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Waste Development Document

Preferred Approach - Executive Summary

November 2011

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Essex County Council

WDD Preferred Approach Summary Document

Foreword

By John Jowers, Cabinet Member for Planning and Communities, Essex County Council, and Jonathon Garston, Executive Councillor of Planning, Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

The Preferred Approach represents the next important stage in the preparation of Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council's Waste Development Document (WDD). This new document sets out our thinking on how to meet future waste management requirements in the area over the plan period from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2031(inclusive) and to continue to move waste management up the waste hierarchy and away from landfill.

In arriving at these stated preferences, the Waste Planning Authorities have drawn upon a substantial body of factual evidence, considerable professional expertise, and the consultation responses and workshop feedback received since preparation of the document began in 2010.

We are pleased to report from this evidence base that there has been a substantial shift away from the need for additional landfill even since the Waste DD Issues and Options consultation. This is thanks to a mixture of reduced amounts of waste arisings, re-assessment of our existing capacity within the Plan Area and the diversion of waste away from landfills to the network of existing and permitted waste management facilities. On this basis, it is not intended to take any site allocations for landfill forward within the WDD at this stage. Instead, existing waste management facilities deemed to be strategic have been safeguarded and a small number of additional waste management facilities have been allocated. This document clearly explains the way these preferred approach choices have been made.

We are extremely grateful for all your contributions so far. The Government is placing ever greater emphasis on local communities becoming engaged in policy making and significant efforts have been made to ensure all those likely to be affected by the plan have the opportunity to be involved.

The Preferred Approach stage is a particularly crucial time to continue this involvement as it provides the main opportunity to influence the future direction of waste policy and the selection of future sites.

It is very important that the Waste Development Document is put in place to ensure that future waste provision within Essex and Southend-on-Sea is appropriate, situated in the right locations, and has a minimal impact on the environment. There is also added pressure from the implications of Article 7 of the EU Waste Framework Directive, which places a responsibility on all planning authorities to have their waste plans submitted for examination as soon as possible. We believe the vision, strategies, policies and sites outlined in this Preferred Approach set us well on the way towards meeting this objective.

We would encourage you to give us your thoughts on the preferred approaches set out in the Waste Development Document and on how you would like to see them progressed before we produce our submission document. Key evidence sources used to inform the document can be viewed on our website: *Capacity Gap Compilation Report, Sustainability Appraisal, Habitat Regulation Assessment* and *Flood Risk Assessment*. During the 8-week consultation period from 24 November 2011 - 5.30pm 19 January 2012, there will also be drop-in sessions across Essex and Southend-on-Sea where you can discuss the approach we are taking. See the website www.essex.gov.uk/WDD for details of these.

and

1 Introduction

1.1 Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council are the local Waste Planning Authorities (WPAs) for their respective areas and are responsible for the production of local waste planning policy documents - known as Waste Development Documents - and for determining waste related planning applications in accordance with these policies.

1.2 We are working together to produce a new Joint Waste Development Document to replace the existing adopted Joint Waste Local Plan (2001). Work has been ongoing since the first consultation on the Waste DD Issues and Options Paper in October 2010 with the responses taken into account in developing the next stage - this new consultation paper - the Waste Development Document Preferred Approach (WDD).

1.3 There has been much coverage recently in the media about likely changes to the planning system. Despite uncertainty as to the final outcome of the Localism Bill and National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the waste challenge for Essex and Southend-on-Sea remains. That challenge is to move waste management up the waste hierarchy with more prevention, re-use, recycling and recovery and away from traditional forms of disposal such as landfill. The planning system, including this Waste Development Document (WDD) will play an important role in achieving this goal.

The Waste Development Document is a plan for the whole of Essex and Southend-on-Sea, and it sets out how we might meet all future waste management requirements in the area over the plan period from 1 April 2010 to 31 March 2031(inclusive).

1.4 To clarify, the role of the Waste Planning Authorities and the production of the Waste Development Document is very different from the role of the Waste Disposal Authorities (WDAs), who are also Essex CC & Southend BC. The WDAs are the operational authorities responsible for managing the disposal of municipal and household waste collected by the Essex districts and boroughs and Southend respectively and for the disposal of waste delivered to Recycling Centres for Household Waste. The WDAs operational and delivery role includes the development of their own Municipal Waste Management Strategies which have been informed by the Joint Waste Local Plan adopted in 2001. In total the WDA's are responsible for about twenty percent of the waste created and managed in Essex and Southend and any waste facilities they propose would require planning permission from the WPAs in accordance with our Waste Planning Policies. The WPAs role is to provide the future spatial waste planning policy strategy and direction for future waste management for all wastes (the WDD), and to determine waste related planning applications in accordance with the WDD, for all wastes including the other eighty percent of waste to be managed in the Plan area mainly the private sector, namely businesses and the construction industry. Details on the how the WDAs Strategies relate to the emerging Waste Development Document are explained 2.6 below.

1.5 The WDD is at the Preferred Approach stage, which forms part of the Regulation 25 consultation under the **Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations** (as amended in 2008[(1)]). This Preferred Approach consultation sets out for the first time, the preferred strategies, policies and proposals for the future waste policy framework,

1 SI 2008 1371

to guide development and to determine waste planning applications. A number of supporting documents which form part of the evidence base have informed the Preferred Approach, including:

- Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment (SA/SEA)
- Waste Capacity Gap Report update October 2011
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
- Habitat Regulations Assessment

1.6 These supporting documents are available to view on-line, on CD or in hard copy at specific locations (see Section 9 How to Contribute the Consultation).

1.7 The requirements and procedures for producing the Waste DD are set out set out in the Town and Country Planning Act (2004) and in Government regulations and policy including Planning Policy Statements (e.g. PPS12), and supported by guidance from the Planning Advisory Service (PAS). An important part of the process is to ensure engagement from the earliest stages of plan preparation, to provide an opportunity for everyone to contribute to the way waste management development is promoted and controlled within their local area.

1.8 The WDD will be submitted for independent public examination by the Planning Inspectorate to ensure it is 'sound' before it can be adopted by the WPAs. To be sound, the WDD must be:

- Justified (based on a robust and credible evidence base and the most appropriate strategy when considered against reasonable alternatives);
- Effective (deliverable, flexible and capable of being monitored); and
- Consistent with national planning policy.

1.9 Once adopted the WDD will provide the framework for where new waste development should go and to determine planning applications for new waste facilities and any changes to existing waste facilities. Waste development includes facilities for recycling, composting, treating and disposing of waste.

