

LEICESTERSHIRE AND LEICESTER WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

**CORE STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT
CONTROL POLICIES
DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS**

PREFERRED OPTIONS

FURTHER CONSULTATION

OCTOBER 2007

Contents

1.0	Introduction	1
	Background.....	1
	Next Stages	2
2.0	Spatial Characteristics Relevant to the Framework Area	4
3.0	The Spatial Strategy for Waste	8
	The Need for New Waste Management Capacity	8
4.0	Distribution and Location of Waste Management Facilities	11
	Issues and Options consultation	11
	Identification and Allocation of Sites	14
	Identification of Technology for Energy/Value Recovery.....	16
	Strategic Sites.....	17
5.0	Spatial Map	19
	Figure 1 Waste Spatial Map.....	20

1.0 Introduction

Background

- 1.1 The Waste Development Framework (MDF) is being prepared jointly by Leicestershire County Council and Leicester City Council for the administrative areas of Leicestershire and Leicester City under the provisions of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Consultation on Issues and Options took place in June 2005 and on Preferred Options for Core Strategy and Site Allocations documents in September 2006. The consultation documents can be found on either the County Council's (www.leics.gov.uk) or City Council's (www.leicester.gov.uk) websites.
- 1.2 In accordance with the Government's guidance on the preparation of Core Strategy documents, contained in Planning Policy Statement 12 (PPS12), the Core Strategy contained chapters which sought to set out a spatial vision for the plan area, together with preferred waste development objectives and a spatial strategy for achieving the vision. These were contained in Chapters 3, 4 and 5 of the Document.
- 1.3 In their response to the Preferred Options, the Government Office for the East Midlands (GOEM) were critical of the Core Strategy and advised that the document may be unsound because of what it regarded as a lack of a spatial strategy and the need to have explored and consulted on alternative spatial strategies. The identification of these deficiencies is a consequence of emerging clarification and advice associated on with the new development plan system.
- 1.4 The matter of soundness is very important in the new plan making system. Development Plan documents need to be found sound by an independent Inspector. Being found unsound will mean that the document cannot be adopted and the Councils would have to take one or more steps back in the process to rectify the problem before submitting them for re-examination.
- 1.5 Comments are now invited on this consultation document, which has been prepared in an attempt to rectify the deficiencies identified by GOEM before work can move onto the next stage of preparing

documents for submission to the Secretary of State for examination. Responses are requested by ...November 2007. Responses may be made by sending an email to: planningcontrol@leics.gov.uk, or by letter addressed to the Director of Community Services, County Hall, Glenfield, Leicester, LE3 8TD.

- 1.6 The document seeks to explain better the preferred spatial strategy for waste which was not fully developed and explained in the previous consultation documents. It provides a description of the spatial characteristics of the plan area with particular reference to the pattern of existing waste facilities and an explanation of what the future provision for waste requirements needs to be. The spatial portrait brings out what is distinctive about the area. The existing essential spatial characteristics and the spatial strategy are also expressed in diagrammatic form.
- 1.7 There is no need to repeat representations previously made on the Preferred Options documents. These representations can be viewed on the County Council's website. They will all be taken into account in developing the WDF documents in readiness for submission for examination, which is the next key stage in its preparation.

Next Stages

- 1.8 Having taken account of government advice, the programme for the preparation of the Waste Development Framework has been revised. Following the current consultation, work will move onto preparing a document for submission to the Secretary of State for examination. Submission of the Core Strategy is now programmed to take place in June 2008, with the Inspector's Report expected in July 2009 and adoption taking place in October 2009.
- 1.9 In accordance with other advice received from GOEM and the Planning Inspectorate, the programming of the Waste Site Allocations document has now been separated from the Core Strategy document with the submission of the former not taking place until the Core Strategy has been adopted. Further consultation in respect of any additional sites that may have come forward will take place in January 2009. Submission for examination is proposed for October 2009, with the



Inspector's Report expected in October 2010 and adoption taking place in February 2011.

