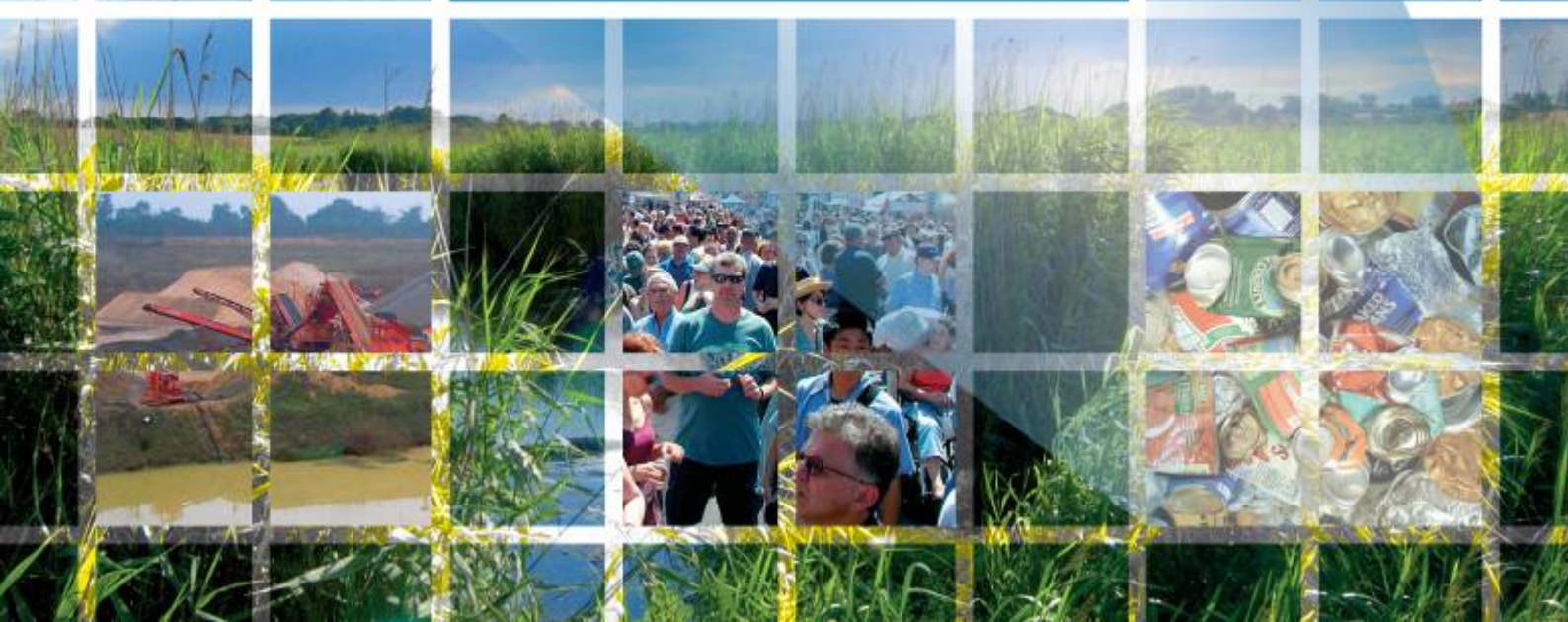




**MINERALS & WASTE DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK**

# Waste Core Strategy Submission Draft

**December 2009**



# Contents

<b>Chapter 1: Introduction .....</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Chapter 2: Vision .....</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>Chapter 3: Aims and Objectives .....</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>Chapter 4: Implementation and Monitoring .....</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>Chapter 5: Spatial Strategy .....</b>	<b>13</b>
Policy WCS1 The Spatial Waste Planning Strategy for Suffolk.....	19
<b>Chapter 6: Waste Planning Requirements .....</b>	<b>20</b>
Policy WCS2 Management of Sub-regional Apportionment (thousand tonnes) .....	29
Policy WCS3 Provision for the Recycling and Composting of Waste.....	34
Policy WCS4 Proposed sites for Strategic Residual Waste Treatment Facilities .....	35
Policy WCS5 Specific sites for Non-hazardous Landfill .....	36
<b>Chapter 7: Development Management Policies .....</b>	<b>37</b>
Policy WCS6 Safeguarding of waste management sites .....	37
Policy WCS7 General considerations relevant to all waste management facilities .....	38
Policy WCS8 Approval of sites for disposal of inert waste by landfilling or landraise.....	39
Policy WCS9 Approval of sites for disposal of non-hazardous waste by landfilling or landraise....	41
Policy WCS10 General Waste Management Facilities.....	42
Policy WCS11 Residual Waste Treatment facilities with a capacity of less than 100,000 tonnes annual throughput .....	43
Policy WCS12 Waste Transfer Stations, Materials Recycling Facilities, End of Life Vehicle Facilities and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Recovery Facilities .....	44
Policy WCS13 Household Waste Recycling Centres .....	45
Policy WCS14 Enclosed Composting Facilities.....	46
Policy WCS15 Open Air Composting .....	46
Policy WCS16 Anaerobic Digestion .....	47
Policy WCS17 Proposals for recycling or transfer of inert and construction, demolition and excavation waste.....	49
Policy WCS18 Waste Water Treatment .....	50
Policy WCS19 Treatment, storage and disposal of Low and Very Low Level radioactive waste at Sizewell nuclear power stations.....	52
Policy WCS20 Treatment and storage of Intermediate Level radioactive waste and spent fuel generated at Sizewell nuclear power stations.....	54
Policy WCS21 Transfer, storage, processing & treatment of hazardous waste. ....	55
Policy WCS22 Sustainable construction and demolition .....	56
Policy WCS23 Climate Change mitigation and adaptation.....	57
Policy WCS24 Design of waste management facilities .....	58

<b>Chapter 8: Proposed Sites Identified for Strategic Residual Waste Treatment Facilities .....</b>	<b>59</b>
Site 2: Former Sugar Refinery, Sproughton Road, Sproughton .....	60
Site 27: Eye Airfield Industrial Estate, Eye and Yaxley .....	65
Site 28: Masons Quarry, Great Blakenham .....	69
Site 29: Suffolk County Council Highways Depot, Lodge Lane, Great Blakenham .....	73
<b>Chapter 9: Proposed Sites identified for Non Hazardous Landfill.....</b>	<b>77</b>
Site W7: Layham Landfill Site.....	78
Site 67: Thorington .....	81
Site W17: Foxhall Landfill Site .....	84
Site W11: Masons Landfill Site .....	87
<b>Key Diagram .....</b>	<b>91</b>
<b>Appendix 1: Map of Waste Management Facilities in Suffolk and within 5km of Boundary .....</b>	<b>92</b>
<b>Appendix 2: Glossary .....</b>	<b>98</b>
<b>Appendix 3: Site Selection Criteria for Residual Waste Treatment facilities .....</b>	<b>105</b>
<b>Appendix 4: Criteria for Selection of Sites for Landfill or Landraise.....</b>	<b>108</b>
<b>Appendix 5: Policy Monitoring Framework .....</b>	<b>110</b>

# Chapter 1: Introduction

## About this document

- 1.1 This document draws together the outcome of previous issues and options consultations in respect of policies and sites and takes into account the comments made. Proposals are made for sites suitable for the development of Strategic Residual Waste Treatment Facilities and Non Hazardous Landfill. Planning applications for other types of waste development are intended to be determined in accordance with the policies contained within this document and that of other relevant documents of the Development Plan including the East of England Plan.
- 1.2 Chapters 2 and 3 of this document set out the Vision, Aims and Objectives that seek to promote an overall strategy of sustainable waste management.
- 1.3 Chapter 4 describes the implementation and monitoring of the Waste Core Strategy.
- 1.4 Chapter 5 sets out the spatial strategy for waste management within Suffolk.
- 1.5 Chapter 6 describes the provision to be made for waste management facilities in the light of the sub-regional apportionment and other sources of information.
- 1.6 Chapter 7 contains policies that would be used in the determination of planning applications for waste development.
- 1.7 Chapter 8 identifies four specific sites or areas of search for Strategic Residual Waste Treatment Facilities, i.e. sites capable of handling 100,000 tonnes per annum or more of residual waste that is left after recyclable and compostable materials have been removed.
- 1.8 Chapter 9 identifies four specific sites for Strategic Non Hazardous Landfill. Three of the four sites are already non-hazardous landfills and these proposals involve additional or alternative void capacity or a widening of the types of waste that may be disposed of. The remaining site is a former mineral working, where landfilling would provide a means of restoring the site.

- 1.9 The Appendices contain important information that underpins the rest of the document including the Key Diagram, a map and schedule of existing facilities and site selection criteria.
- 1.10 The remainder of this Chapter explains the relationship to other relevant documents of the Minerals & Waste Development Framework.

### **The Local Development Framework System**

- 1.11 Suffolk County Council has responsibility for producing a Minerals and Waste Development Framework (M&WDF). In undertaking the M&WDF, the County Council has to prepare the following constituent documents:

### **Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (the Scheme).**

- 1.12 This is the project plan and timetable for preparing the Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents. The latest version reflects the lack of proposals for non-strategic waste management facilities being put forward in response to repeated calls for sites made by the County Council and hence removing the justification for a Specific Sites document. Planning applications for such proposals coming forward in the future will be determined with reference to the generic policies contained within the Waste Core Strategy.

### **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI).**

- 1.13 The adopted SCI explains how the County Council intends to engage all “stakeholders” (e.g. local communities, industry groups, other Local Authorities, Environment Agency etc) in the production of the Development Plan Documents and to encourage continuing public participation.

### **A series of detailed Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents (DPD).**

- 1.14 Besides the Waste Core Strategy, the County Council has already prepared and adopted a Minerals Core Strategy DPD in September 2008 and a Minerals Specific Site Allocations DPD in September 2009.

## **Annual Monitoring Report. (AMR)**

- 1.15 This covers the financial year (e.g. 1st April to 31st March) and is published in the December of each year

## **Sustainability Appraisal**

- 1.16 The Waste Core Strategy is subject to Sustainability Appraisal (SA) incorporating the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) Directive and a SA report is available.

