



**MINERALS & WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**

# **Waste Core Strategy**

## **Consultation Statement (Regulation 27)**

**December 2009**

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## **1. INTRODUCTION**

- 1.1 Prior to formally 'submitting' the Waste Core Strategy, it is necessary to undertake consultation in accordance with the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2004 (as amended) "the Regulations".
- 1.2 Consultation on the preparatory stages of the Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document has been undertaken in accordance with Regulation 25.
- 1.3 This consultation statement, required under Regulation 27, sets out;
- who was invited to be involved in the plan preparation;
  - how they were invited to be involved in the plan preparation, and;
  - a summary of the main issues raised as a result of the consultation and how those main issues have been addressed.
- 1.4 A Submission draft of the Waste Core Strategy has subsequently been prepared and this was approved by Suffolk County Council at its meeting on 10th December 2009. Consultation on the soundness of this document is to be undertaken for a 6 week period from Monday 11th January 2010 to 5pm on Monday 22nd February 2010 in accordance with Regulation 27.

## **2. WHO WAS INVITED TO BE INVOLVED IN THE PLAN PREPARATION**

- 2.1 The Regulations require the local authority when preparing development plan documents to consult widely. The following have been consulted during the preparation of the Waste Core Strategy.

### **Regulatory agencies**

- Natural England
- The Environment Agency
- English Heritage

### **Physical infrastructure delivery agencies**

- Highways Agency
- County Highways Authority
- Electricity and gas companies
- Sewerage and water undertakers
- Telecommunications companies
- Internal Drainage Boards
- Network Rail
- Civil Aviation Authority
- Ministry of Defence

### **Social infrastructure delivery agencies**

- MPs
- Government Office for the East of the England
- East of England Regional Assembly
- Suffolk Parish/Town Councils
- Neighbouring Parish/Town, District/Borough and County Councils
- Strategic Health Authority
- East of England Development Agency
- Amenity groups
- Environmental groups
- Hard to reach groups
- Local Strategic Partnerships
- Local businesses and business associations
- Local environmental and civic groups/bodies
- Central Government departments

### **Major Landowners**

- Land Agents/Owners
- Consultants

### **Other developers**

- National Federation of Builders

### **Minerals and waste operators/industry groups/agents**

- Mineral Operators
- Waste Operators
- Trade Associations

2.2 Organisations and local residents who responded to the Waste Core Strategy consultation exercise were added to the consultation list as the process developed.

2.3 A complete list of consultees is available upon request from Suffolk County Council.

## **3. HOW THEY WERE INVITED TO BE INVOLVED IN THE PLAN PREPARATION**

3.1 An intrinsic part of the process of formulating the Waste Core Strategy is public consultation. The consultation so far has included:

- a) Waste Issues Consultation, October – December 2007
- b) Waste Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation, August – October 2008
- c) Waste Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation (Part II) Strategic Sites, December 2008 – February 2009.
- d) Waste Core Strategy Final Consultation, July – October 2009

- 3.2 All representations received have been carefully considered and amendments made to the draft Waste Core Strategy where appropriate.
- 3.3 The first Issues paper was published for six weeks' consultation in October 2007 and sent to all statutory consultees and other consultees thought relevant (including environmental groups, the waste industry etc) All consultees were advised of the Suffolk County Council Web site where the documentation was published and hard copies forwarded to the statutory consultees and the seven Suffolk District/Borough Council offices.
- 3.4 This process was repeated for the three consultation documents that followed and in addition printed copies were sent to Parish Councils where strategic sites were identified. All consultees were offered the opportunity to invite officers to attend meetings to discuss and explain proposals in the Plan. All individuals and organisations responding to the consultation documents but not on the original list were included in subsequent consultations and new consultees were added as requested.
- 3.5 Officers attended the following meetings during the Consultation Period. A number of open "drop-in" road shows were also undertaken during the last consultation stage as shown below. These were promoted through free door to door magazines/news letters circulated throughout the areas involved

#### **Waste Issues Document**

- One Parish Council meeting
- One Waste Liaison Group Meeting

#### **Waste Issues and Options Document**

- (no meetings)

#### **Waste Core Strategy Issues and Options (Part II) Strategic Sites**

- Four Parish Council meetings
- Two District Council meetings
- Three Public Meetings
- One Waste Liaison Group Meeting

#### **Waste Core Strategy (Final Consultation)**

- Six Parish/Town Council meetings
- Nine public "drop-in"
- Suffolk Waste Liaison Group Meeting
- Sizewell Liaison Group Meeting

3.6 The Suffolk Waste Liaison Group includes representatives of local and national waste companies and organisations, the Environment Agency and Planning Officers from local District/Borough Council offices. The first meeting took place on 13th December 2007, and subsequent meetings were held on 29 March.