2.0 Spatial Characteristics Relevant to the Framework Area

- 2.1 Leicestershire and Leicester are located at the heart of England and sit within the Three Cities sub-area, one of the five sub-areas defined in the Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the East Midlands. Leicester is located generally in the centre of the County. The county borders Nottingham to the north, Lincolnshire to the northeast, Rutland to the east, Northamptonshire to the southeast, Warwickshire to the southwest and Derbyshire to the northwest. The westernmost tip of the County touches Staffordshire. The West Midlands Region abuts the western boundary of Leicestershire.
- 2.2 The total population of the Framework Area at mid 2002 was 899,000. The City of Leicester has a population of approximately 288,000. It is the tenth largest city in England. The RSS classifies the city as a 'Principal Urban Area' and as such is one of the urban areas that is the focus of economic development and regeneration in the East Midlands. Apart from the Principal Urban Area of Leicester City the main centres of population with over 30,000 inhabitants are Loughborough and Coalville located in the north central part of the Framework Area and Hinckley located on the western edge of the Framework Area close to the boundary with the West Midlands and the adjoining settlement of Nuneaton. There are 32 other settlements in the Framework Area with a population of over 5,000. The remainder of the Framework Area has a strong agricultural base with scattered settlements in the east and south.
- 2.3 By 2016, population levels are expected to rise by 5.8% and a strong growth in household numbers by 14% is expected particularly in the Principal Urban Area and around the settlements of Leicester, Loughborough, Coalville, Hinckley and Melton Mowbray identified as sustainable urban extensions in the RSS. Household waste and commercial and industrial wastes will be affected by these trends. Leicestershire, Derbyshire and Nottinghamshire are together predicted to produce over 70% of all of the regions waste the majority of which will be generated in the 3 cities. Particular growth is expected in Central Leicester through the Leicester regeneration programme, and the government's new growth initiative. There is a growth in the number of households mainly due

to household sizes generally decreasing which will place pressure on the availability of land for development.

- 2.4 The main industries in the Framework Area are service industries, manufacturing, construction, food processing, pharmaceuticals together with storage and distribution. The main centres of employment correspond broadly to the main population centres. Key growth areas that may influence waste are the planned expansion of East Midlands Airport, the regeneration of Corby and the large forecast growth in the population of Northamptonshire which may affect waste sites in the south of the County.
- 2.5 The Framework Area is served by excellent transport links. The M1 is the principal arterial route linking the Framework Area with the rest of the country. The other major roads are the M69 connecting to Coventry, the M6, the A42 and the A46. Other principal roads are the A511, A444, A447, A6 and the A47. The A and B roads in the Framework Area have predominately witnessed around 3% to 7% growth in traffic in the period 2003-04.
- 2.6 Other transportation modes include railways and waterways. Main line rail connections link Leicester to Birmingham, Nottingham, Derby and London. Beyond the Framework Area long distance and international rail freight terminals are located in Birmingham and Daventry, both accessible by the motorway network. Several navigable waterways exist within the Framework Area such as the Ashby Canal, the River Soar and the Grand Union Canal branching to Market Harborough and Welford. There are no intermodal freight terminals in the Framework Area. Scope for transporting freight on waterways may be limited, however, due to their other uses, such as leisure, which conflict with freight movement.
- 2.7 The Framework Area has a landscape of considerable variety and complexity. This is created by the varied physical and human influences that have acted on the land over time and by the underlying variations in the land itself. There is no Green Belt but there are twelve Green Wedges around Leicester and five throughout other parts of the county. Around 80% of the land use in the Framework Area is agricultural, with the emphasis on mixed cereal and livestock farming. The majority of soil quality is classified as Grade 3 with relatively small areas of particularly good or bad land.

