

Meeting:	JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
Date:	10th June 2022
From:	Joint Officer Steering Group

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE AND NOTTINGHAM WASTE LOCAL PLAN

1 SUMMARY

- 1.1 This report informs committee of progress with preparing the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan.

2 BACKGROUND

- 2.1 The County and City Councils are preparing a single joint Waste Local Plan to replace the Waste Core Strategy adopted by both Councils in December 2013. An initial consultation on the new Local Plan, including a 'Call for Sites' was completed in May 2020 . Underpinning the Plan is a Waste Needs Assessment which assesses the pattern of waste likely to be generated by households, commercial/industrial and construction/demolition sectors over the period to 2036, looks at available capacity and what is needed in terms of future capacity.
- 2.2 The Draft Waste Plan was approved by Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City Council in January 2022. The Draft Waste Local Plan was consulted on between the 7th February and 4th April 2022.
- 2.3 To highlight the publication of the Draft Waste Plan an online "Waste Summit" was held on Friday 11 February 2022. This was attended by around 50 people representing both Councils, the District Councils, adjoining planning authorities, representatives of the commercial waste sector and members of local Councils and other interested parties. Presentations were given by AECOM who prepared the Waste Needs Assessment, the County Council, Enviva, a waste and recycling commercial operator and Veolia who manage waste on behalf of the County Council.

3 CURRENT POSITION

- 3.1 Officers are currently analysing the representations we received on the Draft Waste Local Plan, and the Plan (and its evidence base) will then be further amended as needed before being formally published for final representations to be made. This is expected later in 2022 and in Spring 2023 the Plan will be submitted for independent examination before being adopted by each Council, currently scheduled for later in 2023.
- 3.2 A total of 275 representations were received on the Draft Waste Local Plan from a total of 40 respondents, including statutory bodies, members of the public,

environmental groups, other Nottinghamshire Districts and Boroughs and Parish Councils.

- 3.3 In general the Draft Waste Local Plan was well received and many of the Objectives and Policies have been supported. The key issues that arose related to ensuring the Waste Plan takes into account the most up to date figures on all waste streams, that our recycling targets appear to be unrealistic and suggested changes to wording of policies to ensure they are fit for purpose, protect the natural and built environments and reflect national policies and Laws. Further specific comments are outline below:

- There should be further reference to the Historic Environment in the Overview of the Plan area, to include key heritage assets and how local archaeology will be considered when planning for future waste facilities.
- Waste data should be updated to reflect the 2020/21 household waste recycling rates of 40.4% for the County and 23.9% for the City. Further, the failure to meet the nationally set recycling target of 50% in 2020 should be acknowledged as this is key context for the WLP, providing some reality to the subsequent aspirations.
- The Waste Local Plan need to meet the draft Environmental Bill, that will come into law in Autumn 2023, minimum 10% biodiversity net gain (BNG), this should be maximised for any new waste development in the future.

4 Future Arrangements

- 4.1 A further Waste Local Plan Member Working Group will be arranged in due course to allow Officers to explain the outcome of the consultation with Members and to discuss the Final Draft of the Waste Local Plan. This will be scheduled for Autumn 2022.
- 4.2 Nottingham City Council are currently drafting their Municipal Waste Management Strategy which is schedule to go out to consultation by September 2022. This strategy will need to be taken into account when finalising the Waste Local Plan.
- 4.3 Councillors have expressed an interest in viewing a waste management facility It proved difficult to obtain convenient dates in the Autumn and this needed to be deferred owing to the priority which needed to be afforded to arranging a meeting of the Councillor Working Party to discuss the Waste Local Plan. Officers will explore dates for a future visit to an energy from waste operation and a private sector recycling company.
- 4.4 A visit to the Amazon Fulfilment Centre at Summit Park in Ashfield District was carried out on the 20th of May 2022. This provided a fascinating insight into the operations of a large warehouse, particularly in connection with the arrangements for packaging products for despatch and the way Amazon has to balance the demands of their vendors with the company's desire to reduce packaging and become net zero in their operation. Councillors were able to

question Amazon senior managers closely about how they operate and what more they might do to reduce the level of packaging which needs to be recycled and assist the Councils in promoting recycling. The whole operation at Sutton Park which only opened in August 2020 showed how a major new employer in Nottinghamshire is managing its waste and becoming “net zero” in its operation. We learnt a great deal and were able to suggest ways in which Amazon might promote better recycling. The company representatives offered further liaison as needed.

5 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 5.1 That the Joint Committee note the progress on the production of the Waste Local Plan.
- 5.2 That a joint letter be sent to Amazon on behalf of both Councils to thank them for the visit and set out ways in which Amazon as a leading online retailer might assist waste authorities by reducing the level of packaging used in their shipments and encourage customers to recycle all packaging received.

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

- 6.1 None.

Contact Officers

Stephen Pointer,
Team Manager Planning Policy,
Nottinghamshire County Council
Tel 0115 993 9388 Email: stephen.pointer@nottsc.gov.uk

Matt Gregory, Head of Planning Strategy and Building Control
Development Department
Nottingham City Council
Tel: 0115 876 3974 Email: matt.gregory@nottinghamcity.gov.uk