP comprises 13 councils: Kent County Council, plus the twelve borough councils (BC) or district councils (DC) of Ashford BC, Canterbury City Council, Dartford BC, Dover DC, Gravesham BC, Maidstone BC, Sevenoaks DC, Shepway DC, Swale BC, Thanet DC, Tonbridge & Malling BC and Tunbridge Wells BC.
2. The KRP (as the Kent Waste Partnership) was formed in 2007 in order to deliver the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy required of all two-tier areas in the Waste & Emissions Trading Act 2003. The refreshed policies up to 2020/21 are attached at Annex 1. The development of the policies followed an extensive consultation with the resource industry in 2011 and 2012. All 13 Kent councils adopted the policies in 2012/13.
3. The KRP Annual Conference is at Canterbury Cathedral Lodge, within the grounds of the cathedral itself. Timings are: 11am to 3pm, Friday 21st June 2013. It is by invitation only.
4. The KRP's suggested characteristics of an 'advanced resource partnership' are at Annex 2.
5. Further questions and requests can be directed to: Paul Vanston, KRP Manager. Email: paul.vanston@kent.gov.uk Tel: 01622 605979

Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (KJMWMS) 2012/13 to 2020/21 Policies

Objectives	
1	Deliver the best possible outcomes on materials handled by the KWP from household and other appropriate sources.
2	Deliver the best possible value for money to Kent taxpayers taking account of whole-service costs paid through Council Tax.
3	Secure the best possible outcomes through effective partnership working among the 13 Kent councils, through the SE7 Project, with government, and across the supply chain.

Policies	
1. Materials Security and Resource Efficiency	
1a	By 2015/16 the KWP will reduce household waste arisings by at least 5% (based on 2010/11 levels); recycle/compost at least 45%; and send no more than 10% to landfill.
1b	By 2020/21 the KWP will reduce household waste arisings by at least 10% (based on 2010/11 levels); recycle/compost at least 50%; and send no more than 5% to landfill. Our ambition is to get as close to zero untreated waste to landfill as possible.
1c	The KWP will work with the government, the SE7 Project, and others to develop and deliver a waste reduction plan including practical measures to help achieve policies 1a and 1b. [Added context: In practice this includes national programmes such as the Love Food Hate Waste campaign, 'take back' schemes for bulky items, and re-use in the home.]
1d	The KWP will take account of the need for the right quality of recyclates for the right end uses as included with the revised Waste Framework Directive and transposition into UK legislation. [Added context: In practice this includes co-ordinated activities with the supply chain and Kent residents to ensure quality; encouraging initiatives to improve outcomes on recycling of plastics including HDP, PET and PP; supporting changes to legislation, such as on Packaging & Packaging Export Recovery Notes (PRNs/PERNs) to create a level playing field for domestic reprocessors; and flows of materials to be auditable through to end destinations.]
1e	The KWP will continue its high performance in minimising the use of landfill. The KWP will assist householders to maximise the amounts they recycle and re-use, and avoid putting the following items into residual waste bins: paper, cardboard, glass, metals, wood, plastics, textiles, waste electricals, batteries, and food.

2. Value for Money for Kent Taxpayers

2a	The KWP will continue its existing efforts to deliver value for money to Kent residents by means of: optimising services financially and environmentally; joint service delivery opportunities between councils; cross-boundary working; economy of scale through procurement exercises; and securing funding from external bodies.
2b	The KWP aspires to put in place separate collections of discarded food for composting on a weekly basis in all districts by 2020; and in at least 8 of the 12 districts by 2015/16 (separate weekly collections) and 10 of the 12 districts (including existing fortnightly collections).
2c	Communications and operational activities will be co-ordinated so that Kent taxpayers gain the best possible value from the investment of their Council Tax payments into local services. [Added context: In practice this includes balancing financial, environmental, and social outcomes wherever possible.]
2d	All eligible Kent councils will sign up to the new generation of household and business 'Recycling & Waste Collection Commitments' and seek to uphold these continually.

3. Supporting Kent's Interests

3a	The KWP will seek innovations to ensure future services provide the Kent taxpayer with the best value for money. These include exploring the feasibility of collections from commercial premises (particularly SMEs); cross-county working on HWRC's, materials and infrastructure (such as the SE7 Project); and cross-sector working with retailers, brands, reprocessors and others.
3b	The KWP will continue its record of influencing the government's policies and laws to protect Kent taxpayers' interests whether by means of responses to consultations; development of Responsibility Deals and appropriate legislation; and securing support from wider audiences on issues of importance to us.
3c	The KWP will promote good practice in relation to health and safety; streetscene effectiveness (including enforcement and behavioural change); and value for money (including unit costs and asset effectiveness).
3d	The KWP will maintain a publicly-available Operating Framework that defines its scope, remit and procedures; and review its continued operation at least in 2015 and 2019.
3e	The KWP will continue to produce an Annual Report that outlines the work of the previous financial year in delivering the Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and any other activities within its remit.
3f	The Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy will be refreshed in 2016/17 and 2021/22; or at any other times as agreed by the KWP; or in accordance with any changes in legislation relating to such strategies.

Suggested Characteristics of ‘Advanced Resource Partnerships’ (for industry debate and discussion)

Suggested Characteristic
Direction of Travel (2020/21)
1. High recovery rate of 80% minimum (i.e. no more than 20% tonnage to landfill).
2. Recycling/composting is number one treatment option (by tonnage).
3. Value for money (measure to be defined – cost per household?)
Performance for Customers
4. Whole cost optimisation approach across tiers of councils.
5. Greater openness on end destinations of materials.
6. High public ability and willingness to use councils’ services.
Supply/Value Chain Co-operation
7. Waste prevention: includes supply chain efficiency, as well as reducing physical quantities of discarded materials.
8. Economic development: contributions to growth, jobs and wealth creation.
9. Materials security: activities to lower the country’s risks/dependencies on materials that are scarce, or challenging to access.

Notes.

1. The suggested characteristics are for a national debate IESE will take forward.
2. Precise minimums and measures are to be defined.
3. ARPs should include those whom desire to reach the goals by 2020. Current performance is not a bar to desiring to aspiring to become an ARP.