

**Minutes of the PRG meeting held on 17 March 2009 at
HM Treasury**

Present

Gordon McKechnie (Chair)
Charles Lloyd (Chair)
Jo Fox
David Locke
Simon Oliver
Miranda Lingard
Nick Joyce

Nichola Luu (Secretariat)
Howel Jones (PUK)

John Enright (DEFRA)
Amar Qureshi (DEFRA)
Frank Smith (SLWP)
Rob Dickson (SLWP)
Peter Davison (Hertfordshire CC)
Andrew Nightingale (Hertfordshire CC)
Joel Hull (Norfolk CC)
Gerry Mole (Norfolk CC)
Gary Alderson (BEaR)
Rob Gregan (BEaR)

Apologies

Peter Livesey

1. Approved Projects

Department	Authority	Project	Comments
DEFRA	London Boroughs of Croydon, Merton, Sutton and Royal Borough of Kingston	South London Waste Partnership	The PRG approved £112.9 million of PFI credits. Note that the project should ensure that a clear timetable is set out when going to market.

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2. Conditionally Approved Projects

Department	Authority	Project	Comments
DEFRA	Hertfordshire County Council	Hertfordshire Primary Waste Project (PWP)	<p>The PRG approved £115 million of PFI credits subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>(1) That from the time of issuing the OJEU notice, the Authority has in place a suitably PFI experienced lead negotiator that will support the project with commercial issues. The Authority should provide evidence that this condition is met through the PRG secretariat.</p> <p>(2) That the project has a reference site prior to going to market and that the process for submitting planning proposals is in line with the procurement timetable.</p>
DEFRA	Norfolk County Council	Norfolk County Council Residual Waste Treatment Project (Contract B)	<p>The PRG approved £91 million of PFI credits subject to the following conditions:</p> <p>(1) That prior to going to market the Authority re-considers the proposed structure of the Competitive Dialogue process, particularly the proposal to take 4-6 bidders through dialogue:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Providing the PRG with a considered view of the impact on market interest in the project and its proposal and the wider market implications <p>(2) That the Unitary Charge Indexation used is compliant with HMT guidance and if this is not the case, provide to the PRG secretariat reasons for deviation.</p>

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3. Rejected Projects

Department	Authority	Project	Comments
DEFRA	Bedfordshire County Council and Luton borough Council	Bedfordshire Energy and Recycling Project (BEaR) – Waste PFI	<p>The PRG rejected Bedfordshire County Council's application for £109.9 million of PFI credits and ask that further work be done in the following areas before it is re-submitted to PRG:</p> <p>(1) Affordability – that the Authority reviews the affordability of the project and re-considers whether the affordability envelope provided is sufficient.</p> <p>(2) Commercial – that the Authority has a clear strategy for managing competition particularly in regard to the Buckinghamshire procurement and how it might impact this project.</p> <p>(3) Statutory Process – The PRG requires evidence that, prior to OJEU, the Authority has either acquired an appropriate site or it has an option over such a site.</p> <p>(4) Project Team – confirmation that a suitably PFI experienced Project Director is in place.</p>