3.8 Various other informal meetings and discussions took place with stakeholders, particularly with the Environment Agency and the waste industry.

**4. A SUMMARY OF THE MAIN ISSUES RAISED AS A RESULT OF THE CONSULTATION AND HOW THOSE MAIN ISSUES HAVE BEEN ADDRESSED**

4.1 In terms of numbers of responses, the most significant rounds of consultation have been the last two because they have included consultation upon proposed sites. The numbers involved are shown below in tables 1 and 2.

Table 1: Waste Core Strategy Final Consultation July – October 2009

Site		Total	Objections	Support	Comment
Site 2	Sproughton	18	14	2	2
Site 26	Stanton/Hepworth	637	629	1	7
Site 27	Eye Airfield	11	8	0	3
Site 28	Masons Landfill	11	7	1	3
Site 29	SCC Depot	16	10	2	4
Site W7	Layham Landfill	9	5	0	4
Site 67	Thorington Quarry	9	7	0	2
Site W7	Foxhall Landfill	3	1	1	1
Site W11	Masons Landfill	3	1	1	1

Table 2: Waste Core Strategy Issues and Options Consultation (Part II) Strategic Sites December 2008 – February 2009.

Site		Total	From individuals & businesses	From consultees & landowner
Site 2	Sproughton	68	56	12
Site 26	Stanton/Hepworth	176	161	15
Site 27	Eye Airfield	13	3	10
Site 28	Masons Landfill	12	2	10
Site 29	SCC Depot	13	5	8
Site W7	Layham Landfill	11	0	11
Site 67	Thorington Quarry	10	0	10
Site W7	Foxhall Landfill	7	0	7
Site W11	Masons Landfill	8	0	8

- 4.2 As can be seen above a large number of representations were received in respect of Site 26 Stanton/Hepworth.
- 4.3 Having considered the current surveyed levels of waste being managed in the Suffolk, the draft revised waste projection figures produced as part of the ongoing review of the East of England Plan, and comments from industry which indicated a number of potential smaller non-strategically sized residual waste treatment facilities that might be put forward in the future, it was concluded that only four strategic residual waste treatment facility sites were necessary. The Stanton site was therefore removed as this site performed least well against the Council's site assessment criteria and was considered the least suitable of the five sites under consideration.
- 4.4 The policies have also been redrafted, particularly in the light of consultation responses, Government advice and further consideration by officers.
- 4.5 The initial Waste Issues Report discussed general principles and included a call for sites. Also consulted upon at this time was the Waste Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. This scoping document outlined the baseline information and evidence needed to inform the Sustainability Appraisal of the emerging Core Policies and Development Management Policies and the sites that would come forward.
- 4.6 The Waste Issues and Options stage put forward various policy options and included a call for sites. The majority of representations supported: a plan period until 2026; the inclusion of strategic sites within the Core Strategy; meeting the identified sub-regional

apportionment for waste, and; a technology neutral stance. In addition to comments relating to the policy options, a number of potential sites for Residual Waste Treatment Facilities and Non Hazardous Landfill were submitted by prospective developers for consideration.

- 4.7 The Final Consultation Version combined in the same document for the first time draft policies and proposed sites.
- 4.8 Reference to Table 3 below indicates that at the Final Consultation stage there were 151 representations made in respect of the draft policies of which 115 were comments, 29 were objections and 7 were in support. Two main themes emerged from these representations. These related to the inclusion of more detailed criteria for the consideration of planning applications and the merit of directing waste management development towards particular areas such as land used for Storage and Distribution uses.
- 4.9 A revised Policy WCS7 therefore provides an expanded list of general considerations that would be considered when determining planning applications.
- 4.10 In respect of types of land-use suitable for waste management a revised Policy WCS10 therefore lists the types of existing or proposed land uses where waste development could potentially be located.
- 4.11 It is also proposed to include a new Policy WCS3 specifically relating to recycling & composting requirements to provide a comprehensive planning framework for specific elements of the waste hierarchy and to ensure appropriate parameters against which planning applications may be judged.