## **Waste Core Strategy DPD – Progress to date**

- 1.17 Consultation on the Waste Issues Report took place between 29 October and 24 December 2007 and sought views on a number of issues and posed a range of questions. Also consulted upon at this time was the Waste Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. This 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.
- 1.18 A Waste Issues and Options document published in August 2008 set out a number of policy options. The consultation period ran from 11 August to 10 October 2008. Accompanying it was a Waste Issues and Options Sustainability Appraisal document. 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.
- 1.19 The Waste Core Strategy Issues and Options (Part II) Strategic Sites document published in December 2008 identified sites for strategic Residual Waste Treatment Facilities and Non Hazardous Landfill. The consultation period ran from 8 December 2008 to 13 February 2009. Accompanying that document was the Waste Core Strategy Issues and Options (Part II) Strategic Sites Sustainability Appraisal document. A significant number of representations were made objecting to some of the proposed sites.

- 1.20 A Final Consultation document was subject to public consultation between 27 July and 9 October 2009. A large number of consultation responses were received objecting in particular to one of the proposed sites for a strategic residual waste treatment facility in the parishes of Stanton and Hepworth. Following consideration of the representations made and the likely demand for sites, it was recommended that this site not be included in the Submission document.
- 1.21 The Submission document was approved by County Council in December 2009.

### **Other Policy Documents**

- 1.22 The preparation of this Plan has taken account of a number of other policy documents. These include:
- the Suffolk Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy,
  - the East of England Plan that was approved by Government in May 2008 and replaces the Structure Plans within the Region including the Suffolk Structure Plan;
  - present and emerging DPDs of the District Councils in and adjoining Suffolk, so far as they may impact upon waste management matters; and,
  - the waste DPDs of adjoining Waste Planning Authorities.

### **Saved waste policies that will be replaced**

- 1.23 Upon the adoption of the Waste Core Strategy the existing saved policies and proposals of the Suffolk Waste Local Plan, adopted in February 2006, will be replaced. This includes all of the policies and proposals of the Waste Local Plan with the exception of WLP1 and WLP3 which have not been saved.

### **Local Strategic Partnerships**

- 1.24 Government guidance in Planning Policy Statement 12 (PPS12) *Creating strong safe and prosperous communities through Local Spatial Planning* makes clear the importance of linking Community Strategies with Local Development Frameworks, thus ensuring a more integrated approach towards future development in the District/County. Local Development Frameworks are recognised as a delivery mechanism for community strategies. The priorities of the Community Strategies in Suffolk have been where appropriate also referred to in the Vision, Aims and Objectives, and Policies of the Waste Core Strategy.

## Chapter 2: Vision

### Our Vision for Waste Planning

- 2.1 The following vision has been developed within the context of national and regional waste planning policy together with local considerations. PPS12 indicates that Development Plan Documents should plan for a period of least 15 years which translates into an end date of 2026.

**“By 2026, the landfilling of untreated municipal, commercial & industrial wastes will have ceased and residual waste management processes will be fully operational, recovering value from wastes that cannot practicably be recycled or composted.**

**Waste management activities in Suffolk will be located sensitively and appropriately, and operated to high standards, so that they do not harm the environment or endanger human health or impact disproportionately on local amenity and tranquillity. Former temporary waste management activities, such as landfill sites, will have been restored to a quality and to a state conducive to appropriate after-uses such as agriculture and improving the habitats for biodiversity; in particular habitats and species identified in the Suffolk Biodiversity Action Plans, and where appropriate geodiversity”.**

## Chapter 3: Aims and Objectives

3.1 Flowing from the Vision are the following 6 aims and 11 objectives that also reflect national and regional waste policy together with local considerations. The policies and proposals contained within the Waste Core Strategy have in turn been developed within the context of these aims and objectives.

**Aim 1 To manage that volume of waste identified in the East of England Plan as being apportioned to Suffolk.**

Objective 1: To provide policies and identify locations for the management of the quantities of waste apportioned to Suffolk through the East of England Plan.

*In defining this objective, it is recognised that there will continue to be cross boundary movements of waste but total imports and exports will be approximately equal.*

**Aim 2 To promote and encourage sustainable practices in the transportation and management of wastes.**

Objective 2: To facilitate sustainable waste management by minimising waste as a priority and encouraging communities to take responsibility for the waste they produce through better education via public consultation.

*The thorough public consultation process that is undertaken as part of the plan making process also serves to inform the public of waste management issues including the waste hierarchy.*

Objective 3: To facilitate the efficient transportation of waste throughout Suffolk.

*Opportunities for rail and water based transportation have been assessed in respect of the location of residual waste treatment facilities. The transport of waste by road is assessed against the potential access to the Suffolk Lorry Route Network and the potential sources of waste.*

Objective 4: To facilitate the driving of waste up the hierarchy through the provision of sufficient suitable waste management facilities for waste recycling, composting and transfer.

*In encouraging the treatment of waste as far as possible up the waste hierarchy, criteria based policies are included in respect of facilities for the recycling, composting and transfer of waste and allow for good distribution across the County.*

**Aim 3 To contribute to social and economic well-being.**

Objective 5: To facilitate equality of public access to Household Waste Recycling Centres.

*A criteria-based policy is included in respect of proposals for Household Waste Recycling Centres.*

**Aim 4 To protect against adverse impacts on human well-being and to ensure waste management facilities do not endanger human health.**

Objective 6: To encourage waste management facilities and practices that do not endanger human health and to ensure that adverse impacts on residential amenity and the quality of life can be prevented or suitably mitigated.

*A general criteria-based policy, that would be applicable to all waste development, is included in the Waste Core Strategy and is intended to ensure adequate protection.*

Objective 7: To minimise adverse impacts on air quality.

*A general criteria-based policy, that would be applicable to all waste development, is included in the Waste Core Strategy and is intended to ensure adequate protection.*

**Aim 5 To protect and enhance the built, natural and historic environment.**

Objective 8: To minimise adverse impacts on landscape quality and the built and historic environment.

*A general criteria-based policy, that would be applicable to all waste development, is included in the Waste Core Strategy and is intended to ensure adequate protection.*

Objective 9: To minimise adverse ecological and geological/geomorphological impacts, and to encourage opportunities for restoration, creation and enhancement of wildlife habitats.

*A general criteria-based policy, that would be applicable to all waste development, is included in the Waste Core Strategy and is intended to ensure adequate protection.*

Objective 10: To minimise adverse impacts on water quality.

*A general criteria-based policy, that would be applicable to all waste development, is included in the Waste Core Strategy and is intended to ensure adequate protection.*

**Aim 6 To assist in reducing the impacts of climate change upon the environment.**

Objective 11: To facilitate proposals and encourage waste management practices that reduce the effects of the emissions of greenhouse gases and deliver renewable energy production where feasible and appropriate.

*A criteria-based policy is included in respect of climate change and policies in respect of residual waste treatment facilities and non-hazardous landfill encourage energy recovery.*

## **Chapter 4: Implementation and Monitoring**

### **Implementation**

4.1 The implementation of the Waste Core Strategy will be achieved primarily through the determination of individual planning applications for a range of Waste Management Facilities. The County Council will seek to work closely with local stakeholders and the waste industry, to provide appropriate advice, prior to the submission of any application. The intent will be to ensure that development delivers the objectives of the Plan.

### **Monitoring**

4.2 Monitoring the Waste Core Strategy is achieved via the Annual Monitoring Report. The AMR relates to the 12-month period from 1st April to 31st March and provides the means for assessing policies and performance and for reviewing progress on the Development Plan. Any changes in Government policy relevant to waste development, waste management or apportionment would similarly be expected to be addressed through the AMR.

4.3 The AMR monitoring process will include the following issues:

- i) The quantities of waste managed at a range of Waste Management Facilities throughout the County;
- ii) Void space at non hazardous and inert landfill sites;
- iii) The numbers of planning applications for new Waste Management Facilities and the decisions taken on them;
- iii) The soundness of Development Plan policies in relation to decisions taken on planning applications;

4.4 This will assist in monitoring actual performance against Regional targets and assessing progress on the development needs for strategic sites identified in the Plan. Details are outlined in Appendix 5.

## Chapter 5: Spatial Strategy

### Spatial Portrait

- 5.1 The development of the vision, aims and objectives into policies and proposals must take into account spatial considerations. The following Chapter sets out a spatial portrait of Suffolk with reference to the social, economic and environmental character of the county. Reference is then made to waste management within the wider East of England Region. Finally, all these aspects are drawn together within a spatial policy for the management of waste within Suffolk.

### Social Issues

#### *Population*

- 5.2 Suffolk has an estimated population of 702,000 (2006 figure). Around one-third of the total population lives in the county's three major towns (Ipswich, Lowestoft and Bury St Edmunds), another third lives in smaller market towns and the remaining third lives in rural areas. The average population density is relatively low at 182 people per km<sup>2</sup> (compared to the average for England of 387 per km<sup>2</sup>), reflecting the rural nature of the county.
- 5.3 It is predicted the population of Suffolk will grow by between 9% and 13% by 2021. In particular, the Haven Gateway area (which includes Felixstowe, Ipswich and the surrounding area) is expected to experience significant housing and employment growth.

#### *Housing*

- 5.4 In April 2006, Suffolk had a total housing stock of 311,000, with an average annual increase in recent years of about 2,700. However, the East of England Plan indicates that Suffolk should make provision for a minimum of an additional 48,070 dwellings by 2021, an annual average increase of 3,200.

## **Economic Issues**

### *Employment*

- 5.5 2005 figures show that the largest employment sectors in the county are health and social work (11.3%), retail trade (10.2%) and education (7.8%). It is estimated that approximately 1,100 people work in the waste industry sector in Suffolk.

## **Environmental Issues**

### *Climatic Factors*

- 5.6 There is an overwhelming body of scientific evidence highlighting the serious and urgent nature of climate change. Suffolk is vulnerable to the implications of climate change because of areas that are vulnerable to coastal and river flooding and because of the lower than average rainfall compared to the rest of the UK, that increases pressure upon water resources to supply irrigation, industry and population.

### *Air quality*

- 5.7 Air quality is generally good in Suffolk. However, four Air Quality Management Areas have recently (2007) been designated in the county. Three of the sites are in Ipswich and the fourth is in Woodbridge. These localised air quality problems are due mainly to vehicle congestion hot-spots in the county.

### *Water quality and resources*

- 5.8 Water quality is generally high in Suffolk. However, there remain some sites where water quality is poor and needs improving, and the most recent available results (for 2005) showed an overall decline in the chemical water quality in Suffolk's rivers.

