

Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire

SUMMARY OF FIRST DRAFT SUBMISSION CONSULTATION



Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy

The Council is preparing a Waste Core Strategy: a plan for how to manage all the waste produced in Worcestershire up to 2027. In November 2009, the Council issued an Emerging Preferred Options Consultation to invite a discussion on how we should proceed. The First Draft Submission Consultation report is the follow up to that consultation. This summary document sets out the main points contained in The First Draft Submission report.

Summary Document September 2010

Please note, this is still a draft document, the Council's Cabinet have agreed that it can be released for consultation purposes but it does not represent their views or those of the Council. The Cabinet and then the Council as a whole will consider the final report after we have received and incorporated the comments people make on this report. At present however this is only a draft for discussion.

The Council is preparing a **Waste Core Strategy**: a plan for how to manage all the waste produced in Worcestershire up to 2027. In November 2009, the Council issued an **Emerging Preferred Options Consultation** to invite a discussion on how we should proceed. The First Draft Submission Consultation report (available at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs) is the follow up to that consultation. This Summary Document sets out the main points contained in the First Draft Submission Consultation report.

We have taken account of all of the comments from previous stages and this consultation is the last opportunity for you to significantly revise the strategy. It would be very helpful to us if you could let us know if you agree with our approach and the policies we propose or, if not, why not and what you think we need to say. It would be helpful if you could complete the questionnaire and return it to us or fill it in online at our website (www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs), but please feel free to concentrate on the issues that most interest you, any comments will be useful to us. This document is a draft, but the majority of the document has been phrased as though it is the completed Waste Core Strategy to give you the opportunity to comment on proposed wording as well as the content and issues covered.

The consultation will run from **28th September - 9th November 2010**. It is important that you reply by the 9th November 2010 so that we can fully consider your comments.

We will take your comments into account and prepare a final version of the document which will be submitted to the Secretary of State after a final round of consultation in which you will only be able to comment on whether the Waste Core Strategy is "sound". To be sound the Strategy must be justified, effective and consistent with national policy.

Please send your comments or completed questionnaires to:

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Please contact me if you need any further information or additional copies of this report or questionnaire.

You may be aware that an application for planning permission has been submitted for an Energy from Waste Plant at Hartlebury. That application will be determined in accordance with the Development Plan current at the time, unless material considerations indicate otherwise. Because the Waste Core Strategy has not been submitted, tested at Examination or adopted by the Council, the First Draft Submission consultation Waste Core Strategy will be given no weight in the determination of the application.

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Introduction

The purpose of the Waste Core Strategy

- 1.1. The Waste Core Strategy is a statutory "Development Plan Document" and forms part of the Development Plan for Worcestershire. The County Council is responsible for determining applications for 'county matters'¹, which includes applications for waste handling, treatment and disposal. Some elements of the Waste Core Strategy will also be relevant to City, District and Borough Councils' decisions when determining planning applications for all types of development. The Waste Core Strategy will apply until 2027.
- 1.2. The council has two distinct responsibilities, as a waste disposal authority (relating to the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy) and as a waste planning authority (relating to the Waste Core Strategy). These are covered by different statutory regulations and policy requirements. The two elements are conducted quite separately. The reviewed Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy deals with how municipal waste should be managed and the Waste Core Strategy sets the policy framework by which all development proposals for waste management facilities must be assessed.

The process

- 1.3. The Waste Core Strategy has been shaped in consultation with communities, businesses and other organisations and we have taken account of all the comments from previous stages. This consultation is the last opportunity for you to significantly revise the strategy. To help you complete the questionnaire, we have included the consultation questions in boxes throughout this *Summary Document*. You will be able to answer most of the questions having read this summary, however you will need to read the full document to answer question 3 (regarding waste arisings and capacity gap figures) and question 18 (regarding the monitoring framework) and therefore these two questions are not highlighted in this *Summary Document*.
- 1.4. We intend to respond to your comments as quickly as possible, refer it to Councillors for approval and if they approve, to publish the draft submission early in 2011. You will then have six weeks to make comments on the 'soundness' of the strategy before we submit the final Waste Core Strategy to the Secretary of State for Examination. He will appoint an independent Inspector to assess the 'soundness' of the report. Only the Inspector decides what he will consider in detail and who will be invited to contribute. Therefore we urge you strongly to make your representations now.

¹ Town and Country Planning (Prescription of County Matters) (England) Regulations 2003. Including applications for "the use of land, the carrying out of building, engineering or other operations, or the erection of plant or machinery used or proposed to be used, wholly or mainly for the purposes of recovering, treating, storing, processing, sorting, transferring or depositing of waste" and any operations or uses ancillary to the purpose."

An overview of Waste Management in Worcestershire

Q1 (pg2 of the questionnaire): Does the overview of waste management in Worcestershire adequately cover the main issues influencing the County?
If not please include details.

- 1.5. The County of Worcestershire has a population of 557,600 people² and covers an area of 173,529 ha. There are six District, City and Borough Councils in Worcestershire. Worcestershire is part of the West Midlands region and adjoins the South West. 71% of the population of Worcestershire live in urban areas and the majority of employment is in these areas.
- 1.6. Waste arisings (i.e. the locations where waste is produced) broadly reflect the distribution of population and the location of industry in the County. In general, existing waste management sites tend to be clustered in or near to towns in the north of the County with few existing waste sites in the Malvern Hills District and Worcester City.
- 1.7. There is a distinct hierarchy of settlements in Worcestershire and, in terms of waste management, settlements at different levels of the hierarchy perform different functions. Current arisings, resource demand³ and existing waste management capacity influence the role of each settlement and this is likely to be reinforced by expected patterns of future growth. These factors have informed the broad geographic hierarchy set out in **Box 1** below.

Q2 (pg2 of the questionnaire): Do you agree with the Broad Geographic Hierarchy?
If not please include details.

Box 1. Broad Geographic Hierarchy⁴

1. **Worcester and its expansion areas, Kidderminster area and Redditch**
2. **Bromsgrove, Droitwich and Malvern**
3. **Evesham and Pershore**
4. **Tenbury Wells and Upton-upon-Severn**
5. **Rural areas**

- 1.8. Every waste stream is different and is subject to different pressures and influences. In Worcestershire there is currently a 'capacity gap', meaning that waste arisings within the county are greater than the capacity to treat them. Based on the projections of future municipal solid waste (MSW), commercial and industrial (C&I) waste and construction and

² Office of National Statistics mid-year estimate 2008.

³ Refers to the demand for resources from organic waste recovery (e.g. composting), recycling and energy recovery.

