
Wiltshire & Swindon Minerals and Waste Development Framework

Waste Core Strategy DPD

Examination

Position Statement MM10

WCC/SBC/PS10

August 2008

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SPECIFIC ISSUES

Issues and matters to be considered:

32. *Is the existence of this policy likely to inhibit the readiness with which landowners may offer an identified site for waste management – especially where it may be necessary to achieve a surplus of sites with planning permission for waste uses, in the interests of flexibility?*
33. *Would the existence of a safeguarding policy be likely to ‘set in stone’ the existing network of waste management sites, without regard for their suitability to adapt to changing circumstances in the future?*

The Councils Position Statements

32. *Is the existence of this policy likely to inhibit the readiness with which landowners may offer an identified site for waste management – especially where it may be necessary to achieve a surplus of sites with planning permission for waste uses, in the interests of flexibility?*

The Councils consider that the safeguarding policy in no way inhibits the readiness with which landowners may offer an identified site for waste management. The policy has been specifically worded to not 'blight' areas of land within employment allocations or industrial areas for waste uses.

The policy seeks to only safeguard the site that is used for waste management, or when a proposed neighbouring use would adversely affect the waste management operation. This ensures that large areas of employment allocations and industrial estates are not safeguarded for waste uses and would not restrict other non waste related uses on the site. This approach has been supported throughout the preparation of the draft Waste Core Strategy.

The Site Allocations DPD will be responsible for identifying potential sites for future waste management facilities. As part of the allocation process landowners are contacted to ensure that they are happy for their land to be allocated for waste purposes. This occurred during the preparation of the Issues and Options Waste Site Allocations DPD, where all landowners were contacted and sites were removed if the landowner objected to a proposed allocation. Therefore the Councils consider that the sites contained within the emerging Site Allocations DPD will be available for development once the document is adopted. It is considered that the Core Strategy policies along with the Site Allocations DPD will allow for flexibility. Policy WCS3 allows for flexibility, through allowing windfall development to be considered in line with PPS10. The Councils consider that a surplus of sites will need to be provided in the Site Allocations DPD to offer flexibility.

33. *Would the existence of a safeguarding policy be likely to 'set in stone' the existing network of waste management sites, without regard for their suitability to adapt to changing circumstances in the future?*

The Councils consider that the policy does allow for changing circumstances. The Site Allocations DPD will contain an adequate network of sites for future waste management needs. It is considered that the Site Allocations DPD will allow for flexibility within its allocations as discussed above, which will allow for changing circumstances to be accommodated within the development framework.

Draft policy WCS3 also allows for flexibility. The policy includes the criteria that windfall development will be considered where they meet the objectives and policies of the Core Strategy, allowing the framework of sites to adapt for changing circumstances if necessary. This approach is in line with PPS10, that outlines that sites not allocated for waste uses may come forward and be considered against the objectives of PPS10 and the local authorities Core Strategy.

The monitoring of policies contained within the draft Waste Core Strategy will be important for identifying changing circumstances. The implementation, monitoring and review section contains information regarding the issues of changing circumstances and identifying if a review of the document is necessary.