### *Soil and agriculture*

- 5.9 Suffolk is rich in agricultural farmland. About 1% of the county's soils are Grade 1, with grades 2 and 3a each at about 20%; in total, about 45% of the county's soils are classed as "best and most versatile".

### *Traffic and transport*

- 5.10 The dispersed nature of Suffolk's rural population combined with a lack of services and regular scheduled public transport in rural areas is unlikely to lead to decreased demand for private travel in the near future.
- 5.11 The Port of Felixstowe, the largest container port in the country, contributes significantly to HGV traffic in Suffolk, particularly on the A14. The approved port expansion there, along with the approved port at Bathside Bay in Harwich, Essex, will lead to an increase in HGV traffic in the future.
- 5.12 Almost all waste within Suffolk is transported by road (except for some nuclear waste transported by rail from Sizewell). However, the Suffolk highway network management hierarchy seeks to direct lorry traffic towards designated routes and thereby minimise conflict between environmental protection and economic development.

### *Energy*

- 5.13 Suffolk was responsible in 2004 for the consumption of approximately 10.5 GWh of energy through domestic and industrial energy use. This resulted in the release of around 4 million tonnes of carbon dioxide.
- 5.14 There are a number of landfill gas powered electricity generation schemes in operation in the County and other renewable energy schemes include the opening of the county's first commercial wind turbine ("Guliver") at Ness Point, Lowestoft. Planning permission for a windfarm at Parham, in Suffolk Coastal district, was granted in July 2006, although it has not been implemented. A number of other potential onshore and offshore wind schemes are in the pipeline including one in the Greater Gabbard area.

### *Flood Risk*

- 5.15 Environment Agency information suggests that around 12,000 properties in Suffolk are at risk of flooding from rivers or the sea (*figure excludes Forest Heath*).

### *Biodiversity and geodiversity*

- 5.16 Suffolk contains a range of sites with ecological designations, including six Ramsar sites, seven Special Protection Areas, eight Special Areas of Conservation, 283 Sites of Special Scientific Interest (of which 36 are geological) and 25 Local Nature Reserves. The number of County Wildlife Sites currently stands at about 850 (2007) and the county has seven Regionally Important Geological/Geomorphological Sites (RIGS) and 105 candidate RIGS. In addition, a number of Biodiversity Action Plans and Habitat Action Plans are in place, with the aim of conserving and increasing nationally and locally important habitats and species in the county.

### *Archaeology & historic environment*

- 5.17 The County's Historic Environment Record (HER) currently (2006) has 24,484 records relating to 16,814 archaeological sites. Of these, 328 are designated as Scheduled Monuments of national importance. The county also contains many buildings of historical or architectural interest, with 16,650 listed buildings and 170 Conservation Areas recorded in 2004/5. The numbers of recorded archaeological sites, listed buildings and conservation areas have all increased in recent years, giving increased protection to Suffolk's heritage. The area of designated historic parkland has also increased in the last five years.
- 5.18 Suffolk's historic landscape makes an outstanding contribution to the County's character and local distinctiveness. A high percentage of the county is deemed to be 'ancient countryside' where the pattern of fields and roads is of medieval or earlier origin. Historic features are a finite resource and cannot be fully replicated. The Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) produced by the County's Archaeological Service in conjunction with English Heritage is a key resource for the understanding of the historic landscape.

### *Landscapes and townscapes*

- 5.19 Around 12% of Suffolk's landscape is designated as an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). Suffolk's two AONBs are the Suffolk Coast & Heaths and the Dedham Vale.

- 5.20 Reports produced by the Campaign to Protect Rural England indicates that light pollution increased in the county between 1993 and 2000. Overall levels of pollution are below the national average, however, and Suffolk does contain proportionally lower areas in the darkest category than for England as a whole.

#### *Rights of Way*

- 5.21 The Rights of Way network in Suffolk totals 5,400 km so that it is not unusual for development proposals within the County to be directly or indirectly affected by rights of way. Potential conflicts are usually mitigated by diversions.

#### *Minerals*

- 5.22 Historically, some exhausted mineral quarries have been used as landfill sites, accepting either inert or municipal/commercial & industrial waste. However, the Environment Agency has indicated that there are widespread constraints upon new non-inert landfill space within the County due to much of Suffolk being overlain by Groundwater Source Protection Zones. This means that in future mineral sites may only be used to landfill municipal/C&I wastes provided they are located within a less vulnerable area and they have been subject to a satisfactory quantitative risk assessment to describe the presence of a natural geological boundary.

#### *Waste*

- 5.23 Suffolk was a widespread network of waste management facilities. This includes 7 non-hazardous landfills, 11 inert only landfills, 8 incinerators, 7 composting plants, 18 household waste recycling centres, 2 materials recycling facilities, 26 waste transfer facilities, 20 aggregates recycling facilities, 24 metal and end of life vehicles facilities and 25 main waste water treatment works.
- 5.24 The mix of different types of waste management facilities is set to change as levels of recycling, composting, and recovery increase at the expense of landfill in line with the National Waste Strategy.

5.25 The distribution of waste management facilities can be seen by reference to the Map of Waste Management Facilities in Suffolk and within 5km of Boundary (see Appendix 1). The influence of centres of population and major highway routes is clearly visible. In addition, there are also a number of former military airfields, which have since become designated industrial areas and are also used for waste management.

### **Regional Issues**

5.26 The sub-regional apportionment, based upon county boundaries, for Municipal Solid Waste, Commercial & Industrial Waste, and imported waste from London is provided within the East of England Plan. This includes targets for recycling, composting and recovery and limitations on the landfilling of London Waste after 2015 and the building of new non-landfill facilities handling waste from primarily outside of the region. There is currently no sub-regional apportionment for other wastes including Hazardous Waste, Inert Waste, Radioactive Waste or Agricultural Waste.

5.27 The counties that make up the East of England region, namely Norfolk, Suffolk, Essex (including Thurrock and Southend unitary authorities), Cambridgeshire (including the Peterborough unitary authority area), Bedfordshire (now represented by Bedfordshire Borough Council and Central Bedfordshire unitary authorities) and Hertfordshire, are all engaged in producing Waste Development Frameworks. These frameworks will all make provision in accordance with the guidance provided within the East of England Plan. Sub-regional apportionment itself is designed to take account of a number of factors such as projected economic growth levels and national waste policy in terms of targets for recycling etc. Although sub-regional apportionment allows for the cross county boundary movement of waste, the provision to be made in the Waste Development Frameworks should be equal to that which is arising within the county itself.

### **Spatial Policy**

5.28 The following spatial policy, in conjunction with the Key Diagram (which illustrates potential opportunities and constraints) and the development management policies,

seeks to address the issues highlighted in the preceding sections of this chapter, as summarised below.

- 5.29 In terms of social issues the population and the number of households is set to rise. In respect of economic issues, employment opportunities will fluctuate although the general trend will be upwards as the population increases leading to an increase in the amount of waste to be managed.
- 5.30 Environmental concerns dictate that the nature of waste management is expected to change in line with the National Waste Strategy, with increased emphasis upon recycling, composting and recovery at the expense of landfilling which will also be constrained by groundwater protection policy. Within Suffolk there are also a variety of environmental constraints which need to be considered in terms of both their local and in some cases global implications.
- 5.31 Opportunities to locate facilities close to the sources of waste and along the best highway routes available within the County are preferred. Some former military sites may also provide opportunities to locate waste management facilities relatively remotely from sensitive receptors such as residential properties. In many cases these are already allocated for General Industrial uses in Development Plans or have planning permission for such use.

**Policy WCS1 The Spatial Waste Planning Strategy for Suffolk**

**Preference will be given to proposals for waste management facilities in accordance with the Key Diagram where individual sites are well related to the Suffolk Lorry Route Network, centres of population and sources of waste and do not have adverse impacts upon features of environmental importance or endanger human health.**

## Chapter 6: Waste Planning Requirements

### Quantity of Waste Arising and Managed in Suffolk

- 6.1 An important waste planning consideration are the amount and type of waste arisings that it is estimated will be required to be managed during the plan period.
- 6.2 The following Chapter considers wastes that are subject to sub-regional apportionment i.e. Municipal Solid Waste, Commercial & Industrial Waste and London Waste, as well as those that are currently not the subject of sub-regional apportionment i.e. Hazardous Waste, Inert Waste, Radioactive Waste, and Agricultural Waste. The following tables are based upon information contained within the Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework Annual Monitoring Review for 2007/8. Table 1 indicates the current total reliance on landfill for the disposal of Household Waste and the significant rate of recycling, including composting, that is already carried out (arisings include some household waste arising from Authorities outside Suffolk.).

	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9
Arisings	474,993	367,329	407,563
Landfilled in Suffolk	219,764	198,883	189,582
Waste recycled	225,023	168,432	217,981

Source: Table W1 Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework Annual Monitoring Review for 2008/9.

Approximately 33,400 tonnes of Commercial & Industrial Waste collected by local authorities within Suffolk should be added to the household waste to determine Municipal Solid Waste arisings.

- 6.3 Table 2 indicates that the volume of Commercial & Industrial Waste arising is significantly greater than the volume of Municipal Solid Waste arising. A large volume of this Commercial & Industrial is disposed of to landfill. The recycling rate for Commercial & Industrial Waste is apparently lower than for Municipal Waste although the figures do not take account of non-surveyed waste such as paper sent directly to recyclers. The figures indicate a significant level of recovery, via small-scale incineration.

**Table 2: Commercial & industrial and Other Waste Arising and Managed within Suffolk (tonnes)\***

	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9
Arisings	616,330	699,155	1,053,029
Suffolk incineration (recovery)	130,790	130,087	129,665
Landfilled in Suffolk	293,768	288,190	418,267
Waste recycling	160,767	195,878	289,998

Source: Table W3 Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework Annual Monitoring Review for 2008/9.

6.3 Table 3 indicates that a significant volume of inert waste is landfilled within Non-Hazardous Landfill sites alongside Municipal Solid Waste and other Commercial & Industrial Wastes. It is also apparent from Table 3 that Non-Hazardous Landfill Capacity will be used up within the next 9 years at current rates of infilling unless there is new permitted void space .