1.10 Next Steps. The responses to this consultation will inform the preparation of the Submission version of the WDD. There will be a further consultation period when the Submission version is published, before the WDD is submitted to the Secretary of State (SoS) for public examination.

2 Planning for Sustainable Waste Management

2.1 The waste hierarchy is a key overriding principle of European waste legislation and is central to the WDD. **Figure 1** illustrates the waste hierarchy, which prioritises waste prevention, re-use and recycling (including composting) before other types of material and energy recovery (such as generating materials from waste through mechanical biological treatment, or producing fuels, heat and power through anaerobic digestion, incineration with energy recovery, and gasification and pyrolysis) and finally disposal (such as landfill). The aim is for the majority of waste to be prevented in the first instance or re-used, with the least amount of residual waste being sent to landfill.

Figure 1 Waste Hierarchy

2.2 The draft National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF, July 2011) does not contain specific policies relating to waste, instead it states that Waste Planning Authorities should continue with the preparation of Waste Plans (WDDs) with regard to national Planning Policy Statement 10 (Planning for Waste Management).

2.3 Through the WDD, Essex and Southend-on-Sea will need to continue to move waste management towards more sustainable methods, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to move away from disposal of waste by landfill.

2.4 The preparation of the WDD requires the use of the most up-to-date and relevant evidence base which includes waste data, forecasting and having regard to joint approaches amongst Waste Planning Authorities. The Preferred Approach has taken into account the information and evidence base set out in The Review of the East of England Plan, which was submitted to Government in March 2010 (the Submitted RSS). [(2)] This evidence base provides a co-ordinated approach amongst Waste Planning Authorities in the East of England and is fully described in the updated evidence base in the Capacity Gap Report update 2011. [(3)] The principles and aims of the Submitted RSS including the shared targets are also considered, for example: 65% of municipal waste should be recycled and / or composted (including anaerobic digestion) and the remainder subjected to intensive residual treatment.

2.5 A major issue for Essex and Southend-on-Sea is the importation of waste from London to be disposed of to landfill sites in the plan area. In accordance with the Submitted RSS it is planned that the level of imported waste from London will reduce over time to 2031, and it maintains the principle of net self-sufficiency for waste management. Essex and Southend-on-Sea will therefore continue to work with other Waste Planning Authorities in the

2 East of England Plan >2031 Draft revision to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England. East of England Regional Assembly, March 2010

3 Waste Development Document: Capacity Gap Report Update (ECC & SBC October 2011)

East of England, the South East and Greater London to ensure that there is an actual reduction in the volumes of residual waste exported from London, having regard to Adopted London Plan requirements.

2.6 The role and purpose of the WDD should not be confused with the Municipal Waste Management Strategies prepared by the Essex County Council and Southend-on-Sea Borough Council Waste Disposal Authorities . As explained above, these serve a different purpose and these strategies are effectively delivery strategies to manage and dispose of the municipal waste collected by local authorities (households and some business waste). In preparing respective municipal strategies the WDAs took into account the Adopted Waste Plan for Essex and Southend. In this iterative process the Waste DD, will need to have regard to these Municipal Strategies and their objectives for increasing recycling of household waste, favouring composting technologies such as anaerobic digestion (AD) for source segregated organic wastes; and exploring innovative solutions for dealing with residual waste (including Mechanical Biological Treatment). In contrast the WDD provides the planning spatial dimension to these objectives in addition to the other wastes to be managed - and seeks to ensure that sufficient sites and facilities are provided to manage all wastes and to deliver the municipal waste management strategy. Equally when reviewing and updating these municipal waste management strategies the WDAs will need to take into account the WDD.

2.7 Historically, there has been a close relationship between mineral extraction and landfill, as minerals extraction produced a void space which may require infilling to achieve satisfactory site restoration. Infilling is most commonly undertaken with inert materials (e.g. construction and demolition waste). However, the approach taken in the emerging Essex Minerals Development Document, is to break this relationship; to increase recycling and the re-use of aggregates from construction and demolition sites and to divert waste away from landfill, in accordance with the waste hierarchy. This approach is reflected in this Preferred Approach Document.

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3 Essex and Southend-on-Sea at a Glance

3.1 The Preferred Approach should be based on what is locally distinctive about the plan area. The context for waste planning within Essex and Southend-on-Sea is based on the aspects in Statement 1 below:

ESSEX AND SOUTHEND-ON-SEA AT A GLANCE

Population and Economy

- The total population of the Plan area is 1,536,400, with both Essex and Southend's populations continuing to grow.
- There are 3 growth areas within the Plan area – the Haven Gateway, M11 corridor and Thames Gateway.

Transport Infrastructure

- The strategic transport network reflects the significance of London.
- Trunk roads and rail routes within the Plan area all suffer from congestion and capacity limitations.

Environment

- 70% of Essex's 369,394ha land area is farmland, with half the soil being high grade.
- Much of the Essex and Southend coastline is adjacent to sites of international/national habitat importance and subject to development pressures.
- A total of 29 species and 15 habitats are classed as vulnerable / need protection / promotion within Essex.
- 14,075 Listed Buildings, 301 Scheduled Monuments, 37 registered Historic Parks and Gardens and 21,000recorded archaeological sites in the Plan area.
- The East of England region is expected to face severe impacts from climate change including floods, droughts and sea level rises.

Waste Infrastructure

- There are currently a total of 299 waste management facilities dispersed throughout the Plan area, with greater clustering in the northeast and southeast, as shown in Map 1.

