

Subject:	Waste and Minerals Core Strategy - Preferred Strategy consultation		
Date of Meeting:	15 October 2009		
Report of:	Director of Environment		
Contact Officer:	Name:	Lyndsey Beveridge	Tel: 29-2108
	E-mail:	lyndsey.beveridge@brighton-hove.gov.uk	
Key Decision:	Yes	Forward Plan No: CAB10300	
Wards Affected:	All		

FOR GENERAL RELEASE**1. SUMMARY AND POLICY CONTEXT:**

- 1.1 This report provides members with an overview of the progress of the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Development Framework, and seeks approval for the forthcoming consultation on the Preferred Strategy stage of the Waste and Minerals Core Strategy.

2. RECOMMENDATIONS:

- 2.1 That Cabinet notes the progress made on the East Sussex and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Development Framework.
- 2.2 That Cabinet agrees the publication of the Preferred Strategy and associated Sustainability Appraisal for a six-week period of consultation commencing on 21 October 2009, subject to any minor factual changes to the text as agreed by the Director for Environment.

3. RELEVANT BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**Introduction**

- 3.1 Brighton & Hove City Council is the waste and minerals planning authority for the City. As such it is preparing a Waste and Minerals Development Framework in partnership with East Sussex County Council.
- 3.2 The Waste and Minerals Core Strategy will eventually supersede much of the Councils' Waste Local Plan and Minerals Local Plan. The Waste and Minerals Core Strategy is part of the Brighton & Hove Local Development Framework and will provide the spatial planning strategy and policies for management of wastes and production of minerals in the City to 2026. It is being prepared in accordance with the Council's published Local Development Scheme which commits to consultation on a Preferred Strategy in September/October 2009. ESCC Cabinet were asked to agree the Preferred Strategy and consultation at its meeting on 23 September 2009.

Content of the Preferred Strategy

- 3.3 The proposed Preferred Strategy (see Appendix 1) is based on an analysis of options using robust evidence (see Appendix 2) which is informed by the following:
- Stakeholder and public comments made on an 'Issues & Options' document which was endorsed by Environment Committee in January 2008;
 - extensive discussions with key stakeholders including the waste and minerals industry, and statutory environmental bodies;
 - national and regional planning policy, in particular the South East Plan;
 - a series of 'Information Papers' and technical studies (See Appendix 2 for details);
 - Sustainability Appraisal (see Appendix 3) and other environmental assessments.
- 3.4 The Preferred Strategy includes a vision, objectives, preferred options, draft planning policies, and a draft implementation framework covering the following key areas:
- The growth of waste and its minimisation;
 - Targets for recycling and recovering waste which reflect targets in the South East Plan except for Municipal Solid Waste recycling (which reflect national targets);
 - Rejection of the apportionment of residual waste from London for disposal in East Sussex and Brighton & Hove as set out in the South East Plan;
 - Areas of Search for strategic waste recovery facilities in urban areas or near A roads but mostly outside the AONB/intended SDNP (see page 107 of the Preferred Strategy). A long list of potential sites would be investigated for inclusion in a subsequent sites allocation document.
 - Six areas of search for land disposal facilities including land at Ashdown Brickworks, Bexhill and five areas in the Low Weald (see page 108 of the Preferred Strategy);
 - Broad options for managing wastewater from Hailsham/Polegate due to existing works reaching capacity before 2026 (see page 109 of the Preferred Strategy);
 - Identification of aggregates reserves to meet the current apportionment in the South East Plan and approach to further increases;
 - Safeguarding of wharves at Rye, Newhaven and Shoreham (see page 111 of the Preferred Strategy);
 - Approach to maintaining clay and gypsum supplies.

4. CONSULTATION

- 4.1 It is proposed that the Preferred Strategy be published for consultation for six weeks from 21 October to 2 December 2009. It will be made available on the Councils' websites and for inspection at Citydirect points and libraries in the City, and at deposit points across East Sussex, for six weeks from 21 October 2009. A programme of awareness raising and stakeholder engagement is proposed that

includes mail-outs, media releases, workshops, meetings, and exhibitions. Comments will also be invited on the published evidence base and the Sustainability Appraisal.

- 4.2 Comments received will inform the content of the Councils' final Core Strategy that will be submitted to Government for examination by the Planning Inspectorate. Pre-consultation on the Submission draft is a statutory requirement and it is expected that this will take place in Spring 2010 following consideration by Cabinet and full Council. Detailed site assessment work will be undertaken at a later date as part of the production of subsequent sites documents.
- 4.3 The Cabinet at East Sussex County Council has considered the same recommendations at its meeting on 23 September. Any significant amendments arising from that meeting will be reported by officers.
- 4.4 Consultation with relevant council departments and key stakeholders has been undertaken as appropriate during the preparation of the Preferred Strategy through ongoing dialogue.

5. FINANCIAL & OTHER IMPLICATIONS:

Financial Implications:

- 5.1 The costs of producing and publishing the Preferred Strategy, together with the consultation process, have been identified and a budget has been made for this within the City Planning Division. As the Waste and Minerals Core Strategy is being prepared jointly with East Sussex County Council the costs are being shared.
- 5.2 The council will incur additional costs next financial year when the public examination into the strategy takes place. Budget provision will need to be identified as part of the 2010/11 budget submission.

Finance Officer Consulted: Patrick Rice

Date: 09/09/09

Legal Implications:

- 5.3 The Waste and Minerals Core Strategy will be a development plan document within the local development framework introduced by the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. Regulation 25 of The Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended) requires local planning authorities to consult certain stakeholders in the preparation of development plan documents and gives planning authorities the discretion to invite representations from residents and businesses in their area. The final form of any development plan document must be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval following a period of publicity. This Report complies with the aforementioned legislation.
- 5.4 No adverse human rights implications are considered to arise from this Report.

Lawyer Consulted:

Hilary Woodward

Date: 16/09/09

Equalities Implications:

- 5.5 Potential Equalities implications of the Core Strategy have been considered in an Equalities Impact Assessment of the strategy at this stage. No significant implications have been identified.

Sustainability Implications:

- 5.6 Once adopted the Core Strategy will provide a statutory policy approach to ensure that waste is managed and minerals produced in ways consistent with sustainable development. Preparation of the Preferred Strategy has taken into account adaptation to, and mitigation of climate change. The document will be supported by a Sustainability Appraisal and Appropriate Assessment.

Crime & Disorder Implications:

- 5.7 No significant implications have been identified.

Risk & Opportunity Management Implications:

- 5.8 The risks within this project are regularly reviewed. A sound plan will provide a strategic framework for future waste planning decisions and later documents will consider site-specific issues.

Corporate / Citywide Implications:

- 5.9 The Waste and Minerals Core Strategy will contribute to delivering plans and strategies across the City Council directorates, along with the Sustainable Community Strategy.

6. EVALUATION OF ANY ALTERNATIVE OPTION(S):

- 6.1 Alternative options considered are set out in the Preferred Strategy document itself, and reasons for not taking them forward are presented in a background paper.

7. REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

- 7.1 Cabinet approval is now needed to publish the Preferred Strategy for public consultation. The recommended period for comments should be six weeks.

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

Appendices:

1. Proposed Preferred Strategy document
2. Evidence base documents to be published
3. Sustainability Appraisal non-technical summary

Documents In Members' Rooms

None

Background Documents

None

