



Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee

Mr Peter Daw
Senior Policy Officer (Waste)
Greater London Authority
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London
SE1 2AA

6th January 2006

Dear Peter,

**Scoping Paper on Proposal for a
London Single Waste Authority and
Enhanced Mayoral Waste Planning Powers**

Thank you for the opportunity to respond to the above. The comments below are sent on behalf of the Local Authority Recycling Advisory Committee (LARAC).

Following our conversation, here are a some thoughts from a LARAC perspective on the recent scoping paper. LARAC members are drawn from a wide variety of local authorities and it is likely that they will come from London Boroughs with widely differing views on the proposal!

Having said that, the case for a single body to manage waste in London is well made. The proposal certainly offers a solution to the very obvious problems that the capital is facing. Our members tend to be the waste practitioners and the barriers between inter-borough working cause a great deal of frustration as well as deflecting attention away from core issues. In addition, the problems of getting the sites necessary through the planning system is often highlighted by our members as a significant barrier to implementing more sustainable waste management practices.

Looking at London from the outside (and being in a local authority that is working towards a single tier system) the proposal appears to have significant advantages by providing focus, strategic leadership, financial benefits and crucially, higher levels of recycling. However LARAC cannot pretend that there are significant political issues on which we are not best placed to comment! Therefore the issue as to who actually runs the LSWA (the Mayor? a waste board?) is a London issue.

Best Wishes

Joy Blizzard
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