⁴ For further detail, see background document "*Identifying areas of search*". Note: the hierarchy does not naturally accord with district boundaries; for example, growth of Worcester and its expansion areas will not all be within Worcester City. This is recognised in the approach taken by Worcester City, Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Councils in their approach to the South Worcestershire Joint Core Strategy.

demolition (C&D) waste arisings and current treatment capacity in Worcestershire, the capacity gap has been identified in Table 1⁵. To provide for this capacity, it has been calculated that, on average, between 25,000-32,500 tonnes per annum is managed per hectare⁶ and these figures have been used to calculate the land requirement shown in Table 1. This is based on the concept of equivalent self-sufficiency⁷ for waste arisings from Worcestershire, but when considering municipal waste this also includes figures for Herefordshire due to the way in which this waste is managed.

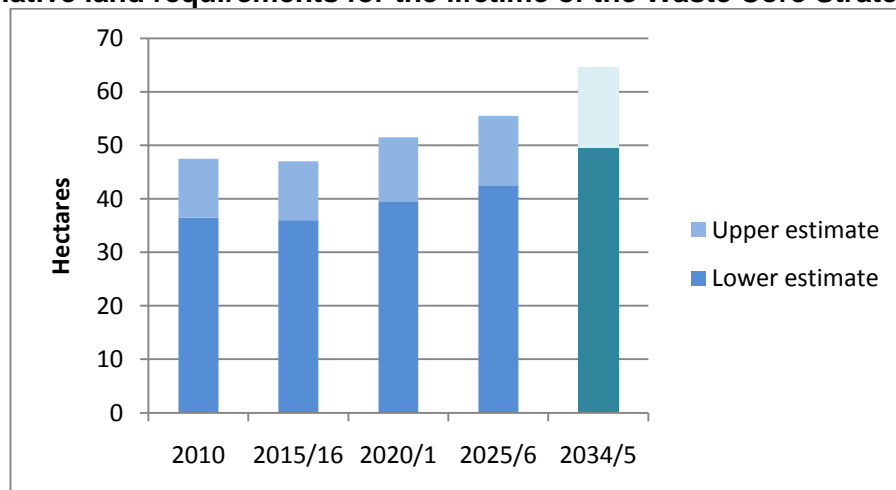
- 1.9. It is expected that there will be increased capacity requirements for treatment and transfer of all waste streams over the life of the Strategy and beyond (Table 1 and Figure 1). However, the requirements for C&D waste transfer capacity are slightly lower in 2015/16 than 2010 due to the assumptions used in the calculations⁸.

Table 1: Capacity gap and land requirements to 2035

(Totals are cumulative over the lifetime of the plan)

		2010	By 2015/6	By 2020/21	By 2025/6	By 2034/5
Total capacity gap (all streams)	MSW tpa	398,139	414,817	456,496	473,175	503,197
	C&I tpa	426,007.7	489,723.7	562,340.7	645,103.7	842,670.7
	C&D tpa	363,649	268,062	268,062	268,062	268,062
	Total tpa	1,187,795.7	1,172,602.7	1,286,898.7	1,386,340.7	1,613,929.7
	Equivalent land area (ha)	36.55-47.51	36.08-46.90	39.60-51.48	42.66-55.45	49.66-64.56
Total land requirement for the lifetime of the Waste Core Strategy rounded to the nearest 0.5 ha		36.5 – 47.5	36.0 – 47.0	39.5-51.5	42.5 – 55.5	49.5 – 64.5

Figure 1. Cumulative land requirements for the lifetime of the Waste Core Strategy



Note: 2034/5 is outside the life of the Strategy but has been included to give an indication of how much land is expected to be required beyond this period.

- 1.10. There is a need for further waste management facilities in the county, which are more difficult to quantify in terms of throughput. This includes the need for increased waste water

⁵ Full details of the methodology are set out in background document "Arisings and capacity".

⁶ See background document "Arisings and capacity"

⁷ Equivalent self-sufficiency means Worcestershire's capacity to treat waste that arises in the County; however cross-boundary movements are inevitable as specialised facilities exist, often benefiting from economies of scale. As such, some facilities perform a regional or even national function and the concept of equivalent self-sufficiency allows imports and exports of waste to be taken into account.

⁸ See background document "Arisings and capacity".

treatment capacity in order to accommodate future development. New locations for waste water treatment infrastructure will be identified by the District Councils in their Core Strategies as part of infrastructure needed for new development. Any proposals will need to be assessed against the policies in the Waste Core Strategy.

- 1.11. It is thought that existing landfill capacity in Worcestershire is sufficient to meet need and no more landfill space is proposed in the county over the life of the strategy. No capacity gap has been identified for hazardous waste⁹, clinical waste, non-nuclear and nuclear industry low-level radioactive wastes¹⁰ and no new capacity has been identified for these waste streams.
- 1.12. In addition to wastes produced in Worcestershire, some waste is also imported, and other waste is exported¹¹. Overall, the evidence is that the amount of waste imported exceeds that exported from the County. We can identify some fairly clear trends relating to waste movements¹². Significant imports come from the south-west with these being larger than from any other region. Within the West Midlands, the most significant volume of imports is from Herefordshire.
- 1.13. The pattern of exports from the County is more spread out, with some materials sent to every region in England, the most significant being the south west and the north east. The largest movements out of the county to areas within the West Midlands are to Herefordshire, Warwickshire and the West Midlands conurbation.

Policy and Contextual Issues

- 1.14. What we do locally is guided by policies prepared internationally, (e.g. European Union Directives), nationally, (e.g. Planning Policy Statements and the Waste Strategy for England) and locally, by the County, City, Borough and District Councils in Worcestershire and their partnership organisations.
- 1.15. The Waste Core Strategy has taken account of these policies and Habitats Regulations Assessment, Sustainability Appraisal and the District Councils' Strategic Flood Risk Assessments. A series of background documents has been produced as an evidence base to inform the Waste Core Strategy (see www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs).
- 1.16. One of the key principles from national and local policy is that waste should be managed as a resource. Many waste management facilities have a key role in resource efficiency, facilitating the movement of waste up the waste hierarchy (Figure 2) and enabling resource recovery, either through re-use or recycling of waste, or through energy recovery.

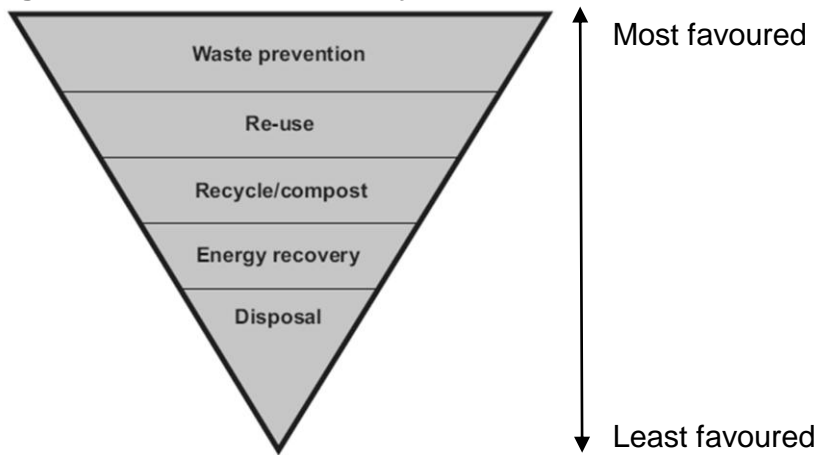
⁹ See background document "*Hazardous waste*".

