

**Wiltshire Council**

**Cabinet**

**17 January 2012 (morning meeting)**

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**Public Participation**

**Statement from Mrs Nicky Bamford on**

**Wiltshire and Swindon Waste Site Allocations DPD – Proposed Submission  
Arrangements (Item 7)**

**Statement**

As a resident of Ludgershall therefore affected by these proposals and having been a member of the No 2 waste campaign, I am most concerned that the Pickpit Hill site remains in the document. Pickpit Hill is still listed with the following potential uses: materials recovery facility, waste transfer station (WTS) , inert waste recycling/transfer, composting, local recycling and household recycling centre and the suggestion has been made that traffic is diverted away from Tidworth through Ludgershall along the A342 to join the A303. This is wholly unacceptable. The highways in Ludgershall barely cope with the current traffic volume with significant issues around the Castle corner and the memorial junction.

With the proposed development at Drummond Park becoming a reality in the next 2 years, producing in excess of an extra 500 vehicles in the town, it will make travelling anywhere around the area extremely difficult. I have lived on the main Andover Road in Ludgershall for 24 years and have accepted that traffic will be a major aspect of that residency, however, in the last 10 years the traffic volume has increased to such an extent that a wait of 7 -10 minutes to get out of my drive in the mornings is not unusual. You may think this an exaggeration as 10 minutes is a long time, but I have timed it! There is a constant stream of traffic past the end of our drive; we are lucky to have off road parking, whereas the residents of Bell street park their cars and vans out on the main road, the number of which is ever increasing, resulting in major congestion at that point. If this road was included in the plan for waste it would be a disaster for the towns residents.

The objections to the site at Pickpit hill are well documented in the previous submission which resulted in the removal of Castledown Business Park from the Waste site allocations document and I am at a loss to understand why Pickpit remains, particularly as it's proximity to CBP is within a half mile.

## Response

The assessment work undertaken by the council in preparation of the draft plan identified a range of highway matters to be addressed through any subsequent planning application process. The draft plan identifies the requirement for a full Transport Assessment (TA) to be prepared in support of any subsequent planning application. Matters in relation to potential cumulative highway impacts associated with planned housing and employment development in the area will need to be addressed through the application and TA process.

The level of objections received during the last round of consultation (June 2011) was not the primary reason for the removal of Castledown Business Park (CBP). The Castledown Business Park site at Ludgershall has been removed from the plan for the reasons summarised in the Cabinet Report (paragraphs 13 to 15). These are repeated for ease of reference below.

- “13. *In terms of the level of objection received, the majority of concerns related to the proposals at Ludgershall (Castledown Business Park and Pickpit Hill). The majority of these objections were generated by a community organised petition, signed by 399 people. The main issues presented were concerned with the impact of waste development on the local community and the surrounding land uses that have been developed since the site was first proposed back in 2005. In particular, concerns were raised regarding Castledown Business Park related to the proximity of Wellington Academy, scale of operation in terms of vehicle movement (road safety, congestion issues), low level of employment generated by waste uses and support for the emerging Wiltshire Core Strategy that identifies Castledown Business Park as a Principal Employment Area, where activities falling within use classes B1, B2 and B8 are promoted. This called into question the suitability of the use of this site for waste management facilities.*
14. *It should also be noted that, during the final round of consultation, Cabinet Capital Assets Committee on 14 June 2011 agreed that the Council purchase Castledown Business Park to help stimulate regeneration opportunities in the area accordance with Council’s Corporate Plan. The Corporate Plan focuses on delivery of new jobs across Wiltshire.*
15. *These factors have been fully considered and as result the Castledown Business Park site has been removed from the plan.”*

The landowner of Pickpit Hill (MoD) has consistently maintained support for keeping the site in the plan. As such, and unlike the position at CBP, the proposed allocation is therefore considered to be deliverable and appropriate for inclusion within the plan, subject to a robust planning application process. The site has only been identified for local uses commensurate with the size and location of the site.

