



**WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK
(FORMERLY LOCAL PLAN) ISSUES AND
OPTIONS CONSULTATION**

**GUILDFORD LOCAL COMMITTEE
20TH JANUARY 2005**

KEY ISSUE:

Consultation on the first stage of the new Waste Development Framework for Surrey.

SUMMARY:

The current Surrey Waste Local Plan is to be replaced by the Waste Development Framework. Surrey County Council have engaged consultants to produce a series of Issues and Options papers and these are being consulted on. These papers include assessments on a number of sites in the Guildford borough area.

There will be community-based workshops over the summer and the first draft of the new Framework will be developed in the autumn, 2005.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Committee is asked to

- (i) comment on the first stage consultation, the Issues and Options Papers
- (ii) consider how it wishes to be involved in the formal consultation on the draft Waste Development Framework from the autumn, onwards.

1. INTRODUCTION and BACKGROUND

The Surrey Waste Local Plan is currently being reviewed. It is now called a Waste Local Development Framework (LDF) under the new Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act, and a series of Issues Papers and technical papers, with summaries has been prepared on our behalf by independent consultants, ERM.

The County Council's Executive on 26 October agreed these documents should form the basis of the Issues and Options consultation running from 10 November until 31 January 2005. There have also been a series of workshops with community groups over the summer, considering waste issues. The issues and options consultation will help inform the draft plan stage, which will commence in Autumn 2005.

1.1 The technical material comprising:

Site Assessment Report 1
 Site Assessment Report 2A (33 sites)
 Site Assessment Report 2B (further 8 sites)
 Site Assessment Report 2C (further 5 sites, available early in the new year)
 Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO)
 Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
 Interim Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

is available on the SCC Website at <http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/wasteplan>, and two printed sets of all the documents are also available in each Borough Council Office (with the Planning Departments), with a further printed copy at County Hall Reception, and in the SCC Members Room.

1.2 The consultative material comprising:

- Issue Paper 1: Waste Minimisation, re-use and recycling and market development
- Issue Paper 2: The Proximity Principle and Development Control
- Issue Paper 3: Landfill
- Issue Paper 4: The identification of sites appropriate for the development of waste related activities.

- Summary Paper: The Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO)
- Summary Paper: Sustainability Appraisal
- Summary Paper: Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)
- Background Paper: Waste Management Technologies

is available on the SCC Web both for members of the public to read, and to be able to comment upon directly on-line, using open-ended response boxes.

Printed copies are available in all of the county libraries – including the mobile libraries – together with copies with the Planning Department of each Borough and District, and at County Hall Reception, and in the SCC Members Room.

The Issues Papers, and associated Summary and Background Papers describe the major issues to be considered by the Waste LDF. The papers propose a series of draft policies for waste management.

- 1.3** In addition to the normal announcements to the Press, on the Surrey Website, and to District Councils and Libraries, some 2,000 people have been notified by letter, of the availability of this Issues and Options Consultation. On 1 November, a joint SCC and District Members seminar on the Issues Papers was held at County Hall. A key Stakeholder workshop attended by a wide range of groups from industry to pressure groups was also held to consider the Issues Papers just before the start of the consultation period.

The on-line consultation is being run on Surrey's behalf by one of the two companies undertaking the Waste LDF work for the County Council. The on-line nature will provide rapidly available summary reports of the public views received during the consultation period, thus enabling the Council to more proactively take account of the public's views.

It is perfectly possible for members of the public to undertake conventional consultation by means of letters to the Council – though every encouragement is being made to allow people to avail themselves of the on-line facilities.

2. ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

2.1 Issue Paper 1: Waste Minimisation, re-use and recycling, and market development.

This discussion paper presents the issues surrounding the promotion, development and implementation of waste minimisation measures, re-use and recycling activities.

The paper describes the background of 'how much waste is produced in Surrey' and how this waste is currently managed. It discusses the importance of the Landfill Directive – which has introduced a step change in the way waste is to be managed. It also discusses the waste hierarchy and how this leads to a number of policies proposed for adoption by the Council. The public is then given space to respond on the basic issues, which need to be resolved in order to complete a Waste LDF.

2.2 Issue Paper 2: The Proximity Principle and Development Control

This paper is concerned with general development control issues that are involved in making decisions on planning applications. These include: the

Proximity Principle; nature, visual historical and cultural designations; the Green Belt and so on.

The paper also includes a suggested policy for sewage treatment works.

The proximity principle is described, together with a number of national planning policy guidelines. The question of Green Belt is discussed at length.

The paper proposes a series of policies and provides opportunities for responses.

2.3 Issue Paper 3: Landfill

Despite the desire to divert waste from landfill, there will always remain a need for landfill for the disposal of residual waste, that cannot be dealt with by other means. This paper discusses the background to waste arisings and current landfilling, taken from the BAPTIE Report on the need for waste facilities. It also discusses the important matter of groundwater protection.

A series of policies is proposed and a series of questions is raised.

2.4 Issues Paper 4: The identification of sites appropriate for the development of waste related activities

This paper outlines the methodology used to assess sites. The paper also summarises the work undertaken in the detailed site assessment work reported in *Site Assessment Report 1* and *Site Assessment Reports 2A, and 2B*.

This leads to a set of proposed policies, which will, after due public consultation at the draft plan stage, next autumn, include specific sites, taken from the *Site Assessment Reports 2A and 2B*, for specific waste management proposals at particular sites.

It discusses the importance of balancing the need for sites with the Green belt and with landscape policy.

Again an opportunity for responses is provided.

Three Summary Papers accompany the detailed technical papers on:

- Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) report
- Interim Sustainability Appraisal report
- Strategic Environmental Assessment report

There is also a background paper on:

- Waste Management Technology

The BPEO report looks at all waste streams: Municipal, Commercial & Industrial, and Construction & Demolition, and considers which are the most environmentally and practicably desirable technologies to handle them. The report has been subjected to peer review by another independent consultancy.

2.5 Sites already assessed by ERM, in terms of suitability for waste related uses in Guildford Borough

ERM have suggested these be safeguarded as suitable for waste development.

Site Name	Safeguard
Sunnyside, Worplesdon	✘
Cold Store, Artington ¹	✓
Slyfield Industrial Estate: CA Site and Transfer Station ²	✘
Slyfield Industrial Estate: Thames Water Utilities Land ²	✓
Slyfield Industrial Estate: Thames Water STW ²	✓
Slyfield Industrial Estate: Land east of abattoir	✘
Land at former airfield, Wisley	✓
Brick Kiln, Copse, Ockham	✓

Sites still being considered in Guildford Borough

Site Name
Slyfield – land to the north east ²
Vokes at Normandy

Notes:

¹ Since the ERM assessment, planning permission has been granted on appeal for a church at the Cold Store, Artington site, which is therefore unlikely to be available for waste development.

²The sites indicated are included within the Slyfield Action Area Plan, which is being progressed jointly by Guildford Borough and Surrey County Councils. Consultants are currently studying various development options for the area, including the potential for waste facilities.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: All available on:
<http://www.surreycc.gov.uk/wasteplan>