- 2.8 The Framework Area has 3.8% woodland cover and contains part of the National Forest. Charnwood Forest is also a valuable landscape asset identified regionally as a priority area for protection and enhancement. There are no Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONBs) or National Parks within the Framework Area. There are 18 landscape character areas. Designated sites in the Framework Area comprise the River Mease designated as a Special Area of Conservation (SAC), 70 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI), 19 local nature reserves and many Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINCs).
- 2.9 The pattern of existing waste management sites in the Framework Area vary depending on the types of facility. Recycling and Household Waste Sites across the Framework Area are mainly on urban fringes or close to concentrations of population. There are a small number of waste sites located in more rural locations and these include the majority of composting sites. There is a fairly good coverage of transfer stations across the Framework Area however there may be a need to increase the capacity of such facilities and there is a need therefore to keep provision under review. Recycling sites and landfills are generally located adjacent to lorry routes outside of built up areas. Landfill sites for both inert and non hazardous waste are almost exclusively associated with previous or existing mineral extraction sites. There are 3 non-hazardous landfill sites operating in the County but Bradgate landfill site to the northwest of Leicester is at the end of its permitted life. In Leicester City the Ball Mill is an existing recovery facility for managing municipal waste and this has an associated anaerobic digestion facility to the north of Leicester at Wanlip. The two Leicester facilities have the capacity necessary to deal with the forecast municipal waste arisings from the City over the Framework period but a refuse derived fuel from the process currently is exported outside the Framework Area and the residual waste goes out of the Framework Area to landfill. In adjacent counties, particularly Nottinghamshire, Northamptonshire and Lincolnshire there are a number of transfer sites and waste disposal sites close to the Framework Area boundary.
- 2.10 The majority of scrap yards are located within the north and north west of the Framework Area in and around Coalville and Loughborough and in Leicester City
- 2.11 Most of the aggregates recycling sites which deal with construction and demolition waste are similarly located in the north and northwest of the

Framework Area and in Leicester City. These sites are predominantly located on industrial estates or at active quarries.

- 2.12 The existing pattern of waste facilities in, and close to, the Framework Area are shown on the Key Diagram. More information on the distribution of existing waste facilities is found in the Baseline Environmental Review – Waste document published in June 2006 and available to view on the Leicestershire County Council website.

3.0 The Spatial Strategy for Waste

THIS REPLACES CHAPTER 5 OF THE LEICESTERSHIRE AND LEICESTER WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK CORE STRATEGY AND DEVELOPMENT CONTROL POLICIES PREFERRED OPTIONS DOCUMENT DATED JULY 2006

The Need for New Waste Management Capacity

- 3.1 Currently 4 million tonnes of waste that must be managed by waste management facilities is generated in the Framework Area. The waste principally comprises municipal waste, commercial and industrial waste and construction and demolition waste. Of the waste generated in the Framework Area it is estimated that currently approximately 38% is exported to waste management facilities in neighbouring authorities.
- 3.2 It is an objective of the Waste Core Strategy to enable sufficient provision of waste management facilities in the Framework Area to be able to broadly deal with the quantities of waste arising in the Framework Area and specifically to meet the apportionments set in the Regional Waste Strategy and emerging review of the RSS and support the delivery of the LMWMS and the targets set in that. (Core Strategy & Development Control Policies Preferred Options Document objectives 2 and 3 page 14.)
- 3.3 Consequently the required capacity for managing waste up to 2020 has been calculated from targets and apportionments set in the East Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS), Regional Waste Strategy (RWS) and the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy (LMWMS). The targets for the recycling and composting of municipal waste set in the LMWMS are higher than those in the RSS to maximise recycling and recovery levels. In the Core Strategy the need for waste management capacity is based on achieving the higher targets set in the LMWMS.
- 3.4 Municipal and commercial and industrial (C & I) wastes are managed similarly and as such it is assumed that facilities will deal with both waste streams. Further capacity of 324,000 tonnes per annum is required for the recycling and composting of municipal and C&I waste by the end of the Framework Period 2019/20). The requirement for construction and demolition (C&D) wastes is for an extra 519,000 tonnes per annum of

recycling capacity by the end of the Framework Period. The number of new facilities that would be required to provide this additional capacity obviously depends on the size and type of individual facilities, which can vary. However based on existing knowledge of facility types and sizes a further 3 Materials Recovery, 8 Composting, and 4 C & I Waste Recycling facilities would be the order of new facilities required to provide the additional capacity identified for Municipal and C & I waste recycling and composting. The amount of land required to cater for these facilities is likely to be in the order of 30 ha.¹

