

**REPORT OF THE CORPORATE DIRECTOR FOR POLICY, PLANNING AND
CORPORATE SERVICES****WASTE LOCAL PLAN – CONSULTATION ON SITE SELECTION
METHODOLOGY****Purpose of the Report**

1. To seek Committee approval for informal consultation on the site selection methodology for the Waste Local Plan Part 2: Sites and Policies Document.

Information and Advice

2. Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council are working together to prepare a replacement Waste Local Plan for Nottinghamshire and Nottingham. This is being produced in two parts and, when complete, will replace the remaining saved policies from the existing Waste Local Plan which was adopted in 2002. The first part of the replacement Plan, known as the Waste Core Strategy was adopted by both Councils in December 2013 and sets out the overall vision and strategic planning policies for the development of future waste management facilities over the next fifteen years
3. The second part of the replacement Plan, to be known as the Sites and Policies document, will be used to identify specific sites or areas of search for waste facilities and will also include a set of detailed development management policies to control matters such as noise, dust, traffic and other environmental impacts. As for the previous document, a cross party Members project group has been set up to assist with the preparation of the Sites and Policies document. This is a non-decision making group comprising Members and officers of both Councils. The first meeting of this group was held on 5 March 2015 to outline current progress and the planned future timetable.
4. Work on the Sites and Policies document is being progressed in stages and is currently focussed on identifying potential sites for allocation. This will include sites for recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion, waste transfer operations, and energy recovery facilities. Provision will also need to be made for residual waste disposal, where appropriate, although site options are known to be limited.
5. Strategic policies within the adopted Waste Core Strategy set out the broad areas and types of locations that are most likely to be appropriate for the development of new or extended waste management facilities. In line with national policy and anticipated future housing and

employment growth, it is envisaged that most additional waste management infrastructure will be required in, or close to, the main urban areas of Nottingham, Mansfield/Ashfield, Newark, Worksop and Retford (Policy WCS4). Within these broad areas, waste management facilities are considered to be most appropriately sited on existing or proposed employment/industrial land (Policy WCS7). Priority will be given to additional disposal facilities within the main shortfall areas around Nottingham and Mansfield/Ashfield (Policy WCS5).

6. An initial assessment of potential site availability was carried out as part of the wider evidence base for the Waste Core Strategy. This confirmed that approximately 300 or 730 hectares of land was potentially available to support the delivery of the Waste Core Strategy. These sites now need to be assessed in more detail in terms of their location, size and environmental impact in order to identify those most suitable for allocation within the Sites and Policies document. This will include further consultation with each of the Nottinghamshire District/ Borough Councils, Nottingham City Council, the waste industry, landowners and developers to update the existing evidence base.
7. The National Planning Policy for Waste Site requires early and meaningful engagement in plan preparation. To ensure that the ongoing process of site selection is as robust and transparent as possible, it is proposed to consult informally on the proposed methodology for site selection which is attached at Appendix A. This will be accompanied by an updated Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report.
8. It is proposed to consult with statutory bodies, key stakeholders and other interested parties for a six-week period during June and July 2015. This will include all parties who responded during earlier consultations on the Waste core Strategy. Feedback from this stage will be used to refine the site selection process.
9. Nottingham City Council approved the document for public consultation on 13th April 2015.
10. Subject to further Committee and City Council approval, it is anticipated that the shortlisted sites will then be published, alongside a draft set of development management policies for informal public consultation in November 2015. Dependent on responses to this consultation it is proposed to publish the Submission Draft version of the Sites and Policies document for formal consultation in May 2016. Submission to the Secretary of State is anticipated in October 2016 with adoption expected by April 2017.

Other Options Considered

11. Not to consult on the proposed site selection methodology as there is no statutory requirement for consultation at this stage. The County Council has a statutory duty to prepare a Waste Local Plan.

Reason/s for Recommendation/s

12. Consulting on our proposed methodology will give key statutory bodies, environmental groups and other interested parties the opportunity to highlight any issues with this approach before any firm decisions are made. It is considered that this should reduce the risk of any future legal challenge to the Plan.

Statutory and Policy Implications

13. This report has been compiled after consideration of implications in respect of crime and disorder, finance, human resources, human rights, the NHS Constitution (Public Health only), the public sector equality duty, safeguarding of children and vulnerable adults, service users, sustainability and the environment and ways of working and where such implications are material they are described below. Appropriate consultation has been undertaken and advice sought on these issues as required.

Financial Implications

14. The City Council will contribute 28% of the costs of producing the Waste Local Plan; the remaining 72% will be met through a reserve which has been established to cover these costs.

RECOMMENDATION/S

- 1) It is recommended that the Committee approves:
 - a) The publication of the of the proposed site selection methodology for a period of 6 weeks public consultation;
 - b) Authority to be given to the Chairman in consultation with the Group Manager to make any final minor changes required prior to consultation to correct typographical or other errors.

Jayne Francis-Ward, Corporate Director, Policy, Planning and Corporate Services

For any enquiries about this report please contact: Suzanne Osborne-James, Principal Planning Officer – Planning Policy, Tel: 0115 9772108.

Constitutional Comments (SLB 07/04/15)

15. Environment and Sustainability is the appropriate body to consider the content of this report.

Financial Comments (SES 09/04/15)

16. The financial implications are set out in the report.

Background Papers and Published Documents

Except for previously published documents, which will be available elsewhere, the documents listed here will be available for inspection in accordance with Section 100D of the Local Government Act 1972.

None

Electoral Division(s) and Member(s) Affected

All