

Waste Core Strategy

for Worcestershire

REFRESHED ISSUES & OPTIONS CONSULTATION - 'HOW SHOULD WE PROCEED' ?



Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy

We need to stop thinking that waste is a problem and start thinking about it as a resource.

We want you to help us decide what we need to do with our waste and when and where and how.

Only you can tell us what you want.

Consultation

September 2008



worcestershire
county council

The Council submitted a "Waste Core Strategy: Regulation 28 Submission Document and Proposals Map" to the Secretary of State in January 2007. Following advice from the Planning Inspectorate and in anticipation of emerging government guidance it was clear that it would not be found "sound". On 21st February 2008 the Secretary of State issued a letter directing the Council to withdraw that document and some of the preparatory work supporting it. This report is the first stage in re-commencing work on the Core Strategy.

The Council's initial Issues and Options consultations were undertaken between December 2004 and October 2005. This document refreshes those earlier consultations. Where appropriate it updates and proposes revisions to that work. It also includes a series of questions. It would be very helpful if you could answer these. You do not have to answer them all, please feel free to concentrate on the issues that most interest you and to ignore any that do not. Any and all comments will be useful to us. The questions are set out in the report, with supporting information to explain their background. A separate questionnaire is enclosed and is also available on the internet at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs and an SAE for ease of posting.

Please contact me if you need any further information or more copies of the questionnaire.

Nicholas Dean

Directorate of Planning, Economy and Performance
Worcestershire County Council
County Hall
Spetchley Road
Worcester
WR5 2NP

Tel: 01905 766374

Email: wcs@worcestershire.gov.uk

Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy

Refreshed Issues and Options Consultation -
'How should we Proceed' ?

Consultation

September 2008

What is this?

This report is the refreshed Issues and Options Consultation for the Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire, the plan for Worcestershire's waste and how and where it will be managed up to 2027.

It is "refreshed" because we have already undertaken work on these stages but want to bring the earlier work up to date and to make sure that it reflects the views of local people and those with interests in waste management in the County.

In summary we need to decide:

- What are the Issues to be addressed? and
- What possible strategies are there to address these?

That means deciding what and where we want to aim for - a Vision. What Objectives we need to work towards it and what we need to consider. That means choosing how we mean to proceed, what Options we have, using these to generate alternative scenarios and from them, Preferred Options. We need Policies to achieve these and Monitoring tests to see if they are working, Sustainability Appraisals and Habitat Assessments to check that they are environmentally, socially, economically and ecologically appropriate and we need to make sure that so far as is possible they are acceptable to and appropriate for the people who live, work in and visit Worcestershire.

This report sets out

- The Issues we think we need to address
- A draft Vision, possible Objectives and the kinds of Options we could use to develop the Strategy.

It sets out a series of questions about these. We urge you to comment on these. Only you can tell us what you want.

This is not a fixed, rigid process however. We will be regularly asking if there are other, potentially better, ways to proceed. We will be open therefore to new ideas or revisions of those we have already made throughout the development of the Strategy. The earlier you tell us of your concerns however the easier we can address them.

This report is in 7 parts. Parts 1 and 2 set out the process and background data about waste. Parts 3, 4, 5 and 6 explain these and ask your views about what the plan should include and how should we develop it. Part 7 sets out what the next stage will be.

Part 1 sets out:

- What is the Waste Core Strategy?
- What is this report?
- What is the process for developing the Waste Core Strategy?
- What will the Waste Core Strategy include when it is finished?
- What is the timetable? and
- How does it relate to the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and the Sustainable Community Strategy for Worcestershire?

Part 2 sets out:

- Background data
- What kinds of waste do we need to deal with
- How much do we produce in Worcestershire?
- How is it dealt with?
- Are there any targets?

Part 3 asks

- What issues do we need to consider when planning for Worcestershire's waste?
- How does waste planning fit in with everything else including the Regional Spatial Strategy and Development Plans being prepared by the District, City and Borough Councils?
- We set out a Draft Spatial Portrait to draw attention to the big issues we need to address, and ask, "What should our Vision for the Waste Core Strategy be?"

Part 4 sets out how can we realise this Vision, asks, "What should be our Objectives?" and sets out

- The background, to the earlier consultation on Objectives
- The purpose and context for revised objectives
- Guiding principles for the Waste Core Strategy, and
- Draft local objectives.

Part 5 asks "What should we include in the Waste Core Strategy?"

- What kinds of waste should the Waste Core Strategy cover?
- How much waste should we deal with?
- How long should we plan for?
- What waste management methods should we specify?
- How can we best protect the environment, health, employment and amenity of the County and its people in dealing with waste matters? And possible future issues.

Part 6 looks at what options we might use to develop the Strategy.

Part 7 explains what the next steps will be.



Contents

PART 1	What is the Waste Core Strategy?.....	1
	What is this Report?.....	2
	What is the process for developing the Waste Core Strategy?.....	3
	What will the Waste Core Strategy include when its finished?.....	4
	What is the timetable?.....	6
PART 2	What kinds of waste do we need to deal with?.....	9
	Municipal Solid Waste.....	9
	Commercial and Industrial Waste.....	12
	Agricultural Waste.....	14
	Construction and Demolition Waste.....	16
	Hazardous Waste.....	18
	Mineral Waste.....	19
	<i>Question 1</i>	
	<i>Question 2</i>	
	<i>Question 3</i>	
PART 3	What issues do we need to consider when planning for Worcestershire's Waste?.....	22
	How does waste planning fit in with everything else?.....	22
	<i>Question 4</i>	
	What should our Vision for the Waste Core Strategy be?.....	25
	<i>Question 5</i>	
PART 4	How can we realise this Vision? What should be our Objectives?.....	31
PART 5	What should the Waste Core Strategy include?.....	36
	What kinds of Waste should the Waste Core Strategy cover?.....	37
	<i>Question 7</i>	
	How much waste should we deal with?.....	37
	<i>Question 8</i>	
	<i>Question 9</i>	
	What should the broad distribution of waste management facilities be?.....	38
	<i>Question 10</i>	
	<i>Question 11</i>	
	How will we know if these targets are the right ones?.....	40
	How will we know if we have achieved the capacity we need?.....	41
	<i>Question 12</i>	
	How should we measure waste management capacity?.....	42
	<i>Question 13</i>	
	<i>Question 14</i>	
	How much land will we need?.....	44
	<i>Question 15</i>	



PART 5	How long should we plan for?.....	45
	<i>Question 16</i>	
	<i>Question 17</i>	
	Protecting the environment, health, employment and amenity.....	47
	of Worcestershire.	
	<i>Question 18</i>	
	Possible Future Issues.....	48
	<i>Question 19</i>	
PART 6	How should we proceed to develop options?.....	50
	<i>Question 20</i>	
	What waste management methods should we specify?.....	53
	<i>Question 21</i>	
	<i>Question 22</i>	
	<i>Question 23</i>	
PART 7	Next Steps.....	56
Glossary of Terms	57



PART 1

What is the Waste Core Strategy?

The Waste Core Strategy is the plan for Worcestershire's waste. It will set out how all the different kinds of waste (except radioactive waste and farm manures and crop residues) produced by everyone who lives in, works in, or visits the County will be managed (handled, sorted, reused, recycled, composted, used to generate energy, landfilled or treated in any way) between now and 2027. It will not set out how you must deal with your waste, or where or who will do so but it will make sure that there are sufficient opportunities for you to choose and for the waste management industry to choose who wants to do what and where. It will make sure that there is sufficient capacity of the right kind, in the right place, at the right time, to manage however much we all produce. Most of the facilities to manage Worcestershire's waste will be in the County itself. Where, however, some wastes can only be treated at specialist facilities outside Worcestershire, the Strategy will make sure that there are sufficient facilities within the county to collect and transfer all those wastes to the specialists.

The Strategy will predict how much waste is likely to arise over the period up to 2027, how much is likely to come from houses, how much from businesses and the construction industry and therefore how much capacity will be needed and when. Because these estimates and the nature and source of the wastes produced and the technologies to manage them are all likely to change, the Strategy will be flexible. It will identify a range of different sites, different kinds of locations and different kinds of technologies to deal with it. Where the

Strategy cannot be precise or specific, it will set out possible future directions and timescales to enable everyone to make the most of whatever opportunities or circumstances emerge. It will make sure however that whatever decisions are made the priorities are always the protection of human health and the environment and that what ever is done, or made possible for others to do, will be better than whatever is done now.

What is its status?

Once adopted, the Waste Core Strategy will be a statutory "Local Development Document", part of the Development Plan for Worcestershire. That means it will be used to determine planning applications for waste.

What will it do?

It will set out a long term Vision for the development of waste management facilities, Objectives to address the issues and a delivery strategy to make it happen. We intend to create something that meets the needs of the people and businesses of Worcestershire and we will involve them throughout its development. It is not possible therefore to be precise at this stage. We can say that it will identify broad locations for waste management facilities and it may include 'strategic' sites, if there are any facilities that are key to the delivery of the Strategy. It may be necessary to prepare a Site Allocations Development Plan Document to identify smaller sites for waste management facilities. We will wait to see what you say before deciding.

Where is it for?

It will cover the whole of Worcestershire.

In summary, it will:

- Provide the Vision and Objectives for waste management in Worcestershire, up to 2027 and beyond
- Create a strategy which ensures that there is sufficient, suitable land with in Worcestershire to manage the County's waste
- Provide a policy framework for managing waste related development
- Set out a framework for its implementation, monitoring and review.

What is this Report?

The Council has already undertaken two Issues and Options Consultations on the Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire. This report brings that earlier work up to date and it incorporates both the public's comments on those consultations and changes in government policy. It sets out background information, sources of further information, the issues that we think are important and how we are thinking of addressing them.

You can find out more about the earlier stages of how the plan was prepared in "Stages in the development of the Waste Core Strategy" and the detail of who and what were consulted at each stage in the report "Regulation 30 Statement: Pre-Submission Consultations" on the Council's website - www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs.

We need to plan for all the kinds of waste produced in the County. This is your opportunity to comment on our ideas so far. The closing date for comments is 19th December 2008. A questionnaire is enclosed, please complete and return it to us. There is a freepost address and details of who to contact for further information on the questionnaire and on the inside cover of this report.

The evolving Waste Core Strategy, summaries of the consultations received on it and all the background documents used to develop it will be detailed on the Worcestershire County Council website, Planning pages, under the heading "Minerals and Waste", Waste Core Strategy (www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs).

Your responses will help us to develop Preferred Options for the Core Strategy. We will consult you again on these during the autumn of 2009 and on our final proposals in early 2011. We will also be undertaking workshops, interviews and focused consultations with selected groups of stakeholders and members of the business community over the next two years. We will contact these people during the Autumn of 2008, but please contact Nicholas Dean (address on frontpeice) if you would like to take part yourself. Your comments at this stage will however help to direct us in the direction we should take. Please answer as many questions as you can. It is much easier for us to take account of your concerns now rather than later in the process.



What is the process for developing the Waste Core Strategy?

The Council is required to produce the Waste Core Strategy by law and it must do so in accordance with the processes set out by government and in accordance with government policy. The final document will be produced in 2011 and will be examined by an independent Planning Inspector appointed by the government at a public "hearing" (a kind of Public Inquiry). If it is found "sound" it will be adopted by the County Council and will then regulate how planning applications for, or involving, waste management will be decided. It must be then taken account of by the District, City and Borough Councils and other public bodies when they prepare their own plans. It will apply until at least 2027 but will be monitored and reported on every December, in the County Council's Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme Annual Monitoring Report and revised every 5 years or earlier if necessary.

Table continued on next page

What will the Waste Core Strategy include when its finished?

<p>A "Spatial Portrait of the County"</p>	<p>A simple summary of what the County is like now and what the main issues, problems and opportunities are likely to be, particularly with regard to waste related matters, over the foreseeable future. Its purpose is to flag up issues that the Strategy needs to address.</p> <p><i>You can find out more information about the background to the Spatial Portrait at (www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs).</i></p>
<p>A Vision of what waste management will mean in Worcestershire in 2026.</p>	<p>The Vision is the inspiration for the general direction for the Strategy.</p> <p><i>You can find out more information about the background to the proposed Vision Statement at (www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs).</i></p>
<p>Objectives, which point the way to how the Vision will be achieved.</p>	<p>These expand the Vision to identify the key principles and locally important issues and set broad tests to enable us to check if the Strategy is proceeding in the right direction. One of the key drivers for the review of the Strategy will be if the Objectives need updating.</p>
<p>Options, the choices made to achieve the Objectives. We propose to set out "Criteria" Options, choices like, in broad terms should our Strategy foster large or small, urban or rural facilities. We will use these to develop alternative scenarios about what choices we have to make about what this would mean on the ground. This document sets out our thinking on what the Criteria Options should be.</p>	<p>Alternatives have to be considered and choices made at every stage of the development of the Strategy. The big choices to be made will be clearly identified and set out so that you can see which way we are going and why.</p> <p><i>You can find out more about the background to the proposed Options at (www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs).</i></p> <p>Records of the options and alternative scenarios that we adopt will be recorded on that website but will not be included in the final strategy.</p>

Table continued on next page



<p>Alternative scenarios begin to show what the Strategy could finally be; the sorts of sites and numbers involved, broad locations where new facilities are likely and the kinds of policies being developed. We will consult on these and the Preferred Options we consider likely to be the most effective.</p>	<p>This is the public's opportunity to comment on and make choices about the detail of what the Strategy is likely to include and where.</p> <p><i>You can find out more about the background to the proposed Options at (www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs).</i> Records of the options and alternative scenarios that we adopt will be recorded on that website but will not be included in the final strategy.</p>
<p>A Strategy showing what we want to achieve and an Implementation Programme, showing who will be doing what and when. All stakeholders will be expected to implement the strategy.</p> <p>Policies to set out in detail how decisions to manage waste in the County (e.g. applications for planning permission) will be made.</p>	<p>The Waste Core Strategy policies will mostly be used by the County Council, as the Waste Planning Authority, to determine planning applications for development including waste management. District Councils will have to incorporate the policies in the Strategy in their own Core Strategies (land use plans) and all other bodies will have to take account of them when exercising their own functions. The policies will also direct industries and businesses to where they should be able to set up new waste management facilities most easily.</p> <p><i>You can find out more about what the policies should include in the Government's statement of national planning policy for waste, Planning Policy Statement 10 (http://www.communities.gov.uk)</i></p>
<p>Monitoring Proposals will set out what will be measured, when, how and by whom, to see if the Strategy is achieving what it set out to do.</p>	<p>There will be a series of detailed observations that will be developed as the Strategy is agreed. The Council will report the findings of the monitoring tests every year in the Worcestershire County Council Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme Annual Monitoring Report (the "AMR").</p> <p><i>You can find out more about past AMR's on the County Councils Planning web link. (www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs). Note Future AMRs will include the monitoring measures developed over the course of the Strategy and will therefore be different from those produced to date.</i></p>

Table continued on next page

<p>Sustainability Appraisal (SA) At every stage in the development of the Strategy the Council will test its proposals against a set of criteria to see how sustainable they are. This will include a Resilience Appraisal (RA) to see if the protocols are realistic.</p>	<p>The tests will be developed over the course of the Strategy to make sure that they properly assess its effects. Other tests may be added to refine the assessment if new issues emerge. The SA should keep the Strategy on course and will make it expressly clear what any adverse effects will be. The law also requires a Strategic Environmental Assessment to be undertaken. The work necessary will be taken as part of the SA. Outside consultants will be commissioned to undertake this work in order to make sure that it is impartial. We will consult on both the content of the SA and RA and how we have applied them.</p>
<p>Habitats Appraisal (HA) This is a legal requirement to make sure that no specially protected natural habitats or species are adversely affected by the proposals in the Waste Core Strategy.</p>	<p>The HA will be carried out in association with the SA to make sure the issues are properly addressed. We will consult on both the content of the HA and how we have applied them.</p>
<p>How long will the Waste Core Strategy be? Government advice is that the Strategy should be short, about 30 pages long, but supported by considerably more detailed background evidence.</p>	<p>This is the aim. No Councils have achieved anything like so short a document yet.</p>

What is the timetable?