- 3.5 Energy/value recovery of municipal and C&I waste will require a minimum total of 114,000 tonnes per annum capacity to be found. Such a requirement could probably be met by 1 or 2 facilities depending on the type of treatment technology. However this is essentially a requirement for energy/value recovery from municipal waste only and in order to divert C&I waste away from landfill additional energy/value recovery capacity would be desirable to reduce the amount of C&I waste going to landfill. The National Waste Strategy 2007 is proposing to introduce targets for reducing the amount of C&I waste going to landfill. The expectation in the Strategy is for levels of commercial and industrial waste landfilled to fall by 20% by 2010 compared to 2004 but as yet no target has been set. The amount of residual C&I waste requiring treatment or disposal after recycling at the end of the Framework Period is estimated at around 800,000 tonnes per annum. To prevent this amount all having to go to landfill a further 4 to 16 energy/value recovery facilities would be required. The land requirement for this number of facilities i.e. between 5 and 18 would be in the order of between 18 ha. and 28 ha. depending on size and type of facility.
- 3.6 In order to accord with the Core Strategy's preferred objectives of encouraging facilities which increase re-use, recycling, composting and value/energy recovery and minimise final disposal it is the intention to use these figures as a minimum for the provision of recycling, composting and recovery. The more capacity found above these figures then the more the need for landfill void reduces. (Core Strategy & Development Control Policies Preferred Options Document objectives 4, 5 and 6 page 14.)
- 3.7 Restricting landfill capacity supply to that required to deal with the residue left after targets for recycling, composting and recovery are met, combined with other fiscal tools of increasing landfill tax and LATS, should have the

¹ Land area for potential facilities are based on 'Planning for Waste Management Facilities: A Research Study' ODPM 2004.

effect of driving waste management up the waste hierarchy. The minimum requirement for landfill capacity of non inert waste, even after assuming that all preferred options allocations for sites identified suitable for energy/value recovery in the Site Allocations document of the Waste Development Framework are developed, is 593,000 tonnes per annum by 2009/2010, 596,000 tonnes per annum by 2014/2015 and 552,000 tonnes per annum by 2019/2020. Taking into account existing permitted non inert landfill capacity at least one additional non inert landfill site will be required by 2014 to meet this requirement and a further 1 or 2 would be needed depending on the amount of energy/value recovery capacity that is actually developed in the Framework Period.

3.8 For C&D waste there is a requirement to provide additional recycling capacity of around 519,000 tonnes by 2020. Depending on their size this could require between 10 and 35 new C&D recycling facilities by the end of the Framework Period. The land requirement to enable this range of facilities to be developed would be between 40 ha. and 90 ha. Assuming this additional recycling capacity is achieved there would still be a need to reuse or landfill 1,195,000 tonnes of inert waste per annum by 2009/2010, rising to 1,255,000 tonnes per annum up to 2019/2020. Although these figures are based on the regional apportionments in the RSS a study by Capita Symonds (Survey of Arisings and Use of Alternatives to primary Aggregates in England, 2005: Construction, demolition and excavation waste DCLG 2007) suggests the apportionment to Framework Area in the RSS may be too high. Existing permitted inert landfill capacity is about 534,000 tonnes in 2010 reducing to only 90,000 tonnes at the end of the Framework Period. A proportion of inert landfill capacity is provided at non inert landfill sites and re use of residual inert waste (i.e. that remaining after recycling) occurs as a result of ad hoc opportunities for landscaping, engineering and restoration schemes. However depending on the additional C&D waste recycling capacity that comes forward in the Framework Period there is an expected need for additional new inert landfill sites to be provided in the Framework period.

3.9 The detailed analysis of the need for waste management capacity in the Framework Area is provided in Chapter 2 of the Leicestershire and Leicester Waste Development Framework Site Allocations (Preferred Options) Document up to 2021 (July 2006) and further analysis of the need for waste management capacity including an assessment of the number of facilities required is found in the Waste Needs Assessment document published in June 2006.

4.0 Distribution and Location of Waste Management Facilities

- 4.1 In accordance with National policy on planning for waste (Planning Policy Statement 10) the Leicestershire and Leicester Waste Development Framework is required to provide for sufficient waste management facilities to meet the needs of its population and economy. This requirement is reflected in the objectives of the Waste Core Strategy and the need for waste management capacity set out in the preceding paragraphs. The preceding section therefore sets out what needs to be provided for and the following section deals with how that provision should be distributed and where it should be broadly located within the Framework Area.