¹⁰ See background document "*Waste arising from healthcare and related activities: clinical wastes and low level radioactive wastes*".

¹¹ See background document "*Arisings and capacity*".

¹² Data about sub regional movements of waste is very poor. We believe that the best source of information is the Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator (WDI) and we have based our assumptions about waste movements on it. We acknowledge however that it is imperfect, considerable volumes of both imports and exports are recorded as "not codeable" by the Agency and their origin and destination cannot be identified. Some movements, but it is not clear how much, are just within and beyond the county.

Figure 2: The Waste Hierarchy



Source: Defra Waste Strategy for England 2007

Our Vision and Objectives

Q5 (pg 3 of the questionnaire): Do you agree with the vision? Does it respond to local issues? Should any alternatives be considered?

If so please include details.

Q6 (pg 3-4 of the questionnaire): Do you agree with the objectives? If no or do not know, please state why you feel this way and propose further suggestions for addressing these issues.

Q7 (pg 4 of the questionnaire): Do the objectives reflect local issues and contribute towards the vision? If no or do not know, please state why you feel this way and propose further suggestions for addressing these issues.

The vision

- 1.17. The vision aims to translate the issues, needs and constraints set out in the Overview of Waste Management in Worcestershire into a meaningful vision for the Waste Core Strategy.

The Vision

By 2027 waste production in Worcestershire will be minimised and what is produced will be regarded as a source of useful material to be reused. So far as possible this resource will be managed in Worcestershire itself, in accordance with the principles of sustainable development and the waste hierarchy.

There will be sufficient waste management capacity in Worcestershire to enable waste to be treated as a resource and support the local economy without compromising the County's distinctive environmental, social and cultural assets. These facilities will be located where they minimise the need to move waste by road and where they are best suited to serve the needs of local communities and the local economy. They will be designed to adapt to and mitigate climate change and will reflect the characteristics of the local area.

Realising the Vision: Setting our objectives

1.18. The **vision** will give us a sense of direction but we need more detailed **objectives**¹³ to direct our policies so that the vision can be realised.

<u>The Objectives</u>	
WO1	To base our decisions on the principles of sustainable development and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change.
WO2	To protect and enhance the County's natural resources, environmental, social, cultural and economic assets, the character and amenity of the local area and the health and wellbeing of the local people.
WO3	To do everything possible to minimise waste production and make driving waste up the waste hierarchy the basis for waste management in Worcestershire.
WO4	To ensure that the waste implications of all new development in Worcestershire are taken into account.
WO5	To address the "Capacity Gap" between how much waste management capacity we have and what we need over the plan period to 2027.
WO6	To safeguard existing waste management facilities from incompatible development.
WO7	To reduce waste miles by road where possible.
WO8	To encourage communities in Worcestershire to take responsibility for their own waste and involve all those affected as openly and effectively as possible.
WO9	To develop a waste management industry that contributes positively to the local economy.

1.19. In order to realise the vision and objectives, a policy framework has been developed. This will guide the location of new waste management development and set out criteria against which new development proposals will be assessed. Policies can often help to deliver several objectives and the relevant objectives are indicated next to each of the policies.

Location of waste management development

1.20. This section sets out the capacity we need to provide and the methodology for directing the right type of development to the right place. To guide the location of new sites the Strategy identifies "areas of search".

¹³ The objectives are numbered for convenience of referencing, not in order of significance.

Q8 (p5 of questionnaire):

Do you agree with the method for identifying *areas of search*? Does it respond to local issues and contribute towards the vision and objectives?

If no, please make suggestions for addressing these issues.

Q9 (p5 of questionnaire):

Do you agree with the types of existing land that would be compatible for waste management facilities?

If no please make suggestions for addressing these issues.

Q10 (p5-6 of the questionnaire):

Do you agree with the broad categories of waste management facilities?

If no please make suggestions for addressing these issues.

Q11 (pg 6 of the questionnaire):

Do you agree with the constraints listed?

If no please make suggestions for addressing these issues.

Q13 (p6 of questionnaire):

Do you agree with using the geographic hierarchy to inform patterns of distribution?

Method for identifying areas of search

1.21. Different types of waste management facility have different requirements and impacts and therefore require different types of land. Three broad categories of facility have been identified taking into account size and other characteristics (see Table 2).

Table 2. Broad categories of waste management facility

Description	Typical examples ¹⁴
Category 1	
These would include operations which are akin to industrial activities.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Large scale anaerobic digestion • Material recovery facilities • Mechanical biological treatment • Metal recycling and end of life vehicle facilities • Physical treatment • Thermal treatment • Waste transfer and bulking stations
Category 2	
The nature and scale of these developments can be less industrial and may also be in keeping with other locations.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In-vessel composting • Small scale anaerobic digestion facilities • Small scale waste transfer activities taking place inside redundant agricultural buildings
Category 3	
Some facilities may not fall into either category 1 or 2 and the proposed location would need to be considered on its own merits in relation to the proposed development.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Windrow composting facilities • Landfill sites • Local recyclable collection points (such as "bottle banks" in car parks) • Waste water treatment facilities

