

**THE RECYCLE FOR CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH PARTNERSHIP
(RECAP) WASTE MANAGEMENT DESIGN GUIDE DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY
PLANNING DOCUMENT (SPD) LINKED TO THE CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND
PETERBOROUGH MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN**

To: Cabinet

Date: 29 September 2009

From: Executive Director: Environment Services

Electoral division(s): All

Forward Plan ref: N/a **Key decision:** No

Purpose: To consider the Recycle for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Partnership (RECAP) Waste Management Design Guide draft Supplementary Planning Document linked to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan

Recommendation:

- i. approve the Recycle for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Management Design Guide Draft Supplementary Planning Document for the purposes of public consultation.
- ii. delegate to the portfolio holder for Growth, Infrastructure and Strategic Planning, in consultation with the Executive Director: Environment Services, the authority to approve the final draft for public consultation, including any amendments required.

Note: Due to size and formatting Recycle for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Management Design Guide Draft Supplementary Planning Document has not been included with the printed Agenda. Members can view it in the Members Lounge. It can also be accessed from the Web site from the Development Control Agenda report dated 10th September (item 6)

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1.0 BACKGROUND

- 1.1 The Recycle for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (RECAP) Partnership Waste Management Design Guide Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) is being jointly produced between the County Council and Peterborough City Council and will be linked to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan. It will provide guidance in relation to the design of waste management facilities as part of residential and commercial developments and the requirements for expanded and/or additional household waste management infrastructure.
- 1.2 The purpose of the SPD is to set out a series of development principles based on recognised good planning and design practice and is intended to be used by:
 - Developers and designers to ensure effective segregation, storage and collection of waste materials; and
 - Planning Authorities in assessing planning applications to ensure that waste management needs for both residential and commercial developments are adequately addressed and secured.
- 1.3 The Recycle for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Partnership (RECAP) Design Guide was originally prepared by consultants Wiser Environment (an Environmental Consultancy) on behalf of the partnership and was subsequently published in 2008. The content of the Guide has been reviewed to ensure that it is consistent with the policies of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Submission Plan and to take into account more recent developments e.g. current national planning policy.
- 1.4 The SPD will be an important material consideration in the determination of planning applications. It will be read in conjunction with the relevant planning policies and the existing and emerging development plans and transport plans. It does not replace the policies of the Minerals and Waste Development Plan but supplements them with design standards and expands upon the requirements needed to provide additional waste management infrastructure in a sustainable way.
- 1.5 The guidance contained within the SPD relates to policies 16 and 28 in the emerging Core Strategy covering Waste Minimisation, Re-use, and Resource Recovery and the provision of Household Recycling Centres.
- 1.6 The aims of the Design Guide are as follows:
 - Detail the waste segregation, storage and collection requirements that designers and developers need to satisfy.
 - Provide a strategic tool for use by Planning Authorities when assessing development applications.
 - Address the unique waste management problems presented by high density (residential) developments.

- State the requirements for developers regarding the funding and provision of additional waste management infrastructure.
 - Highlight the financial implications of waste management upon developers.
 - Highlight examples of good practice demonstrating what can be achieved.
 - Contribute to sustainability and reduced environmental impact.
- 1.8 It is intended that the SPD will go out for public consultation in February / March 2010 as part of the Submission Plan of the Minerals & Waste Plan. A hard copy of the SPD has been made available in the Members lounge.
- 1.9 The draft SPD has been considered by both the Development Control Committee and the Growth and Environment Policy Development Group (PDG). Concerns were expressed at the Development Control Committee that the draft SPD focused on capacities and storage requirements rather than showing what the facilities should look like and providing examples (illustrations) of how they can be incorporated into new settlements.
- 1.10 The Growth and Environment Policy Development Group raised questions in relation to the impact of the SPD upon the viability of developments and suggested that there should be greater focus on examples of best practice. It also requested that consideration should be given to addressing the issue of arson in relation to external waste storage requirements. It was noted that developer contributions for additional waste facilities would be proportionate to the scale of development and that the Cambridgeshire Fire and Rescue Service would be consulted on the content of the Draft SPD.
- 1.11 In response to these comments it is proposed that the Draft SPD should be amended prior to public consultation to include reference to the Defra (the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs) guide entitled Designing Waste Facilities: a guide to modern design in waste which outlines the key design principle for waste facilities.
- 1.12 Due to the timing of meetings comments made by the Section 29 Joint Policy Committee will be reported verbally to Cabinet.
- 1.13 A similar process is being followed by Peterborough City Council, to ensure we are able to consult on this document in early 2010.