<p>Issues and Options Consultation ends 19th December 2008.</p>	<p>Current stage, explaining the background and inviting views on what the Spatial Portrait, Vision, and Objectives should be and asking how should we proceed to develop them and the Sustainability and Habitats Appraisals. These will inform the development of the detailed Strategy over the next 2-3 years.</p>
<p>Preferred Options To be undertaken during 2009, with a public consultation in the autumn of 2009.</p>	<p>Preparation and Consultation on Preferred Options for the Core Strategy, building on earlier responses to the plan and continuing the Sustainability Appraisal of it.</p> <p>The Council will follow up the issues raised and will try to resolve them before the next stage is reached.</p>

Table continued on next page



<p>Pre-Submission Consultation To be undertaken January-February 2011.</p>	<p>This is a statutory requirement. This is the last formal opportunity for the public to comment on the Plan</p> <p>The Council will consider the comments received but by this stage issues should either have been agreed or be acknowledged as impossible to resolve. It is possible to change the Plan at this stage and to re-consult on significant changes but this would lead to significant delay (at least 6 months) which we want to avoid if at all possible.</p>
<p>Submission and Hearing To be undertaken Autumn 2011 (subject to the availability of an Inspector).</p>	<p>The Strategy is forwarded to the Secretary of State who appoints an independent Inspector to examine it and hold a formal public inquiry ("the Examination") into it.</p> <p>The Inspector chooses what is looked at when and who will be invited to discuss matters of concern. He then issues binding recommendations, which the Council must accept unless they wish to abandon the Plan.</p>
<p>Adoption Estimated May 2012</p>	<p>The Council formally adopt the Strategy, which then forms part of the "Development Plan" against which all proposals for development will be assessed.</p> <p><i>You can find out more about what the government requires us to do in National Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 12 (which sets out the procedural issues) and PPS 10 (which refers to the waste issues involved) from the Department of Communities and Local Government (http://www.communities.gov.uk)</i></p>

How does it relate to the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and the Sustainable Community Strategy for Worcestershire?

The Council is also preparing a **Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS)** at the same time as it is recommending the Waste Core Strategy.

The JMWMS is a separate plan setting out how all six of the District, City and Borough Councils in Worcestershire and Herefordshire will collect municipal (i.e. mostly dustbin, Household Waste Recycling Centre and some commercial) waste and how Worcestershire County

Council and Herefordshire Council will dispose of it between now and 2034. The Joint Municipal Waste Management and Waste Core strategies are being developed in parallel and will influence and take account of each other. They are however separate plans, produced under separate laws and regulations and cover different aspects of how and which, wastes will be managed. The most significant overlap between them is that the JMWMS will set out what is required to manage municipal waste and the Waste Core Strategy will set out how and broadly where the sites for these will be permitted.

PART 2

Background Data

We all produce waste. It is a fact of life. People in Worcestershire produced about

- 318,543t of municipal waste in 2006-07 (WCC Waste Management Authority)
- 628,000t of commercial and industrial waste in 2006-07 (Environment Agency), and
- An unknown amount, estimated to be 818,000t of construction and demolition waste in 2006-07 (West Midlands Regional Planning Body)

The environmental costs of managing waste are difficult to calculate but are very wide ranging and must include traffic congestion, air pollution, the generation of greenhouse gases, soil, ground and water pollution and damage to the landscape plant and wildlife of the County. Most of our Commercial and Industrial Wastes (but not Municipal Waste) are landfilled - effectively thrown away and ignored, which doesn't necessarily mean that they have vanished harmlessly. At the very least, the waste of resources and damage to the economy caused by landfilling waste is both serious and unnecessary. The full extent of the damage to the future and ourselves is unknown. These costs and the damage caused could all be reduced if we change our attitudes and behaviour. If we provide enough facilities we can save much of what we currently waste and turn it into a resource. We can reduce landfilling to the absolute minimum. This would not only reduce the harmful effects of what we currently do but save resources for the future.

The Waste Core Strategy will be one of the catalysts for this change.

The planning system will put in place the policy framework to enable it to happen. However, only we, the people of Worcestershire, will make it happen.

We all need our District, City and Borough Councils to take away our own dustbin waste and we need to make sure that the industries and businesses that employ and supply us can get rid of their waste too. But all that waste doesn't disappear when it is taken away; it has to be sorted, treated, recycled whenever possible and whatever is left has to be properly disposed of. For that to happen we need waste management businesses who can do that for us and do it as safely, cheaply and effectively as possible - without causing nuisance or harm to us, the environment or future generations. Furthermore, as the amount of waste we produce and government targets aimed at reducing waste become more challenging, we are going to need significantly more waste management businesses. We need to make sure, in the words of government policy that there are "sufficient opportunities for new waste management facilities of the right type, in the right place and at the right time" to deal with it (Planning Policy Statement 10, para. 2).



What kinds of waste do we need to deal with?

These are:

- Municipal waste (MSW)
- Commercial and Industrial (C & I)
- Construction and Demolition (C & D)
- Agricultural
- Hazardous, and
- Mineral waste

They are dealt with, in turn, below.

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)

It is mostly doorstep collections from our dustbin/wheelie bin/black, bags, kerbside recycling/composting and good waste collections, but it also includes waste from Household Waste Recycling Centres and "bring banks" and street cleaning, amenity and commercial waste where a special collection has been agreed with the Council.

How much do we produce in Worcestershire?

- 318,543 tonnes (in 2006-07)

Because Councils have to meet a number of specific government targets there is considerable pressure on local authorities to measure and record MSW accurately. We have considerable confidence therefore in this figure.

How is it dealt with?

In 2006-07,

- 34.5% was recycled/composted
- 8.5% treated thermally, to produce energy from waste, and
- 56.8% landfilled

The general trend over the last 10 years is of increasing recycling, composting and reducing landfill. Again we have considerable confidence in these figures.

Are there any targets?

All Councils are set a number of targets for meeting EU Directives by the government.

The following table summarises Landfill Directive targets and National Waste Strategy: recycling, composting and recovery targets that the local authorities in Herefordshire and Worcestershire jointly need to meet.

Table 1 Summary of EU and Government Targets for MSW

	Landfill Directive target for reduction of biodegradable waste to landfill (of amount produced in 1995)	National Waste Strategy	
		Targets (non statutory)	
		Recycling and Composting	Recovery including Recycling and Composting
2009/10	75%	40%	53%
2012/13	50%		
2015/16		45%	67%
2019/20	35%	50%	75%

Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme Targets for Worcestershire:

To reduce the amount of biodegradable MSW landfilled to

- 118,656t per annum by 31st March 2010
- 79,033t per annum by 31st March 2013
- 55,302t per annum by 31st March 2020

(These are called "LATS" allowances; the County Council will be fined £150/tonne if it landfills more than these amounts). Worcestershire County Council is working jointly with Herefordshire Council to manage and dispose of MSW.

National Recycling/Composting Targets

To meet the national targets for all Councils set out in "Waste Strategy 2007" (DEFRA's national waste strategy) of a minimum of

- 40% recycled/composted by 31st March 2010
- 45% recycled/composted by 31st March 2015, and
- 50% recycled/composted by 31st March 2020

(These are the same as and are intended to implement EU targets - table 1 above)

(Estimated) National Waste Reduction Targets for Worcestershire

To reduce the total of household residual waste (waste not re-used, recycled or composted) to:

- 764kg/household (29% of 2000 levels by 31st March 2010)
- 699kg/household (35% of 2000 levels by 31st March 2015) and
- 592kg/household (45% of 2000 levels by 31st March 2020)

In practice this means the Council is going to have to try to limit the amount of non-recyclable waste collected, promote reuse, home composting and maximise the amount recycled and composted.

Note: These figures are estimated and subject to clarification by DEFRA.

To achieve the requirements of the Housing Waste Recycling Act 2003 by 31st December 2010

The target is to provide a kerbside collection of at least two recyclable materials from all households by 31st December 2010 unless the cost of doing so would be unreasonably high or comparable alternative arrangements are available.

To reduce CO2 emissions per household arising from waste collections by 5% by 31st December 2015

In practice this means using the government's NI 185 LA Carbon Tool CO2 component attributable to transport of waste collections divided by the number of households served.



Regional Planning Policy Targets

The West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) sets the following regional targets for Worcestershire:

Municipal Waste Management	2005/06		2010/11		2015/16		2020/21		2025/26	
	Min. Diversion from Landfill	Max. Landfill	Min. Diversion from Landfill	Max. Landfill	Min. Diversion from Landfill	Max. Landfill	Min. Diversion from Landfill	Max. Landfill	Min. Diversion from Landfill	Max. Landfill
Worcestershire	78,000	234,000	160,000	181,000	212,000	143,000	242,000	127,000	254,000	130,000
Herefordshire's figures may need to be taken into account when calculating landfill space requirements. The figures are:										
Herefordshire	24,000	68,000	43,000	59,000	60,000	48,000	69,000	45,000	74,000	46,000

(WMRSS Phase 2 Revision Preferred Options Paper, Table 5)

These mean that progressively less can be landfilled and more must be recycled, composted or treated over the period up to 2026.

N.B. These figures are provisional and subject to revision when the final housing figures for the Phase 2 Revision of the RSS are set by the Secretary of State. Her decision is likely to be made after 2009 and the figures for regional waste targets will be revised subsequently.

You can find out more information about these figures in the RSS Phase 2 Preferred Options Report (http://www.wmra.gov.uk/Planning_and_Regional_Spatial_Strategy/RSS_Revision/RSS_Revision_Phase_2/RSS_Revision_Phase_2.aspx).

County Council Targets

Worcestershire County Council has also adopted the following local targets:

- LAA Targets - One of the Council's Local Area Indicators is:

To maximise the diversion of waste away from landfill through prevention, reuse, recycling/composting and recovery (Indicator NI 193, Municipal waste landfilled). The baseline is 57% (2006/07 figures)

2008/09	53%
2009/10	51%
2010/11	48%

The Waste Core Strategy will incorporate this and address how it can be achieved.

- Worcestershire Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO) targets:

These are more demanding than national and regional targets, viz: by 2015

- to recycle/compost 33% of MSW
- to recover (as energy from waste) 45% MSW to landfill a maximum of 22% MSW

These are targets the Council adopted in 2003. The aim is to reduce landfilling as much as possible. The policy recognises that other technologies may become available and alternative technologies to 'energy from waste' will be considered suitable if their environmental impact is equal to, or not significantly greater than those modelled for the BPEO. Because the BPEO targets are more demanding than national and regional targets we assess them in more detail below. The BPEO is a procedure which establishes, for a given set of objectives, the option that provides the most benefits or the least damage to the environment as a whole, at acceptable cost in both the short and long term.

The BPEO Strategy for the County was agreed after an extensive public consultation exercise, undertaken jointly with Herefordshire Council.

The introduction of statutory Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment has now subsumed the statutory requirement for BPEO as a planning tool and the concept no longer forms any part of government policy. Nevertheless, the Council's BPEO Strategy remains a valid document and provides vital context to the development of the Waste Core Strategy. It has been incorporated into Worcestershire County Council's Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and reviewed through the Sustainability Appraisal. It was supported by the public in the first round of consultations for the identification of Options for the Waste Core Strategy and we think that it would be useful to retain it now. For clarification however it must be stressed that we do not propose to require any kind of BPEO assessment to be undertaken during the

further development and implementation of the Waste Core Strategy and the concept will not be used by the Council in determining planning applications.

The BPEO Strategy has two important implications. It sets out

- what we have to achieve, and
- leaves it very open about how we should do so.

You can find out more about the targets for MSW and the background to them in the draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy at (<http://worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/wcc-waste-strategy>).

Commercial and Industrial (C & I) Waste

This includes all the different kinds of waste produced by the private sector. In summary, Commercial Wastes are those that arise from premises used wholly or mainly for trade, business, sport, recreation and entertainment. Industrial Waste is waste from factories or industrial processes and includes everything from rare metals to sewage waste. C & I Waste does not however include waste from

- (i) Quarries and gravel pits or
- (ii) Agricultural waste.