**Table 3: Waste Inputs into Non-hazardous Landfills within Suffolk (tonnes)**

	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9
Non-hazardous voidspace cu m	8,861,296	730,736	7,585,409
Voidspace less 20% for lining, cap and cover	7,089,037	No longer deducted	No longer deducted
Household Waste tonnes landfilled	219,764	198,883	189,582
Commercial & Industrial Wastes tonnes landfilled	293,763	255,386	418,267
Inert Wastes tonnes landfilled	293,444	365,171	401,229
Total landfilled with Non-hazardous Landfill cu m	806,971	819,440	1,009,078

At average rate of fill for previous 3 years (878,496) and using void space figures provided by industry at year end (March) void space will reach zero in 2016/7; i.e.  $7,585,409/878,496 = 8.6$  years.

Source: Table W4 Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework Annual Monitoring Review for 2008/9.

6.4 Table 4 indicates that a considerable amount of inert waste is deposited in inert only landfills and that currently permitted inert only landfill capacity is projected to run out within 13 years at current rates of infilling.

<b>Table 4: Waste Inputs into Inert Landfills within Suffolk (tonnes)</b>			
	2006/7	2007/8	2008/9
Inert void space cu m	3,176,086	2,929,830	2,830,752
Less 5% restoration allowance	3,017,282	2,783,339	2,689,214
Inert Waste landfilled within inert only sites	131,181	279,795	126,978
Inert Waste landfilled cu m @ 1.5t/cu m	87,451	186,530	87,985
Remaining void space	2,929,830	2,830,752	2,742,767

At average rate of fill for the previous 3 years (120,655 cu m) the remaining void space (2,830,752 cu m) would reach zero by 2032; i.e.  $2,742,767/120,655 = 22.7$  years.

Source: Table W5 Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework Annual Monitoring Review for 2008/9.

### **Forecasts for the likely arisings for key dates during the plan period**

6.5 The Secretary of State approved the East of England Plan in May 2008 and it forms part of the Development Plan. The Waste Core Strategy must be in conformity with it.

6.6 In discussing the role of the Regional Spatial Strategy (that in Suffolk's case is represented by the East of England Plan) Paragraph 13 of Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management, states that:

“The strategy for waste management confirmed by the Secretary of State following public examination should be carried forward into local development documents and will inform the preparation and review of municipal waste management strategies. In preparing local development documents, there should no need to reopen consideration of either its principles or the annual rates of waste to be managed.”

6.7 However, it is still considered useful to review below the sub-regional apportionment as set out in the East of England Plan against the monitored levels of waste. Although policy WM4 within the East of England Plan is based upon management of particular levels of waste at certain key dates a fuller picture of the

waste forecast are provided by appendix C of that document, as reproduced in Table 5 below.

Financial year	05/06	06/07	07/08	08/09	09/10	10/11
Municipal Solid Waste	418	434	450	466	483	501
Commercial & Industrial Waste	1011	1037	1063	1089	1117	1149
London Waste	332	310	287	264	242	220
<b>Total</b>	<b>1761</b>	<b>1781</b>	<b>1800</b>	<b>1819</b>	<b>1842</b>	<b>1870</b>

<b>Continued</b>									
11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16	16/17	17/18	18/19	19/20	20/21
505	509	512	516	519	523	527	530	534	538
1181	1213	1245	1276	1320	1364	1408	1452	1496	1538
197	174	152	129	107	106	106	106	106	106
1883	1896	1909	1921	1946	1993	2041	2088	2136	2182

Source: Appendix C of the East of England Plan

### *Municipal Solid Waste*

6.8 Appendix C of the East of England Plan indicates that Suffolk should plan annually to manage for between 418,000 tonnes in 2005/6 rising to 538,000 tonnes in 2020/21 of Municipal Solid Waste.

6.9 The projected figure for managing Municipal Solid Waste in 2008/9 is 466,000 tonnes which is 24,037 (5 percent) more than recorded within the Annual Monitoring Review for that year. Similarly the projected figure for 2007/8 was 450,000 tonnes which is 82,671 (18 percent) more than recorded within the Annual Monitoring Review for that year, and the projected figure for 2006/7 was 434,000

tonnes which is 48,897 (11 percent) more than recorded within the Annual Monitoring Review for that year.

### *Commercial & Industrial Waste*

- 6.10 Appendix C of the East of England Plan indicates that Suffolk should plan annually to manage for between 1,011,000 tonnes in 2005/6 rising to 1,538,000 tonnes in 2020/21 of Commercial & industrial Waste.
- 6.11 The projected figure for 2008/9 was 1,089,000 tonnes which is 35,971 (3 percent) more than recorded within the Annual Monitoring Review for that year. Similarly the projected figure for 2007/8 was 1,063,000 tonnes which is 363,845 (34 percent) more than recorded within the Annual Monitoring Review for that year, and the projected figure for 2006/7 was 1,037,000 tonnes which is 420,670 (40.5 percent) more than recorded within the Annual Monitoring Review for that year.
- 6.12 The AMR includes 208,733 tonnes of Commercial & Industrial Waste arising from outside Suffolk, but excludes some recyclable waste sent directly for recycling or processing. This is estimated at 80,000 tonnes per annum.

### *London Waste*

- 6.13 Appendix C of the East of England Plan indicates that Suffolk should plan annually to manage a volume of London waste of 332,000 tonnes in 2005/6 reducing to 106,000 tonnes in 2016/17 and thereafter until 2021.
- 6.14 There has been no recorded landfilling of London waste in Suffolk over the period 2006/7 to 2008/9.
- 6.15 After 2015 provision for the management of imported waste from London is to be restricted by Policy WM3 of the East of England Plan to the landfill of residual waste that has been subject to the maximum practical level of recovery and treatment, for which landfill is the only practicable option.

## *Hazardous Waste*

6.16 The East of England Plan makes no sub-regional apportionment for Hazardous Waste which it defines as including the following groups:

- construction and demolition waste, including asbestos and contaminated soils, and treated wood;
- oily wastes, batteries and accumulators, and end of life vehicles;
- chemical processing wastes, and marine wastes;
- waste water treatment and water industry wastes;
- waste electrical and electronic equipment, including TVs and fluorescent tubes.

6.17 There are currently no hazardous landfill sites in Suffolk although some specified existing non-hazardous landfill sites are licensed to accept asbestos in specially designated and designed cells. All other hazardous wastes are taken to sites outside the County for treatment or disposal.

6.18 As part of the review of the East of England Plan, a Regional Hazardous Waste Strategy is to be formulated, although until the revised regional guidance is adopted no new site-specific provision is to be made within the Waste Core Strategy for Hazardous Waste. Planning applications for the transfer, storage, processing and treatment of hazardous waste will be considered by reference to Policy WCS21 of the Waste Core Strategy, which allows for the location of such facilities on land designated in Development Plans for General Industrial (B2) and Storage and Distribution (B8) uses, or within the establishment where much of the waste is produced.

## *Inert Waste*

6.19 The East of England Plan makes no sub-regional apportionment for Inert Waste.

6.20 Tables 3 and 4 above however indicate that considerable amounts of inert wastes are arising and are managed within Suffolk. Table 3 indicates that the average annual amount of inert waste being landfilled into Non-hazardous sites over the last

three years is 353,281 tonnes (353,281 cu m). Table 4 indicates that the average annual amount of inert waste being landfilled into inert only sites over the last three years is 120,655 tonnes (87,985 cu m).

- 6.21 Table 3 also indicates that permitted Non-hazardous Landfill capacity is projected to be full at current rates of infilling by 2016. It is the intention to restrict by planning conditions placed on new planning permissions for Non-hazardous Landfill the amount of Inert Waste, to that required for engineering purposes primarily for daily cover of the waste and capping of the restored landfill site. A ratio of 20% inert waste to 80% Non-hazardous waste is suggested. Table 4 indicates that permitted Inert Waste only landfill capacity is projected to be full at current rates of infilling by 2032. This does not however include any allowance for permitted void space at sites such as Wetherden and Tattlingstone where minerals are still to be extracted.

### *Radioactive Waste*

- 6.22 The East of England Plan makes no sub-regional apportionment for Radioactive Waste.
- 6.23 The largest sources of Radioactive Waste within the County are Sizewell A and B Power Stations. This includes decommissioning waste from Sizewell A. Some waste is dealt with on site in purpose built incinerators. Other waste is transported to the specialist facility near Drigg in Cumbria.
- 6.24 Policies WCS19 and WCS20 are intended for use in connection with any additional proposals for the management of Very Low Level, Low Level and Intermediate Level Radioactive Wastes and spent fuel within the Sizewell A and B sites.
- 6.25 British Energy has indicated that it needs to construct a new dry store to house containers containing spent fuel. The required capacity would be to house up to 3,500 individual fuel assemblies in up to 200 containers. This would require a building of about 5500 square metres. British Energy proposes to submit an application for this building and a replacement car park under the provisions of the Electricity Act in 2010.

- 6.26 The volume of radioactive waste that will arise from the decommissioning of the Sizewell A station during the Core Strategy period is less certain as this depends on available funding, the timetable for decommissioning, the amount of waste that might be recycled and the characterisation of various potential waste streams.
- 6.27 The site operator has estimated that the volume of LLW arising up to 2032 is about 4000 cubic metres, some of which may be reclassified as VLLW and some of which may be considered to be non radioactive after further characterisation.
- 6.28 It is also estimated that around 1670 cubic metres of VLLW waste might be generated in the form of lagging (and a possible similar amount of that material might also arise but would not be classified as radioactive).
- 6.29 The current Lifetime Plan for the station envisages that all non-radioactive buildings will be demolished but that the reactor building will remain in place whilst radioactive decay takes place. The future demolition of the reactor would therefore be outside the period of the Waste Core Strategy.
- 6.30 The site operator at Sizewell A has also suggested that it might have a need to construct a building to house Intermediate Level Waste on a temporary basis. It is estimated that this might amount to 366 cubic metres of packaged waste but no specific proposal have yet been designed so no indication of the size of any required building is available. It is also possible that such waste might be capable of being stored within an existing building on the site.

### *Agricultural Waste*

- 6.31 The East of England Plan makes no sub-regional apportionment for Agricultural Waste.
- 6.32 The vast majority of agricultural waste is managed at farms on land or in facilities for which there is no requirement for planning permission. However, there are certain instances where larger centralised facilities that deal with agricultural wastes do require planning permission. The chicken litter fired power station at Eye is perhaps the best example of this in Suffolk.