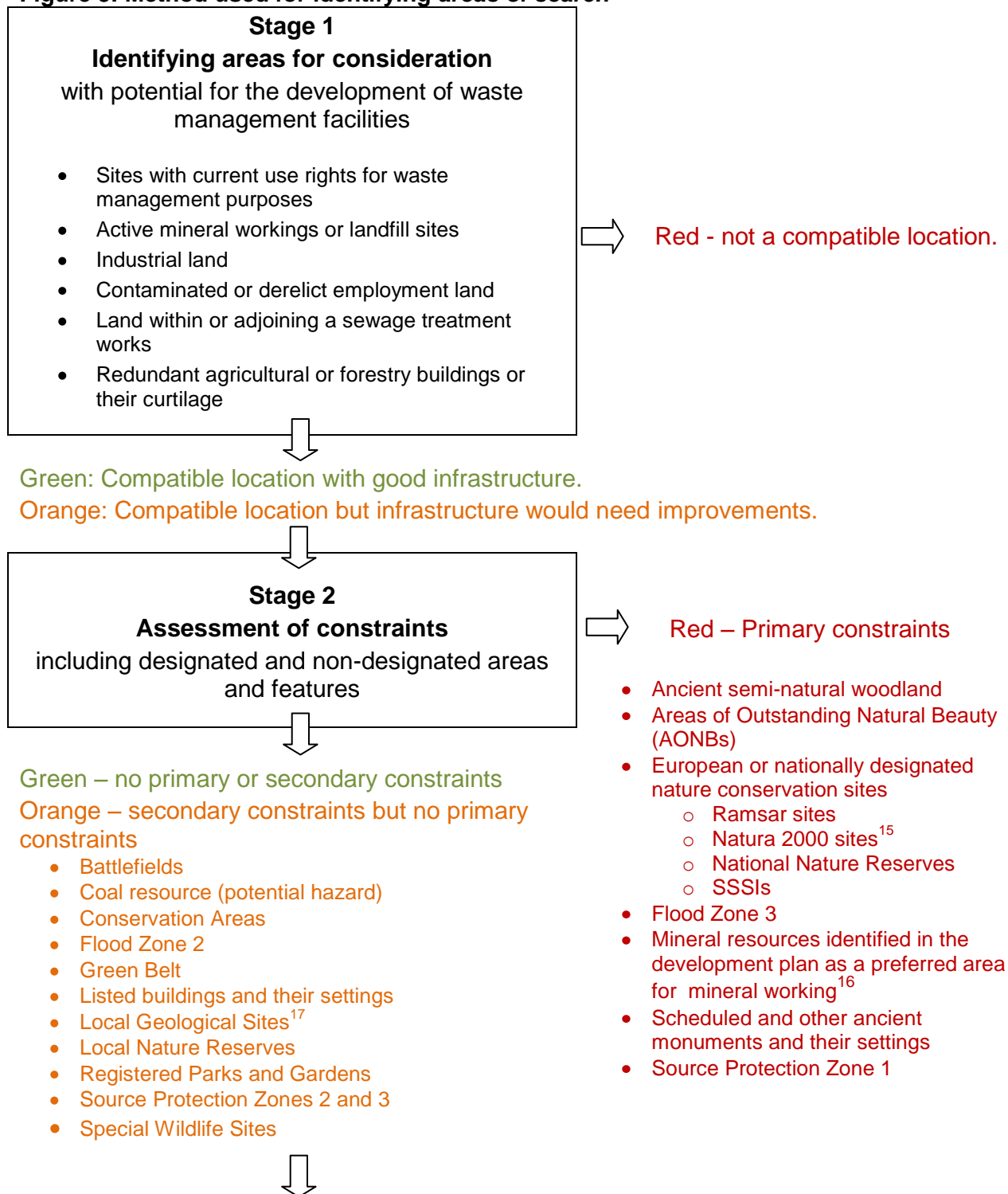
1.22. We have identified *areas of search* for category 1 and 2 waste management facilities using the method outlined in Figure 3. Category 3 facilities require more specialised locations which will be judged on their merit as proposals are brought forward.

1.23. As illustrated below, a 'traffic light' assessment has been undertaken to identify *areas of search*. At each stage those locations identified as unsuitable (red) were discounted and those which are potentially suitable (green and orange) were taken forward for further

¹⁴ This is not a definitive list.

consideration. Only locations classified as green in at least one category have been identified as areas of search (see background document "*Identifying areas of search*" for full details).

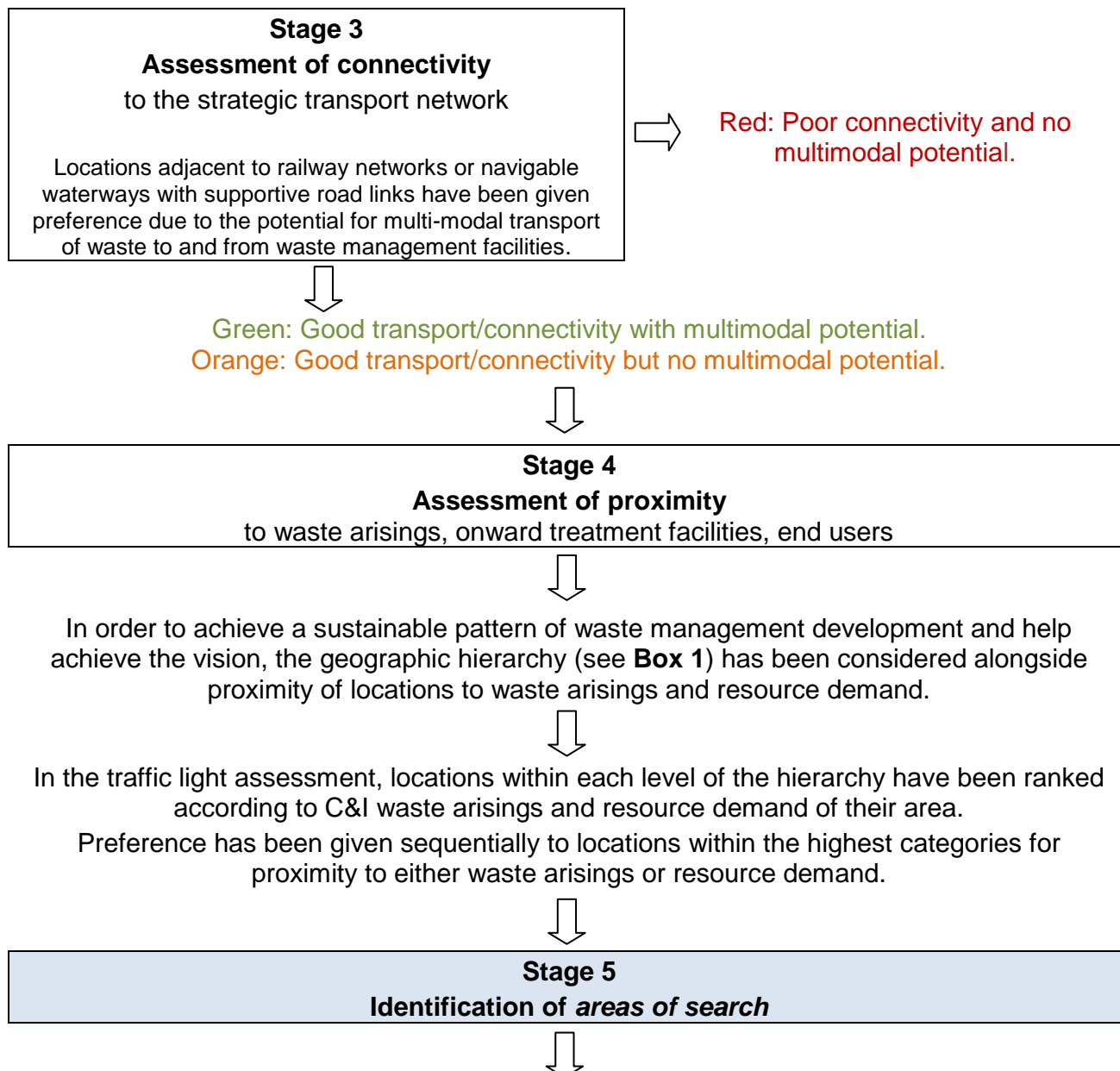
Figure 3: Method used for identifying areas of search



¹⁵ Natura 2000 sites are a network of European designated sites for wildlife, consisting of Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) and Special Protection Areas (SPAs).