These are considered separate kinds of wastes (see below).

The Environment Agency has the duty to assess what C & I Waste is produced and is working with DEFRA to improve data collection. At the moment however the best available sources of information are sample surveys of what waste is produced by industrial sectors,



(Environment Agency, Strategic Waste Management Assessments (SWMA) produced in 1998, 2003 and 2006, from data based on returns made to the Environment Agency by Waste Management facility operators as a requirement of Waste Management Licences). What this means is we have good information, albeit a couple of years out of date about what, how much and how wastes were managed in Worcestershire - but little accessible information on how much waste is exported from Worcestershire for treatment elsewhere and almost none on what or where C & I waste is produced (as opposed to managed) in the County. There are 43 sites with planning permission to manage or dispose of C & I waste in Worcestershire (in July 2007).

How much C & I waste is produced in Worcestershire?

The Environment Agency estimates that 628,000t was managed in Worcestershire in 2006-07

- 321,000t of which was Industrial waste
- 307,000t of which was Commercial waste

How was it dealt with?

Industrial Waste (2006/07, figures rounded up)

- 37% recycled/composted
- less than 1% by thermal treatment
- 53% landfilled
- 10% treated

The general trend for C & I waste is of reductions in landfilling and increases in recycling/composting/treating.

Are there any targets?

National Targets

There are no national targets, in the strict sense of the word, which the Council has to meet to manage C & I waste. The National Waste Strategy 2007 expects there to be a 20% reduction from 2004 levels of C & I waste landfilled, by 2010. EU directives also establish a duty on the government to establish a statutory producer responsibility system for managing some specific waste streams e.g. Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) and Batteries and measures to limit packaging. It is possible that these will ultimately lead to local targets for the number or size of sites being imposed at a regional level during the life of the Strategy.

Regional Planning Policy Targets

The West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy sets the following targets for C & I waste for Worcestershire.

Commercial and Industrial Waste Diversion by Waste Planning Authority										
Municipal Waste Management	2005/06		2010/11		2015/16		2020/21		2025/26	
	Min. Diversion from Landfill	Max. Landfill	Min. Diversion from Landfill	Max. Landfill	Min. Diversion from Landfill	Max. Landfill	Min. Diversion from Landfill	Max. Landfill	Min. Diversion from Landfill	Max. Landfill
Worcestershire	441,000	320,000	503,000	271,000	627,000	268,000	858,000	286,000	858,000	286,000

These mean that progressively less can be landfilled and more must be recycled, composted or treated over the period up to 2026.

You can find out more information about these targets in the West Midlands RSS Phase 2 Revision Preferred Options Report at (http://www.wmra.gov.uk/Planning_and_Regional_Spatial_Strategy/RSS_Revision/RSS_Revision_Phase_2/RSS_Revision_Phase_2.aspx).

Agricultural Waste consists of two broad kinds of waste:

"Directive Waste" i.e. what is defined as waste for the purposes of EU legislation, e.g. containers, scrap metal, plastics, tyres and liquids tankered off site for treatment elsewhere, and

"Organic Waste" i.e. crop residues and animal manures which have traditionally been composted or reused on the farm itself and are not defined as waste for the purposes of EU legislation.

How much of it do we produce in Worcestershire?

Directive Waste 3,500t were produced in Worcestershire in 2003 (excluding tyres and liquids tankered off site for which no figures are available).

Organic Waste No figures are currently available. The total is probably hundreds of thousands of tonnes.



How is this dealt with?

Directive Waste was traditionally dumped on the farm that produced it (under Agricultural Permitted Development Rights). The right to do so was stopped in 2006. This waste is now treated like other C & I waste. A small number of specialist collectors of agricultural plastic have emerged but none are based in Worcestershire.

Organic Wastes are mostly composted and reused on site as soil improvers or fertilizers. To simplify a complicated set of regulations, in essence, provided the waste material involved grew on site and the proposal is to use it to improve the soil of the same land holding, the landowner does not need planning permission to spread it on the land. It is possible to use some of these materials, e.g. chicken manure as a source of fuel for renewable energy generation. There are none of these at present in Worcestershire.

Fallen stock (animals which die on the farm) requires special treatment. There is a well developed network of collectors. Some of this waste is used by Hunt Kennels, most goes to specialist incinerators of which there is only one in the West Midlands, in Shropshire.

Are there any targets?

There are no targets.

You can find out more about agricultural waste and Agricultural Permitted Development Rights from DEFRA (<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/topics/agwaste.htm>).

Because of its special nature we do not intend to address Organic (Non Directive) Agricultural Waste in the Waste Core Strategy. We assume that farmers and

landowners will continue to dispose of manures and crop residues on farm as they do now. Where they do not do so, or Permitted Development Rights do not apply however farmers and landowners will have to apply for planning permission to dispose of their waste like everyone else. In order to make sure that people agree we have included Q2 below to get your opinion on this approach.

It is possible that targets may be developed in future to help drive an increase in anaerobic digestion. The Consultation Draft of the UK Renewable Energy Strategy states (para. 7.6.6):

"The Government believes that a significant growth in the use of anaerobic digestion in the UK would be in the national interest. The Government is therefore working with stakeholders to drive faster growth in the use of anaerobic digestion by Local Authorities, farmers and land managers and other businesses."

Woodland Waste is not defined in government policy but we think that it represents a useful term to think about a rather specialist group of wastes. It is possible to divide this into two main categories.

Forestry and other 'woodland' wastes - i.e. what arises from forestry operations undertaken as part of commercial woodland management. Where woodland is of a certain size, operators often have the benefit of deemed planning permission and like farmers, do not need to apply for planning permission to undertake certain works and can dispose of waste wood grown on site on the landholding as a soil improver or for the benefit of wildlife. We do not intend to address this kind of material in the Waste Core Strategy.

Like farmers, foresters do however have to apply for planning permission if the waste material involved arises from, or is being disposed of in, another land holding. This kind of material and this kind of disposal will be addressed in the Strategy.

Green Wood Waste is not defined in government policy but can be thought of as all the organic waste arising from landscape and garden contractors, tree surgeons and hedge cutters and similar activities.

Where this material does not arise from farmland or woodlands or is managed and/or disposed of away from where it grew, no Permitted Development Rights apply, planning permission is therefore necessary to manage or dispose of it. This material can be composted and used as a soil improver. There are two planning permissions to do so in Worcestershire (at May 2008). It may also be a potential fuel for renewable energy generation.

How much is produced in Worcestershire?

There are no figures for how much of this material is produced in Worcestershire.

Are there any targets?

There are no targets

Construction and Demolition (C & D) Waste

arises from the construction and demolition of buildings or from engineering projects. It includes hard materials like concrete, bricks and rubble that can be relatively easily crushed and reused. (About 26% of construction materials in Britain are made from recycled C & I waste). It also includes topsoil, which is valuable and easily reused, and subsoil and clay or mudstone that is bulky, not easy to handle for which there is very little demand and which is mostly unusable waste. C & D waste also includes timber, metal, plastic and other building waste which arises from construction or demolition work and which needs to be sorted separately if it is to be recycled in order to avoid "contaminating" the other materials.

How much is produced?

There is no reliable data. Much of this material is dealt with where it arises, e.g. by using a mobile crusher to enable demolition waste to be reused as foundations - without third parties measuring or recording what is used or how.

The excavated soil and subsoil are often used as landscaping on site. Much is also removed to landscape other sites - sometimes usefully to create new land-forms, sometimes in ways that are little more than dumping it to get rid of it.

Site Waste Management Plans will be required from 2009 - they should mean that developers have to clearly set out what C & D waste they are likely to produce and how they propose to deal with it when they develop sites. This should help us plan for what is required when the Strategy is reviewed.



The Regional Planning Body has commissioned research that estimates that about 7mt of C & D waste is produced in the West Midlands each year and that Worcestershire would produce 10.06% of this in 2007, i.e. about 700,000t. A figure that is predicted to fall to about 7% (to about 500,000t pa) between 2011 and 2021 and to 6% (about 420,000t pa) between 2011 and 2021. The change reflecting anticipated housing development over the plan 2001-2021. National Surveys suggest that the scope for further recycling of C & D waste is limited and that most easily recyclable material (i.e. clean, hard C & D waste) is already recycled.

Are there any targets?

Government guidance is that about a quarter of C & D waste should be reused or recycled, as a substitute for freshly dug aggregate such as sand and gravel or crushed rock. There are no specific targets however. Neither PPS 10 or the WM RSS requires planning authorities to address C & D waste. Background research undertaken by the RSS does show however that C & D waste is the largest single waste stream in the region. It suggests that the Indicative Minimum Capacity required to management C & D waste in Worcestershire is:

Indicative annual treatment capacity (tonnes per annum) required to recycle C & D waste in Worcestershire:

2005	2010	2015	2021
527,000tpa	367,000tpa	354,000tpa	354,000tpa

(i.e. the amount which must be recycled). That the following Indicative Cumulative Void Capacity will be required in Worcestershire to absorb the remaining C & D Waste for use on "exempt" sites and for Engineering and Land Restoration purposes

Cumulative Void Required			
2005	2010	2015	2021
1,398,000t	2,058,000t	2,551,000t	3,043,000t

That the following Indicative Cumulative Non-Hazardous Landfill Capacity will be required in Worcestershire to dispose of the remaining C & D waste for which no use is likely to be found.

Cumulative Void Required			
2005	2010	2015	2021
280,000t	505,000t	694,000t	882,000t

[Source: "West Midlands Waste Treatment Facilities Capacity Study Phase 2: Indicative Future Requirements" tables 4.3, 4.4 and 4.5 (WMRA, Shropshire County Council 18.11.2004)]

Hazardous Waste

Hazardous waste includes many substances generally recognised as potentially dangerous, such as pesticides, asbestos, acids and alkalis. A number of other wastes that result from everyday activities, such as batteries, used engine oils, fridges, fluorescent light tubes and some of the liquids in scrapped cars are also classed as hazardous because of their potential to harm the environment. All movements of hazardous waste are tracked until they reach a waste management facility. Where, how and in what volumes they are treated is also recorded by the Environment Agency. Since July 2005 hazardous waste can only be landfilled at specifically licensed hazardous waste landfill sites and only after the waste has been treated. This too is required to be well recorded.

You can find out more information about Hazardous Waste on the Environment Agency website - http://www.environment-agency.gov.uk/subjects/waste/1019330/1217981/?version=1&lang=_e.

Radioactive Waste

Note - The definition of hazardous waste does not include Radioactive Waste. Because of the special nature of Radioactive Waste it is dealt with nationally and will not be addressed in the Waste Core Strategy. All references to "waste" in the Waste Core Strategy should therefore be regarded as excluding radioactive waste.

How much Hazardous Waste is produced?

62,550t of hazardous waste was produced in Worcestershire in 2006.

How was it dealt with?

7,467t was incinerated
54t landfilled
240t recycled or treated, and
55,278t was exported to specialist treatment facilities outside of the County

Are there any targets?

There are no targets for Worcestershire to manage specific volumes of hazardous waste in national policy.

Regional Planning Policy Targets

The RSS recognises that the West Midlands Region is a net importer of hazardous waste and that no additional facilities will be needed in the region up to 2026 - with the exception of

- (i) the need for specialist facilities to store, treat and remediate contaminated soils in the Black Country, Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent;
- (ii) the need to safeguard existing sites; and
- (iii) the need to "identify final disposal sites for hazardous waste including where necessary encouraging the creation of separate appropriate engineered cells in landfills for stabilised non-reactive hazardous waste, where the geological conditions are suitable".

Hazardous waste often requires very specialised facilities to manage it and these tend to rely on economies of scale to be economic. The number of hazardous waste management facilities is therefore relatively low and their catchment correspondingly wide. It is highly unlikely that the volume of such waste generated in Worcestershire during



the life of the strategy would be enough to supply any such site. The Council is not aware of the likelihood of additional hazardous waste being generated within the County or in adjoining areas where it could usefully be treated in Worcestershire. In the light of the draft RSS policy we do not therefore intend to include policies in the Waste Core Strategy to identify new sites specifically for Hazardous Waste Management. We intend instead to set up a policy framework which would enable the Council to determine applications for planning permission for any such facilities should they be made, but not to actively propose that they should be established in Worcestershire during the life of the Strategy. In order to make sure that people agree we have included Q3 below to get your opinion on this approach.

Mineral Waste

The Management of Waste from the Extractive Industries Directive 2006/21/EC (2006) makes it necessary to prevent or reduce as far as possible any adverse effects on the environment or on human health which are brought about as a result of the management of waste from the extractive industries, such as tailings, waste rock, overburden and topsoil. It requires member states to undertake all necessary measures to prevent or reduce as far as possible any negative effects, on the environment or on human health that are brought about as a result of extractive industry.

In practice, at present all of the waste produced as a result of mineral working in Worcestershire is dealt with on site at the gravel pits and the (one) operational hard rock quarry, in the County as restoration materials to create an acceptable landform in the restoration of the site. The cost of landfilling such materials off site effectively prohibits anything else. There is no evidence that managing Mineral Waste is currently a problem in Worcestershire or likely to become one in future.

Are there any targets?

There are no targets in either national or regional policy. There are however national policies for the management of this material in the restoration of mineral workings and for the prevention of pollution and harm to amenity. We intend to make sure that the proposed Minerals Core Strategy addresses these issues. We will also ensure that links are made between the Minerals and Waste Core Strategies to ensure that they do not contradict each other. We do not however intend to address waste from the extractive industries in the Waste Core Strategy itself. In order to make sure that people agree we have included Q3 below to get your opinion on this approach.



Have we missed anything?

Please note, all the questions in this document are repeated on a separate sheet, and on the Council's website - www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs, so that you can reply without having to send in this document. **Please feel free to add extra pages yourself.**

Question 1

Are there any other waste streams you think that we should address in the Core Strategy, which are not covered above?

- Yes?
- No?
- Don't know?

Question 1A

If yes, please could you describe what these are, and if possible, as much other information as possible, e.g. who they are generated by, where, in what volumes and how they are addressed at present

.....

.....

.....

.....