6.33 Such facilities only deal with a small proportion of agricultural waste arising and it is expected that most wastes will continue to be managed in ways that do not require planning permission. Therefore, there is considered to be no merit in projecting levels of waste expecting to arise or the capacity of facilities to deal with this.

#### *Conclusions in respect of Sub-regional Apportionment*

6.34 The East of England Plan runs until 2021, however the Waste Core Strategy covers the period up until 2026. In the absence of regional guidance to plan for the period between 2021 and 2026 the additional capacity required has been calculated by continuing the 2020/1 figures for a further 5 years. Therefore, the apparent over provision in the early part of the plan period maybe offset by the uncertainty later in the plan period.

6.35 The East of England Plan is however currently being reviewed and extended to cover the period to 2031 and is likely to include revised waste apportionment figures which are significantly lower than those included in the current document, especially for Commercial & Industrial waste. The County Council intends to work to the new apportionment figures as soon as the revised East of England Plan is adopted as policy. However, until the adoption of the replacement regional strategy, the provision within the Waste Core Strategy shall be based upon the existing figures as set out in Policy Waste Core Strategy2 below.

## **Policy WCS2 Management of Sub-regional Apportionment (thousand tonnes)**

Provision will be made to manage those volumes of Municipal Solid Waste, Commercial & Industrial Waste and London Waste identified in the East of England Plan as being apportioned to Suffolk during the plan period. This apportionment may be subject to change as a result of revision of regional guidance. The latest adopted sub-regional apportionment will be applied in calculating the provision to be made for waste management facilities. Until a revised apportionment is adopted to cover the period until 2026 the figures set out below will be used.

Proposals for new waste management development or an extension of existing waste development will only be permitted where there is a demonstrated need in compliance with Table 6. When considering the need for such facilities the County Council will take into account the capacity of existing recycling, composting, recovery and disposal facilities and proposed facilities that have planning permission or are the subject of a current planning application.

Permission may be granted for waste development involving importation of waste from outside the Plan area where this is demonstrated to maximise recycling, composting and recovery of waste materials and be the most sustainable option, taking into account regional self sufficiency and the Regional Spatial Strategy, proximity to point of waste arising and the waste hierarchy.

	<b>2010/11</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2025/26</b>
<b>Municipal Solid Waste</b>	<b>501</b>	<b>519</b>	<b>538</b>	<b>538</b>
<b>Commercial &amp; Industrial</b>	<b>1,149</b>	<b>1,320</b>	<b>1,538</b>	<b>1,538</b>
<b>London Waste</b>	<b>220</b>	<b>107</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>106</b>

## **Presently available capacity**

6.36 The location of the facilities discussed below is shown in Appendix 1.

### *Non-hazardous Landfill*

6.37 There are 7 non-hazardous landfills in Suffolk (2009 figures). Table 3 above derived from Table W4 of the Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework Annual Monitoring Review for 2008/9 records that the remaining void space available was 2,584,509 cubic metres. At the average rate of fill for previous 3 years (878,496 cubic metres) the void space would be exhausted after 8.6 years during 2016/7.

### *Inert Landfill*

6.38 There are 11 inert only landfills (2009 figures). Table 4 above derived from Table W5 of the Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework Annual Monitoring Review for 2008/9 records that the remaining void space available was 2,742,767 cubic metres. At the average rate of fill for previous 3 years (131,978 cubic metres) the void space would be exhausted after 23 years during 2032.

### *Planning Applications for additional Non-hazardous and Inert Landfill*

6.39 Table W6 of the Suffolk County Council Minerals and Waste Development Framework Annual Monitoring Review records that during 2007/8 no planning applications were made for new sites.

### *Incinerators*

6.40 There are 8 incinerators (with and without energy recovery) (2009 figures). The two largest incinerators are the Eye chicken litter powerstation and the Ipswich Hospital clinical incinerator. The remaining plants are much smaller and are used for pet incinerators etc. The total annual capacity of these facilities is 159,000 tonnes.

### *Household Waste Sites*

6.41 There are 18 Household Waste Sites (2009 figures). The total annual capacity of these facilities is 71,275 tonnes.

### *Composting Plants*

6.42 There are 7 Composting Plants (2009 figures). The total annual capacity of these facilities is 175,000 tonnes.

### *Recycled Aggregate Production Facilities*

6.43 There are 20 Recycled Aggregate Production Facilities (2009 figures). The total annual capacity of these facilities is 658,000 tonnes.

### *Scrap Yards/Vehicle Dismantling Facilities*

6.44 There are 24 Scrap Yards/Vehicle Dismantling Facilities (2009 figures). The total annual capacity of these facilities is 9,425 tonnes.

### *Waste Water Treatment Facilities*

6.45 There are 25 main Waste Water Treatment Facilities (2009 figures).

### *Materials Recycling Facilities*

6.46 There is one Materials Recycling Facility (2009 figures). The total annual capacity of 150,000 tonnes.

### *Other Treatment/Transfer Facilities*

6.47 There are 26 Other Treatment/Transfer Facilities (2009 figures). The total annual capacity of these facilities is 590,000 tonnes.

## Capacity gap

6.48 Table 6 brings below together over the plan period of the Waste Core Strategy, the sub-regional apportionment for Municipal Solid Waste, Commercial & Industrial Waste and London Waste, together with other relevant factors including the existing non-hazardous landfill capacity and the proposed recycling, composting and recovery rates. From this table it is possible to quantify how much and when shortfalls in waste management capacity might occur. It possible to alter assumptions and thereby change the time, order and magnitude of what is considered will happen. However, the provision that is made within the Waste Core Strategy via proposals and policies for new waste management development is intended to be robust enough to accommodate a range of possible scenarios. The assumptions upon which this table is derived are set out in the footnote to the table.

6.49 Following the assumptions set out in Table 6 the following shortfall in waste management provision is evident over the plan period of the Waste Core Strategy:

### Recycling and composting facilities

- a continuing need for recycling and composting facilities amounting to 1,476,300 tonnes per annum;

### Strategic Residual Waste Treatment Facilities

- 215,200 tonnes per annum of Residual Waste Treatment Facility capacity for Municipal Solid Waste;
- 384,500 tonnes per annum of Residual Waste Treatment Facility capacity for Commercial & Industrial Waste;

### Strategic Non-hazardous Landfill

- 12,876 tonnes of Non-hazardous Landfill for Municipal Solid Waste ash;
- 22,832 tonnes of Non-hazardous Landfill for Commercial & Industrial Waste ash;
- 231,058 tonnes of Non-hazardous Landfill for Inert Waste for cap and cover;
- 848,000 tonnes of Non-hazardous Landfill for London Waste;
- (1,114,766 tonnes in total of Non-hazardous landfill).

**Table 6: Waste Capacity Requirements for Apportioned Waste**

Landfill capacity at 01/04/2009 **7,585,409**

Year	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	2022/23	2023/24	2024/25	2025/26
<b>Municipal</b>																	
Arisings	483,000	501,000	505,000	509,000	512,000	516,000	519,000	523,000	527,000	530,000	534,000	538,000	538,000	538,000	538,000	538,000	538,000
R&C rate	0.4768	0.497	0.518	0.539	0.56	0.581	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.6
Waste to RWTF	0	0	0	0	0	0	207600	209200	210800	212000	213600	215200	215200	215200	215200	215200	215200
BFA to landfill	0	0	0	0	0	0	1557	1569	1581	1590	1602	1614	1614	1614	1614	1614	1614
Amount to landfill	252706	252003	243410	234649	225280	216204	1557	1569	1581	1590	1602	1614	1614	1614	1614	1614	1614
<b>Commercial &amp; Industrial</b>																	
Arisings	1,117,000	1,149,000	1,181,000	1,213,000	1,245,000	1,276,000	1,320,000	1,364,000	1,408,000	1,452,000	1,496,000	1,538,000	1,538,000	1,538,000	1,538,000	1,538,000	1,538,000
R&C rate	0.67	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.72	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75	0.75
Waste to RWTF	0	0	0	0	0	0	330000	341000	352000	363000	374000	384500	384500	384500	384500	384500	384500
BFA to landfill	0	0	0	0	0	0	2475	2558	2640	2723	2805	2884	2884	2884	2884	2884	2884
Amount to landfill	368610	321720	330680	339640	348600	357280	2475	2558	2640	2723	2805	2884	2884	2884	2884	2884	2884
<b>Inert waste</b>	293,444	293,444	293,444	293,444	293,444	293,444	293,444	293,444	293,444	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Cap &amp; Cover</b>	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	29,914	29,914	29,914	29,914	29,914	29,914	29,914	29,914
<b>London Waste</b>	242,000	220,000	197,000	174,000	152,000	129,000	107,000	106,000	106,000	106,000	106,000	106,000	106,000	106,000	106,000	106,000	106,000
<b>Use of landfill</b>	1,156,760	1,087,167	1,064,534	1,041,733	1,019,324	995,928	404,476	403,571	403,665	140,227	140,321	140,412	140,412	140,412	140,412	140,412	140,412
<b>Void Capacity at year end</b>	6,428,649	5,341,482	4,276,948	3,235,215	2,215,891	1,219,963	815,487	411,917	8,252	-131,975	-272,296	-412,707	-553,119	-693,531	-833,943	-974,354	-1,114,766

**Assumptions**

Use existing East of England plan figures for waste arisings for both Municipal Solid Waste and Commercial & Industrial and "flat line at 2021  
 Use Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy recycling targets for Municipal Solid Waste (i.e. 60% by 2015)  
 Use East of England recycling, composting & recovery target for Commercial & Industrial waste i.e. 75% by 2015  
 Assume Residual Waste Treatment Facilities for Municipal Solid Waste and Commercial & Industrial Waste on stream in 2015/16  
 Assume residues similar to Energy from Waste i.e. 25% of volume as bottom Ash of which 3% cannot be recycled and ends up in landfill  
 Assumes continued input of "inert" waste to Non Hazardous landfill sites at current rates until existing void capacity is exhausted

RWTF capacity required 599,700

### **Additional capacity required**

6.50 The identified shortfall may partially be filled with smaller non-strategically sized facilities and their contribution will if they come forward be taken into account when considering future planning applications to avoid problems of over provision.