¹⁶ As identified by "saved" policy number 1 in the Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan, April 1997, or any areas identified in future adopted policy.

¹⁷ Formerly known as RIGS



1.24. In order to achieve a sustainable pattern of waste management development, the geographic hierarchy (see Box 1) has been considered and the aspirational distribution set out below (1.25. Table 3) has been developed to guide the identification of *areas of search*.

1.26. The overall pattern of distribution generally aligns with the aspirational distribution, however in some areas the land currently available is not adequate to meet these targets. As proposals for employment land are brought forward in the District, City and Borough Councils' Local Development Frameworks, this is expected to be suitable for waste management development.

Q14 (p6 of questionnaire):

Do you agree with the *areas of search* identified?

If there any other locations that you think may be suitable for consideration as areas of search please provide details.

Full details of all locations assessed are given in the background document "identifying preferred areas"

Table 3. Areas of search

- ◆ Denotes locations which may be suitable for large-scale facilities.
- ★ Locations rated as green at this stage of the traffic light assessment.
- Locations rated as orange at this stage of the traffic light assessment.

Level of the Hierarchy		Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Aspirational distribution	Percentage of actual total distribution
Worcester, Kidderminster and Redditch					60%	58%
Worcester and its expansion areas	1. Shire Business Park	★	★	★	20%	17%
	2. Berkeley Business Park	★	★	●		
	3. Great Western Business Park	★	●	★		
	4. Buckholt Business Centre	★	●	●		
	5. Warndon Business Park	★	●	●		
	6. Newtown Road Industrial Estate	★	★	●		
	7. Shrubhill Industrial Estate	★	★	●		
	8. Sherriff Street Industrial Estate	★	★	●		
	9. Diglis Industrial Estate	★	●	★		
	10. Venture Business Park	★	★	●		
	11. Weir Lane Industrial Estate	★	★	●		
	12. Ball Mill Top Business Centre	★	★	●		
	13. Top Barn Business Centre	★	★	●		
	14. Ball Mill Quarry Complex	★	●	●		
Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley	15. Hartlebury Trading Estate ◆	★	●	★	20%	27%
	16. Waresley Quarry	★	●	●		
	17. Gemini Business Park	★	★	●		
	18. Oldington Trading Estate	★	●	●		
	19. Birchen Coppice Trading Estate	★	●	●		
	20. Foley Business Park	●	★	●		
	21. Former British Sugar Site	★	●	●		
	22. Hoo Farm Industrial Estate	●	★	●		
	23. Foley Industrial Estate	●	★	★		
	24. Vale Industrial Estate	●	★	●		
	25. Greenhill Industrial Estate	★	●	●		
	26. Ikon Trading Estate	★	●	●		
	27. Blackstone Quarry	★	●	●		
Redditch	28. East Moons Moat	★	★	●	20%	14%
	29. Park Farm Industrial Estate	★	●	●		
	30. Pipers Road Park Farm	★	●	●		
	31. Washford Industrial Estate	★	●	●		
	32. Kingfisher Enterprise Park	★	★	●		
	33. Lakeside Industrial Estate	★	●	●		
	34. Weights Farm Business Park	★	●	●		
	35. Ravensbank Business Park	★	●	●		
Bromsgrove, Droitwich and Malvern					30%	29%
Bromsgrove	36. Buntsford Hill Industrial Estate	★	●	●	10%	6%
	37. Buntsford Gate Business Park	★	●	●		
	38. Silver Birches Business Park	★	●	●		
	39. Bromsgrove Technology Park	★	●	●		
	40. Pinches Quarry	★	●	●		
	41. Stanley Evans Quarry	★	●	●		
Droitwich	42. Berry Hill Industrial Estate ◆	★	★	●	10%	16%
	43. Former Coal Yard, Union Lane	★	★	★		
	44. Stonebridge Cross Business Park	★	★	●		
	45. Hampton Lovett Industrial Estate ◆	★	★	●		
Malvern	46. Enigma Business Park	★	★	●	10%	8%
	47. Spring Lane Industrial Estate	★	★	●		

Level of the Hierarchy		Stage 1	Stage 2	Stage 3	Aspirational distribution	Percentage of actual total distribution
	48. Link Business Centre	★	★	●		
	49. Blackmore Business and Technology Park	★	★	●		
	50. Merebrook Industrial Estate	★	★	●		
Evesham and Pershore					8%	11%
Evesham	51. Vale Business Park ♦	★	★	●	4%	6%
	52. Four Pools Industrial Estate	●	★	●		
Pershore	53. Keytec7 Business Park ♦	★	★	●	4%	5%
	54. Racecourse Road Trading Estate	★	★	●		
	55. Pershore Trading Estate	★	★	●		
	56. Hill and Moor Landfill site	★	★	●		
Upton upon Severn and Tenbury Wells					2%	1.5%
Upton upon Severn	57. Upton upon Severn Industrial Estate	★	●	●	1%	0.5%
Tenbury Wells	58. Tenbury Business Park	★	★	●	1%	1%

Note: Figures rounded to the nearest 1%, with the exception of Upton upon Severn

The broad locations of the *areas of search* identified in Table 3 are shown in

1.27. Figure 7 at the back of this *summary document*. We would be particularly interested to know if there are any other locations you think may be suitable for consideration as areas of search and would encourage you to complete question 14c of the questionnaire if this is the case.

Policy framework

1.28. Proposals will be assessed against the following policy framework. Further supporting text is included in the main document and these policies should not be taken in isolation.

Q15 (pg7 of the questionnaire) Do the policy and explanatory text respond to local issues and contribute towards the achievement of the vision and objectives?
If no or don't know, please state why you feel this way and propose further suggestions for addressing these local issues.

Q16 (pg 8 of the questionnaire) Are the policy and supporting text deliverable and flexible?
If no or don't know, please state why you feel this way and propose further suggestions for addressing these local issues.

Assessment of proposals

WO1

WO2

WO5

WO7

WO8

WO9

WCS 1: Location of waste management development

Within the *areas of search* planning permission will be granted for waste management development subject to evaluation against the other policies of the development plan¹⁸.

For proposals outside areas of search:

- Category 1 and 2¹⁹ development must be assessed against the five stages of the methodology set out above.
- Category 3 development must justify why the land use is suitable for the proposed development and must be assessed against stages 2-5 of the methodology set out above.