Question 2

Do you agree that the Waste Core Strategy should not include specific policies to manage organic agricultural waste? This means that we will leave landowners and farmers to manage these materials as they have traditionally done, as fertilizers or soil improvers on the land holding where it arises.

- Yes?
- No?
- Don't know?



Question 2A

If no, please could you give examples of what any such policies should cover and as much information as possible on why you think that this is necessary.

.....
.....
.....
.....

Question 3

Do you agree that the Waste Core Strategy should not include specific policies to manage waste from mineral working. This means that we will leave quarry and gravel pit operators to manage these materials in accordance with their planning permissions, as part of the restoration of the site.

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 3A

If no, please could you give examples of what any such policies should cover and as much information as possible on why you think that this is necessary.

.....
.....
.....
.....

What are the key issues?

We all produce waste. It is a fact of life. It is also, literally, a waste of resources and money. The environmental costs of managing waste are difficult to put a figure to but are very wide ranging and must include traffic congestion, air

pollution, greenhouse gas generation, soil, ground and surface water contamination, and damage to landscape and biodiversity. Waste is often dirty, can be smelly and can be hazardous.

PART 3

What issues do we need to consider when planning for Worcestershire's Waste?

This is the second time the County has considered this question. Between December 2004 and January 2005 it consulted on and held three workshops to discuss the report "Planning Issues and Options for Managing Waste in Worcestershire: Evidence Gathering in preparation of the Waste Core Strategy" (available on the Council's website - www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs). The report set out background information on a range of issues on which we wanted the public's views. Summaries of the responses received and of the workshop discussions are also on the web site.

We want to revisit these issues and refresh our thinking about them. Please feel free to comment on all or any part of the following.

How does waste planning fit in with everything else?

EU, statute law and national and regional policy require waste minimisation, the recycling and reuse of materials and reduction in landfill. They also require the planning system to deliver a framework which identifies and plans for waste management facilities and which will meet national and regional targets - in ways which enhance, or at the very least do not harm the environment, amenity and human health. These are not negotiable. We must comply with the following:

The National Waste Strategy

(http://www.environmental-information.co.uk/Docs/national_waste_strategy/) aims to reduce the consumption of natural resources, requires manufacturers to develop products that are less wasteful of materials and less harmful to the environment and requires retailers, consumers, local authorities and the waste management industry to assist them. It sets targets and dates by which the targets must be met.

There are financial incentives and penalties that encourage these:

- the **Landfill Tax Escalator** is a progressively increasing tax on waste landfilled per tonne to encourage businesses to reduce, reuse and recycle waste
- the **Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme (LATS)** allows local authorities to trade the ability to landfill biodegradable municipal (dustbin) waste. Each local authority has an allowance for the amount it can landfill each year. Those that landfill less can sell the surplus allowance. Those that landfill more than the allowance they have or have bought may be fined £150/tonne each year.

Recycling Credits encourage waste collection authorities (in Worcestershire, the District, City and Borough Councils) to divert waste away from disposal. In this County, the County Council pays recycling credits to all of the District, City and Borough Councils to support the provision of "Bring Banks" in order to encourage recycling. Local Authorities can, but do not have to, pay recycling credits to businesses or community groups that collect waste for recycling.



The effect of this is increasingly to require waste to be handled and disposed of more carefully and in more complicated ways. Over the life of the Waste Core Strategy we expected the waste management industry to need more and more technically sophisticated facilities to handle increasingly separate kinds of waste to progressively higher standards.

Government planning policy for waste notably **Planning Policy Statement (PPS) 10**, requires planning authorities to prepare and deliver strategies that enable communities to take more responsibility for their own waste and which enable "sufficient and timely provision" of waste management facilities to meet those needs. PPS 10 is however only part of government planning policy and has to be seen in the context of national planning policy as a whole. The single most important statement of which is PPS 1 "Planning for Sustainable Development". There are however a significant number of other Planning Policy Statements all of which are relevant to some extent. What we do in developing the Waste Core Strategy must therefore be seen in the context of, and be in conformity with, government policy as a whole (<http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planning/planningpolicyguidance/mineralsandwaste/wastemanagement/pps10/>).

Regional Planning Policy

The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) sets out strategic planning policy for the Region. It is currently being reviewed but, in essence, sets out a strategy to direct most development to major urban areas (MUAs), some to specified towns and only limited amounts to other areas. It sets the targets for how much housing and industry should be developed, how much waste each local authority must

manage and minimum targets for the amounts that must not be landfilled. These significantly limit the freedom of movement we have. They are not law but we are expected to comply with them unless we can show good reason and evidence why we should not do so. There are however specifically local issues where there is no such prescription. These are however equally important. We need to make sure that what we are proposing is appropriate for and meets the needs of Worcestershire, its people and those associated with it.

We think that the following local issues are important

Local Policies

The County and District, City and Borough Councils all prepare **Sustainable Community Strategies** that set out the Vision and Objectives for the development of their areas. These all influence the **Local Development Documents** they prepare and the Local Area Agreements which set some of the targets they want to achieve.

All of these have a bearing on what wastes will be produced, where, when, and how they need to be managed. All need to be taken account of in the Waste Core Strategy. In summary, waste does not exist in isolation, we need to see how it fits in with everything else that is going on in and around the County to make sure that the Strategy considers the wider environmental, social and economic issues going on around it. We need a context to set out what Worcestershire is like now and what local issues are important for waste management in Worcestershire. Government advice is that we should produce a "Spatial Portrait" of the County summarising these.



We have set out a **Draft Spatial Portrait** in Question 4.

We want your views on this Portrait. If you want to be sure that any and all of the issues which relate to Worcestershire are being addressed, please have a look at this document. Government advice is that the Spatial Portrait should be brief. It should draw attention to the big issues we need to address in the Waste Core Strategy and to links with other policies or areas of concern. We can however only touch on most issues in the Spatial Portrait itself, the important thing is to acknowledge their importance. Please feel free to comment on what we have identified. The earlier you draw attention

to matters of concern, the better we will be able to address them. To date, we have identified that the following matters have a specific geographical or locational relevance in Worcestershire and need to be considered when we are drawing up **Alternative Scenarios** and **Preferred Options**:

Physiography, cultural factors in the landscape, geology, land drainage and pollution, flood risk, water shortages, water treatment, groundwater protection, soil types, risk to soils, special soils, fire risk, transportation, agricultural pollution, agricultural change, forestry, population change, employment, changes to the economy, housing and sustainability.

Question 4

Does the Draft Spatial Portrait include all the main local issues that should inform the Waste Core Strategy?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 4A

If no, what else should we refer to? It would be helpful if you could also refer us to other sources of information or to people we could contact to explore these issues further.

.....

.....

.....

After we have considered your comments we will amend the draft Portrait, keep it as part of the background evidence for the Strategy and produce a one-page summary for inclusion in the final "Pre-Submission Consultation" report.



What should our Vision for the Waste Core Strategy be?

In the first place it must be something that contributes to the achievement of the **Sustainable Community Strategy for Worcestershire (SCS)**.

The SCS sets out the strategic vision for Worcestershire and focuses on the activity needed in the short term (currently 2008-2013) to make it happen. The aim is to improve the quality of life of people who visit, work or live in the County. Crime, health, housing, jobs, learning, the environment and transport are some of the big issues that this strategy is concerned with. It deals with the issues at a countywide or regional level. Each District, City and Borough Local Strategic Partnership produces a Community Strategy that tackles these issues at a more local level. Parish Councils also produce Parish Plans at a more local level still. Each of these levels reflects, influences and is influenced by the six themes in the SCS

- communities that are safe and feel safe,
- a better environment for today and tomorrow,
- economic success that is shared by all,
- improving health and well being,
- meeting the needs of children and young people, and
- stronger communities

there are also three cross-cutting themes that underpin the Strategy:

- tackling the challenge of climate change
- community engagement, and
- promoting community cohesion.

You can find out more about the SCS at www.worcestershirepartnership.org.uk.

Together these form the context for the Waste Core Strategy. We will test the Waste Core Strategy as it evolves to make sure that it complies with and where possible contributes to the aims of the SCS.

The Council's Local Area Agreement sets one target for waste management but the Waste Core Strategy should also meet the targets set out above in section 2 ("What kinds of waste do we need to deal with"). This would not be enough however to make it "sound". It is government policy that the Waste Core Strategy must be "spatial" in outlook. In practice this means that it must consider the wider environmental, social and economic aspects of development - not simply controlling the use of land. It must be driven by the concept of sustainability, recognise the implications of climate change and tie in with the wider development of the County, including the Sustainable Community Strategy for Worcestershire.

We need to decide what, where and when this going to happen in and around Worcestershire, what this means in terms of waste and what facilities are needed to manage that waste.

The West Midlands RSS will set out the general pattern and scale of what new building will be needed and broadly where it should be up to 2026. The District, City and Borough Councils will amplify and further develop the RSS in their Core Strategies to set out in more detail where and how each district will change and how new development will be accommodated.

The Waste Core Strategy will be produced in parallel and all will influence each other to make sure that they all fit together. But the Waste Core Strategy doesn't just follow these other strategies, so far as waste matters are concerned, it must lead the way. If it is to succeed we need a Vision to give us a direction to aim at, of what Worcestershire should be like in 2027. We need to make sure that we pick up on what the District and Borough Council and other public and private bodies are proposing as they develop their Strategies - and they need to recognise the part waste management will need to play in these strategies.

Government advice is that the Vision should be a high level statement, informed by the characteristics of the area and the key issues and challenges it faces, be led by the RSS and relate to the Sustainable Community Strategy.

In theory the range of possible Visions we could suggest is very wide - in practice it is very limited. It is national policy to "reduce waste by making products with fewer natural resources. We must break the link between economic growth and waste growth. Most products should be reused or their materials recycled. Energy should be recovered from wastes where possible. For a small amount of residual material landfill will be necessary." ("Aim" para.iii, 'Waste Strategy for England') (DEFRA).

It is regional policy to "deliver sustainable development through driving waste management up the waste hierarchy, addressing waste as a resource and looking to disposal as the last option". (WMRSS Phase 2 Revision, Draft Preferred Option. December 2007).

And local policy; the Sustainable Community Strategy for Worcestershire has sustainability at its heart. **We don't want to put false choices before you. We have to comply with these policies.**

Background

In November 2004, the Council published a paper, "**Planning Issues and Options for Managing Waste in Worcestershire - Evidence Gathering in Preparation of the Core Strategy**" and carried out a public and stakeholder consultation from 30th November 2004 until 14th January 2005. The consultation involved workshops, the Internet and the post. Copies of the **Summary Paper** were sent to over 700 people who had expressed an interest through the Council's **Statement of Community Involvement**. A further 100 people accepted invitations to attend one of three workshops. The full report was sent to them and made available on the Internet. A web link was created to enable comments to be made online. A total of 432 comments were made on the issues and options put forward.

A "Final Report, **Planning Issues and Options for Managing Waste in Worcestershire - Evidence Gathering in Preparation of the Core Strategy (April 2005)**" was produced and put on the Council's website at the time. A separate "**Report of Stakeholder consultations**" was also produced and made available for the public. These summarise the results of the consultation.



These reports are currently available on the Council's website. On the basis of this work and comments received on the subsequent "**Moving Towards the Identification of Preferred Options (September-October 2005)**", we feel that both the original Vision and Objectives needed to be revised. You can find copies of all of these reports on the Council's website - www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs.

We have a serious difficulty here in that we want your opinion to shape the Strategy but we recognise that it is very difficult to comment in abstract. It is also very difficult to get beyond a bland, short, Vision Statement which no one could disagree with, to develop something which is both meaningful and inspirational which actually drives the Strategy forward. Given the national and regional policies which we have to comply with and our experiences in developing the Strategy to date, we want to propose the following as a stimulus to debate. We must stress however that this is only a proposal, it does however relate well to both the findings of our consultations so far and the Options we propose later in this document. Whatever Vision we finally choose will however shape how we proceed and any comments you make will be very helpful.

You should also know that we are entirely prepared to adjust any Vision we develop as we proceed to work up the plan. The more defined it is early on however the most useful it will be in guiding us forward.

The Council first consulted on a draft Vision for the Strategy in September 2005, when it produced the report "**Moving towards the identification of Preferred Options**". That document set out 4 proposed Vision Statements. We consulted widely on these and held 3 workshops where they were discussed. The original report and replies to the consultation and the workshops are all on the Council's website - www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs. In response to the consultation and to changes in government policy we are now proposing a revised Vision.

We want your views on the Draft Vision Statement set out on the following pages.

We want your views on the Draft Vision Statement set out below**Question 5**

Is this a good Vision for the Waste Core Strategy to aim for?

Draft Vision Statement

The vision driving the Waste Core Strategy is that,

"Our goal is that by 2027 very little waste will be produced in Worcestershire and what is produced will be regarded as a source of useful material and treated so far as possible in worcestershire itself."

To be useful, however, that Vision cannot be restricted to a single statement. It must be a philosophy that guides us; that waste minimisation will be our priority, that the sustainable management of waste as a way of saving scarce resources is always something to be encouraged. It needs a change of attitude, a recognition that waste management is essential to the economy, but also something to be treated as just another business activity and not as something automatically needing special consideration or as inherently a 'bad' neighbour' development.

For Worcestershire it means a change in where most new facilities will be built. In general, it will mean that most new waste management facilities will be located close to where most wastes are produced. By 2027, most waste management activity will be in the broad area centred in and around Worcester, Kidderminster and Redditch, where most of Worcestershire's development and future growth are concentrated. Some facilities will need to serve a very wide catchment and for reasons of access, land availability and or economies of scale may not be located in or adjacent to, an urban area. Most operations will be based on industrial estates however rather than in the open countryside, unless most of the wastes to be treated arise there. Wherever possible such waste related development will be located on previously developed land and redundant agricultural and forestry buildings and their curtilage, rather than on greenfield sites and in, or adjoining the growth areas proposed in the Regional Spatial Strategy, principally in or around Worcester and Redditch and in connection with the major development areas in those towns. There will be some new waste management facilities in or around Bromsgrove and Droitwich and possibly somewhere they would assist the regeneration of Kidderminster and the growth of the high technology corridor between Longbridge and Malvern. There will be fewer new facilities however in Stourport, Bewdley and Evesham and fewer still in or near Malvern, Pershore, Upton and Tenbury unless special local conditions justify it. Many of these new facilities will be close to the principal highways in the County. Some will use rail or water to move materials.

continued on next page



continued from previous page

As a corollary, new waste related development would not be located in or near areas that are vulnerable to flooding or fire risk, unless special reasons justify otherwise. Whilst some will be outdoors, most waste management operations will take place in well-designed buildings.