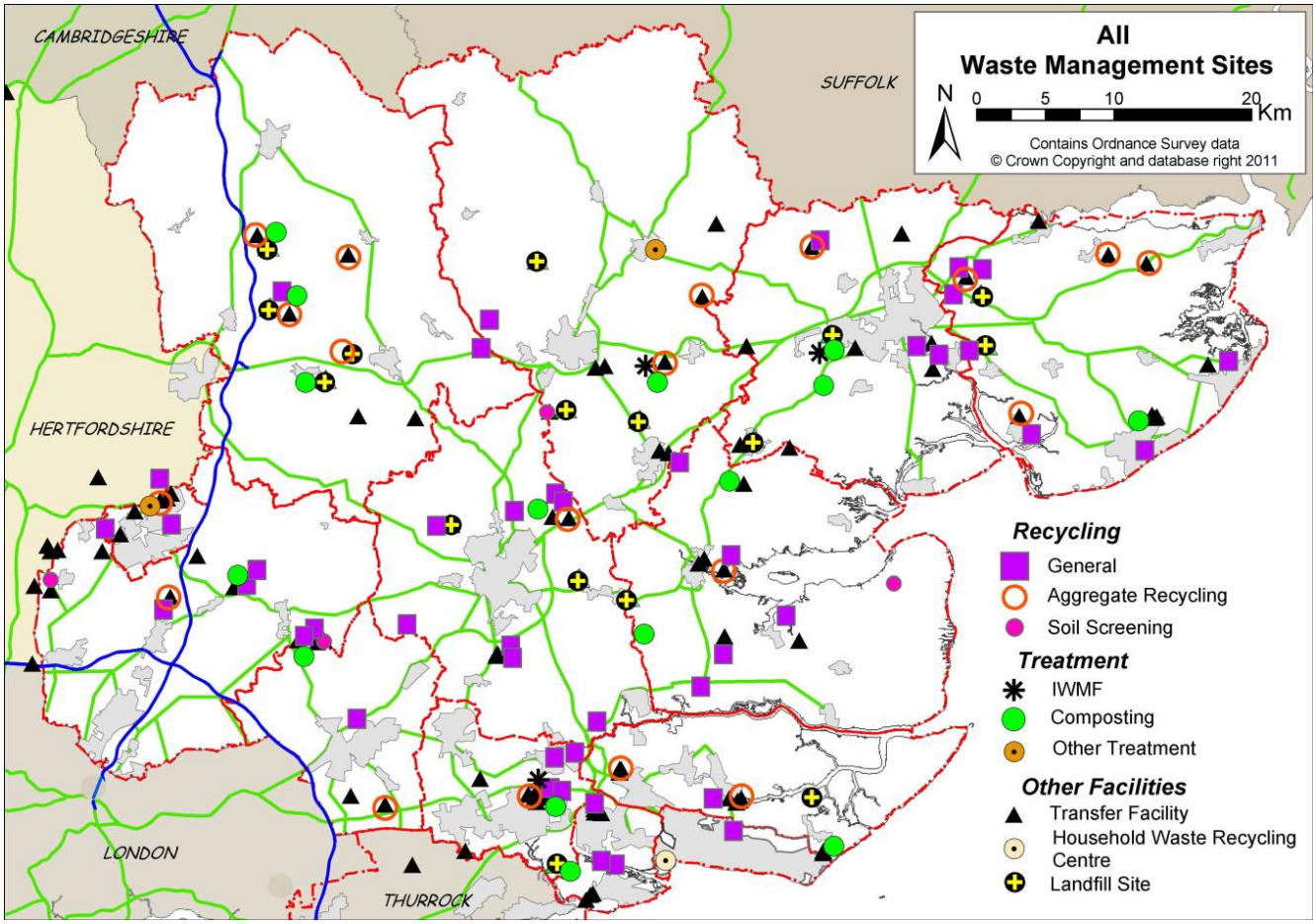
The Waste Challenge

3.2 The main waste streams to be managed are Municipal Solid Waste (household), commercial and Industrial Waste, and construction and demolition waste, although other streams also need to be catered for. In order to estimate the amount of additional waste management facilities and landfill capacity required over the plan period to 2031, it is necessary to first work out: how much waste is currently being managed by different types of facilities (existing capacity); how much waste is forecast to be created over the plan period that needs to be managed (taking into account policies and targets for waste prevention, recycling, recovery and landfill diversion). The outcomes identify the waste capacity gap and hence the need to plan for additional waste management facilities. Full details of the calculations and assumptions are set out in the Waste Capacity Gap Report update 2011, which forms part of the evidence base.

3.3 Over the plan period a total of 90 million tonnes of waste is estimated to be managed and disposed of (see Table 5). Overall it estimated that each year over 2 million tonnes of municipal, commercial and industrial waste will be produced, which is enough waste to fill half of the Wembley Stadium every year.[(4)] An equal quantity of inert waste (construction, demolition and excavation waste) is produced averaging just over 2 million tonnes every year over the plan period or a total of approximately 43 million tonnes.

3.4 The network of the 299 existing waste sites in Essex and Southend-on-Sea by the type of waste facility is shown in Map **1**.

Map 1 All Existing and Permitted Waste Facilities in Essex and Southend-on-Sea



3.5 By comparing the amount of waste estimated to be created over the Plan period, with the existing capacity provided in the different types of waste facilities in the Plan area, it is possible to estimate the amount of additional waste capacity requirements. Chapter 3 outlines the findings of Waste Capacity Gap Report update 2011 which sets the Waste Challenge for Essex and Southend-on-Sea and these are summarised below.

4 Approximately one tonne of waste fills one cubic metre. The new Wembley Stadium has a volume of approximately 4 million m³ inside its walls and under its roof. (http://www.wembleystadium.com/Press/Presspack/Stats-and-Facts).

Summary of the Key Findings

1. **MSW and C&I arisings remain broadly constant.** This is due to the predicted high forecast growth rate (housing, population and economic), combined with demanding targets for moving waste up the hierarchy and improving waste prevention measures.

2. Through the Waste Regulations (2011), local authorities have a duty to implement and plan according to the Waste Hierarchy. At present, too much is disposed of to landfill and with a shortage in landfill void (especially for MSW), **a shift away from landfill is crucial.**

3. The Waste Disposal Authorities **require a network of transfer facilities** to support their Municipal Waste Management Strategy and the efficient transportation of waste.

4. Caution should be applied to recycling and composting data. Whilst data shows there to be no capacity gap for this type of waste management, in reality there is likely to be **a need for additional composting to treat MSW organic waste**.

5. Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste recycling is 1,681 thousand tonnes per annum (ktpa), of which the permanent capacity provides 1,001 ktpa. Taking into account the recycling targets there will be a capacity gap by 2020/21. **To meet the gap, the equivalent of six average sized, C&D recycling facilities would be needed by 2031.**

6. **There is a capacity gap specifically relating to clinical waste treatment facilities**. The Plan area currently exports 470 tonnes of clinical waste for incineration or landfill. This needs to be investigated further.

7. **The permitted Integrated Waste Management Facilities** (at Rivenhall Airfield, Stanway and Basildon) and other significant permissions for landfill and energy recovery **have a vital role** in ensuring the Plan area's waste management infrastructure meets the required capacity for MSW and C&I waste. If one or more of these sites do not become operational, other waste facilities will be required.

8. There is **a need to identify additional inert landfill void space** (628 thousand m^3) in the Plan Area, which will be required from 2019/20.

