

APSE Waste & Recycling Advisory Group Meeting

Friday 15 November 2013

Aberdeen City Council, Town House, Aberdeen

1 Welcome and Introductions

Chairman Councillor Craig Melville opened the meeting by welcoming everyone to Aberdeen and outlined the agenda for the day.

2 Minutes of previous meeting

The minutes of the previous meeting held on 20th September 2013 were agreed.

3 Commercial Dry Recyclate & Food Waste Collections in Aberdeen City Council

Sallie Antill of Aberdeen City Council gave a detailed presentation on the recent approach taken by Aberdeen City to the provision of commercial food and dry mixed recyclate collection services.

Sallie provided a number of interesting details including the challenges faced and the introduction of an annual permitting system for traders.

4 Scotland's Resource Sector Commitment – Stratton McDonald, South Ayrshire Council

Stratton McDonald provided the group with details on this voluntary initiative, benefits of the initiative and details of how an organisation can sign up. Following this, Stratton gave an overview of South Ayrshire Council commercial waste services, and the changes made to the service profile following a recent review.

5 ZWS Local Recycling Communications Fund

Jenny Fraser of Zero Waste Scotland outlined the details of this new fund, what it could be utilised to support, and the relevant application and compliance issues. Councils were actively encouraged to apply, and Expressions of Interest are to be submitted by 31st December 2013.

6 APSE Update

Louise McMillan, APSE Scotland Principal Advisor, then presented the APSE update, including national issues, briefings, services, advocacy & training and gave details on future seminars.

7 APSE Research Topics

Louise McMillan led a discussion on suitable topics for forthcoming APSE research. Topics highlighted by the group were:

- Waste storage for commercial premises
- Disposal contracts
- Ratio of Supervisors to workforce
- Co-mingling vs. source-segregated

Louise undertook to report these topics back to APSE National research team.

8 Issues Affecting Service Delivery

- The co-mingled vs. source segregated DMR issue was debated by the group, following a network query. It was clear that several different methodologies were in place within different Councils.
- The group discussed the issue of bins being left on pavements following collection. Different approaches were being taken by Councils to alleviate this problem, with no “one size fits all” approach available. Potential regulatory changes could assist Councils in solving these problems.

9 Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the group will be on Friday 21st March 2014, venue to be confirmed.

Andy Malcolm
Secretary
Waste & Recycling Services Advisory Group