It will be a change in how we manage waste. It means that waste management in future won't create pollution, damage natural or cultural assets or adversely affect the health or amenities of local people. Very little material will be considered unusable. What is will mostly be disposed of to generate useful benefits, such as soil improver or fuel. Only as a last resort will it be landfilled. If it is, the waste will be used positively, for land reclamation, to enhance landscape character or biodiversity, or create community facilities.

There will be significantly more waste treatment facilities and of different kinds and sizes than there are now. All the waste management capacity prescribed in the National, Regional and Joint Municipal Waste Management, Strategies will be operational and waste management itself will be a natural part of everyday life.

It means recognising that waste management is a dynamic, constantly changing activity. The facilities created will function as part of a network of symbiotic activities both within Worcestershire and the West Midlands. The network itself and the components within it will be capable of constant adjustment to address changes in the nature of business activity and technology within the wider economy up to 2026 and beyond. For business, waste will mean opportunity, those determining planning applications it will mean flexibility and encouraging new waste management facilities.

It means we will all take responsibility for what waste we produce and what we do with it, that we look to do away with "wasting" it altogether.

Yes?

No?

Don't know?



Question 5A

If yes, is there anything you would like to add or remove? Please give as much detail as possible.

Question 5B

If not, what should the Vision be?

.....

.....

.....

.....

You can find out more about the background to our thinking about the Vision in the report "Towards a Vision Statement" on the Council's website - www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs.



PART 4

How can we realise this Vision? What should be our Objectives?

The Vision will give us a sense of direction but it needs to be worked up into more detailed Objectives, to set out how it can be realised.

The Council consulted on draft objectives in December 2004 and September 2005.

The Council's original Objectives for the Waste Core Strategy were:

- Waste minimisation - reducing the amount of waste produced to the lowest possible
- Waste reuse, recycling and recovery - recognising waste as a resource and gaining value from it
- Developing waste markets - enabling waste to gain a value when put to beneficial uses
- Providing waste management capacity - taking responsibility for the waste produced and being self sufficient
- Proximate facilities - seeking to reduce transport impacts and retain local responsibility for waste disposal activities and larger waste management facilities
- Enabling development - through consideration of a sequence of preferred locations that may include the Green Belt
- Diversion of waste from landfill - focusing on using waste as a resource with disposal as a last resort

- Protecting and enhancing the natural and historic environment, the quality and character of the countryside, and existing communities
- Managing the effects of new development - ensuring high quality development through good and inclusive design
- Integrated decision making - reflecting the concerns and interests of communities, the needs of waste collection authorities, waste disposal authorities and businesses

The comments made in response and changes in government guidance mean that we think that it is necessary to revise these.

Revised Objectives: Consultation

The following "**Revised Objectives**" are now proposed for comment.

This is the second time the Council has consulted on these Objectives but they are very important. We set out revised Objectives below and explain how we chose them. Please feel free to suggest any other Objectives or areas of concern you think should be addressed.

Revised Objectives

Purpose

The purpose of the Objectives is to expand the Vision to identify the key issues that the Waste Core Strategy needs to address and to point the way to how the Vision will be achieved. Together, the Revised Objectives will lead on to the identification of Revised Issues which can be refined into Revised Options, which will in turn inform Spatial choices as to where, when, how and by whom the Strategy will be implemented. It is the Council's intention to keep the Objectives under long-term review. Their value will be assessed as part of the Monitoring Programme for the Waste Core Strategy. One of the triggers for the review of the Strategy will be if the Objectives need updating.

Context

It is government policy (as set out in PPS12) that the purpose of the Core Strategy is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development and the creation of strong, safe and prosperous communities. As such, the government is emphatic, it should not repeat or reformulate national or regional policy. It is a matter of law that these policies must be considered and applied as a whole. The government considers that there is no need therefore for us to repeat those policies or their objectives here. They must be taken as read. We recognise that this makes it difficult for the public to get involved. We have therefore added a section to the Council website which contains a list of the most relevant policies and hyperlinks to them. It is regularly updated. Details of all such policies can however be found through CLG (<http://www.communities.gov.uk>) and DEFRA (<http://www.defra.gov.uk>) websites.

What this means is that the Guiding Principles and Local Objectives we are proposing must therefore be seen in the context of current national and regional policies. You may find it helpful to know that these are:

- the key principles of planning for sustainable development in PPS1;
- the key planning objectives in PPS10; and
- the principles underlying the West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy.

Details of which can all be found on our website -

<http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs>.

We propose that the Waste Core Strategy will comply with all of these unless there are very special reasons, which would justify the contrary. Please inform us as soon as possible if you consider that there are any such reasons and of sources of evidence that would support any such claims.

It is government policy that the Council should consider a wide range of options in developing the Strategy and should make these explicit. For some matters, however, there are very few alternatives; either National or Regional policy or good Planning practice, require us to do them and it would be dishonest to pretend otherwise. The Council intends therefore to make the following its **Guiding Principles** for the Waste Core Strategy. NB: Subject to the exception made for the last point, these are not in order of priority:



- To follow the principle of sustainability and the need to reduce and mitigate the causes of climate change to guide decisions,
- To use the best available scientific research,
- To adopt a precautionary approach,
- To conform to national and regional policy unless valid reasons not to do so are explicitly stated,
- To involve all those affected,
- The date to which the Strategy should apply will be at least until 2027, to link with the RSS, with provisions to address issues beyond then,
- To use the criteria set out in PPS10 to identify broad areas and locational criteria for development,
- To develop a network of waste management facilities with sufficient capacity to treat the equivalent of all the waste produced in Worcestershire (i.e. in essence, local self sufficiency),
- To do everything possible to enable the use of waste materials as a resource, minimising landfill (i.e. in essence, to apply the Waste Hierarchy, encouraging higher end uses),
- To reduce the transportation of waste by road (i.e. in essence, to apply what used to be called the Proximity Principle where possible),
- To ensure that the waste implications of development proposals are taken into account,
- To support high quality design in waste management facilities,
- To safeguard existing waste management facilities from incompatible development, unless it would not be in the interests of amenity to do so,
- To reflect the concerns and interests of local people and businesses,

- To monitor the effect of the Waste Core Strategy and revise it accordingly as circumstances change.
- To make it as easy as possible, subject to environmental considerations, to develop waste management facilities which help to deliver these objectives.
- To ensure that the Waste Core Strategy is as flexible as possible to respond to change up to and beyond 2027.

Amongst all of these however we think that one should be the most important:

- To conserve and enhance the natural, built and historic environment and the amenities, health and safety of everyone who lives and/or works, in Worcestershire,

This will be the ultimate test of whether development proposals will be acceptable or not.

These Guiding Principles are however general and not place specific.

The Council needs to identify specifically Local Objectives for the Waste Core Strategy. Their purpose is to set out the specifically Worcestershire elements that we need to aim for and to set the context for the Options and the policies we need to realise those aims. Together with the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Assessment the Local Objectives will provide tests against which the evolving Strategy can be measured and pointers to ensure that it is proceeding in the right direction. They need however to be what the people who live and work in Worcestershire want. We want your comments on these.

DRAFT Local Objectives for the Waste Core Strategy.

1) To ensure that in Worcestershire waste is planned for and managed in ways that contribute to the achievement of, or at least do not conflict with, all the other plans and strategies that make and help keep the County distinctive.

[At present, these include:

- The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (you can find out more at

<http://worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/wcc-waste-strategy>)

- Change Strategy (you can find out more at

<http://worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/wcc-sustainability-hottopics-climatechange-strategy>)

- The Worcestershire Local Area Agreement (you can find out more at <http://www.worcestershirepartnership.org.uk/home/index/wp-laa.htm>)

- The Worcestershire Biodiversity Action Plan (you can find out more at <http://www.ukbap.org.uk/lbap.aspx?id=498>)

- The Economic Strategy for Worcestershire (you can find out more at

<http://worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/bus-reports-pub-eco-strat-2.pdf>)

- Strategic Flood Assessments (you can find out more at the Worcestershire District and City Councils - work is still under development)
- The Sustainable Community Strategies in the County (work is still under development).
- Historic Landscape Characterisation of the County (work is currently under development).

- The Worcestershire Landscape Character Assessment (you can find out more at

http://worcestershire.whub.org.uk/home/wccindex/wcc-planning/wcc-planning-env-policy/wcc-lca-home/wcc-lca-information.htm#what_is_landscape_character_assessment).

2) To create a network of facilities which is locally distinctive and which reflects the distribution of development in Worcestershire up to 2027 prescribed in the Regional Spatial Strategy.

We are conscious of the need to protect and enhance the historic environment. There are not however any local plans or policies which specifically refer to these matters at present. The concept is central to the Planning system however and enshrined in national and regional policy. We intend to comply fully with these. There is no need therefore for us to refer to them in any more detail or to repeat those policies. If any such plans or policies are made which apply these concepts specifically to Worcestershire we will assess their implications - and the possible need to review the Waste Core Strategy in the Council's Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme Annual Monitoring Report.

We can use the plans and strategies in both of these Objectives to identify both areas or places which influence where new waste management facilities should be developed and the targets we need to meet to achieve and monitor these Objectives.

It is unlikely that all of these plans and strategies will be revised during the course of the Strategy. We will monitor those revisions and report on their in.



Do you have any comments on these Draft Local Objectives?

Question 6
Do you agree with these Draft Local Objectives?
Please feel free to comment or add any others you would like to suggest.
Do not worry about precise wording, it will be as helpful to us if you can identify concepts or ideas rather than the perfect phrase.

Yes?
No?
Don't know?

.....
.....
.....
.....

The next stage in achieving the Vision for the Waste Core Strategy is to develop these Objectives into Options. This will be done in two stages.

The **First Stage** is to develop "**Criteria Options**" (e.g. whether waste management related development should be large or small, dispersed or concentrated, etc) and to apply these to the physical characteristics of Worcestershire itself to turn abstract criteria into real locational choices. These will be subject to further consultation.

The **Second Stage** is to develop **Alternative Scenarios** and **Preferred Options** which give these a Spatial (i.e. locational) dimension.

Before we can identify these we need to clarify the issues we need to consider in order to work these Objectives up into detailed policies and proposals.



PART 5

What should the Waste Core Strategy include?

Between 2005 and 2007 the Council carried out 4 consultations on what issues we should consider when developing the Strategy. Government and regional policy and ways of managing waste have changed since then and we want to make sure that our approach is still the one the people and businesses of the County want.

You can find out more about these consultations in the document "Stages in the development of the Waste Core Strategy" which is available on the Council's website - www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs.

As a result of those consultations and the changes which have taken place in national and regional policy since then, we think the following matters are important to how we should develop the Strategy. They are in effect the building blocks which will shape it and we want your opinion on them - and any others that you think we should consider.

What kinds of Waste should the Waste Core Strategy cover?

Question 7

We think that the Waste Core Strategy should deal with all of the following:

- Municipal Solid Waste (MSW)
 - Commercial and Industrial (C & I)
(including Directive Agricultural Waste but not "organic waste")
 - Hazardous Waste, and
 - Construction and Demolition Waste (C & D)
- But not Radioactive Waste

Do you agree?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 7A

If not, please could you explain why not?

.....

.....



How much waste should we deal with?

Government policy is quite clear. The Regional Planning Body should apportion the tonnages of waste requiring management by waste planning authority area, i.e. the RSS sets the targets for Worcestershire. Once confirmed by the Secretary of State these should be carried forward into local development documents. "There should be no need to re-open consideration of either (the RSS) principles or the annual rates of waste to be managed." (PPS 10 paras. 8 to 14).

We think therefore that the Waste Core Strategy should be designed to meet the targets set out in the RSS.

You can find out more about the National and Regional targets for how much waste we should address in document "the Capacity Gap" available on the Council's web page - www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs. This document is regularly updated to take account of new sources of information.

Alternatives:

We do not believe that there are any realistic alternatives to meeting these targets, they are supported by substantial evidence. We are however very interested to see if other targets do exist.

Question 8

Do you agree that the Waste Core Strategy should be designed to provide sufficient facilities to meet the targets set out in national and regional policy?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 8A

If not, please could you explain what other targets would be appropriate and why? If we were to set other targets we would need evidence to justify them. Are you aware of any such evidence?

.....
.....

We need to monitor the Strategy carefully and to report our findings in the Council's Minerals and Waste Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report (AMR). Some of the tests we can apply are set out in the Sustainability Appraisal accompanying this report. We need to

identify others. It is difficult to know what these should be at this stage of the plan, but it would be helpful to know if there are any subjects or measures that you think are particularly important.



Question 9
 Are there any subjects that you think we should measure to monitor the success or otherwise of the Plan?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 9A
 If yes, please could you list these and is possible suggest sources for this information?

.....

.....

What should the broad distribution of waste management facilities be?

We believe that the choices open to us are relatively constrained. It is government policy that "when issued in its final form by the Secretary of State the (Regional Spatial) Strategy should comprise a distribution of waste tonnage requirement management, a pattern of waste management facilities of national, regional or sub-regional significance and supporting policies". (PPS 10, para. 6)

The current RSS does not do this. It does however identify the total volumes of waste which should be managed, the maximum amounts to be landfilled and the distribution of new housing and industry. The Joint Revised Municipal Waste Management Strategy will set out broadly how and where new facilities for the management of Municipal Solid Waste should be established and the targets which have to be met. We think

that incorporating it into the Waste Core Strategy is the best way we can plan for the management of Municipal Solid Waste.

However in the absence of detailed prescriptions for Commercial and Industrial and Construction and Demolition Waste in the RSS we think that we need to identify further criteria to guide us on the distribution of new C & I and C & D waste management facilities throughout the County.