¹⁸ Applications will be determined in accordance with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

¹⁹ See Table 2. Broad categories of waste management facility

Ensuring sustainable waste management development

WO1

WO2

WO3

WO4

WO7

WO8

WO9

WCS 2: Ensuring Sustainable Waste Management Development

All proposals for the treatment, management and disposal of waste must demonstrate:

- i. how they implement the principles of the Waste Hierarchy to foster higher end uses and maximise the use of waste materials as a resource.
- ii. how climate change mitigation and resilience, the efficient use of energy, water and resources and the protection and enhancement of locally important natural resources, including landscape and biodiversity, have been determining design features.
- iii. that they will not adversely contribute to flood risk and will remain safe and operational during flooding events. It will be expected that all proposals will be based on the Sequential Test locating development in Flood Zone 1 where possible. Proposed development outside Flood Zone 1 must be justified through the Exception test (as appropriate) and accompanied by a Flood Risk Assessment of all types of flooding impacts on the development, to others and climate change implications²⁰.
- iv. that they implement, as a minimum, the top two tiers of the energy hierarchy for Worcestershire²¹. In addition, all new built development or significant alterations to buildings which create a gross building footprint of 1000m² or more must gain at least 10% (or more, if local targets are higher) of energy supply annually from renewable energy supplies in accordance with the sequential approach set out in the energy hierarchy.
- v. that construction methods for new built development and significant alterations to buildings maximise the use of reused and/or recycled materials and take into account the whole life-cycle of the building.
- vi. that they benefit the local and sub-regional economy and contribute to the achievement of the "Economic Strategy for Worcestershire".
- vii. that they consult and involve the local community prior to the application being made, in accordance with Worcestershire's *Statement of Community Involvement*, and demonstrate how any involvement has influenced the proposal.

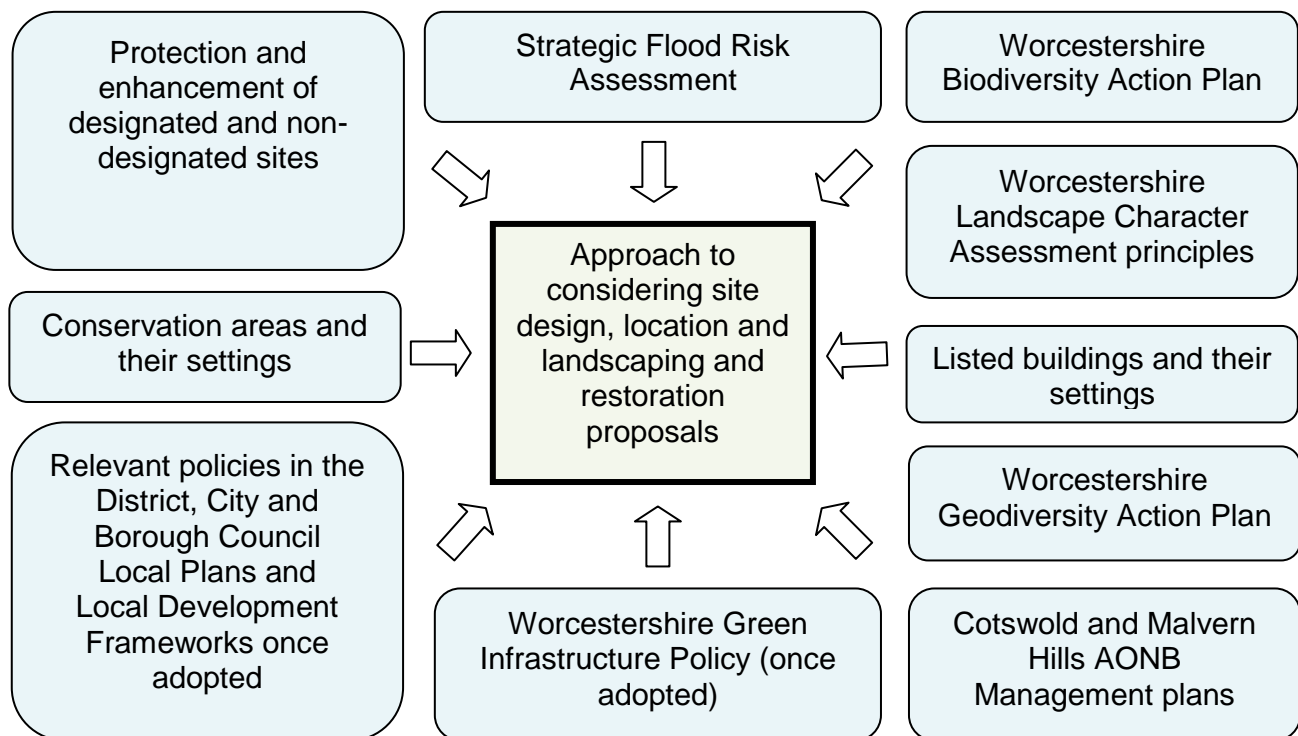
Development proposals will not be allowed where these criteria are not met unless exceptional circumstances are clearly justified by the applicant.

²⁰ See Annex 1 of the *First Draft Submission Consultation* report.

²¹ See the energy hierarchy for Worcestershire at Figure 5: Energy hierarchy for Worcestershire.

1.29. In accordance with this policy, proposals would also be expected to protect and enhance biodiversity, landscape and the historic environment. As such they should take into account local policies and strategies, in particular those identified in Figure 4. Where relevant, the equivalent policies and strategies for adjoining Local Authorities and regions should be considered.

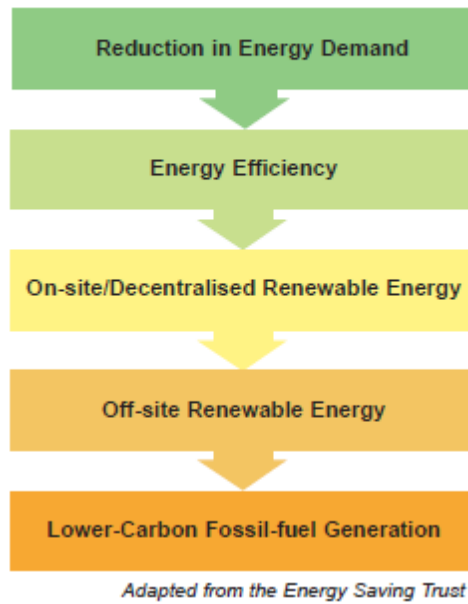
Figure 4: Approach to considering site design, location and landscaping and restoration of proposals



1.30. We would also expect as a minimum all proposals for waste management development to address the top two tiers of the energy hierarchy for Worcestershire²² (see Figure 5), considering reduction in energy demand and increased energy efficiency. This might be done through design of the facility or the use of more efficient equipment, machinery or processes. Large developments would also be expected to consider energy generation applying the lower three tiers of the hierarchy in a sequential manner.

²² An energy hierarchy for Worcestershire has been recommended in *Planning for Renewable Energy in Worcestershire* natural resource technical research paper.

