

Item 12

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

SURREY COUNTY COUNCIL'S LOCAL COMMITTEE IN
SURREY HEATH

2nd December 2004

KEY ISSUE:

The views of the Local Committee are being sought on the Issues Papers and will be taken into account in helping to prepare the draft plan

SUMMARY:

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.

OFFICER RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Surrey Heath Local Committee notes the current consultation on the waste LDF.

Members are not being asked to comment on the papers at this meeting but are at liberty to do so via www.surreycc.gov.uk/waste plan

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

1. The County Council's Executive on 26 October agreed that the series of Issues Papers and technical papers, with summaries 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 Surrey Heath Standing Citizens' Panel was one of these groups. The issues and options consultation will help inform the draft plan stage, which will commence in Autumn 2005.
2. The technical material comprising:
 - Site Assessment Report 1
 - Site Assessment Report 2A (listing 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.

3. 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 Surrey County Council Website 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.

ANALYSIS AND COMMENTARY

4. 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.
5. 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 Press were informed of the consultation.
6. 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.

7. It is perfectly possible for members of the public to undertake conventional consultation by means of letters to the Council, however, people are encouraged to use the on-line facilities.

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

8. This discussion paper presents the issues surrounding the promotion, development and implementation of waste minimisation measures, re-use and recycling activities.
9. 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.

Issue Paper 2: The Proximity Principle and Development Control

10. 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.
11. The proximity principle is described, together with a number of national planning policy guidelines. The question of Green Belt is discussed at length.
12. The paper proposes a series of policies and provides opportunities for responses.

Issue Paper 3: Landfill

13. 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.
14. A series of policies is proposed and a series of questions is raised.

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

15. 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*.

16. 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.
17. Three Summary Papers accompany the detailed technical papers on:
 - Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) report
 - Interim Sustainability Appraisal report
 - Strategic Environmental Assessment report
18. There is also a background paper on Waste Management Technology
19. 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.

Surrey Heath specifics

20. The Camberley Sewage Treatment Works on Riverside Way has been assessed by ERM, in terms of suitability for waste related uses in Surrey Heath and was found to be unsuitable.
21. The former DEERA test track in Chobham is still being considered as a possible site for waste related uses but is a relatively small site.

CONSULTATION

22. The Surrey Heath Standing Citizen's Panel has taken part in one of the community workshops on waste.
23. Committee Members and the public are able to comment on the papers at www.surreycc.gov.uk/wasteplan

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

24. Investment in new technologies will allow Surrey to plan for waste in a sustainable manner.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT IMPLICATIONS

25. The sustainable planning of Surrey's waste management is a key issue.

CRIME & DISORDER IMPLICATIONS

26. The need to reduce the opportunity for fly tipping is the major crime and disorder implication of this report.

EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS

27. None

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Surrey Heath Local Committee notes the current consultation on the waste LDF.

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BACKGROUND PAPERS: As listed in para 3.

Number of Annexes: None