2.0 PREPARATION OF THE SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT

- 2.1 The process of preparing the SPD is governed by planning regulations. This first stage is the preparation of a draft document. Changes in Government planning regulations have added to the requirements needed for the document to become a formal SPD. It has not previously been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) which will now be covered in the SA for the Plan documents as a whole. However, changes in regulations have meant that the document has had to be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The HRA has been written for this SPD and will be published as a background document as part of the consultation in February / March 2010.
- 2.2 In accordance with the Government's emphasis on community involvement and standards set in our adopted Statement of Community Involvement this

SPD must undergo a period of consultation. This will be conducted over a statutory 6 week period in February / March 2010, at the same time as the Plan documents.

- 2.3 Representations that are received as a result of the consultation will then be considered and the Authorities must prepare a report saying what the main issues raised were, and how they will be addressed in the final document. The Authorities will then make the relevant changes. Once the Core Strategy has been found sound by the planning inspector and adopted the SPD can also be adopted. It is anticipated that the Core Strategy will be adopted in July 2011.

3.0 THE RECAP PARTNERSHIP WASTE MANAGEMENT DESIGN GUIDE

- 3.1 Significant progress has been made in recent years to divert waste materials produced by households away from landfills through increased recycling or composting in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. However there is currently no guidance setting out how waste management requirements should be reflected in the design of new developments and the impact upon existing waste infrastructure which serve households should be addressed by developers. As a result there can be a lack of sufficient storage space to allow residents to segregate their waste for recycling particularly for flats and apartments and waste collection vehicles have difficulties in accessing new developments. There is also a need to provide both Local Planning Authorities and developers with greater certainty in relation to how expanded and/or additional waste management infrastructure will be provided and funded.
- 3.2 As waste policy can only be made by Waste Planning Authorities (i.e. Cambridgeshire County and Peterborough City) the Design Guide is being brought forward as a Supplementary Planning Document linked to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Development Plan. The SPD will however enable Cambridgeshire District and City Councils as Local Planning Authorities to ensure that waste management is considered as part of planning applications for residential and commercial development.
- 3.3 The Draft SPD provides advice on the design and provision of waste management infrastructure as part of residential and commercial developments. In terms of waste management design the SPD includes advice on:
- Internal storage capacity: including a requirement to provide between 35-40 litres of space within the kitchens of new homes to give residents sufficient space to allow for recycling and composting (as appropriate).
 - External storage capacity: the Guide sets out recommendations for amount of space which is required to store bins for different types of waste to serve residential and commercial developments including different standards for communal bins in relation to flats/apartments. In the case of commercial development the amount of space required is dependant upon the use of the land e.g. requirements for restaurants and fast food outlets are greater. For residential development it is dependant upon whether it is a house or the number of rooms in the case of flats/apartments (excluding kitchens and bathrooms). For example a single house would need to

provide 775 litres with a one bedroom flat with a living room in a 4 floor development would provide 320 litres.

- Location of Waste Storage: issues which should be considered in relation to location of bins including ensuring that they are accessible for both users and collection crews and that the amenity of residents is protected.
- Waste Storage Infrastructure: sets out a minimum specification for compounds to store residential and commercial waste above-ground and guidance in relation to the design of underground facilities.
- Highway Design: requirements for the design of new roads given the emphasis away from car dominated environments in urban design to take into account the need for waste collection vehicles to serve new developments effectively.
- Additional waste management measures: identifies a range of complementary measures, which can be introduced to support the effective management of waste e.g. educational schemes.

