

DRAFT WEST LONDON WASTE PLAN: PROPOSED SITES AND POLICIES CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

| | |
|---------------------------|--|
| Cabinet Member | Councillor Keith Burrows |
| Cabinet Portfolio | Planning, Transportation and Recycling |
| Officer Contact | Jales Tippell, Planning, Environment and Community Services |
| Papers with report | Draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document - due to size this appendix is circulated separately to Cabinet, Executive Scrutiny, Chief Officers only. Copies available for public inspection and in Group Offices |

HEADLINE INFORMATION

| | |
|---|---|
| Purpose of report | This report presents the Draft West London Waste Plan Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document for approval for the purposes of public consultation. |
| Contribution to our plans and strategies | Hillingdon's Sustainable Community Strategy; Local Development Framework |
| Financial Cost | The cost for this round of consultation can be met from existing revenue budgets for 2010/11. |
| Relevant Policy Overview Committee | Residents' and Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee. |
| Ward(s) affected | All |

RECOMMENDATION

That Cabinet:

- 1. Notes the contents of the Draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document.**
- 2. Approves the Draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document and the associated Sustainability Appraisal for public consultation.**
- 3. Notes that approval is also being sought to undertake consultations on the Draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies Document by five other west London councils, namely Brent, Ealing, Harrow, Hounslow and Richmond upon Thames, as members of the West London Waste Authority partnership.**

- 4. Instructs officers to carry out a minimum 6 week public consultation on the Draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document and the Sustainability Appraisal in compliance with the approved Statement of Community Involvement, and for officers to report back to a future meeting of Cabinet the outcome of public consultation and recommendations for changes to the Draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document prior to its formal submission.**

INFORMATION

Reasons for recommendation

These recommendations are sought to enable the Council to make meaningful progress on the West London Waste Plan (WLWP) in order to meet targets set out in the current London Plan (consolidated with Alterations 2008), the draft Replacement London Plan 2009, and Planning Policy Statements 10 and 12.

The WLWP will in due course provide an up-to-date policy framework to assess planning applications for waste management facilities across the six West London boroughs: Brent, Ealing, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow and Richmond upon Thames. Planning applications for waste management facilities will however, also be assessed by the relevant council against the individual borough's Local Development Framework, including its local development management policies and any other material considerations.

Alternative options considered / risk management

Cabinet may decline to approve the Draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document. It is considered that this would prejudice progress on the preparation of the West London Waste Plan, resulting in further delay to the delivery of the Local Development Framework, and the failure to provide the Council with an up-to-date statutory development plan against which to assess any future waste development proposals. Alternatively the Cabinet may make amendments to the document.

Comments of Policy Overview Committee(s)

The Residents' and Environmental Services Policy Overview Committee have not requested to consider this report at this stage.

Supporting Information

1. The Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document is the latest stage in the preparation of a joint waste plan for the six west London boroughs. It is being prepared jointly by the six West London Waste Authority (WLWA) boroughs of Brent, Ealing, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow, and Richmond upon Thames – and when completed will form part of the Local Development Framework for each borough.
2. The purpose of the WLWP is to set out a planning strategy to 2026 for sustainable waste management, deliver national and regional targets for waste recycling, composting and recovery and provide sufficient waste management capacity to manage waste

arisings. Planning applications for any new waste management facilities will be considered in the light of the WLWP policies, and they will also be assessed by the relevant council against the individual borough's Local Development Framework, including its local development management policies and any other material considerations.

3. Municipal solid waste and commercial and industrial waste arisings to be managed to 2026 are identified in the London Plan borough level waste apportionment. In order to accommodate the waste management capacity to manage projected waste arisings, it is anticipated that the land-take required across the six west London boroughs is 56ha under the 2008 London Plan. This requirement has been reduced to a far more realistic figure of 37ha as a result of the Mayor's 'Minor Alteration – waste arisings and apportionments' to the London Plan in December 2009. The draft WLWP contains sufficient contingency to meet the 2008 London Plan requirements, given that the 2008 London Plan is the adopted Plan at this time. However this contingency will also allow scope for a number of sites to be deleted from the Draft WLWP Proposed Sites and Policies document, should there be valid objections during the consultation stage, and particularly given that the revised London Plan figures will gain more credence following its Examination in Public.

4. The Draft WLWP Proposed Sites and Policies document seeks to provide sufficient waste management capacity to manage projected waste arisings by safeguarding the capacity of selected existing waste management facilities and identifying opportunities for additional facilities, whilst aiming to ensure that the WLWA boroughs do not manage a disproportionate amount of waste from other London boroughs.