9. **Non hazardous landfill void** has been improved by a currently non operational planning permission and a permission pending legal agreements. By 2031, **there is estimated to be between a surplus of 159 thousand m3 and a deficit of 782 thousand m3**. There remains an emphasis on sites being able to receive MSW waste after 2015 depending on the start dates of the two planning permissions noted above. Therefore, the suitability and potential for C&I landfill sites to receive MSW and/or Solid Output Material is a method that would reduce the impact of a shortage in MSW voidspace, which needs to be considered in the WDD.

10. **Additional landfill voidspace for hazardous wastes will be needed from 2014/15 for a total of 52 thousand m^3**, or we will need to continue to export such wastes.

11. The WDD needs to make provision for the **storage of Very Low Level and Low Level Radioactive Wastes,** in line with the decommissioning of Bradwell Nuclear Power Station.

12. The WDD needs flexibility to address any potential capacity gaps that arise during the Plan period. The most significant gaps identified in the 2011 Capacity Gap Report are for C&D waste recycling, clinical treatment and all landfill types.

To comment on the key findings of the waste capacity report, please respond to Questions 1 & 2 in Chapter 3

4 Our Vision

4.1 The spatial vision paints a picture of where Essex and Southend-on-Sea should be by 2031, the end of the Plan period. It should be locally distinctive and both aspirational and deliverable. The Vision is summarised below and set out in full in Chapter 4 of the main WDD. The preferred approaches for WDD policies are intended to be informed by and translate our vision.

Our Vision

By 2031, Essex and Southend-on-Sea will have achieved the following:

- Net self-sufficiency in our waste management.
- The reduction of the importation and disposal of London's waste through annual targeted reduction.
- Individuals, businesses and organisations in Essex and Southend-on-Sea will be taking responsibility for preventing waste in the first instance, and where this is not possible, re-using waste.
- Is sufficient waste management infrastructure provided to meet existing demand and the planned growth in Colchester, Chelmsford, Harlow, Basildon and Southend, with greater provision of facilities to serve the central, southern and northeast parts of the Plan area, whilst adequately serving the rural areas
- Waste management infrastructure will be well designed and operated and delivering sustainable waste management by pushing wastes higher up the Waste Hierarchy. We shall have a small number of integrated facilities with co-location of complementary waste facilities to encourage links, supported with a network of transfer, recycling and composting facilities.
- Waste management facilities will be located, designed and operated to minimise potential adverse impacts on the general amenity of local communities, natural environment, landscape and townscape, and will avoid contributing to climate change.

Is this Vision clear and right for Essex and Southend-on-Sea? To respond see Question 3 in Chapter 4.

5 Our Strategic Objectives

5.1 A number of strategic objectives are proposed to deliver the Vision and these will evolve as the WDD progresses. These are summarised below and set out in Chapter 4.

Our Preferred Strategic Objectives

SO1: To work with partner organisations to maximise waste prevention

SO2: To increase quantity as well as the quality of waste that is re-used, recycled and recovered to meet our local targets

SO3: To achieve net self sufficiency by 2031 & a substantial reduction in the disposal of London's waste

SO4: To safeguard and encourage the enhancement of existing strategic waste facilities

SO5: To allocate suitable strategic sites to meet the capacity gap by additional transfer stations, Construction and Demolition recycling, composting, treatment facilities & landfill

SO6: To reduce carbon emissions by energy recovery and utilisation, and by reducing transport distances

SO7: To maximise opportunities for sustainable economic growth by using waste as a resource for local industry and as a source of energy.

SO8: To ensure new waste facilities are sustainably designed, constructed and well operated to reduce potential adverse effects

Are these Strategic Objectives appropriate and achievable? To respond see Question 4 in Chapter 4

6 The WDD Preferred Approaches

6.1 In the main Waste Development Document there are 23 Preferred Approaches which will shape the policies to ensure the Vision and Strategic Objectives will be delivered. The Preferred Approaches address the Core Strategy, Recycling & Recovery, Disposal and Development Management Policies (chapters 4 - 7) and each Preferred Approach is explained and supported with an evidence base. Comments are sought on these in questions 4 - 22.

6.2 The 23 Preferred Approaches are summarised and outlined below in the order of the main document and include their respective question number.

The Waste Hiearchy

6.3 Preferred Approach 1: Waste Hierarchy

The Waste Planning Authorities will actively promote waste management up the waste hierarchy by having the waste hierarchy and its principles embedded in the Waste DD and used to inform planning decisions.

Do you agree with this preferred approach? To respond see question 5 in chapter 4

Waste Prevention and Re-use

6.4 Preferred Approach 2: Waste Prevention and Re-use

The Waste Planning Authorities are to work in partnership with public, private and voluntary organisations to promote waste prevention by raising awareness and to promote behavioural changes and to reduce and re-use waste arising; and to require sustainable construction practices to minimise use of raw materials and promote the re-use and recycling in materials in new development.

Is this Preferred approach appropriate for the vision & objectives? To respond see Question 6 in Chapter 4.

Spatial Strategy

6.5 The Spatial Strategy provides a steer on the areas and locations where waste development will be focused throughout the Plan Period and seeks to reflect the priorities of the waste hierarchy and reduction in the transportation of waste. The Strategy takes into account the existing capacity (both operational and permitted) which forms the foundation for ongoing waste capacity and raises the importance of the certain strategic sites which need to be protected from the impacts of other developments. There will however still be a need for some new waste management facilities during the plan period to meet the projected capacity gap, albeit this is limited and **no new additional non-hazardous landfill sites are proposed**.

6.6 Preferred Approach 3 sets out the Overall Spatial Strategy and is summarised below and set out in Map 2; full details are in Chapter 4.

Preferred Approach 3 - Overall Spatial Strategy
To achieve net self-sufficiency in waste management by 2031 and a year on year reduction in the amount of waste imported from London for disposal to landfill from 256,000 tonnes in 2010/11 to 13,000 in 2030/31.