Issues and Options consultation

- 4.2 Consultation has previously taken place on various issues and options. The Issues and Options document published in June 2005 put forward the following options for the distribution of waste management facilities:

Option 1: a large number of small sites to minimise the need to transport waste from origin to treatment destination.

Option 2: a small number of large sites to support the principle of economies of scale and prevent less widespread impact of potential adverse effects from waste management facilities.

Option 3: a mixture of small and large sites to encourage the location of development close to the communities that they serve while also exploiting economies of scale.

Option 4: Favour extensions to existing sites where appropriate.

- 4.3 It is a key planning objective of Planning Policy Statement 10 (PPS10) that where possible waste management sites should be located close to the source of the waste, on the basis that communities take more responsibility for their own waste. This implies a large number of smaller facilities to meet the needs of individual communities. However it is not practicable, nor affordable for each local community to treat all of its own waste. This is due to the dispersed nature of communities in the east and south of the Framework Area and the economies of scale in developing and operating facilities to the demanding standards required. With a larger number of

smaller facilities, the potential effects of nuisance and conflict with environmentally sensitive areas are likely to be more widespread.

- 4.4 Alternatively, a mixture of small and large sites can provide a balance of these factors with a few large strategic sites located within or adjacent to main urban areas and a more dispersed pattern of smaller facilities throughout the Framework Area dealing with more localised requirements and more suitable to the infrastructure and environment of their locations. The Interim Sustainability Appraisal (ISA) concluded that Option 3 offers the best balance between economic, social and environmental benefits and protection, while Option 4 offers potential for economies of scale and use of existing infrastructure as well as the benefits of co location of waste facilities. Option 3 was the most favoured popular option from the consultation exercise.
- 4.5 The Issues and Options document put forward the following options for determining the location of waste management sites:
- Option 1:** Identify a search sequence for new waste management facility locations in accordance with the guidance in draft PPS 10 (however the publication of the final version of PPS 10 has dropped the search sequence).
- Option 2:** Identify a search sequence for new waste management facility locations in accordance with the guidance in draft PPS 10 with the addition of considering worked out quarries before Greenfield sites.
- Option 3:** For types of waste management that have particular locational needs, give priority to the proximity principle and the wider environmental and economic benefits of sustainable waste management in identifying sites.
- 4.6 The ISA concluded that Options 2 and 3 offer the opportunity to strengthen the case for locating development that fits with local conditions, site availability and need. Option 2 was the most popular option from the consultation exercise.
- 4.7 The emphasis at Issues and Options stage, which reflected the content of the draft PPS10, was around using a sequential approach to identify appropriate locations for waste management facilities. Whilst there will still be a role for such a sequential approach in assessing the suitability of individual sites the Core Strategy needs to express spatially and show diagrammatically broad areas where new waste facilities are expected to be located.

- 4.8 As a starting point the spatial strategy will need to reflect the pattern of waste management facilities and broad locations identified in the RSS. The draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) states that for the three cities regional sub area, of which the Framework Area forms part, the major urban areas are currently deficient in recycling and recovery capacity with current patterns of waste facilities more aligned to the road network than urban centres reflecting historical patterns of landfilling the majority of the regions waste. Based on predictions of waste generation the three cities themselves should provide the focus for the future provision of waste management infrastructure in the sub area. The RSS promotes the establishment of a centralised pattern of larger facilities.
- 4.9 To assist the identification of suitable locations for a residual waste treatment facility or facilities to deal with municipal waste a study has been undertaken by consultants Entec using logistics and vehicle mileage to consider a number of scenarios. A total of 14 scenarios were modelled based on a variety of assumptions regarding the number of facilities, the number of and capacity of transfer stations, and the source of waste (county council and city council waste). The mapped outputs consistently showed that the optimal locations (i.e. showing the lowest mileages) are in the central and western parts of the Framework Area and the locations of facilities are best placed near centres of high population density (Leicester City, Loughborough and Coalville) and in close proximity to the major highway network (predominantly the M1 motorway). The results of this study have been used to inform the broad areas of search for strategic waste management facilities.
- 4.10 Following the spatial lead provided by the emerging RSS and the Waste Planning Guidance for the East Midlands Regional Assembly prepared by SLR Consulting Ltd. dated August 2006 and taking into account the Entec study conclusions, the broad locations where strategic sites will be sought have been identified as in or in close proximity to the urban areas of Leicester City, and the built up areas between, and including, Loughborough and Coalville as shown on the Key Diagram.
- 4.11 Reflecting the previously identified preference for a mix of large and small sites to balance the benefits of proximity to waste arisings whilst being able to exploit economies of scale, smaller non strategic waste facility sites will be sought in or close to the other main urban areas of Hinckley, and Melton Mowbray. In particular opportunities to locate waste facilities within the