6.51 To make adequate provision in terms of providing sufficient sites to meet the sub-regional apportionment for Municipal Solid Waste, Commercial & Industrial Waste and London Waste the following provision has been made in Policies WCS3, 4 and 5.

#### **Policy WCS3 Provision for the Recycling and Composting of Waste**

**The County Council will plan for a quantity of waste recycling and composting of at least 1,476,300 tonnes per annum, in compliance with Table 6. Relevant planning applications will be determined by reference to the appropriate criteria based policies. When considering the need for such facilities the County Council will take into account the capacity of existing recycling and composting facilities and proposed facilities that have planning permission or are the subject of a current planning application.**

#### **Policy WCS4 Proposed sites for Strategic Residual Waste Treatment Facilities**

**The County Council will plan for a quantity of Residual Waste Treatment capacity of up to 599,700 tonnes of waste per annum, in compliance with Table 6. Favourable consideration will be given to proposals for Strategic Residual Waste Treatment Facilities (annual capacity of 100,000 tonnes or more) within the following locations:**

- a) Specific Site 29, Suffolk County Council Highways Depot, Lodge Lane, Great Blakenham;**
- b) Area of Search Site 2, Former Sugar Refinery, Sproughton Road, Sproughton;**
- c) Area of Search Site 27, Eye Airfield Industrial Estate, Eye and Yaxley, and;**
- d) Area of Search Site 28, Masons Quarry, Great Blakenham.**

**When considering the need for such facilities the County Council will take into account the capacity of existing recycling, composting and recovery facilities and proposed facilities that have planning permission or are the subject of a current planning application.**

**The treatment of waste that could practicably be recycled or composted will not be acceptable. Conditions will be placed on planning permissions to ensure that only residual source-separated or pre-sorted waste is treated. Facilities that burn waste must provide for the recovery of energy and the use of combined heat and power will be encouraged.**

## **Policy WCS5 Specific sites for Non-hazardous Landfill**

**The County Council will plan for a quantity of Non-Hazardous Landfill capacity of up to 1,114,766 tonnes, in compliance with Table 6. Favourable consideration will be given to the following proposals for Non-Hazardous Landfill:**

- a) extension of time and broadening of accepted waste categories to include Municipal Solid Waste residues at Site W7, Layham Landfill Site, Layham;**
- b) establishment of new Non-hazardous Landfill at Site 67, Thorington;**
- c) extension to existing Non-hazardous Landfill at Site W17, Foxhall Landfill Site, Foxhall, and;**
- d) re-contouring of existing Non-hazardous Landfill at Site W11, Masons Landfill Site, Great Blakenham.**

**When considering the need for such facilities the County Council will take into account the capacity of existing recycling, composting, recovery and landfill facilities and proposed facilities that have planning permission or are the subject of a current planning application.**

**The landfilling of waste that could practicably be recycled, composted or recovered will not be acceptable. Conditions will be placed on planning permissions to ensure that only residual source-separated or pre-sorted waste is landfilled.**

**Proposals for landfill gas energy recovery will be required.**

## Chapter 7: Development Management Policies

7.1 These policies are intended to provide more detailed criteria for the consideration of planning applications for waste management and other development that might potentially have an impact upon waste management facilities.

### **Safeguarding of existing sites**

7.2 The County Council considers that it should seek to safeguard existing (see Appendix 1) or proposed waste management facilities from development that would require the closure or relocation of the existing facility or prevent the development of a new facility where such facilities are in accordance with the Waste Core Strategy. Similarly, existing waste management facilities should be safeguarded from development which might be adversely affected by operations at the waste management facility and which could give rise to legitimate complaint from residents or businesses.

### **Policy WCS6 Safeguarding of waste management sites**

**The Waste Planning Authority will seek to safeguard existing sites and sites proposed for the re-use, recycling and composting, transfer, treatment, recovery or disposal of waste as shown in Appendix 1 of the Waste Core Strategy and on the Proposals and Inset Maps and will object to development proposals that would prevent or prejudice the use such sites for those purposes unless suitable alternative provision is made.**

**The Waste Planning Authority will seek to safeguard Areas of Search identified in policy WCS4 and shown on the Proposal and Inset Maps and will object to development proposals that would prevent or prejudice the potential for a strategic residual waste treatment facility. This safeguarding is not intended to preclude other forms of development within the Area of Search which do not prejudice or would not be prejudiced by a strategic residual waste treatment facility.**

**Development proposals in close proximity to existing sites, Specific Sites or Areas of Search should demonstrate that they would not prejudice or be prejudiced by a waste management facility. The safeguarding policy will also apply to any site where planning permission has already been granted.**

## **General Considerations**

7.3 Policy WCS7 sets out a number of general considerations for all waste management development.

### **Policy WCS7 General considerations relevant to all waste management facilities**

**In general waste management development will be acceptable so long as the proposals adequately address, where appropriate, the following:**

- a) Potential for adverse impact upon the integrity of Natura 2000 sites;**
- b) Potential flood risk;**
- c) Proposed vehicle movements and access;**
- d) Potential impact upon landscape;**
- e) Potential impact upon biodiversity;**
- f) Potential impact upon archaeological or cultural heritage;**
- g) Requirements of PPG13 including the use of rail freight shipping;**
- h) Compatibility with neighbouring landuse;**
- i) Potential impact upon agricultural land;**
- j) Potential impact from noise and vibration;**
- k) Potential impact upon air quality including odour;**
- l) Potential visual impact;**
- m) Potential impact upon the local water environment;**
- n) Land instability;**
- o) Site management issues including litter, vermin and birds.**

## **Inert Waste Only Landfill**

7.4 There is no sub-regional apportionment for inert waste, which includes construction, demolition and excavation waste. At current rates of filling the existing inert only void space would be filled by 2032. This calculation does not include the potential void space that would be created by existing mineral extraction permissions with restoration schemes that rely on the subsequent importation of inert waste materials. It is therefore considered prudent to include a policy for inert waste only

landfill to for example allow for restoration materials to be imported for future minerals development.

7.5 The following policy for inert waste only landfill will apply to any planning applications for inert only landfill determined during the plan period.

**Policy WCS8 Approval of sites for disposal of inert waste by landfilling or landraise.**

**Additional voidspace or areas of landraise for the deposit of inert waste will be acceptable where:**

- a) There is an identified need for inert waste to be disposed of in this manner. When considering the need for the disposal of inert waste by landfill or landraise the County Council will take into account the capacity of existing inert waste recycling and landfill facilities and proposed facilities that have planning permission or are the subject of a current planning application;**
- b) There is no acceptable alternative form of waste management that can be made available to meet the need. The landfilling of inert waste that could practicably be recycled will not be acceptable. Conditions will be placed on planning permissions to ensure that only pre-sorted wastes are landfilled;**
- c) The proposals comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7.**

**Non-hazardous landfill**

7.6 The Core Strategy has identified a number of sites for additional non-hazardous landfill capacity. This additional capacity is considered sufficient to meet the anticipated need for non-hazardous landfill in the County during the plan period.

7.7 National and regional policy seeks to move waste management up the waste hierarchy. The Vision set out in the Core Strategy envisages that by the end of the plan period only wastes that cannot practicably be recycled or composted, or are themselves the products of other residual waste treatment processes, will be landfilled.

- 7.8 The Core Strategy will therefore seek to ensure that there is no significant over provision of non-hazardous landfill capacity as this would not promote or encourage other forms of waste management further up the waste hierarchy.
- 7.9 However, it is considered prudent to include a generic development control policy for non-hazardous landfill for the following reasons:
- a) The forecast figures for the volumes of non-hazardous waste that has to be accommodated during the Plan period are dependent on the timely introduction of Residual Waste Treatment facilities and the achievement of the targets for increasing re-use, recycling and composting of waste set out in the East of England Plan and;
  - b) It is possible that on further detailed investigation the capacity available in sites identified for non-hazardous landfill in this Core Strategy may be less than estimated.
- 7.10 The need to protect major aquifers and sources of water abstraction is a major constraint on identifying sites that are suitable for non-hazardous landfill in Suffolk. The Environment Agency has provided guidance on locations where landfill or landraise may be suitable, subject to detailed investigation.
- 7.11 The following policy would apply to any planning applications for non-hazardous landfill on sites not already allocated in the Waste Core Strategy.

**Policy WCS9 Approval of sites for disposal of non-hazardous waste by landfilling or landraise.**

**Additional voidspace or areas of landraise not specifically identified in the Waste Core Strategy for the deposit of non-hazardous wastes will be approved where:**

- a) There is an identified need for waste apportioned to Suffolk by the East of England Plan to be disposed of in this manner, with reference to Table 6. When considering the need for such facilities the County Council will take into account the capacity of existing recycling, composting, recovery and landfill facilities and proposed facilities that have planning permission or are the subject of a current planning application or are identified within the Waste Core Strategy, and;**
- b) No acceptable alternative form of waste management can be made available to meet the need. The landfilling of waste that could practicably be recycled, composted or recovered will not be acceptable. Conditions will be placed on planning permissions to ensure that only residual source-separated or pre-sorted waste is landfilled, and;**
- c) The site meets the specific criteria set out in Appendix 4 and Policy WCS7.**

**Proposals for landfill gas energy recovery will be required.**

**General waste management facilities other than for residual waste treatment facilities and landfill sites**

7.12 The following policy sets out the types of landuse where general waste management facilities might potentially be developed subject to the other policies of the development plan.

## **Policy WCS10 General Waste Management Facilities**

**General waste management facilities (other than strategic residual waste management facilities and landfill sites) are considered, in principle, unless otherwise stated, to be suitable for location within the following areas:**

- a) Land in existing waste management use;**
- b) Land in existing General Industrial use (B2 Use Class) or in existing Storage or Distribution use (B8 Use Class) (excluding open air composting);**
- c) Land allocated for B2 and B8 purposes in a Local Plan or Development Plan Document (excluding open air composting);**
- d) Redundant Agricultural and Forestry Buildings;**
- e) Agricultural and Forestry Land (open air composting only);**
- f) Brownfield land (excluding open air composting);**
- g) Unallocated Former Airfields (open air composting only);**
- h) Waste Water Treatment Facilities (enclosed composting and anaerobic digestion only);**
- i) Current and former mineral workings (open air composting and construction, demolition and excavation waste recycling only).**

**Proposals must also comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7. When considering the need for such facilities the County Council will take into account, where applicable, if there is an identified need for waste apportioned to Suffolk by the East of England Plan to be disposed of in this manner, with reference to Table 6. as well as the capacity of existing recycling, composting, recovery and disposal facilities and proposed facilities that have planning permission or are the subject of a current planning application.**

### **Residual Waste Treatment facilities with a capacity of less than 100,000 tonnes annual throughput**

7.13 The Core Strategy has identified a number of sites for Residual Waste Treatment facilities. These have been defined as strategic facilities with a capacity to handle 100,000 tonnes of waste per annum or more.

