

Draft Waste Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD): Publication for formal consultation

Background

In 2009 Wiltshire Council and Swindon Borough Council (the Councils) adopted their Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document (DPD) and Waste Development Control Policies DPD.

There are currently no sites allocated for waste uses in the development plan. It is therefore essential to update Wiltshire Council's policy framework accordingly to ensure that future proposals for waste development in Wiltshire and Swindon are for the right types of waste management facilities in the right locations.

The Council originally consulted on the Issues and Options for potential waste site allocations in March 2006. Due to the time that has elapsed since that report was published (during this period resources were concentrated on the production of the Waste Core Strategy and Waste Development Control Policies DPDs), it was necessary to undertake an additional round of informal consultation and further evidence gathering.

A significant amount of evidence has now been developed to fully support the content of what is considered to be a sound submission draft Waste Site Allocations DPD. Cabinet has agreed the draft Waste Site Allocations DPD should have a formal eight week public consultation, followed by submission to the Secretary of State for Independent Examination.

The consultation will be aligned with the Submission Draft Wiltshire Core Strategy in June 2011. The Localism Bill, in its current form, does not propose to amend the role of waste planning authorities or have any significant implications for the continuation of this DPD.

The consultation

The consultation which starts on 13 June 2011 will be aligned with consultation on the forthcoming Submission Draft Wiltshire Core Strategy and will comply with the requirements of the Council's Statement of Community Involvement. It will involve:

- (i) Letter or email to consultees on the Spatial Planning consultation database.
- (ii) Publication of an advert in local newspapers throughout Wiltshire and Swindon.
- (iii) Chairman's announcements/Agenda item for Community Area Boards
- (iv) Item being published in Parish Newsletter prior to commencement of consultation.

- (v) Documents being made available for viewing at Council offices and all libraries in Wiltshire and Swindon.
- (vi) Online publication on the Council's consultation portal.
<http://consult.wiltshire.gov.uk/portal>
- (vii) There will be a series of roadshow events in all Community Areas where people will have further opportunity to discuss the Waste Site Allocations DPD and emerging Wiltshire Core Strategy. The dates for these meetings are being finalised, but details will be posted on the council's website at:
www.wiltshire.gov.uk/ldfconsult

Environmental and Climate Change Considerations

The consultation document contains the sites within Wiltshire and Swindon that have been identified as being suitable to accommodate future waste management facilities, in accordance with driving waste up the waste hierarchy. The environmental impact of developing each site has been assessed through the waste site appraisals undertaken by officers and independent consultants, including Sustainability Appraisal. No significant adverse impacts of the sites contained within the draft Waste Site Allocations DPD have been identified.

Options Considered

The site options considered in the previous consultation in 2009 have been fully appraised. Only those site options considered suitable in social, environmental and economic terms have been included in the draft DPD. Those options that are considered unsuitable have been excluded. The Draft DPD therefore represents the most suitable options having considered all reasonable alternatives.

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