sustainable urban extensions proposed in the emerging RSS will be sought. In addition to the location of waste facilities in or close to these main urban areas, the extension of existing waste facilities will be favoured particularly where they provide the opportunity to co-locate waste facilities and give more sustainable waste management opportunities and provided that they do not result in unacceptable cumulative impacts.

- 4.12 Notwithstanding the broad locational preferences expressed above there will still be the need for more dispersed location of certain types of waste facility such as on farm composting, sewage treatment and aggregate recycling in rural areas and smaller settlements.

Identification and Allocation of Sites

- 4.13 Waste management provision will be achieved by identifying and allocating an appropriate pattern of sites and areas based on the spatial strategy expressed above, selected according to their suitability for particular types of waste management facility. Sites will only be allocated on the basis of them having a realistic prospect of being developed for waste management. However, in the event that allocated sites are not actually implemented, unidentified sites that comply with the Core Strategy and Development Control policies will be approved.

- 4.14 Following the consideration of whether existing waste management operations are appropriate for extension or siting of new facilities, a sequential approach will be adopted for the location of new waste management development. Certain types of modern waste management development such as waste recycling and recovery involves purpose designed buildings and structures which in most instances are suited to industrial areas. Evidence gathering to identify potential waste sites indicates that the availability of industrial sites in the Framework Area for waste management development is restricted. Although industrial sites may be suitable for waste management development there is competition for such sites from non waste development and the availability of plots on industrial estates is changeable, particularly plots that are suitable for a variety of users. The availability of such plots is likely to be restricted to major facilities tied to municipal waste management contracts which will enable competition with other high value land users. For the small scale operators in the waste industry, such as specialist recyclers, it is often the case that they cannot afford to purchase or lease industrial land and for

such small scale facilities to come forward it is necessary to find a site that is not restricted by industrial land value.

- 4.15 Where possible the facilities will be on previously developed land. This approach allows facilities to be located near to the main source of waste where it is likely that access and transport connections will be favourable.
- 4.16 The next priority will be for previously developed sites with good transport connections on the urban fringe, which would still be close to the source of the waste. Since a substantial level of waste management development is required and opportunities for waste related development in urban areas are limited, previously developed land beyond built up areas will also need to be considered. The nature of some facilities such as open air composting or aggregates recycling is such that they will not be appropriately sited in built up areas.
- 4.17 In pursuing the drive towards achieving sustainable waste management and the wider environmental and economic benefits this brings, in exceptional circumstances land in Green Wedges and agricultural land is not to be precluded, in ensuring sufficient provision is made. Transport considerations are also important in assessing the potential of sites for waste management facilities. Preferable locations for facilities are those with good access on or close to the designated lorry routes in the Framework Area. Furthermore sites that may be some distance from urban areas, but offer alternative means of transportation to road, could be selected because they offer the benefits of overall energy savings and reduced impact from traffic on local communities.
- 4.18 Opportunities for integrated waste management will be encouraged, where various waste management options can be co-located to reduce transport requirements and assist improved levels of waste recovery.
- 4.19 It is recognised that landfill will still have a role to play within the Framework Period, for the disposal at least of residual waste left after treatment, and that it can bring environmental benefits, for example in terms of restoration of former mineral workings to appropriate after-uses. The alternatives for siting landfills are restricted because the location of landfill development is almost exclusively limited to former minerals sites in need of reclamation. The capacity of currently permitted landfill space is not sufficient to accommodate the remaining waste after re-use and recycling requirements have been met, and proposals are to be encouraged that involve

energy/value recovery rather than disposal. However, such facilities are likely to take a number of years to become established and in the meantime further landfill space will need to be identified. The provision for landfill will, nevertheless, take such form that it does not endanger a reliance on landfill to the detriment of more sustainable waste management options.