Figure 5: Energy hierarchy for Worcestershire.



Source: Worcestershire County Council: Planning for Renewable Energy in Worcestershire Natural Resource Technical Research Paper.

Managing waste arising from all new development

1.31. This policy relates to all types of development proposal, including (but not limited to) residential, commercial, industrial and waste management development.

- WO 1
- WO 3
- WO 4
- WO 8

WCS 3: Managing waste arising from all new development

Proposals for all new development must:

- a) Demonstrate how waste arising from operations associated with construction, demolition and groundworks will be reduced, re-used and recycled.
- b) Incorporate facilities into the design that allow occupiers to separate and store waste for composting, recycling and recovery, unless it can be demonstrated that the existing facilities are adequate.

WO1

WO2

WCS 4: Managing the impact of new waste management development

All proposals for new waste management development must demonstrate that:

- i. They are consistent with the WCS objectives and appropriate national, regional and local planning policy.
- ii. They will protect and enhance European and nationally designated biodiversity, geodiversity and historic sites and sites of local importance.
- iii. They will protect and enhance European and nationally protected species and those species and habitats in the UK and local biodiversity action plans.
- iv. They will contribute positively to the quality and character of the area in which they would be located, through site design which takes into account local characteristics and does not have unacceptable adverse impacts on:
 - the local landscape character
 - the character of the built environment
 - the historic environment, heritage assets and archaeological features
 - visual amenity.
- v. They will have no adverse visual impact on the natural beauty of the landscape or impact on the key characteristics of the local landscape character of the Malvern Hills or Cotswolds Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).
- vi. They will not have a detrimental effect on source protection zones or aquifers, water quality, quantity or natural flow of water systems, or their associated biodiversity, and must take into account the principles of the River Severn Basin Management Plan.
- vii. They will not have unacceptable impacts on air quality, such as from odours, fumes, dust and bio-aerosols. Where relevant, the issues identified in the Herefordshire and Worcestershire Air Quality Management Plan must be taken into account.
- viii. They will not have unacceptable impacts on the local amenity. The site will need to be compatible with surrounding uses and proposals will not cause unacceptable noise, vibration, odours, fumes, dust, vermin, birds, litter and visual impacts or light pollution. Any cumulative effects must also be minimised by effective mitigation measures.
- ix. They will be served by adequate infrastructure and have good access to the strategic transport network. This must not have an unacceptable adverse impact on safety or congestion on the transport network or amenity along transport corridors.

- x. They will be located in existing buildings or on previously developed land²³ unless there are no suitable sites.
- xi. Where they constitute inappropriate development in locations designated as green belt²⁴, very special circumstances exist.
- xii. Have considered the need for landscaping or restoration of the site. Any proposed schemes must protect or enhance the natural environment and demonstrate how locally important features have been taken into account.

Development proposals will not be allowed where these criteria are not met unless exceptional circumstances are clearly justified.

Specialised Waste Management Facilities

Energy from Waste

WO 1

WO 3

WCS 5: Recovering energy from waste material

- a) Any process for waste management that could recover energy must do so.
- b) Energy from waste proposals will be considered acceptable where they demonstrate that:
 - i. sorting of waste is carried out to maximise resource recovery and recycling;
 - ii. energy recovery is maximised; and
 - iii. resource recovery from by-products is maximised and any residues can be satisfactorily managed and disposed.

Development proposals will not be allowed where these criteria are not met unless exceptional circumstances are clearly justified by the applicant.

Landfill

WO 1

WO 2

WO 3

WO 5

WCS 6: Landfill

- a) No further planning permissions will be granted for new landfill sites except where it is demonstrated that:
 - i. there will be a shortfall in landfill capacity necessary to achieve the aims and purpose of the Strategy; or
 - ii. the proposal is essential for operational reasons and is the only practicable option.
- b) Proposals for all sites must include landfill gas management systems, with energy recovery where practicable.
- c) All proposals must include a restoration scheme which protects and enhances the local environment and takes into account locally important characteristics

²³ Previously developed land is often known as 'brownfield' land.

²⁴ Inappropriate development is defined in national policy (currently Planning Policy Guidance 2: Green Belts).

Managing the impact of surrounding uses

1.32. In order to meet Worcestershire's waste capacity requirements, appropriate existing and permitted sites should be protected from incompatible development.

WO 5

WO 6

WO 9

WCS 7: Impact of new development on existing or proposed waste management facilities

In order to reduce conflict between different users, proposed new development within 250 metres²⁵ of existing or permitted waste development must demonstrate that:

- a) The amenity of the proposal and the operations of the waste management facility will not be adversely affected.
- b) The effects of all such impacts and conflicts can be rendered acceptable; any required mitigation will be the responsibility of the developer of the new proposal.

Where mitigation measures are not considered adequate to reduce adverse impacts to an acceptable level, permission for the new development will not be granted.

1.33. A web-tool has been developed that maps all waste sites and can be used to determine whether a location is within 250m of a waste site. This is available on our website www.worcestershire.gov.uk/wcs.

Implementation and Monitoring Framework

Q17 (p8 of the questionnaire): Do you agree that the objectives are deliverable and capable of being implemented? If no or don't know please state why you feel this way and propose further suggestions for addressing these issues.

1.34. The vision and objectives will be realised and the Waste Core Strategy implemented through the grant of planning permission for individual proposals.

1.35. The implementation of the Strategy will also be affected by the application of other policies, work of other agencies, behaviour of the general public, and actions of industry. These will include the programmes and projects of the statutory agencies, procurement decisions of companies and organisations and decisions of infrastructure providers. The County Council has an important part to play in this, notably in its role as Waste Disposal Authority (WDA), as a major landowner and developer and through pre-application advice.

Deliverability

1.36. It is considered that all objectives could be delivered through the policy framework. In general each objective is contributed to by a number of policies (see Table 4), making failure to deliver less likely. Some potential limitations in policy delivery have been identified but these are not considered to undermine the delivery of the objectives.

²⁵ The Environment Agency requires a bioaerosol risk assessment for sites managing biodegradable waste within 250m of sensitive receptors. This is deemed an appropriate distance for the purposes of this policy.