We think that we should plan for the new capacity we need by making allocations for each District and Borough Council area.

This would comply with the RSS which does this for both housing and employment land development.



Question 10

Do you agree that we should allocate the distribution of the new Commercial and Industrial and Construction and Demolition waste management capacity we need by District and Borough Council area?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 10A

If not, please could you explain why and suggest alternatives.

.....

.....

.....

.....

If you agree, the natural follow up question is, what basis should we use to distribute this allocation?

Unless the RSS is revised to prescribe this there is no "right" way to do so.

We think that it would be useful to mirror the way that the indicative long term requirement for employment land provision for each District and Borough is set out in the RSS. We think that this makes sense because:

- Most waste management activity is usually either designated as "general industry" (the formal term in planning policy is "B2 Use") or is similar to it. (There are exceptions, notably landfills, which are regarded as special cases unlike anything else, known as "sui generis" uses, but these are the exception not the rule.)

- The RSS assessment of how much employment land is needed for each District and Borough is for all industrial uses, including waste management (and for Offices and Warehousing) and because
- The development of waste management facilities in the same broad location and at more or less the same time, as employment land is developed, makes it at least possible that businesses may be able to get their waste treated near to where they produce.

On the basis of the current allocation of employment land in the RSS this would mean that about:



% of new waste management capacity needed to manage Commercial and Industrial and Construction and Demolition waste between 2006 and 2026 would need to be developed in

7.3%	Bromsgrove
11.5%	Malvern Hills
17.7%	Redditch
28.1%	Worcester City
23.9%	Wychavon
11.5%	Wyre Forest

(rounded up to) **100% total for Worcestershire**

(Please note, this approach only reflects the amounts of C & I and C & D waste. It cannot be used for Municipal Solid Waste, the RSS employment land requirements do not take into account the number of dwellings proposed in each District, City or Borough. Planning for C & I and C & D wastes and for MSW waste must therefore be done differently. The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy will take into account RSS housing allocations but it also has to consider existing facilities for the management of MSW and the need for economies of scale within the context of the Council's Integrated Waste Management Contract with Mercia Waste).

Question 11

Do you agree that this is a reasonable distribution of the new waste management facilities we need to manage Commercial and Industrial and Construction and Demolition waste?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 11A

If not, please could you explain why and suggest an alternative.

.....

.....

.....

How will we know if these targets are the right ones?

The RSS will be monitored annually and reviewed every 5 years. National policy will also be reviewed at about the same interval. It will be clear if our targets differ significantly from theirs. We will also be

monitoring the progress of the Waste Core Strategy itself, it will become clear to us if businesses and the waste management industry want different targets.

There is a related question:



How will we know if we have achieved the capacity we need?

We intend to monitor:

- the generation and growth rates of the major waste streams,
- waste movements in and out of the County,
- performance against targets (from the RSS, Local Area Agreement, Joint Municipal Waste Management Plan), and the BPEO and
- the provision of new facilities by District, City and Borough Council area.

These are issues that we will develop further in our monitoring proposals. You will be able to comment on these next year.

In practice, we think that the market will make it clear whether the Strategy is working or not. If we find that significant land allocations for waste management

uses are available, at realistic prices and are not unreasonably constrained, but are not being taken up, we probably don't need to allocate more.

If on the other hand we find that all the land we allocate is taken up and that no land appears to be available for waste management, we probably have too little and need to allocate more. In practice we do not think that an over supply of waste management capacity is likely. If it were to happen we can use conditions on planning permissions to limit the volume, nature and source of waste materials coming into the County. This would enable us to prevent excessive volumes being brought into the County for processing. Given the County's location on the periphery of the West Midlands and its distance from other conurbations we think that this is unlikely to happen.

Question 12

Do you think that there are particular matters we should monitor? If so please could you suggest these and possible sources of information.

.....

.....

.....

.....

How should we measure waste management capacity?

We think that there are three possibilities.

Notional capacity: this is the maximum set in planning permissions and Waste Management Licences.

Technical reasons, e.g. the size of and availability of plant and actual hours worked mean that Operators rarely reach these levels.

Theoretical capacity: the West Midlands Regional Assembly has commissioned research which estimated the theoretical projected maximum capacity of existing waste management sites in the region. This used a range of assumptions to attempt to illuminate the difference between the current capacity of individual sites and the realistic potential for increasing capacity. This has the advantage of recognising that many waste management facilities could treat rather more material than they do at present - which means that the County's theoretical capacity may be higher than we realise and therefore the need for new sites may not be as great. It has the disadvantage however of depending on a range of assumptions which may not be reliable and may change over time.

You can find out more in the West Midlands Regional Assembly report: *Waste Treatment Facilities and Capacity Survey: West Midlands May 2007 (SLR) Client Ref. RA50.* (http://www.wmra.gov.uk/Environment_and_Waste/Waste/Publications_and_Report.s.aspx) (Referred to subsequently as the SLR report on Capacity)

Actual capacity: this is the volume of what and how much waste each site managed and how they did so, reported by operators to the Environment Agency as part of the Waste Licensing process. It has the advantages of being precise, generated by the operators themselves and regulated by the Environment Agency. It has the disadvantage that it is always a year or two out of date. It also does not take account of the theoretical capacity which undoubtedly exists. SLR for example found that most waste management sites in region only operated at 60% efficiency (see reference Capacity Report above). We think however that this does not outweigh its other advantages and those it has over the other two methods and this is the method we propose to use.

Question 13

We intend to use "Actual Capacity", the Environment Agency's own site monitoring records to calculate Worcestershire's waste management capacity. Do you agree that this is the best information available?

- Yes?
- No?
- Don't know?



Question 13A

If no, please could you explain why and suggest an alternative.

.....
.....
.....
.....

The RSS identifies a "Treatment Gap" between the waste management capacity that currently exists in Worcestershire (based on a calculation of Theoretical Capacity as described above) and what capacity is required. We think that this is useful in showing the scale of facilities needed but is dependent on too many variables to be relied on. We think that the Strategy should aim to meet the targets in Tables 5 and 6 of the RSS Preferred Options Report as the minimum capacity we need and that trying to

estimate theoretical capacity may be both misleading and lead us to under provide what is necessary. In order to avoid these we propose to ignore the notional and theoretical capacity of facilities when calculating the treatment gap and how much more capacity we need to provide for. This is in accordance with the RSS and has the virtues of simplicity and relative accuracy. We welcome any suggestions however for alternative ways forward.

We think however, that when it comes to estimating the "treatment gap" between how much waste management capacity we have and how much we need, that we should rely on comparing our Actual Capacity, as defined above and the targets for Division from Landfill set out in the RSS.

Question 14

Do you agree?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 14A

If not please could you explain why and suggest an alternative.

.....
.....
.....



How much land will we need?

Once we have decided what waste management capacity (in tonnes) we need, we will need to calculate how much land (in hectares) we need to enable it to happen.

There is no simple, generally accepted ratio of tonnes/ha that we could use. Different technologies need different areas of land, for example.

Question 15

We think that it would be useful to adopt the following ratios as a working basis to identify land for waste management purposes:

Open window composting	10,000t/2.5ha
Transfer stations	50,000t/0.5-1ha
All other waste management types	50,000t/1ha
Landfill	No set relationship because each proposal and site will differ. Approximately 10,000t/1ha @ 1m depth of tipping.

We will need to monitor this closely to see if the planning applications which come forward in Worcestershire, or other evidence, reflects this. If not we will need to revise the Strategy promptly.

Do you agree?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 15A

If no, please could you explain why and suggest alternatives.

.....

.....

.....

.....

You can find out more examples of the relationship between the capacity of waste management facilities and the land they use in the Background Paper - www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs.



How long should we plan for?

Government policy is that Core Strategies should have a life of at least 15 years from adoption. We anticipate that this would be up to 2027. The Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) will apply up to 2026 and will set the context for all land use change up to that time. The RSS will however be monitored and reviewed over its life and reviews and projections forward should be in preparation before 2026 and will provide the context for the Waste Core Strategy beyond that date.

Alternatives:

In theory any other date could be adopted. In practice there would have to be very special reasons to plan for any period prior to 2026. The Council is not aware of any such reason. The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy extends to 2034 and would justify planning for MSW to that date. There is however no evidence to support any such date for C & I and C & D waste streams (which are for larger in size than MSW). The Council does not believe that this can easily be justified. Your thoughts on this are welcomed however.

Government policy is that the Strategy should be for at least 15 years from adoption. We expect it to be adopted 2012 and that the Strategy should extend therefore to 2027. This will ensure both that it is compatible with the current RSS and able to pick up on the thinking for the next regional plan. During the course of the Waste Core Strategy we will also aim to monitor it annually and review it about every 5 years to keep it in line with future reviews of the RSS.

Question 16
Do you agree with our proposal to prepare the Plan up to 2027?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 16A
Do you agree with our proposal to monitor it annually and review it every 5 years?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

If not, to either of these, please explain why and suggest alternatives.

.....

.....

.....



How should we plan for beyond 2027?

Government policy encourages us to be flexible and to produce a Strategy capable of responding to change and specifically to plan for levels of growth higher than the RSS currently predicts. We also need to make sure that the strategy looks beyond the current RSS target date of 2026 and beyond the strategy's own proposed target date of 2027.

We think that one way would be to identify roughly how much capacity we will need beyond this date and the broad areas where it will be needed. This is fraught with difficulties, there are no agreed methods for how we should do this or what it would be like.

We think that a useful way forward would be:

- To project the current RSS calculations forward for 10 years to 2036 in the light of new evidence and our own monitoring of the plan,
- To identify the scale of new waste management facilities needed to address these projections and the land area needed on the same basis throughout the period 2007-2036,
- To identify broad areas where these facilities would be needed but which would only be brought forward if all other appropriate allocations had been taken up first or could be shown to be unsuitable or unavailable
- To reassess all of these in the light of new evidence and our own monitoring of the Strategy at 5-yearly intervals.

Question 17

Do you agree?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 17A

If no, please could you explain why and suggest alternatives.

.....

.....

.....

.....



Protecting the environment, health, employment and amenity of Worcestershire.

We will make sure that any and all waste management facilities that are developed enhance their surroundings, or at the very least do not harm the environment, health, employment and amenities of local people and businesses. We will do so by rigorously applying all the national and regional policies which exist to protect these matters.

You can find out more about national policies to protect the environment on the Communities and Local Government (CLG) website (<http://www.communities.gov.uk>) and regional policies on the West Midlands Regional Assembly website (<http://www.wmra.gov.uk/>).

In summary, it is government policy that our plans should consider:

- The potential impacts, positive as well as negative, on the environment of development proposals (whether direct, indirect, cumulative, long-term or short-term); and
- Recognition of the limits of the environment to accept further development without irreversible damage

(That) Planning authorities should seek to enhance the environment as part of development proposals. Significant adverse impacts on the environment should be avoided and alternative options that might reduce or eliminate those impacts pursued. Where adverse impacts are unavoidable, planning authorities and developers should consider possible

mitigation measures. Where adequate mitigation measures are not possible, compensatory measures may be appropriate. In line with the UK sustainable development strategy, environmental costs should fall on those who impose them - the "polluter pays" principle (PPS 1) and that in testing the suitability of sites and areas we should bear in mind the specific factors

- protection of water resources
- land instability
- visual intrusion
- nature conservation
- historic environment and built heritage
- traffic and access
- air emissions, including dust
- odours
- vermin and birds
- noise and vibration
- litter, and
- potential land use conflict"

(Annex E, PPS 10)

Please bear in mind these are the general headings which we will use to assess the suitability of sites and areas in the Strategy. The Courts have ruled that many more matters may be "material considerations" when Councils assess specific applications for planning permission. What we want to do here is to offer you the opportunity to suggest other matters that you think we should be aware of.



Question 18
 Are there any other matters that you think we should take into account in order to protect the environment, health, employment and amenity of the people who live in the County when assessing the suitability of sites and areas for waste management facilities in the Waste Core Strategy?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 18A
 If so, please could you list these below?

.....

.....

.....

.....

Possible Future Issues

We do not want to rule out anything from future consideration. It is inevitable that new issues will emerge as we develop the Strategy and that existing ones will change. We will address these as they appear. By definition most cannot be known at present.

It is possible however to identify some matters now even if we do not yet know their exact outcome or final form. To date we have identified the following as important, the

- RSS Phase 3 Revision
- River Severn Basin Management Plan
- South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy

- Bromsgrove Core Strategy
- Redditch Core Strategy
- Longbridge Area Action Plan

We think that lack of these will identify the scale of change likely to take place in each area, the broad location of and some indicative timing for the changes likely and will guide what the Core Strategy needs to address.

We also intend to look at all the Local Development Framework documents being produced for areas adjoining the County in the same way and the Regional Landscapes for Living Project. (This project will identify broad locations for nature conservation enhancement in Worcestershire. We think that this will be helpful in assessing possible locations for some kinds of new waste management developments).



Question 19

We anticipate amending this list throughout the development of the Strategy, but do you agree that these will be important?

- Yes?
- No?
- Don't know?

Question 19A

What else should we include?

.....

.....

.....

.....

PART 6

How should we proceed to develop options?

We want to establish a set of Options - broad concepts which we can use to develop Alternative Scenarios for waste management in Worcestershire.

We want to make sure that we have identified an appropriate range of concepts to develop those scenarios.

We want your views on whether these are appropriate.

We will then test these against our Sustainability Appraisal.

At this stage these concepts will be abstract. During 2009 however we will apply those concepts to real conditions in Worcestershire - turning abstract ideas into real alternatives for the County. We will set out a range of alternative scenarios to develop a Preferred Option. We will consult you again on this process.

Choosing the Option

Stage 1 Criteria Options

We have already developed one set of Options, which we are now calling "Criteria Options". We can use these to make broad choices about what we want our waste management industry to be like. These are described below.