3.4 In terms of implementation the SPD includes advice on:

- Household Recycling Centres: These facilities enable residents to bring and deposit bulky wastes and other waste types not normally collected by the County Council and Peterborough City Council. Given the significant amount of future development planned within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough there will be a need to expand the existing network of 10 Recycling Centres (1 of which is in the Peterborough City area). The Guide sets out a requirement for developers to contribute to the existing network of centres by providing financial contributions and in some cases land to upgrade existing centres or provide new Recycling Centres in the case of strategic developments e.g. Northstowe.
- Bring Sites: These sites are generally located within publicly accessible areas e.g. public car park and comprise a number of separate containers allowing for the separate collection of materials for recycling. The Guide provides guidance on suitable locations for additional Bring Sites to avoid the disturbance of residents and ensure the effective collection of recyclables. Developers are to be required to assess the impact of their proposals on the existing network of 380 Bring sites within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Following this assessment developers will be required to provide additional Bring Sites, upgrade existing sites in the locality or provide a financial contribution as appropriate. In relation to new sites it is important to note that Guide includes an assumption that at most there will be one Bring site per 800 households.

3.5 The Guide also includes a toolkit to be used by developers to set out how they have addressed waste management requirements set out above as part of their planning application.

3.6 Much of the advice in the Guide can be applied to both residential and commercial facilities. However the SPD focuses largely on residential development reflecting the responsibilities of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Authorities relating to the collection and disposal of municipal waste. It is important to emphasise that commercial developments will not be expected to contribute to additional facilities for the collection of municipal waste.

4.0 SIGNIFICANT IMPLICATIONS

4.1 Resources and Performance

- 4.2 The Council is committed to consultation on the SPD. There would be financial and other risks in not fulfilling the Council's statutory requirements according to the timetable in the Local Development Scheme. The guidance in the SPD takes account of the Council's intention to promote high standards of design and implementation for waste facilities across the County.

4.3 Statutory duties / Requirements and Partnership Working

- 4.4 As set out above the content of the Design Guide has been reviewed for consistency with the Minerals and Waste Plan jointly with a Project Team representing the RECAP Partnership. Peterborough City Council will go through member processes to approve the document and confirm its acceptance for stakeholder consultation in early 2010. Procedures are in place to ensure this is achieved.
- 4.5 The preparation of this SPD is subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment in line with Government guidance. This process is progressing, and advice is currently being obtained from Natural England.

4.6 Climate Change

- 4.7 The SPD makes it clear that the development of new facilities must address the challenges of climate change. The implications of Climate Change for residential and commercial development will be included in other planning documents being prepared by Local Planning Authorities. The SPD takes account of the supplement to PPS1 on Climate Change published in December 2007 and refers to relevant principles relating to waste management facilities as follows:
- The proposed provision for new development, its spatial distribution, location and design should be planned to limit carbon dioxide emissions;
 - New development should be planned to make good use of opportunities for decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy;
 - New development should be planned to minimise future vulnerability in a changing climate;
 - Mitigation and adaptation should not be considered independently of each other, and new development should be planned with both in mind.

4.8 Access and Inclusion

- 4.9 There are no significant implications for any of the headings within this category.

4.10 Engagement and Consultation

- 4.11 In accordance with the Government's emphasis on community involvement and standards set in our adopted Statement of Community Involvement this SPD will undergo a period of consultation. This consultation will be undertaken at the same time as the Minerals and Waste Plan documents in early 2010.

5.0 CONCLUSION

- 5.1 By adopting the Design Guide as a SPD at the same time as the emerging Core Strategy we will be able to ensure that waste management is considered an integral part of the design process for future development in the County. It will also assist in the delivery of additional waste management facilities in Cambridgeshire which are required to support future residential and commercial development.
- 5.2 Following public consultation the SPD will then be revised before returning for Member endorsement prior its adoption in 2011.

Source Documents	Location
Draft Supplementary Planning Document for the RECAP Partnership Waste Management Design Guide Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan, Submission Plan Designing Waste Facilities: a guide to modern design in waste	Members' Lounge, Shire Hall Cambridge A Wing 2 nd Floor Castle Court