- 4.20 More sustainable waste management will, however, not be achieved at the expense of the environmental and overall quality of life. A key element will be to seek to encourage the transportation of waste by means other than by road although the potential to do this within the framework area is limited because of the need to collect waste from multiple sources before delivery to treatment and disposal facilities. In addition a high level of design will be sought, to ensure that the environment is protected and enhanced and to safeguard against potential disturbance. Where appropriate, measures will also be pursued to provide environmental and other improvements or gains in mitigation or compensation for the adverse effects of waste related development.

Identification of Technology for Energy/Value Recovery

- 4.21 Although the quantity of municipal waste arisings is relatively small compared to other waste streams it is strategically important for several reasons. To the waste industry the management of municipal waste offers the opportunity for reliable long term contracts to enable new facilities to be built which the market for management of other waste streams, particularly commercial and industrial waste and construction and demolition waste, does not offer. Municipal waste collection, treatment and disposal is a major component of local government expenditure (OGC Kelly Report to the Financial Secretary to the Treasury May 2006). As the availability of landfill declines and statutory requirements and pressure to move to more sustainable waste management bites it is likely that waste management expenditure will significantly increase. The provision of new municipal waste management facilities, which provide more sustainable solutions, can also provide opportunities to move the treatment of other waste streams up the waste hierarchy because the high value long term contracts with local authorities can underwrite additional capacity to deal with other waste streams.

- 4.22 The Municipal Waste Management Strategy prepared for the Leicestershire Waste Partnership identifies the need to procure a long term solution to

Leicestershire's residual municipal waste treatment needs with the procured infrastructure coming into operation by the end of 2015/16. One or more of the following methods have been identified to treat the residual waste:

- Mechanical treatment, to separate residual waste into different categories and to recover materials for recycling;
- Biological treatment, to stabilise biodegradable wastes, to recover materials or biogas and to reduce weight, volume and moisture content;
- Thermal treatment, to recover heat and/or energy.

4.23 The exact type and size of facilities required is not prescribed. The County Council has started a procurement process to deliver a long term means of dealing with residual municipal waste as part of the Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy. The outcome of this procurement should be that the shortfall in capacity for the recovery of municipal waste identified in Table 2.10 of the WDF Site Allocations preferred options document is met. However until a decision is made on the contract it is necessary to keep options open on the type of technology that will be adopted. The City Council has a long term contract which will enable the municipal waste arisings in the City to be managed to meet recovery targets. It is not possible therefore for the spatial strategy to identify preferred technologies for the new recovery capacity required in the Framework Period without compromising the ability of the Leicestershire Waste Disposal Authority to achieve best value through the procurement process and for the waste industry to be restricted in its ability to be innovative in delivering sustainable solutions. The need to avoid being too prescriptive about the type of waste facilities is recognised in government policy (PPS10).

Strategic Sites

4.24 Because the sustainable management of municipal waste is a key determinant of how and where other waste is potentially managed it has strategic importance. The types of facility necessary to manage the municipal waste arising in Leicestershire will be determined by the Municipal Waste Management Strategy adopted by the Leicestershire Waste Management Partnership (including the County and District/Borough Councils in Leicestershire) and the procurement of waste management contracts by the Waste Disposal Authority. herefore the preferred locations for strategic sites for waste management in the Framework Area have been identified. Sites will be considered strategic if they will provide a significant

contribution to meeting the targets for municipal waste management, and may have the potential capacity to deal with other waste streams.

4.25 Strategic sites have the following characteristics:

- A. Sites which have the capacity to make a significant contribution to municipal waste recovery by reducing the amount of residual waste going to landfill.
- B. Sites that offer potential for the co-location of complimentary waste facilities and/or end users of recovered materials or energy.
- C. Sites which have potential to deal with other waste streams as well as municipal.
- D. Sites which are well located to waste arisings and have good transport links.
- E. Sites of sufficient area and characteristics to deliver a strategic function (2ha minimum)



5.0 Spatial Maps

Figure 1 Waste Spatial Map