Criteria Options

Between September and December 2005 we consulted the public and held three workshops to discuss which of the following were a suitable set of options on which to base the Strategy:

(a) Green Belt

- (1) Any new Waste Management Facility is inappropriate (unless exceptional circumstances are justified).
- (2) New waste development in the green belt is appropriate when (i) on previously developed land; and (ii) in accordance with the objectives of Planning Policy Guidance 2: Green Belts.
- (3) New waste development is appropriate anywhere when in accordance with the objectives of Planning Policy Guidance 2: Green Belts.

(b) Urban/Rural

- (1) Focus is on development in urban locations throughout Worcestershire with justified/ minimal development in rural locations.
- (2) Focus is split evenly between urban and rural locations.
- (3) Focus is on development in rural locations with justified/ minimal development in urban locations.

(c) Small/Large Facility

- (1) Primarily large waste management facilities.
- (2) Even split of large and small waste management facilities.
- (3) Primarily small waste management facilities.



(d) Central/Dispersed

- (1) Focus on centralising facilities but with dispersed facilities, if justified.
- (2) Even split between central and dispersed facilities.
- (3) Focusing on dispersing facilities but with a countywide/central service facility, if justified.

(e) BPEO

- (1) Sustainability impacts of the adopted BPEO Strategy.

You can find out more about the consultation, the workshops, Sustainability Appraisal of these Options and how we made the choice at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs.

The BPEO Strategy is that we should manage:

Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) by achieving a minimum of 33% recycling/composting; a maximum of 22% landfilling; and any balance by thermal treatment.

Commercial and Industrial Waste (C & I) by achieving a minimum of 73% recycling; a maximum of 23% landfilling; and 4% by existing thermal treatment.

Construction and Demolition Waste (C & D) a minimum of 76% recycling; and a maximum of 24% landfill.

The County Council has agreed that it is essential that when determining planning applications it should be able to take account of changing circumstances rather than dogmatically insisting on particular technologies. Increased levels of recycling and or composting are welcomed as a means of moving waste up the hierarchy and diverting it from landfill. Processes or technologies put forward as an alternative to those which comprise the policy for a particular waste

stream will not be discounted, only required to clearly demonstrate how the impact of that process or technology will be equal to, or not significantly greater than, those which have been modelled for the BPEO.

What does the BPEO mean in practice?

MSW: it means that if the total MSW production predicted for 2025/6 is 384,000t (RSS Preferred Option December 2007, Table 5.) We need to landfill not more than 84,480t (22%). [This is less than the RSS target of 130,000t and to recycle/ compost at least 290,000t. [This is more than the RSS target of 254,000t].

C & I: total production predicted for 2025/6 is 1,144,000t. We need to landfill not more than 263,000t. [This is less than the RSS target of 286,000t] and to recycle/compost at least 880,000t. [This is more than the RSS target of 858,000t diverted from landfill].

C & D: total production predicted for 2025/6 is 3,397,000t. We need to landfill not more than 815,280t. [This is less than the RSS estimate of 354,000t and to recycle/compost/use for engineering purposes at least 2,581,600t. [This is less than the RSS estimate of 3,043,000t but represents achieving more management at higher levels of the Waste Hierarchy].

You can find out more about these in the following documents:

BPEO

(www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs)

RSS Preferred Options Report, December 2007

(http://www.wmra.gov.uk/Planning_and_Regional_Spatial_Strategy/RSS_Revision/RSS_Revision_Phase_2/RSS_Revision_Phase_2.aspx)



In response to the comments we received we decided that the following would be our preferred options on how to proceed:

- A3** That new waste development is appropriate anywhere in the Green Belt when in accordance with the objectives of Planning Policy Guidance 2;
- B1** To focus on development in urban locations throughout Worcestershire with justified minimal development in rural areas;
- C1** To establish primarily large waste management facilities;
- D1** To focus on centralising facilities, but with dispersed facilities if justified; and
- E1** To incorporate the adopted BPEO Strategy into the Waste Core Strategy.

Government advice is that we should avoid spurious precision but these figures are useful indicators of the kinds of volumes we need to plan for. Unless compelling new evidence is brought forward proposing other figures, we intend to proceed on this basis.

We have reconsidered both our original choice of options and we still believe that these are an appropriate range of options and the best choice to develop the Strategy.

Question 20

Do you agree that we should develop the Waste Core Strategy on the basis of the following options:

- A3** That new waste development is appropriate any where in the Green Belt when in accordance with the objectives of Planning Policy Guidance 2;
- B1** To focus on development in urban locations throughout Worcestershire with justified minimal development in rural areas;
- C1** To establish primarily larger waste management facilities;
- D1** To focus on centralising facilities, but with dispersed facilities if justified; and
- E1** To incorporate the adopted BPEO Strategy into the Waste Core Strategy.

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 20A

If no, please could you explain why and suggest alternatives.

.....

.....

.....

We now realise that these options could be supplemented by one more. We do not think it is realistic to specify exactly what waste management technologies we need, but we do however have to plan for types of technology.



What waste management methods should we specify?

The range of technologies available at present is wide. The broad technologies available today include:

- Waste recycling through Materials Reclamations Facilities
 - Composting of waste - green waste and mixed waste - aerobic and anaerobic, including the potential generations of energy
 - Mechanical biological treatment maximising recovery and recycling of materials
 - Mechanical biological treatment producing a refuse derived fuel
 - Gasification/pyrolysis
 - Incineration
 - Landfill
- or combinations of these.

We could specify which of these, or which combinations we want. But we believe that it would be unrealistic and misleading to do so and would not be in the spirit of the BPEO. New methods of treating waste will be invented and new opportunities for businesses to do so will emerge over the life of the Strategy.

Some of these will be influenced by what happens outside of the County and in the national, even international, economy. We do not want to frustrate innovation or make it difficult for industry to respond to any such changes.

It is government policy that we should

- consider possible future waste management facilities in terms of type and scale, taking account of the best available technologies,
- should identify sites or areas for waste management purposes and
- "identify the type or types of waste management facility that would be appropriately located on the allocated site or in the allocated area, taking care to avoid stifling innovation in line with the waste hierarchy". (PPS10 para. 18)

We are not aware of any evidence that would justify us developing a Strategy which prescribes specific types or sizes of waste management facilities. We would very much like to hear from you if you have any evidence to the contrary or if you can suggest what kind of facilities should be prescribed and why, the basis on which we could plan these and any other Councils which have successfully done so.



Question 21

Do you agree that the Waste Core Strategy should not specify which waste management technologies should be developed?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 21A

If you think that it should specify technologies, please could you describe why, and suggest what technologies would be needed.

.....

.....

.....

.....

Instead of specifying specific technologies, we think that it would be useful to think in terms of grouping waste management activities into broad types, identify broad locations or sites where each type would be suitable and use Development Control policies to assess whether particular applications for planning permission would be acceptable at individual sites.



Question 22

We think that the following would be useful concepts to use to identify the broad locations where waste management facilities should be developed:

Facilities where the primary waste management activity would be

- (a) outdoors,
- (b) windrow composting, or
- (c) landfill, or
- (d) indoors, or
- (e) indoors but where emissions would be dispersed significantly beyond the site.

We will use these to develop a range of criteria to identify what kind of sites would be appropriate for each concept.

Do you agree that this would be a useful way to proceed?

Yes?

No?

Don't know?

Question 22A

If not, please could you explain why and suggest alternatives.

.....

.....

.....

.....

Question 23

Finally, are there any other matters you think we should address?

Please give as much detail as possible.

.....

.....

.....

.....

PART 7

Next Steps

After the consultation closes we will:

- produce a schedule of who commented, what they said and how we propose to address their comments, and publish it on the website at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs before 27th February 2009
- use these comments to produce a report setting out what Criteria Options we have adopted, to be published on the same website by the same date,
- use these Options to develop Alternative Scenarios on what applying these options to the geography of the County might be
- consult selectively on these, particularly involving those who commented on this report and specialist and statutory organisations, and
- produce Preferred Options for further consultation during the autumn of 2009.

We welcome contributions at any time however. Please contact me, at the address below if you have any questions or would like to comment on any aspect of the emerging Waste Core Strategy.

Thank you for your interest

Please return the questionnaire or forward any questions to:

Nick Dean,
Planning, Economy and Performance,
Worcestershire County Council,
County Hall, Spetchley Road,
Worcester
WR5 2NP

before the closing date of 19th December 2008.

We will try to incorporate comments received after this date but the earlier we receive them the more time we will have to consider them and incorporate them.



Glossary of Terms

ANAEROBIC DIGESTION - A process where biodegradable material is encouraged to break down in the absence of oxygen. Material is placed into a closed vessel and in controlled conditions the waste breaks down into digestate and biogas.

ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT (AMR) - A report that principally describes how a Local Planning Authority is performing in terms of meeting the targets and aspirations for Local Development Document preparation as set out in its three-year project plan (the Local Development Scheme). The AMR will also be used to assess how the targets in the Waste Core Strategy are being met.

AREA OF OUTSTANDING NATURAL BEAUTY (AONB) - A landscape area of high natural beauty which has special status, and within which major development will not be permitted, unless there are exceptional circumstances. Designated under the 1949 National Parks and Access to the Countryside Act. There are parts of 2 AONB's, the Malvern Hills AONB and Cotswold's AONB in Worcestershire.

BEST PRACTICABLE ENVIRONMENTAL OPTION (BPEO) -The BPEO is the outcome of a systematic and consultative decision-making procedure which emphasises the protection and conservation of the environment across air, land and water. The BPEO procedure establishes, for a given set of objectives, the option that provides the most benefit or the least damage to the environment as a whole, at acceptable cost, in the long term as well as in the short term.

BIODEGRADABLE - Materials that can be chemically broken down by naturally occurring microorganisms into simpler compounds. In the context of this document it refers principally to waste containing organic material that can decompose giving rise to gas and leachate and other by-products.

BIOGAS - Gas produced by the decomposition of organic waste in the absence of oxygen, and which can be used as a fuel.

BRING SYSTEM - A recycling system that relies on the public segregating and delivering waste materials to collection points (e.g. bottle and paper banks at local supermarkets).

CIVIC AMENITY SITE - See Household Recycling Site.

CLINICAL WASTE - Derived largely from hospitals, medical and other related practices and defined as blood, tissue and other bodily fluids and excretions from humans and animals; drugs and medical equipment; and any other waste which, unless rendered safe, may prove hazardous or infectious to persons coming into contact with it.

COMBINED HEAT AND POWER (CHP) - The combined production of heat (usually in the form of steam) and power (usually in the form of electricity). In large waste-fired facilities, the heat could be used as hot water to serve a business or even a district-heating scheme.

COMMERCIAL WASTE - Waste arising from premises that are used wholly or mainly for trade, business, sport, recreation or entertainment, excluding municipal and industrial waste.

COMMUNITY STRATEGY -The Local Government Act 2000 requires local authorities to prepare a community strategy. "A Partnership for excellence" has been adopted for Worcestershire. It sets out the broad vision for the future of the County and proposals for delivering that vision.

COMPOSTING - An biological process which takes place in the presence of oxygen (aerobic) in which organic wastes, such as garden and kitchen waste are converted into a stable granular material. This can be applied to land to improve soil structure and enrich the nutrient content of the soil.

CONSTRUCTION/DEMOLITION WASTE - Includes waste arising from the construction, repair, maintenance and demolition of building and structures.

CONTROLLED WASTE -- Comprised of household, industrial, commercial, hazardous (special), clinical and sewage waste which require a waste management license for treatment, transfer and disposal. The main exempted categories comprise mine, quarry and farm wastes. The government is currently consulting on the extension of controls to farm wastes. However, materials used for agricultural improvement, such as manure and slurry, will not become controlled. Radioactive and explosive wastes are controlled by other legislation and procedures.

CORE STRATEGY DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENT -This will be one of the most important Development Plan Documents to be produced. The County Council intends to produce both Minerals and Waste Core Strategies to define the long term strategic vision and policies for minerals and waste development in the County.

DEPARTMENT FOR COMMUNITIES AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT (DCLG) - The Government department responsible for planning and local government.

DEPARTMENT FOR THE ENVIRONMENT, FOOD AND RURAL AFFAIRS (DEFRA) - Government department with national responsibility for sustainable waste management

DEVELOPMENT PLAN - In Worcestershire this consists of the Regional Spatial Strategy, Structure Plan, District Local Plans, and Minerals Local Plan.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS (DPD) - DPDs are spatial planning documents that are subject to independent examination. They will have 'development plan' status once adopted by the Council.

EC DIRECTIVE - A European Community legal instruction, which is binding on all Member States, but must be implemented through legislation of national governments within a prescribes timescale.



ENERGY RECOVERY - Includes a number of established and emerging technologies, though most energy recovery is through incineration technologies. Many wastes are combustible, with relatively high calorific values - this energy can be recovered through (for instance) incineration with electricity generation, gasification, Pyrolysis or refuse derived fuel.

ENVIRONMENT AGENCY - Established in April 1996, combining the functions of former local waste regulation authorities, the National Rivers Authority and Her Majesty's Inspectorate of Pollution. Intended to promote a more integrated approach to waste management and consistency in waste regulation. The Agency also conducts national surveys of waste arising and waste facilities.

ENVIRONMENTAL REPORT - Document required by the SEA Directive as part of an environmental assessment, which identifies, describes and evaluates the likely significant effects on the environment of implementing a plan or programme.

GASIFICATION - The thermal breakdown of organic material by heating waste in a low-oxygen atmosphere to produce a gas. This is then used to produce heat/electricity. It is similar to Pyrolysis.

GOVERNMENT OFFICE FOR THE WEST MIDLANDS (GOWM) -The Government's regional office. Local Planning Authorities will employ this office as a first point of contact for discussing the scope and content of Local Development Documents and procedural matters.

GREEN BELT - Areas of land defined in Structure Plans and District Wide Local Plans that are rural in character and adjacent to urban areas, where permanent and strict planning controls apply in order to; check the unrestricted sprawl of built up areas; safeguard the surrounding countryside from further encroachment; prevent neighboring towns from merging into one another; preserve the special character of historic towns and assist urban regeneration.

GREENFIELD SITE - A site previously unaffected by development.

GREENHOUSE GASES - Gases such as methane and carbon dioxide that are believed to contribute to global warming by trapping heat between the earth and the atmosphere.