7.14 It is likely that some residual waste will be treated in smaller “non strategic” facilities. The Core Strategy does not seek to identify sites for such facilities.

Proposals for such facilities (i.e. those with a capacity of less than 100,000 tonnes annual throughput) will be judged against Policy WCS11 below.

**Policy WCS11 Residual Waste Treatment facilities with a capacity of less than 100,000 tonnes annual throughput**

**Residual Waste Treatment facilities with a capacity of less than 100,000 tonnes annual throughput will be acceptable where the proposed facility is on land:**

- a) Within the uses set out in Policy WCS 10, and;**
- b) The site meets the specific criteria set out in Appendix 3 and Policy WCS7.**

**The treatment of waste that could practicably be recycled or composted will not be acceptable. Conditions will be placed on planning permissions to ensure that only residual source-separated or pre-sorted waste is treated. Facilities that burn waste must provide for the recovery of energy and the use of combined heat and power will be encouraged.**

**Waste Transfer Stations, Materials Recycling Facilities, Household Waste Recycling Centres, End of Life Vehicle Facilities and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Recovery Facilities**

7.15 Waste Transfer Stations, Materials Recycling facilities, End of Life Vehicle Facilities and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Recovery Facilities have similarities. Waste is collected and brought to the site where it is sorted and the recyclate is then distributed to other facilities to be used as a raw material. A small volume of waste that cannot be recycled is then sent either to landfill or to Residual Waste Treatment facilities.

**Policy WCS12 Waste Transfer Stations, Materials Recycling Facilities, End of Life Vehicle Facilities and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Recovery Facilities**

**Waste Transfer Stations, Material Recycling Facilities, End of Life Vehicle Facilities and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment Recovery Facilities will be acceptable within purpose designed or suitably adapted facilities on land within the uses identified within Policy WCS10.**

**Proposals for such facilities at landfill sites will be considered acceptable on a temporary basis whilst landfilling and restoration activity is taking place on site. Any temporary planning permissions will be linked to the time limits relating to the landfill activities on site.**

**The proposals shall comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7.**

**Household Waste Recycling Centres**

- 7.16 Household Waste Recycling centres are provided by the County Council and are available for residents to dispose of a variety of household wastes. A variety of waste collection facilities are provided on such sites and the waste is effectively sorted by the public selecting the appropriate container. The sorted wastes are then distributed to landfill, other recycling facilities or users of raw material.
- 7.17 There is a network of existing Household Waste Recycling Centres in Suffolk which has developed and evolved over time. Some are located on industrial estates others on existing or former landfill sites. They vary in scale and in terms of the range of facilities provided.
- 7.18 The County Council has recently let a new contract for the management of its Household Waste Recycling Centres. It is possible that proposals for new or improved HWRC facilities will emerge because of this new contract and Policy WCS13 will be used to assess any planning applications that are submitted for new or amended HWRCs.

## **Policy WCS13 Household Waste Recycling Centres**

**Household Waste Recycling Centres will be acceptable within purpose designed or suitably adapted facilities on land within the land uses identified within Policy WCS10.**

**Proposals for such facilities at landfill sites will be considered acceptable on a temporary basis whilst landfilling and restoration activity is taking place on site. Any temporary planning permissions will be linked to the time limits relating to the landfill activities on site**

**Where it can be demonstrated that no suitable sites consistent with Policy WCS10 are available within the area to be served by the Household Waste Recycling Centre, Household Waste Recycling Centres will be acceptable on other sites provided these are consistent with Policy WCS7 and are accessible to the public.**

### **Composting Facilities**

- 7.19 Composting of waste can significantly reduce the amount of bio-degradable waste that needs to be disposed of to landfill and is an activity that is located towards the top of the waste hierarchy.
- 7.20 There are various methods of composting which are broadly distinguished by whether the material is composted in an enclosed facility or in the open air. Composting is distinguished from anaerobic digestion because it is carried out in aerobic conditions.
- 7.21 The output of composting activities may be used as compost or as a soil improver.
- 7.22 The Core Strategy promotes composting subject to satisfactory safeguards relating in particular to the prevention of odour and to the minimisation of risk to human health associated with the generation of environmental impacts such as dust and bio-aerosols.

### **Policy WCS14 Enclosed Composting Facilities**

**Enclosed composting facilities will be acceptable on land within the uses identified within Policy WCS10**

**Proposals for enclosed composting will not be approved unless they are accompanied by a site-specific risk assessment which shows that the bioaerosol levels can be maintained at appropriate levels at dwelling or workspaces within 250m of a facility. Appropriate schemes for the management of odours and dust will also be required.**

**Proposals shall comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7.**

### **Policy WCS15 Open Air Composting**

**Open air composting facilities will be acceptable on land within the uses identified within Policy WCS10.**

**At landfill sites, open air composting proposals that will extend the life of landfill operations will be acceptable if the continued operations do not:**

- a) Result in unacceptable environmental damage, or;**
- b) Perpetuate recycling activity poorly related in relation to sources of waste, or;**
- c) Lead to unreasonable delay in restoration.**

**Proposals for open air composting will not be approved unless they are accompanied by a site-specific risk assessment based on clear independent evidence which shows that the bio-aerosol levels can be maintained, throughout the life of the operations, at appropriate levels at dwellings or workspaces within 250m of a facility. Appropriate schemes for the management of odours and dust will also be required.**

**Proposals shall comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7.**

## **Anaerobic Digestion**

- 7.23 Anaerobic digestion is the process by which waste material is broken down by microbial activity in an anaerobic environment. Typically, this will be in some form of silo or container. This process requires the facility to be fully enclosed and airtight to allow the anaerobic process to take place in a controlled manner.
- 7.24 The process generates a gas “bio-gas”, which is a mixture of methane and carbon dioxide and which can be burnt to produce energy. Alternatively it can be pumped into the national gas grid or be used to fuel suitably adapted vehicles. It also produces a “digestate” which is a mixture of liquid and solid residues which can be used as fertiliser or as a soil improver.
- 7.25 Anaerobic digestion is particularly suitable for dealing with food waste from private households, food residues, restaurant and catering waste and farm manure.
- 7.26 Anaerobic digestion can be carried out at a variety of scales and therefore it is potentially suitable for being located at a wide variety of locations. The Core Strategy seeks to encourage anaerobic digestion facilities in appropriate locations.
- 7.27 PPS22 Renewable Energy seeks to encourage the promotion of renewable energy projects such as Anaerobic Digestion and indicates that these might be acceptable “where it can be demonstrated that if the objectives of designation of the area will not be compromised by the development and any significant adverse effects on the qualities for which the area that has been designated are clearly outweighed by the environmental, social and economic benefit”.

### **Policy WCS16 Anaerobic Digestion**

**Anaerobic digestion facilities will be acceptable on land:**

- a) Within the uses identified within Policy WCS10; or**
- b) Integrated with Waste Water Treatment Plants.**

**Proposals shall comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7.**

## **Recycling or transfer of inert and construction, demolition and excavation waste**

- 7.27 A considerable amount of waste generated in the County originates from construction, demolition and excavation activities (CD&E waste). Gaining reliable information on the amount of waste arisings is difficult as much material is generated and consumed on building sites or is processed on construction sites and contracted to be taken directly to its point of disposal, recycling, or reuse.
- 7.28 As part of its mineral extraction and waste surveys the County Council annually monitors sites at which inert wastes are processed and, for construction sites, seeks to estimate the volume of such waste generated.
- 7.29 There are significant potential environmental benefits from the reuse of CD&E waste. If the materials are used, then this will reduce the amount of virgin aggregate that needs to be extracted; it will reduce the amount of void space that is required for disposing of such waste and can reduce transportation by reusing materials on site, where practicable.
- 7.30 Not all such wastes can be used or processed on the sites where they originate. There are a number of facilities/sites in the County that receive and process CD&E waste. These may be located in a wide variety of locations including mineral workings, existing landfill sites and in farm buildings.

**Policy WCS17 Proposals for recycling or transfer of inert and construction, demolition and excavation waste**

**Proposals for recycling or transfer of inert and construction, demolition and excavation waste will be acceptable on land within the uses identified within Policy WCS10.**

**At mineral sites, planning permission will be limited to the life of the mineral operation.**

**At landfill sites, proposals that will extend the life of landfill operations will only be acceptable if the continued operations do not;**

- a) Result in unacceptable environmental damage, or**
- b) Perpetuate recycling activity poorly related in relation to sources of waste; or;**
- c) Lead to unreasonable delay in restoration.**

**On land suitable for General Industrial or Storage & Distribution uses, activities shall take place within purpose-designed facilities.**

**Proposals shall comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7.**

**Waste Water Treatment Plants**

7.31 Waste Water Treatment plants are a vital part of community infrastructure and are necessary to protect human health and water quality. Existing Waste Water Treatment plants are identified in Appendix 1. These will be safeguarded through the application of Policy WCS6.

7.32 No proposals for new Waste Water Treatment plants were proposed by Anglian Water as part of the “call for sites”. However, such facilities may be required (either new or extended facilities) to cater for the proposed levels of growth projected to occur in Suffolk over the Plan period.

7.33 The Core Strategy will support the provision of such infrastructure provided it does not give rise to unacceptable environmental impacts.