To address the waste management capacity requirements by:

- **Safeguarding a network of existing, strategic waste management facilities and the three strategic sites with planning permission for Integrated Waste Management Facilities** at Stanway (Colchester), Rivenhall (Braintree) and Courtauld Road (Basildon)

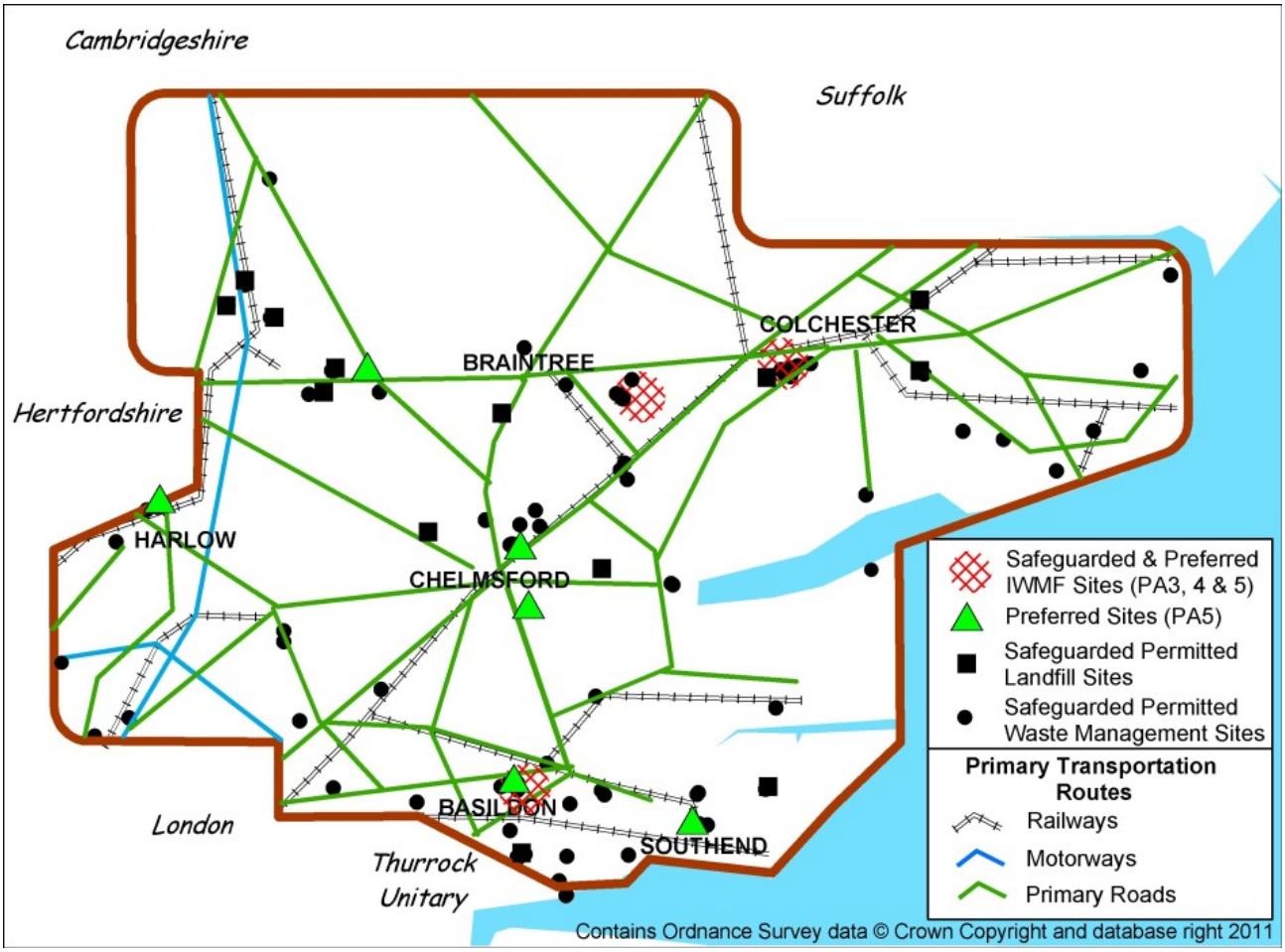
- **To support the additional Preferred Site allocations** for strategic recycling and recovery facilities with a **network** of 4 Municipal Solid Waste transfer stations & 2 In-vessel composting sites (Sandon & Basildon Waste Water Treatment Works)

- **If further sites are required** flexibility is to be provided through the locational criteria-based Preferred Approaches for Recycling and Recovery, Waste Treatment and Disposal and the core themes and development management requirements.

In general, waste proposals (excluding landfill / disposal) **will be more likely to be supported where they are within existing / designated employment land/industrial estates** or existing waste management sites or in association with other waste management development

New waste management proposals on non-allocated sites will need to demonstrate **why they are more suitable than the Preferred Sites** to meet the capacity gap and meet the relevant locational criteria

Map 2 Overall Spatial Strategy



6.7 The existing permitted strategic sites are of major importance in delivering the strategy with out the need to identify alternative new strategic sites. The definition of Strategic Sites is set out in Table 8 and the approach to safeguard these sites is set out in **Preferred Approach 4 Safeguarding and Waste Consultation Zones.**

6.8 A total of 70 strategic sites have been safeguarded as they are essential to meeting the Municipal Waste Management Strategies or the spatial strategy of the WDD. Safeguarding is required to ensure that existing and allocated sites for waste management facilities are protected from development that could prejudice the waste management operation. Waste Consultation Zones are proposed around the safeguarded sites to help the WPAs to implement the safeguarding, by informing prospective developers within and around safeguarded sites of the waste management use, so that the compatibility of the proposed new development can be taken into consideration. The sites to be safeguarded are listed in Appendix C.

Is the Preferred Spatial Strategyand the approach to Safeguarding sites appropriate? To respond see Questions 7 & 8 in Chapter 4.

Recycling and Composting

6.9 Chapter 5 sets out the Preferred Approaches for Recycling and Recovery and has a two tiered approach between Strategic and Non- Strategic Recycling and Recovery proposals (as defined in Table 8 in Chapter 4). Preferred Approach 5 sets out the preferred approach Strategic Site Allocations for Recycling and Recovery. Non-strategic recycling and composting proposals are encouraged through positive general and specific locational criteria as set out in Preferred Approaches 6 - 11.

6.10 Preferred Approach 5 Strategic Site Allocations for Recycling and Recovery

6.11 This preferred approach sets out the additional Preferred Sites to meet the future requirements for new transfer and composting capacity and are essential to deliver the strategy. In addition to these 6 new sites, the 3 strategic Integrated Waste Management Facilities with planning permission are also identified as preferred sites. Preferred Approach 5 is summarised below and full site details are set out in **Appendix E.**

Preferred Approach 5 Strategic Site Allocations for Recycling and Recovery

Proposals for MSW transfer stations on the following sites will be supported provided they are in line with the policies of the WDD:

- Hoblongs Industrial Estate Great Dunmow (W9)
- Templefields, Harlow (W10)
- Springfield Depot, Chelmsford (W11)
- Eastern Avenue Depot, Southend-on-Sea (W16)

A further two MSW transfer stations are required in the vicinity of Braintree and Colchester/Tendring.