Table 4. Policy and objectives

		Policy						
		WCS 1	WCS 2	WCS 3	WCS 4	WCS 5	WCS 6	WCS 7
Objectives	WO1: To base our decisions on the principles of sustainable development and the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and mitigate climate change.	★	★	★	★	★	★	
	WO2: To protect and enhance the County's natural resources, environmental, social, cultural and economic assets, the character and amenity of the local area and the health and wellbeing of the local people.	★	★		★		★	
	WO3: To do everything possible to minimise waste production and make driving waste up the waste hierarchy the basis for waste management in Worcestershire.		★	★		★	★	
	WO4: To ensure that the waste implications of all new development in Worcestershire are taken into account.		★	★				
	WO5: To address the "Capacity Gap" between how much waste management capacity we have and what we need over the plan period to 2027.	★					★	★
	WO6: To safeguard existing waste management facilities from incompatible development.							★
	WO7: To reduce waste miles by road where possible.	★	★					
	WO8: To encourage communities in Worcestershire take responsibility for their own waste and involve all those affected as openly and effectively as possible.	★	★	★				
	WO9: To develop a waste management industry that contributes positively to the local economy.	★	★					★

Monitoring framework

- 1.37. The Council is committed to monitoring the Waste Core Strategy in order to achieve the vision and strategic objectives it sets out. The monitoring schedule considers each of the objectives in the Waste Core Strategy, how they will be implemented and how their achievement will be monitored.
- 1.38. If monitoring indicates that targets have been missed, the process outlined in Figure 6 will be followed. Detailed monitoring targets and indicators are set out in the main document.

Figure 6: Policy review process

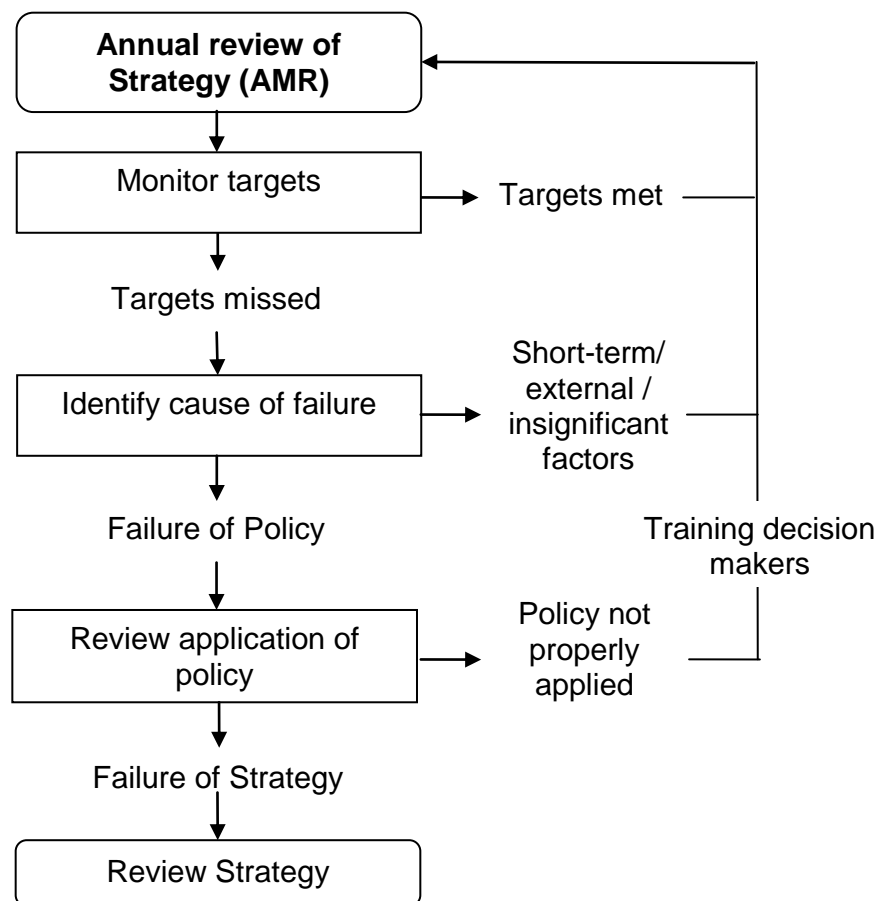


Figure 7. Map showing *areas of search*
(see next page)

Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire

Figure 7: Areas of Search

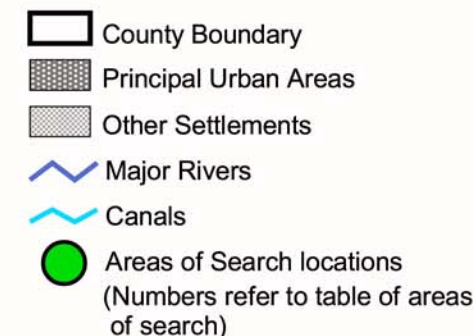


Table of Areas of Search

Worcester and it's expansion areas

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 1. Shire Business Park | 8. Sherriff Street Industrial Estate |
| 2. Berkeley Business Park | 9. Diglis Industrial Estate |
| 3. Great Western Business Park | 10. Venture Business Park |
| 4. Buckholt Business Centre | 11. Weir Lane Industrial Estate |
| 5. Warndon Business Park | 12. Ball Mill Top Business Centre |
| 6. Newtown Road Industrial Estate | 13. Top Barn Business Centre |
| 7. Shrubhill Industrial Estate | 14. Ball Mill Quarry Complex |

Kidderminster, Stourport and Bewdley

- | | |
|------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| 15. Hartlebury Trading Estate | 21. Hoo Farm Industrial Estate |
| 16. Waresley Quarry | 22. Foley Industrial Estate |
| 17. Gemini Business Park | 23. Former British Sugar Site |
| 18. Oldington Trading Estate | 24. Vale Industrial Estate |
| 19. Birchen Coppice Trading Estate | 25. Greenhill Industrial Estate |
| 20. Foley Business Park | 26. Ikon Industrial Estate |
| | 27. Blackstone Quarry |

Redditch

- | | |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 28. East Moons Moat | 32. Kingfisher Enterprise Park |
| 29. Park Farm Industrial Estate | 33. Lakeside Industrial Estate |
| 30. Pipers Road Park Farm | 34. Weights Farm Business Park |
| 31. Washford Industrial Estate | 35. Ravensbank Business Park |

Bromsgrove

- | | |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 36. Buntsford Hill Industrial Estate | 40. Pinches Quarry |
| 37. Buntsford Gate Business Park | 41. Stanley Evans Quarry |
| 38. Silver Birches Business Park | |
| 39. Bromsgrove Technology Park | |

Droitwich

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| 42. Berry Hill Industrial Estate | 45. Hampton Lovett Industrial Estate |
| 43. Former Coal Yard, Union Lane | |
| 44. Stonebridge Cross Business Park | |

Malvern

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--|
| 46. Enigma Business Park | 49. Blackmore Business and Technology Park |
| 47. Spring Lane Industrial Estate | 50. Merebrook Industrial Estate |
| 48. Link Business Centre | |

Evesham and Pershore

- | | |
|------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| 51. Vale Business Park | 55. Pershore Trading Estate |
| 52. Four Pools Industrial Estate | 56. Hill and Moor Landfill |
| 53. Keytec7 Business Park | |
| 54. Racecourse Road Trading Estate | |

Upton upon Severn and Tenbury Wells

- | |
|---|
| 57. Upton upon Severn Industrial Estate |
| 58. Tenbury Business Park |



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