## **Policy WCS18 Waste Water Treatment**

**New or extended Waste Water Treatment facilities will be acceptable where such proposals aim to improve the quality of discharged water or reduce the environmental impact of operation. The developer will be required to demonstrate that the proposal can be located without giving rise to unacceptable environmental impacts.**

**Proposals shall comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7.**

## **Nuclear waste**

### **Managing Low Level and Very Low Level Radioactive Waste**

- 7.34 In 2007, the Government published a revised policy for managing all arisings of solid Low Level Radioactive Waste (LLW) in the UK. The Nuclear Decommissioning Authority (NDA) is responsible for producing a UK Strategy for dealing with LLW arising from licensed nuclear sites based on this national policy. A draft UK Nuclear Industry LLW Strategy was published in March 2009 and the final Strategy is expected to be published in early 2010.
- 7.35 Sizewell A Nuclear Power Station is in the process of being decommissioned. This is likely to give rise to a quantity of Low and Very Low Level radioactive waste (VLLW). This would be relatively “high volume, low activity” radioactive waste associated with the demolition of the Station.
- 7.36 Sizewell B Nuclear Power Station is an operating power station that is expected to continue generating electricity until at least 2035. The process of operating the power station also gives rise to amounts of LLW and VLLW, although in smaller amounts than from a decommissioning power station.
- 7.37 The national policy for handling such wastes is to deal with them as far up the waste hierarchy as possible. It is likely however that there will be some of these wastes that will need to be disposed of either on or adjacent to licensed nuclear sites or to landfill sites elsewhere.

- 7.38 Traditionally, LLW from Sizewell has been sent to the LLW Repository in Cumbria. This however has only limited capacity and would not be capable of receiving all the LLW currently estimated to arise from those nuclear power stations currently operating and those that are being decommissioned.
- 7.39 The site operators of Sizewell A, Magnox (South), will work with local stakeholders, including the County Council as Waste Planning Authority, to consider options for dealing with their waste. British Energy, the operators of Sizewell B are also considering options for dealing with spent nuclear fuel.
- 7.40 The Waste Core Strategy addresses the issue of LLW and VLLW management in relation to Sizewell Power Stations.
- 7.41 Current Environment Agency guidance is that some LLW and VLLW radioactive wastes may be suitable for disposal at existing non-hazardous landfill sites. Planning permission may be required for such disposal depending on the conditions attached to any existing planning permission. An appropriate consent/permit from the Environment Agency would also be required.
- 7.42 National policy on handling Low Level Radioactive Waste suggests that consideration should be given to managing waste as close to its source as possible. The Waste Core Strategy therefore provides for LLW and VLLW to be disposed of within the currently Licensed area at Sizewell subject to the caveats set out in Policy WCS19 below.

**Policy WCS19 Treatment, storage and disposal of Low and Very Low Level radioactive waste at Sizewell nuclear power stations.**

**Facilities for the treatment, storage or disposal of LLW or VLLW generated at Sizewell nuclear power stations will be acceptable within the Nuclear Licensed Areas at Sizewell where:**

- a) This is consistent with the national strategy for managing Low Level and Very Low Level radioactive wastes and discharges and/or the decommissioning plans for the Sizewell stations, and;**
- b) The outcome of economic and environmental assessments justify it being dealt with on site, and;**
- c) Facilities are located and designed in order to minimise adverse impacts on the environment;**

**Only Low Level or Very Low Level radioactive waste generated at Sizewell shall be treated, stored or disposed of in such facilities.**

**Proposals shall comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7.**

### **Managing Intermediate Level Waste and Spent Fuel**

7.43 Sizewell B Power Station remains in operation and generates quantities of spent fuel and Intermediate Level Radioactive Waste (ILW) as part of its normal operations. This is in addition to the LLW and VLLW outlined above. Spent fuel is stored in “ponds” on site while ILW is stored in specially designed tanks pending the availability of a national geological radioactive waste repository for this type of waste. (This is a long-term proposal which is subject to consultation by the Government.

7.44 British Energy, which operates the Sizewell B plant, has indicated that it may need to provide additional storage facilities on site for storing spent fuel as the existing ponds are unlikely to have sufficient capacity to contain the spent fuel anticipated to arise during the period of operation of the Power Station.

- 7.45 This material would be housed in a new building pending either opportunities for reprocessing the fuel or the implementation of the national geological radioactive waste repository.
- 7.46 British Energy considers that this additional storage capacity is an integral part of its electricity generation operation and has indicated that it intends to seek consent for this new storage building by making an application to the Department of Energy and Climate Change under the Electricity Act 1981 rather than by applying to the County Council for planning permission under the Town & Country Planning Act. The County and District Councils would be consultees to such an application.
- 7.47 Notwithstanding the route by which consent is sought, the County Council considers that the Waste Core Strategy should contain policies relating to the potential for storage of such materials at Sizewell.
- 7.48 Sizewell A Power Station is decommissioning and is in the process of removing all of the spent fuel from the site for final reprocessing. It also has quantities of ILW stored in tanks and vaults pending the availability of a suitable disposal facility. It is possible that a new storage facility to house stored ILW will also be required at Sizewell A.
- 7.49 Policy WCS20 provides for the implementation of such facilities within the confines of the Licensed Site. The Policy provides only for the interim storage of spent fuel and ILW generated at Sizewell to be stored on the site, pending the availability of a disposal route. The policy would apply solely to the storage of ILW and would not permit the disposal of Intermediate Level Waste at the site.

**Policy WCS20 Treatment and storage of Intermediate Level radioactive waste and spent fuel generated at Sizewell nuclear power stations**

**Facilities for the treatment or storage of Intermediate Level radioactive waste and spent fuel generated at Sizewell will be acceptable only within the Nuclear Licensed areas where:**

- a) This is consistent with the national strategy for managing Intermediate Level radioactive waste and spent fuel and discharges, and;**
- b) The outcome of economic and environmental assessments justify it being dealt with on site, and;**
- c) Facilities are located and designed in order to minimise adverse impacts on the environment.**

**Only Intermediate Level radioactive waste or spent fuel generated within a Nuclear Licensed area at Sizewell shall be treated or stored in such facilities. There shall be no disposal of Intermediate Level radioactive waste or Spent Fuel.**

**Proposals shall comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7.**

**Hazardous Waste**

7.50 The volume of hazardous waste generated in Suffolk is low. Most of this is taken to hazardous waste treatment facilities or hazardous waste landfills elsewhere in the Country. There are no “hazardous landfill sites” in Suffolk (although some material such as asbestos may be disposed of to cells within specific non-hazardous landfill sites in accordance with the conditions of their Environmental permits granted by the Environment Agency).

7.51 The East of England Regional assembly has commissioned research into the need for additional hazardous waste landfill capacity in the Region. This concluded that there was a shortfall of landfill capacity for hazardous waste. It is proposed that this will be addressed in the next review of the East of England Plan.

7.52 It is too early to say whether Suffolk should be making any provision for hazardous waste landfill or whether the County would be capable of handling such sites given the nature of its underlying geology and heavy reliance on ground water for providing potable water supply.

7.53 Therefore, the Waste Core Strategy does not make any provision for hazardous waste landfill capacity. If the review of the East of England Plan indicates that Suffolk should make provision for any hazardous waste capacity in future, this will be addressed through a review of the Core Strategy.

7.54 Notwithstanding this, there may be a need to collect, transfer, store, process and treat hazardous waste in the County before being sent for final disposal or treatment.

**Policy WCS21 Transfer, storage, processing & treatment of hazardous waste.**

**Facilities for the transfer, storage, processing and treatment (including incineration) of hazardous waste will be acceptable where they meet a demonstrable regional need of which a significant proportion arises from Suffolk, and are on land:**

- a) **In existing General Industrial use (B2), in Storage and Distribution use (B8) or identified for these uses in a Local Plan or Development Plan Document or;**
- b) **Integrated within an establishment producing much of the waste that will be dealt with.**

**Facilities for the transfer and short-term storage of hazardous waste will also be acceptable on existing waste management sites identified as having potential for non-hazardous waste transfer where hazardous waste will only represent a small proportion of waste managed on site.**

**Proposals shall comply with the general considerations set out in Policy WCS7.**

**Sustainable Construction and Demolition, Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation, and Design of Waste Management Facilities**

7.55 This policy seeks to facilitate the efficient use of resources by promoting the principles of sustainable construction. This embraces waste minimisation, re-use and recycling during construction and demolition, together with the use of recycled

and secondary materials during construction and design principles that maximise the sorting, recycling and composting of waste arising from the use of the development itself. This policy is intended to be used primarily by District Councils during their consideration of development proposals.

#### **Policy WCS22 Sustainable construction and demolition**

**New development, including waste management facilities, should facilitate the efficient use of resources by addressing the principles of sustainable construction and demolition outlined in regional policy. Proposals for new development should incorporate the following:**

- a) Construction and demolition methods that minimise waste generation and re-use/recycle materials, as far as practicable on site.**
- b) Design principles and construction methods that minimise the use of primary aggregates and encourage the use of high quality building materials made from recycled and secondary sources.**
- c) Design and layout principles that reduce the amount of waste produced and allow for the effective sorting, recycling and composting of waste where appropriate.**

7.56 As with other forms of development, Waste Management Facilities need to take into considerations related to climate change.

## **Policy WCS23 Climate Change mitigation and adaptation**

**New waste management facilities should through their construction and operation minimise their potential contribution to climate change through reducing carbon emissions, incorporate energy and water efficient design strategies and be adaptable to future climatic conditions. Proposals for new waste facilities should incorporate the following:**

- a) Take account of landform, layout, building orientation, massing and landscaping to minimise energy consumption, including maximising cooling and avoiding solar gain in the summer;**
- b) Be planned so as to minimise carbon dioxide emissions, and support opportunities for decentralised and renewable or low-carbon energy supply;**
- c) Give priority to the use of sustainable drainage systems, paying attention to the potential contribution to be gained to water harvesting from impermeable surfaces and encourage layouts that accommodate waste water recycling;**
- d) Take account of potential changes in climate;**
- e) Incorporate proposals for sustainable travel including travel plans where appropriate.**

7.57 Enviro, on behalf of DEFRA, has published a document entitled “Designing waste facilities- a guide to modern design in waste.

7.58 Developers will be expected to have had regard to this advice in designing new or extended waste facilities.

## **Policy WCS24 Design of waste management facilities**

**Waste management facilities will be considered favourably where they incorporate:**

- a) Designs of an appropriate scale, density, massing, height and materials;**
- b) Safe and convenient access for all potential users;**
- c) Schemes for the retention of existing and provision of new landscape features;**
- d) Measures which will protect, preserve and where practicable enhance the natural, historic and built environment.**