5. In Hillingdon, there are two existing sites that may be considered to be suitable for intensification (for treatment facilities) or re-orientation (for transfer facilities). These are Rigby Lane Waste Transfer Station in Hayes and the Victoria Road Waste Transfer Station at Civic Way in Ruislip. There are also three sites that are identified as potential locations that may be suitable for new waste treatment facilities, namely the Silverdale Road Industrial Area, located to the east of Hayes Town Centre, the former Powergen site at Bulls Bridge, Hayes and the Tavistock Road depot site at West Drayton.

6. Initial consultation on a West London Waste Plan Issues and Options report was undertaken between January and February 2009. Comments received have since helped to shape the Draft WLWP Proposed Sites and Policies document which is to be issued for public consultation.

7. Members should note that a 'Sustainability Appraisal' was carried out by the consultants Mouchel, in order to ensure that sustainability considerations are taken into account early in the process of policy development. The area of search throughout the six boroughs included an initial list of some 312 sites. The suitability of all these sites was tested by consultants Mouchel in light of the 'Sustainability Appraisal' and against a list of environmental site selection criteria. In addition to this a Habitat Directive Assessment, Equalities Impact Assessment and a Strategic Flood Risk Assessment was also undertaken.

8. This has led to a short list of 24 sites, which are the subject of this consultation. A key part of the consultation is to gather the views of major stakeholders, including local residents. The sites are listed in Section 4 of the attached report. Following public consultation, it is anticipated that the revised WLWP Proposed Sites and Policies document will contain fewer sites.

9. Members are asked to note that the sites chosen for consultation are either adjacent to or are existing waste sites, or adjacent to or within existing industrial areas, given that industrial areas must be considered for possible use for waste treatment, as a requirement of the London Plan.

10. It is also relevant to point out that private companies can and do make applications for waste processing developments within the borough, completely separate from the Waste Plan process. This does highlight the importance of developing an effective local policy framework for such applications. At the moment, the London Plan and national policy provide the only direct policy guidance to councils.

Financial Implications

12. The costs for undertaking the consultation are estimated at £2,500 per borough and will be met from the existing revenue budget.

EFFECT ON RESIDENTS, SERVICE USERS & COMMUNITIES

What will be the effect of the recommendation?

The Draft West London Waste Plan will provide a long-term development framework for waste development in the borough up to 2026. It will provide the policy context for future planning applications for waste development in the borough, complementing regional and national policies.

Consultation Carried Out or Required

The preparation of the Draft West London Waste Plan has involved the close and active involvement of the West London Waste Plan Steering Group. The document also stems from previous consultation with key stakeholders and the public on the West London Waste Plan Issues and Options report.

Consultations on the Draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document are planned for a six-week period commencing in mid-January. The overall format for the consultations is prescribed by Regulation 27 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) (Amendment) Regulations 2008 and the detailed arrangements will comply with the Council's Statement of Community Involvement, 2006. The six boroughs have agreed that consultation will be undertaken by members of the WLWP Steering Group Committee together with a firm of consultants, CAG, with a programme drawn up which is agreed with their respective corporate communication officers.

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Corporate Finance

The costs of preparing and consulting on the Draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document are estimated at £2,500 per borough. Corporate Finance has reviewed this report and its recommendations and is satisfied that these costs will be contained within the planning budget.

Members should note that delays in adoption of the Plan might lead to the Council (and its West London Waste Authority partners) being subject to a number of additional expenses in dealing with its waste in future. For example, by continuing to send waste away to landfill, it will become liable to pay landfill taxes (stemming from an EU Directive) as well as costs associated with transporting waste out of the area in the absence of more local facilities to treat / recycle waste.

Legal

Section 15 of the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 places a statutory duty on the Council to prepare and maintain a Local Development Scheme (“the Scheme”). The Scheme will specify those documents that are Development Plan Documents. Regulation 7(c) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended) states that any document which includes a site allocation policy (such as the draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies) will be a Development Plan Document. Section 28(1) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2008 states that two or more local planning authorities may agree to prepare one or more joint local development documents.

When preparing the draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies document, the Local Planning Authority must comply with the consultation requirements found both in the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended) and PPS 12 (Local Spatial Planning) which sets out government policy on Local Development Frameworks. This includes the duty to consult with the specific and general consultation bodies, the requirement to place an advertisement in the newspaper and the general duty to comply with the Council’s Statement of Community Involvement. Any representations received must be fully considered by the decision maker, including those which do not accord with the proposals.

Corporate Property

The Draft West London Waste Plan: Proposed Sites and Policies Consultation Document does contain specific policy or site proposals relating to council land or property. The existing waste transfer site at Victoria Road is owned by the Council. Any future proposals for that site will need to be assessed in conjunction with the Corporate Landlord.

BACKGROUND PAPERS

- West London Waste Plan Issues & Options Report, October 2008
- A Summary of the Representations received from the Consultation on the West London Waste Plan Issues and Options Report
- A list of consultees for the West London Waste Plan Issues and Options Report
- Hillingdon’s Statement of Community Involvement, November 2006