**Table 3: Representations made in respect of policies included in the Waste Core Strategy Final Consultation**

(Note; Policies referred to in this table are those contained in the Final Consultation document and will differ from those in Appendix 2 of this Cabinet report)

<b>Policy</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>Objections</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>Comment</b>
WCS 1	Managing waste arisings from within the region	12	3	2	7
WCS 2	Safeguarding of existing waste management sites	13	2	0	11
WCS 3	General considerations relevant to all waste management facilities	8	1	1	6
WCS 4	Spatial distribution of general waste management facilities	6	2	0	4
WCS 5	Spatial distribution of residual waste treatment facilities	9	4	0	5
WCS 6	Spatial distribution of non-hazardous landfill	9	3	0	6
WCS 7	Approval of sites for disposal of non-hazardous waste by landfilling or landraise	10	3	0	7
WCS 8	Residual waste treatment facilities with a capacity of less than 100,000 tonnes annual throughput	5	1	0	4
WCS 9	Waste transfer stations, materials recycling facilities, end of life vehicle facilities and waste electrical and electronic equipment recovery facilities	4	0	0	4
WCS 10	Household waste recycling centres	2	0	0	2
WCS 11	Enclosed composting facilities	9	0	0	9
WCS 12	Open air composting	7	0	1	6
WCS 13	Anaerobic digestion	6	0	0	6

WCS 14	Proposals for recycling or transfer of inert and construction, demolition and excavation waste	7	1	0	6
WCS 15	Waste water treatment plants	4	0	0	4
WCS 16	Treatment storage and disposal of low and very low level radioactive waste at Sizewell nuclear power stations	10	2	1	7
WCS 17	Treatment and storage of intermediate level radioactive waste at Sizewell nuclear power stations and spent fuel generated at Sizewell nuclear power stations	8	2	1	5
WCS 18	Transfer, storage, processing & treatment of hazardous waste	6	3	0	3
WCS 19	Sustainable construction and demolition	4	0	1	3
WCS 20	Climate change mitigation and adaption	5	0	0	5
WCS 21	Design of waste management facilities	7	2	0	5
Totals		151	29	7	115

## **5. SUBMISSION STAGE PUBLIC PARTICIPATION**

- 5.1 Following amendments made in the light of comments upon the Final Consultation draft, a Submission draft Waste Core Strategy was approved by County Council on 10th December.
- 5.2 This, together with the Final Sustainability Appraisal is to be published for consultation for a 6 week period on 11th January 2009. It will be available on the County Council's website, at the County Council's headquarters at Endeavour House and at the seven main offices of Suffolk's District/Borough Councils.
- 5.3 The consultation period will also be advertised in the East Anglian Daily Times and the Eastern Daily Press newspapers, which together provide Suffolk-wide coverage.
- 5.4 A copy of the Proposals Matters and the public advertisement are attached as Appendix A.
- 5.5 Following the 6 week consultation period and subject to comments made, the Waste Core Strategy will be submitted to the Secretary of state in accordance with the requirements of regulation 30.

**APPENDIX A – STATEMENT OF PROPOSALS MATTERS AND COPY OF PUBLIC ADVERTISEMENT**

**Notice of Pre-Submission Consultation,  
Suffolk Waste Core Strategy Submission Draft  
Development Plan Document.**

***The Town and Country Planning (Local Development)  
(England) Regulations 2004 (as amended) (Regulation 27)***

**Proposed subject matter and area of DPD:**

The Waste Core Strategy Submission Draft, incorporating a Proposals Map, includes policies and strategic sites proposed for Residual Waste Treatment facilities and Non-hazardous landfill, which will be used for determining waste planning applications in the County of Suffolk.

Representations on the soundness of these proposals may be made between **Monday 11th January 2010 and 5pm Monday 22 February 2010**) by any of the following methods using the representation form which is available on the Council's web site ; [www.suffolk.gov.uk/Environment/MineralsAndWastePlanning/WastePlanning](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk/Environment/MineralsAndWastePlanning/WastePlanning)

Online at: <http://suffolk.jdi-consult.net/ldf/>,  
by email to: [planning@suffolk.gov.uk](mailto:planning@suffolk.gov.uk) ,  
by Fax to: 01473 216915,  
or in writing to;

Graham Gunby  
Minerals & Waste Policy Manager  
Suffolk County Council  
Endeavour House  
8 Russell Road  
Ipswich  
Suffolk IP1 2BX

Copies of this Statement of Proposals Matters and pre-submission proposals documents including a Final Sustainability Appraisal are available for inspection during normal office hours at Endeavour House, and the principal offices of Suffolk's seven district/borough councils (Babergh DC, Hadleigh; Forest Heath DC, Mildenhall; Ipswich BC; Mid Suffolk DC, Needham Market; St Edmundsbury BC, Bury St Edmunds; Suffolk Coastal DC, Woodbridge; Waveney DC, Lowestoft). The documentation is also available on the County Council's website at [www.suffolk.gov.uk](http://www.suffolk.gov.uk) and can also be viewed online at libraries throughout Suffolk.

Any representations may be accompanied by a request to be notified at a specified address that the Waste Core Strategy has been submitted to the Secretary of State for independent examination under section 20 of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Suffolk County Council, 11th January 2010