HAZARDOUS WASTE - Waste which by virtue of its composition, carries the risk of death, injury or impairment of health, to humans or animals, the pollution of waters, or could have an unacceptable environmental impact if improperly handled, treated or disposed of, as controlled in the EC Directives on Hazardous Waste and defined by Special Waste Regulations 1996 (as amended) (schedule 2).

HOUSEHOLD RECYCLING SITES - Sites to which the public can bring domestic waste, such as bottles, textiles, cans and paper for free disposal. They may also accept bulky household waste and green waste. Where possible, the collected waste is recycled after sorting.



HOUSEHOLD WASTE - As a major component of the municipal waste stream, household waste includes waste from household collection rounds, bulky waste collection, hazardous household waste collection, garden waste collection, civic amenity site waste, and wastes collected through council recycling schemes.

HYDROGEOLOGY - The study of the movement of water through its associated rock strata.

INCINERATION - The controlled burning of waste, either to reduce its volume, or its toxicity. Energy recovery from incineration can be achieved by utilising the calorific value of paper, plastic, etc to produce heat or power. Current flue-gas emission standards are very high. Ash residues still tend to be disposed of to landfill.

INDUSTRIAL WASTE - Waste from any factory and from any premises occupied by an industry (excluding mines and quarries).

INERT WASTE - Waste which, when deposited into a waste disposal site, does not undergo any significant physical, chemical or biological transformations and which complies with the criteria set out in Annex 111 of the EC Directive on the Landfill of Waste.

INTEGRATED WASTE MANAGEMENT - Involves a number of key elements, including: recognising each step in the waste management process as part of a whole; involving all key players in the decision-making process; and utilising a mixture of waste management options within the locally determined sustainable waste management system. The Council integrated waste management contract with Herefordshire Council prescribes how the two Counties' Municipal Waste will be dealt with.

INTEGRATED POLLUTION PREVENTION AND CONTROL (IPPC) - Is designed to prevent or, where that is not possible, to reduce pollution from a range of industrial and other installations, including some waste management facilities, by means of integrated permitting processes based on the application of best available techniques.

KERBSIDE COLLECTION -- Any regular collection of recyclables from premises, including collections from commercial or industrial premises as well as from households. Excludes collection services delivered on demand.

LANDFILL - The deposit of waste onto and into land in such a way that pollution or harm to the environment is prevented and, through restoration, to provide land which may be used for another purpose.

LANDFILL ALLOWANCE TRADING SCHEME (LATS) - Process of apportionment, by local authority area, of the tonnage of biodegradable municipal waste that may be disposed of to landfill to meet EU Landfill Directive targets.

LANDFILL GAS - Gas generated by the breakdown of biodegradable waste under aerobic conditions within landfill sites. The gas consists primarily of methane and carbon dioxide. It is combustible and explosive in certain conditions.



LANDFILL TAX - A tax introduced in 1996 by HM Custom and Excise on waste deposited in licensed landfill sites, with the aim of encouraging more sustainable waste management methods and generating funds for local environmental projects. A revision to the landfill tax credit scheme in 2003 introduces the option of giving tax credits explicitly to biodiversity projects.

LANDRAISE - where the deposit of waste material above existing or original ground level raises land.

LANDSPREADING - The application of wastes or sludges to the land and thereby facilitating their degradation and incorporation into the top layer of soil. Fertiliser is usually added to assist aerobic breakdown.

LAND USE PLANNING - The Town and Country Planning system regulates the development and use of land in the public interest, and has an important role to play in achieving sustainable waste management.

LICENSED SITE - A waste disposal or processing facility that is licensed under the Environmental Protection Act for that function.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT DOCUMENT (LDD) - A LDD will form part of the Local Development Framework and can either be a Development Plan Document (DPD) or a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD). Worcestershire County Council is responsible for producing a Minerals and Waste Development Framework containing Minerals and Waste Local Development Documents.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK (LDF) - The LDF comprises a portfolio of local development documents that will provide the framework for delivering the spatial planning strategy for the area. District and Unitary Authorities will prepare LDFs for their area.

LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (LDS) - The LDS sets out a three-year programme for the preparation of LDDs. As a County Planning Authority, Worcestershire County Council has prepared a Minerals and Waste Development Scheme, setting out a timetable for preparation of Minerals Development Documents and Waste Development Documents. Schemes must be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval and monitored annually through the AMR system.

MATERIALS RECOVERY /RECYCLING FACILITY (MRF) - A site where recyclable waste, usually collected via kerbside collections or from Household Recycling Centres, is mechanically or manually separated, baled and stored prior to reprocessing.

METHANE - A colourless, odourless gas formed during the anaerobic decomposition of putrescible waste. It is the major constituent of landfill gas.

MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT SCHEME (M&WDS) - Essentially the same as the Local Development Schemes produced by the District and Unitary Authorities this three year project plan sets out the preparation milestones of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework. Again, the procedures for approving monitoring and reviewing the M&WDS involve dialogue with the Secretary of State.

MUNICIPAL WASTE - Includes all wastes collected by the Waste Collection Authorities, or their agents, such as all household waste, street litter, municipal parks and gardens waste, council office waste and some commercial and industrial wastes.

PLANNING INSPECTORATE (PINS) - The Government agency responsible for scheduling independent examinations. PINS employ the planning Inspectors who sit on independent examinations.

PLANNING POLICY GUIDANCE NOTES (PPGs) - Government policy statements on a variety of issues that are material considerations in determining planning applications.

PLANNING POLICY STATEMENT (PPS) - Guidance documents which set out national planning policy. They are being reviewed and updated and are replacing PPGs.

PREVIOUSLY DEVELOPED LAND - Previously developed land is that which is or was occupied by a permanent structure (excluding agricultural or forestry buildings), and associated fixed surface infrastructure. The definition covers the curtilage of the development. Previously developed land may occur in both built-up and rural settings. The definition includes defence buildings and land used for mineral extraction and waste disposal where provision for restoration has not been made through development control procedures.

PROPOSAL MAP - A separate Local Development Document, which illustrates on an Ordnance Survey base map all the policies and proposals contained in Waste Development Plan Documents and 'saved policies' (where applicable). It must be revised each time a new Development Plan Document is approved for adoption.

PUTRESCIBLE WASTE - Organic waste which, when deposited at a landfill site, will decompose and give rise to potentially polluting by-products in the form of liquids or gases.

PYROLYSIS - The heating of waste in a closed environment (i.e. in the absence of oxygen) to produce a secondary fuel product.

RESTORATION - The methods by which the land is returned to a condition suitable for an agreed after-use following the completion of tipping operations.

RECOVERY - The process of extracting a product of value from waste materials, including recycling, composting and energy recovery.

RECYCLED AGGREGATES - Aggregates produced from recycled construction waste such as crushed concrete, road planing's etc.



RECYCLING -- Involves the reprocessing of wastes, either into the same product or a different one. Many non-hazardous industrial wastes such as paper, glass, cardboard, plastics and scrap metal can be recycled. Hazardous wastes such as solvents can also be recycled by specialist companies, or by in-house equipment.

REDUCTION - Achieving as much waste reduction as possible is a priority action. Reduction can be accomplished within a manufacturing process involving the review of production processes to optimise utilisation of raw (and secondary) materials and recirculation processes. It can be cost effective, both in terms of lower disposal costs, reduced demand from raw materials and energy costs. It can be carried out by householders through actions such as home composting, re-using products and buying goods with reduced packaging.

REFUSE DERIVED FUEL (RDF) - A fuel product recovered from the combustible fraction of waste, in either loose or pellet form.

REGIONAL PLANNING GUIDANCE (RPG) - Produced by the Government Office for the West Midlands (GOWM) on behalf of the Secretary of State. Until it is replaced by the new Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) it provides a regional strategy within which Local Plans, Local Development Documents and the Local Transport Plan should be prepared.

REGIONAL SELF-SUFFICIENCY - Dealing with wastes within the region or country where they arise.

REGIONAL SPATIAL STRATEGY (RSS) - This document is prepared by the West Midlands Regional Assembly. It has statutory development plan status.

RE-USE - The reuse of materials in their original form, without any processing other than cleaning. Can be practised by the commercial sector with the use of products designed to be used a number of times, such as re-useable packaging. Householders can purchase products that use refillable containers, or re-use plastic bags. The processes contribute to sustainable development and can save raw materials, energy and transport costs.

SAVED PLAN & SAVED POLICIES - Under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 the County Structure and Minerals Local Plans have been 'saved' for a period of three years (To September 2007).

SCHEDULED ANCIENT MONUMENT (SAMs) - Nationally important archaeological remains that have special protection from development under the 1979 Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act.

SCOPING -The process of deciding the scope and level of detail of the SA and SEA. This also includes defining the environmental / sustainability effects and alternatives that need to be considered, the assessment methods to be used, the structure and contents of the Environmental / Sustainability Report.

SECONDARY AGGREGATES - Aggregates derived from by-products of the extractive industry, e.g. china clay waste, colliery spoil, blast furnace slag, pulverised fuel ash.

SPECIAL AREAS OF CONSERVATION (SAC) - Designation made under the Habitats Directive to ensure the restoration or maintenance of certain natural habitats and species some of which may be listed as 'priority' for protection at a favourable conservation status.

STAKEHOLDER - Anyone who is interested in, or may be affected by the planning proposals that are being considered.

STATEMENT OF COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT (SCI) - Sets out the Council's vision and strategy for the standards to be achieved in involving the community and stakeholders in the preparation of all Local development Documents and in decisions on planning applications.

STRATEGIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (SEA) - Local Planning Authorities must comply with European Union Directive 2001/42/EC which requires a high level, strategic assessment of local development documents (DPDs and, where appropriate SPDs) and other programmes (e.g. the Local Transport Plan and the Municipal Waste Management Strategy) that are likely to have significant effects on the environment.

STRUCTURE PLAN - A broad land use and transport strategy, which establishes the main principles and priorities for future development. Prepared by the County Council.

SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT (SPD) - Whilst not having 'development plan' status, SPDs can form an important part of the local development framework of an area. They can be used to expand policy or provide further detail to policies in development plan documents. Community involvement will be important in preparing SPDs but they will not be subject to independent examination.

SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL (SA) - Local Planning Authorities are bound by legislation to appraise the degree to which their plans and policies contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. The process of Sustainability Appraisal is similar to Strategic Environmental Assessment but is broader in context, examining the effects of plans and policies on a range of social, economic and environmental factors. To comply with Government policy, The County Council has undertaken Sustainability Appraisals that incorporate a Strategic Environmental Assessment of its Waste Core Strategy.

SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT - Development, which is sustainable in that it meets the needs of the present without comprising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.

SUSTAINABLE WASTE MANAGEMENT - Means using material resources efficiently, to cut down on the amount of waste we produce. And where waste is generated, dealing with it in a way that actively contributes to economic, social and environmental goals of sustainable development.



THE DEVELOPMENT PLAN -The Government is committed to ensuring that planning decisions on proposals for development or the change of use of land should not be arbitrary. The statutory development plan will continue to be the starting point in the consideration of planning applications (Section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004). The development plan consists of:

- (i) The Regional Spatial Strategy prepared by the West Midlands Regional Assembly ("the Regional Planning Body"); and
- (ii) Development Plan Documents prepared by the District and Borough Councils, and the County Council.

VOID SPACE - The remaining capacity in active or committed landfill or landraise sites.

WASTE - Is the wide ranging term encompassing most unwanted materials and is defined by the Environmental Protection Act 1990 and decisions of the European Court. Waste includes any scrap metal, effluent or unwanted surplus substance or article that requires to be disposed of because it is broken, worn out, contaminated or otherwise spoiled.

WASTE ARISING - The amount of waste generated in a given locality over a given period of time.

WASTE HIERARCHY - Suggests that: the most effective environmental solution may often be to reduce the amount of waste generated - reduction. Where further reduction is not practicable, products and materials can sometimes be used again, either for the same or a different purpose - re-use. Failing that, value should be recovered from waste, through recycling, composting or energy recovery from waste. Only if none of the above offer an appropriate solution should waste be disposed.

WASTE MANAGEMENT INDUSTRY - The businesses (and not-for-profit organisations) involved in the collection, management and disposal of waste.

WASTE MANAGEMENT LICENCE - Waste Management Licensing - licenses are required by anyone who proposes to deposit, recover or dispose of controlled waste. The licensing system is separate from, but complementary to, the land use planning system. The purpose of a licence and the conditions attached to it is to ensure that the waste operation that it authorises is carried out in a way that protects the environment and human health.

WASTE MINIMISATION - Reducing the volume of waste that is produced.

WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL ASSEMBLY (WMRA) - Body responsible for regional planning and waste strategy matters in the West Midlands.

WEST MIDLANDS REGIONAL TECHNICAL ADVISORY BODY (WMRTAB) - Supports and advises on waste management options and strategies. Also develops regional targets and objectives for waste management.

এই দলিলটি বুঝতে আপনার সাহায্যের দরকার হলে দয়া করে এই নম্বরে ফোন করুন: 01905 25121

اگر آپ کو اس دستاویز سے متعلق مدد درکار ہو تو براہ مہربانی 01905 25121 پر فون کریں۔

如果你在明白這份文件方面需要幫助的話，請致電 01905 25121 。

ਜੇਕਰ ਤੁਹਾਨੂੰ ਇਸ ਦਸਤਾਵੇਜ਼ ਬਾਰੇ ਕਿਸੇ ਸਹਾਇਤਾ ਦੀ ਲੋੜ ਹੈ ਤਾਂ ਕਿਰਪਾ ਕਰਕੇ ਟੈਲੀਫੋਨ ਨੰਬਰ 01905 25121 'ਤੇ ਸੰਪਰਕ ਕਰੋ।

Se con questo documento avete bisogno di aiuto pregasi telefonare a 01905 25121

Jeżeli potrzebujesz pomocy w zrozumieniu tego dokumentu, zadzwoń pod nr tel.: 01905 25121

Planning, Economy & Performance Directorate
Worcestershire County Council
County Hall
Spetchley Road
Worcester WR5 2NP

www.worcestershire.gov.uk