Proposals for In-vessel Composting Facilities on the following sites will be supported provided they are in line with the policies of the WDD:

- Basildon Waste Waster Treatment Works (W3)
- Sandon Quarry (W7)

Proposed allocations for Integrated Waste Management Facilities on the following 3 sites which have planning permission for this (see reference below) and are already safeguarded under Preferred Approach 4, to ensure they are able to form part of the existing recovery capacity:

- Stanway (Colchester), (ESS/63/06/COL) (IWMF1)
- Rivenhall Airfield II (Braintree), (ESS/337/08/BTE) (IWMF2)
- Courtauld Raod (Basildon) (ESS/04/07/BAS) (IWMF3)

New proposals for recycling and recovery on non-allocated sites would be assessed against the locational criteria in preferred approaches 6-15. In addition any strategic recycling and recovery facilities would have to demonstrate that they are more suitable than the allocated sites.

6.12 The Site Selection methodology and assessment criteria are set out in **Chapter 8 Preferred Sites and Site Selection Methodology,** where the list are ofall the sites suggested for consideration in response to the Waste Issues and Options Call for Sites are listed. **Full details of these Preferred Site Proposals and the non-selected sites are set out in Appendix E, Preferred Sites and Non Allocated Sites and available for comment.**

Is the approach to Strategic Recycling and Recovery Site Allocations appropriate? To respond please see Question 9 in Chapter 5.

To make any site specific comments please respond to the site questions in Appendix E

6.13 The preferred general and locational criteria for non-strategic Recycling and Composting proposals are within Preferred Approaches 6 - 11 and are summarised below.

PA 6 **Recycling and Recovery Facilities** locations , including existing industrial estates, waste management sites, employment areas and areas of degraded, contaminated or derelict land.

PA 7 **Materials Recycling/Recovery Facilities and Waste Transfer Stations,** lists the same locations as PA6. In addition small scale facilities (i.e. Non - strategic proposals) may be accommodated at current landfill sites, provided they do not prejudice the agreed restoration timescale for the site and the new use ceases prior to the permitted completion date of the site.

PA 8 **Inert Waste Recycling Facilities** lists the same locations as PA6 (except employment areas). In addition current mineral working and landfill sites, provided they do not prejudice the agreed restoration timescale for the site and the new use ceases prior to the permitted completion date of the site, and at demolition and construction sites where the inert waste materials are to be used in the construction project on that site.

PA 9 **Metal Recycling and Vehicle Dismantling Facilities** includes existing industrial estates, waste management sites, and areas of degraded, contaminated or derelict land.

PA 10 **In-Vessel Composting Facilities** lists the same locations as PA6, as well as proposals in association with Waste Water Treatment Works, on existing areas of hardstanding and/or degraded, contaminated or derelict land and previously developed land in rural areas, and within redundant farm land and buildings.

PA 11 **Outdoor Composting Facilities** includes existing areas of hardstanding and/or degraded, contaminated or derelict land and previously developed land in rural areas, within redundant farm land and buildings, in association with other waste management development, including Waste Water Treatment Works, where the compost is to be used as part of the restoration requirement for a mineral working and/or a reclamation process on adjoining land, and at landfill sites where the compost is to be used as part of the restoration and the residual waste can be disposed of, provided the new use ceases prior to the permitted completion date of the site.

To comment on the preferred general and locational criteria for the Recycling and Composting facilities in Preferred Approaches 6-11? please respond to Question 10 in Chapter 5 (after Preferred Approach 11).

Residual Waste Treatment

6.14 Chapter 6 also addresses Recovery and Preferred Approach 5 applies. There should be sufficient capacity for residual waste treatment through the strategic treatment sites safeguarded through Preferred Approach 4, including the three sites with planning permission for integrated waste management facilities at Stanway (Colchester), Rivenhall (Braintree) and Courtauld Road (Basildon).

6.15 However additional residual waste recovery and treatment facilities proposals could come forward outside the allocated and safeguarded sites. These will be assessed against and encouraged through positive general and specific locational criteria as set out in Preferred Approach 6 (see above) and Preferred Approach 12 - 15 summarised below.

PA6	**Recycling and Recovery Facilities** locations, including existing industrial estates, waste management sites, employment areas and areas of degraded, contaminated or derelict land.
PA12	**Waste Water Treatment Works** includes existing waste water treatment works, industrial estates, waste management sites, areas of hardstanding and/or degraded, contaminated or derelict land and previously developed land in rural areas, and within redundant farm land and buildings
PA13	**Criteria for Clinical Waste Treatment Facilities** - in existing industrial estates, waste management sites, and areas of degraded, contaminated or derelict land, or as part of a hospital complex.
PA14	**Mechanical Biological Treatment, Autoclaving and Anaerobic Digestion Facilities** - in the same locations as PA6 (except employment areas) in addition to part of district heating schemes (Anaerobic Digestion, Autoclaving, and MBT with Combined Heat & Power output only), in association with Waste Water Treatment Works (AD only), in agricultural locations and farms (AD only).
PA15	**Energy from Waste, Gasification and Pyrolysis Facilities** the same locations as PA6 (except employment areas), as well as part of district heating schemes, and co-located with other commercial and industrial users of heat and power.

Are these preferred general and specific locational criteria in preferred approaches 6-15 for Recovery & Residual Waste Treatment appropriate? To respond please see questions 10 - 14 in Chapter 5.

Disposal

6.16 Final Disposal as landfill is the least preferred option and is to be the last resort. Infilling is most commonly undertaken with inert materials (e.g. construction and demolition waste). However, the approach taken in the emerging Essex Minerals Development Document, is to break this relationship; to increase recycling and the re-use of aggregates from construction and demolition sites, to divert waste away from landfill and to promote alternative forms of restoration, in accordance with the waste hierarchy. This is a substantial shift away from landfill to promoting waste management further up the waste hierarchy with a network of existing and permitted waste management facilities is the priority.

6.17 There will continue to be a need for some residual landfill (as set out in the Waste Capacity Gap) and these are dealt with under Preferred Approaches 16 - 21 highlighted below and full details on how this is proposed are in Chapter 6.

6.18 A number of sites have been suggested for inert landfill and non-hazardous landfill, which include a number of sites suggested for mineral extraction as part of the Minerals DD process. Details of the site assessment criteria and full details of the suggested sites are in Chapter 8 and Appendices D & E.

6.19 No Preferred landfill sites have been identified in the WDD Preferred Approach

6.20 **Preferred Approach 16 - 20 Potential Strategic Site Allocations for Inert Landfill** - Although no inert landfill sites have been selected as preferred sites; some of the suggested sites which passed stage 1 assessment may be suitable for partial infill. Site selection will depend on whether these sites come through as Preferred Sites in the Minerals DD.

