



Leicester
City Council

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All

FORWARD TIMETABLE OF CONSULTATION AND MEETINGS:

Cabinet Briefing
OSMB
Cabinet
Council

Monday 13th December 2010
Thursday 13th January 2011
Monday 17th January 2011
Thursday 27th January 2011

Report on Joint Leicester and Leicestershire Waste Development Framework Site Allocations Development Plan Document

Report of the Strategic Director of Development, Culture and Regeneration

1. Purpose of Report

- 1.1. The purpose of the report is to provide an update on progress on the preparation of the Council's Joint Waste Development Framework Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD).

2. Recommendations

- 2.1. Cabinet is requested to note the progress on the Joint Waste Development Framework Site Allocations DPD and approve the document for public consultation as set out in the report.

3. Summary

- 3.1. The City Council and Leicestershire County Council are working jointly on a Waste Development Framework. A Waste Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD was adopted in October 2009. The next part of this framework is the Site Allocations DPD for which approval is now being sought for public consultation. This will allocate new waste sites within the City and County. This will ensure that the amount of waste arising can be dealt with and the various landfill diversion targets are achieved up to 2021. In respect of the City, a shortage of construction waste recycling facilities has been identified as a requirement and two sites are allocated which will help meet this shortage.
- 3.2. Copies of Waste Site Allocations document and its associated Sustainability Appraisal will be available in the member's areas.

4. Report

- 4.1 The City and County Councils are working together to produce a joint Waste Development Framework. This will ensure that enough additional waste capacity will be provided within the City and County to meet the waste arising from the significant proposed housing growth. It will also ensure that the tough EU targets for landfill diversion are met. The framework

covers the period from 2006 to 2021. The first document of this framework was the Waste Core Strategy and Development Control Policies DPD which adopted by full Council in October 2009. The Waste Core Strategy sets out a key vision for waste management in Leicester and Leicestershire. This vision is to provide an efficient, safe and sustainable range of waste facilities with capacity equal to the amount of waste generated and requiring that new facilities minimise environmental impact by encouraging waste reduction, increasing the reuse and recycling of waste leading to less reliance on landfill.

- 4.2 The second part of the framework is the Waste Site Allocations DPD, which will define what additional sites are required to meet the waste arisings up to 2021. The document was originally 'twin tracked' with the Waste Core Strategy and was subject to an issues and options consultation in 2006 and a preferred options consultation in 2007. However following the joint preferred options consultation, on the advice of Government Office, the Waste Site Allocations document was put 'on hold' until the Waste Core Strategy was adopted.
- 4.3 There was a 'call for sites' in 2006, followed by a second 'call for sites' earlier this year and as a result a total of 9 sites are proposed to be allocated within the document. Seven of these are within the County and two are within the City. The two city sites are the former railway sidings on Ulverscroft Road which is currently operating on rolling 5 year temporary consent, and the former Lewisher Road allotments which forms part of the Gypsy Lane Brickworks key employment site. Both of these sites would be specifically allocated to meet an identified shortage construction waste recycling facilities within Leicester. Without these facilities this waste would be disposed of in Landfill.
- 4.4 Recent approvals for commercial Material Recovery Facilities at Whitefield Road & Sunningdale Road and the existing facilities at Bursom & Wanlip should ensure that the City has enough municipal and commercial waste capacity up to 2021 to be able to meet landfill diversion targets. The plan is however flexible enough should alternative facilities be identified as required before 2021 that they can be accommodated subject to meeting criteria in the adopted Waste Core Strategy.
- 4.5 Of the seven sites that the County are allocating only 2 of these are new sites, these are Asfordby Mine near Melton Mowbray and plots 5 & 6 of the Interlink Business Park at Bardon near Coalville, which is the County Council's has purchased to be its preferred site for its Private Finance Initiative (PFI) waste scheme. The other sites are either extensions to existing facilities or already approved & operational landfill capacity.
- 4.6 The County Council has shortlisted two bidders for their PFI contract: -
 - Osiris which is a consortium made up of United Utilities Waste Management Ltd, Costain Engineering and Construction Ltd and John Laing Investments Ltd. They are proposing to build a mechanical treatment facility to produce refuse derived fuel (RDF) for gasification.
 - Veolia Environmental Services who are proposing to build an energy from waste plant with associated combined heat and power.

Both of these facilities would be built at the aforementioned County Council owned site at Bardon. However following announcement that the government has withdrawn funding the

County Council is rethinking its strategy. The County is still committed to providing some sort of facility to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill.

- 4.7 Approval is sought for the Joint Waste Development Framework Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD) to allow a statutory 6 week full public consultation in February 2011, before submission to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in May 2011. The document would then subject to Examination in Public in Autumn 2011 before being taken back to Full Council for adoption in early 2012.

5. FINANCIAL, LEGAL AND OTHER IMPLICATIONS

5.1 Financial Implications

- 5.1.1 Costs from the Local Development Framework process, including the examination in public will be met from existing budgets.

Martin Judson; Head of Finance R&C; Ext 297390

5.2 Legal Implications

- 5.2.1 The Corporate Director refers in the report to the statutory guidance that has been considered in the development of the strategy. The process being followed complies with the guidance and the statutory provisions contained in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004

- 5.2.2 In accordance with the Council's Constitution and the Local Authorities (Function and Responsibilities) Regulations, the decision to approve the strategy is a matter for Full Council as it is part of the Development Plan.

Dina Nathwani; Solicitor; Legal Services; Ext 296362

5.3 Climate Change Implications

- 5.3.1 Landfilled waste produces both carbon dioxide and methane, both greenhouse gases (methane is a much more potent greenhouse gas), which can contribute to climate change. Sustainable waste management is vitally important in helping to reduce city and county-wide greenhouse gas emissions and work to divert waste from landfill and to find other uses for it is essential to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

Helen Lansdown; Senior Environmental Consultant - Sustainable Procurement; Ext 296770

6 Other Implications

OTHER IMPLICATIONS	YES/ NO	Paragraph/References Within Supporting information
Equal Opportunities	No	

Policy	Yes	The document will be formally adopted by Council and will be used to determine planning application. The document as supplements the adopted Waste Development Framework Core Strategy.
Sustainable and Environmental	Yes	The Document has been subject to full Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal.
Crime and Disorder	No	
Human Rights Act	No	
Elderly/People on Low Income	No	
Corporate Parenting	No	
Health Inequalities Impact	Yes	The requirements of health impact were looked at as part of the Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal.

7. Risk Assessment Matrix

Risk	Likelihood L/M/H	Severity Impact L/M/H	Control Actions (if necessary/appropriate)
1 Timetable through to adoption could slip.	M	L	Existing adopted Waste Core Strategy provides a strong policy framework for determining any waste planning application.
2 Planning Inspectorate finds the plan unsound.	L	M	Advice has been sought at all stages from the Government Office to ensure compliance. If plan is found unsound council would have to pay costs of a second hearing and the timetable would slip significantly. Adopted Waste Core Strategy can be used on its own to determine planning applications for waste uses.

8 Background Papers – Local Government Act 1972

8.1 None

9 Consultations

9.1 In preparing this document it been subject to 2 formal public consultations (issues & options and preferred options) and will be subject to another 6 week public consultation before the document is submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government for formal examination. We have also engaged with the waste industry during two separate 'call for sites', where operators had the opportunity to suggest future waste sites. Leicester City Council's transport strategy section and the City's Nature Conservation Officer were consulted on the suitability of sites for waste processing.

10 Report Author

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