6.21 **Preferred Approach 17: Locational Criteria for Non-hazardous Landfill Facilities** Again no new non-hazardous landfills are allocated. If any proposals come forward outside the safeguarded sites they will only be acceptable if monitoring shows a need for non-hazardous landfill of Essex and Southend-on-Sea's waste.

6.22 **Preferred Approach 18: Locational Criteria for Hazardous Landfill Facilities** Any proposals for new hazardous landfill that come forward will only be acceptable where they meet the identified requirement for disposal of Essex and Southend-on-Sea's hazardous waste.

6.23 **Preferred Approach 19: Locational Criteria for Landraising** concerns proposals that may come forward for landraise as part of an engineering project to achieve the primary development or restoration. Landfilling or landraising of inert waste that could practicably be re-used, recycled, or reprocessed will not be acceptable.

6.24 **Preferred Approach 20: Criteria for Intermediate, Low and Very Low Level Radioactive Wastes** Provision is also made for the storage of radioactive wastes arising from Bradwell Nuclear Power Station and disposal of a small amount from hospitals and academic or research organisations.

To comment on these Preferred Approaches please respond to Questions 15 -19 in Chapter 6.

Development Management Policies

6.25 Chapter 7 sets out three generic Development Management Polices covering all remaining criteria for waste development proposals that the WDD needs to address. These are set out in Preferred Approaches 21 - 22 covering:

- Mitigating and Adapting to Climate Change
- Transportation of Waste
- General Considerations for all Waste Management Development Proposals covering a number of different criteria need to be considered with all planning applications for waste management development

To comment on these Preferred Approaches please respond to Questions 20 - 22 in Chapter 7.

7 Preferred Sites and Selection Methodology

7.1 A total of 30 sites (or 33 separate proposals including some where multiple facilities were suggested) were assessed from those that were submitted in response to the WDD Issues and Options Call for Sites. A site assessment selection process has been developed to consider potentially new sites and /or new facilities using a consistent set of generally agreed criteria. Chapter 8 in the main WDD chapter sets out the site selection methodology used to select and assess both the Preferred and Non-Selected sites.

7.2 Of the 33 proposals suggested, 16 were for waste management facilities (covering all levels of the waste hierarchy), 3 were for non-hazardous landfill and 14 were for inert landfill. The site selection methodology comprised five stages:

- STAGE 1: Assessment of each site against seven Exclusionary criteria (sec 8.17- 8.18);
- STAGE 2: A further more detailed assessment on the sites which successfully passed Stage 1. Stage 2 examines nine other Site Selection Criteria, including proximity to the five key urban centres (sec 8.19);
- STAGE 3: Cross-checking and moderation of all site assessments / scores to ensure consistency between assessors;
- STAGE 4: Identification of sites which could meet the overarching spatial strategy;
- STAGE 5: Sustainability Appraisal and confirmation of the Preferred Sites for inclusion in this document.

Your views are sought on the proposed site selection methodology and criteria. To respond see Question 23 **in** Chapter 8. Appendix D also elaborates on the site assessment and selection methodology.

Preferred Sites

7.3 Outcomes from the site assessment and selection process for the proposals that came forward as part of the Waste Issues and Options Call for Sites are outlined below. **Appendix E: Preferred Sites and Non-selected Sites provides the opportunity to comment on each of the individual suggested sites / proposals.**

Statement 2

IMPORTANT: The Status of the Preferred Sites identified in the WDD Preferred Approach

Please be aware that the sites selected as Preferred Sites at this Preferred Approach stage may not remain as Preferred Sites when the final version of the plan emerges at the Submission stage. Similarly, sites currently rejected could later be included as Preferred Sites. This is because new information could emerge in response to this consultation which would require changes to be made to the way sites are assessed, or to individual site scores.

It is only when there is an Adopted Plan - that is, after the Submission version of the document has been through Examination in Public and the Council has agreed to any changes required by the independent Planning Inspector - that complete certainty in the choice of Preferred Sites can be given.

7.4 The permitted Integrated Waste Management Facilities (at Rivenhall Airfield, Stanway and Basildon) and the additional MSW Transfer sites have a vital role in ensuring the Plan Area's waste management infrastructure meets the required capacity for MSW and C&I waste (section 8.2 and 8.4). It is also considered that additional composting capacity will be needed during the Plan period (Preferred Approach 5).

7.5 The following table sets out our preferred sites to deliver the Core Strategy needs outlined above. Their location is also shown in Map 2.

Table 1 Preferred Sites as set out in Preferred Approaches 4 and 5

Site Ref No.	Site / Proposal Description	District
Safeguarded Preferred Sites (Selected) See PA4 & PA5 and Appendix E Section 2		
IWMF 1	Stanway, Colchester Planning Permission COL/63/06/COL	COL
IWMF 2	Rivenhall Airfield, Braintree, Planning Permissions ESS/37/08/BTE & ESS/38/06/BTE	BTE
IWMF 3	Courtauld Road, Basildon, Planning Permission ESS/04/07/BAS	BAS
Preferred Sites for In-Vessel Composting (Selected) See PA5 and Appendix E Section 3		
W3	Basildon Waste Water Treatment Works (east)	BAS
W7	Sandon Quarry (east), Sandon, Chelmsford	CHL

Site Ref No.	Site / Proposal Description	District
Preferred Sites for Municipal Solid Waste Transfer (selected) See PA5 and Appendix E Section 3		
W9	Hoblongs Industrial Estate, Great Dunmow	UTT
W10	Templefields, Harlow	HLW
W11	Springfield Depot, Chelmsford	CHL
W16	Eastern Avenue Depot, Southend-on-Sea	SBC

Non-Selected Sites

7.6 Your opinion is sought not only on the merits or otherwise of these Preferred Sites but also those sites which have not been selected at this time. Within Chapter 6 - Disposal, it is identified that while there will continue to be a need for some landfill capacity, to dispose of albeit limited quantities of residual waste, no site allocations for landfill are being taken forward within the WDD at this time.

Table 2 Non Selected Landfill Sites

Site Ref No.	Site / Proposal Description	District
Li1	Towerfield, Fingrinhoe Quarry, Fingringhoe	COL
Li2	Holmwood Farm, Fingringhoe Quarry, Fingringhoe	COL
Li3R	Tile Kiln, Sible Hedingham	BTE
Li4R	Shellow Cross, Roxwell	CHL
Li5	Wivenhoe Quarry	COL / TEN
Li6	Sandon Quarry	CHL
Li7	Fiveways Fruit Farm, Stanway	COL
Li9	Tyndales, Danbury	CHL
Li10R	Blackleys Quarry, Gt Leighs, Braintree	CHL
Li11R	Blackleys, Quarry, Gt Leighs, Braintree	CHL
Li14R	Broadfields Farm, Rayne,	BTE
Ln1R	Slough Farm, Martells Quarry, Ardleigh	TEN
Ln2R	Park Farm, Martells Quarry, Ardleigh	TEN

7.7 Recognition that suitable sites for partial infilling of inert wastes could be assigned in the future is based on the rationale set out in Preferred Approach 16: Potential Strategic Site Allocations for Inert Landfill. Such sites would be those which did not fail the site assessment at Stage One . Their selection will depend on whether these sites come through as preferred sites within the Minerals Development Document (Chapter 8.6).

7.8 Within Chapter 5 Recycling and Recovery, it is identified that for most types of facilities there is currently sufficient capacity within the Plan area to meet future requirements. As such, no site allocations for recycling and recovery are being taken forward within the WDD at this time except for in-vessel composting at W3 Basildon WwTW and W7 Sandon.

Table 3 Non Selected Waste Management Sites

Site Ref No.	Site / Proposal Description	District
W1	Greenacres, Wormingford,	COL
W2	Hallsford Bridge, Ongar	BRW
W5	Colchester Waste Water Treatment Works, Commerce Way, Colchester	COL
W6	Witham Waste Water Treatment Works, Witham	BTE
W7	Sandon Quarry, Sandon	CHL
W13	Wivenhoe Quarry	COL / TEN

7.9 Sites which did not meet one or more of the Stage 1 Exclusionary Criteria are set out in the Table below. Stage 1 criteria were considered a prerequisite for taking a waste site forward for any subsequent assessment; although regardless it is possible to comment on each site / proposal in Appendix E.

Table 4 Failed Stage 1 Non Selected Landfill and Waste Management Sites

Site Ref No.	Site / Proposal Description	District
Li8R	Armigers Farm, Thaxted	UTT
Li12R	Patch Park Farm, Abridge	EPF
Li13R	Wellwick, St Osyth	TEN
Ln3	Crumps Farm, Lt Canfield, Takeley	UTT
W3	Basildon Waste Water Treatments Works, Basildon (west and north)	BAS
W4	Chelmsford Waste Water Treatment Works, Brook End Road, Chelmsford	CHL
W8	Elsenham	UTT

Site Ref No.	Site / Proposal Description	District
W12	Ballast Quay, Fingringhoe Quarry, Fingringhoe	COL
W14	Alresford Quarry, Alresford	TEN
W15	Wellwick, St Osyth	TEN

Key: IWMF: Safeguarded and Permitted IWMF Proposed as a Preferred Site; W: Waste Facilities; L^{i}: Inert Landfill Sites & L^{n} : Non-Hazardous Landfill Sites, R: landfill with Inert waste /Aggregate Recycling

There are many ways you may wish to comment and possible headings are listed in 8.24 of the main document, or you may which to draw our attention to other information about a site you believe should influence the assessment.

If you wish to make a site specific comments on any of the sites listed above please go to Appendix E Preferred Sites and Non Selected Sites http://consult.essexcc.gov.uk

8 Implementation, Monitoring and Review

8.1 **Within Chapter 9, Table 9.1** in the main WDD sets out a proposed monitoring and implementation framework for the WDD. It includes local performance indicators that could be used to monitor achievement of the Preferred Approaches. It also describes the key agents who need to be involved in the delivery of each Preferred Approach (e.g. private operators, landowners, neighbouring councils and government bodies) as well as the delivery mechanisms.

It is essential that delivery and monitoring of the WDD is effective and so we would like your views as to the best methods, agents and monitoring indicators. To respond see Question 24 in Chapter 9.

9 Anything Else?

Have we missed anything?

9.1 Producing the Plan is a complex process and there may be aspects which we have not yet covered. The Final question addresses this point.

If you would like to advise us of matters you think should be considered in the WDD please respond to Question 25 in Chapter 10.

10 How to Contribute to The Consultation

10.1 The WDD Preferred Approach consultation runs for 8 weeks from 24 November 2011to 17:30 19 January 2012. The Preferred Approach asks a range of questions about future waste management in Essex and Southend. We need your opinions on the preferred approaches and preferred site allocations and non-selected sites set out in this **document and on the Sites set out in Appendix E Preferred Sites and Non Selected Sites**. Your comments will help us shape the submission version of the WDD, so please do get involved at this stage and have your say.

10.2 All the WDD: Preferred Approach consultation documents can be accessed via the Internet at http://consult.essexcc.gov.uk. This is an interactive service through which you can review and comment on the documents and previous comments received.

10.3 However there are a number of other ways to respond. Hard copies of the main consultation document is available to view on the Councils' websites, where they can be viewed online or printed as required. There is a standard response form available on each Council's website that can be downloaded and completed electronically. The form should be used to respond to all questions; any responses that do not fit in the space provided should be clearly marked on a separate page and attached to the form.

10.4 For the Essex County Council website go to: www.essex.gov.uk/wdd

10.5 For the Southend-on-Sea Borough Council website go to: www.southend.gov.uk/wdd

10.6 Hard copies of main consultation document will be made available for inspection at libraries across Essex and Southend, at District and Borough Council offices, at County Hall in Chelmsford and at the Civic Centre in Southend. The complete set of hard copy documents including supporting documents including the SA/SEA appraisals will be available to view at all district and borough council offices, county Hall and Southend Civic Centre. This information is also available to view on line and on CD.

10.7 Completed response forms should be returned within the 8 week consultation period using one of the following methods:

- Email to: mineralsandwastepolicy@essex.gov.uk or debeeskinner@southend.gov.uk
- Fax to: 01245 437 213
- Post to:

Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Team,	Enterprise, Tourism and the Environment
Freepost CL3636	Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
Essex County Council	PO Box 5557,
E3 County Hall	Victoria Avenue
Chelmsford CM1 1QH	Southend-on-Sea SS2 6ZF

10.8 Please be aware that for your response to be accepted, it must include your name and full postal address. Furthermore, all responses will be publicly available in accordance with the Local Government Act 2000 and will be made available to view online. Please note that due to the high number of responses anticipated it will take longer to make letter and email responses viewable to the public, and so if you want your response to be immediately viewable, please complete the online response form, noted above. All personal information such as phone numbers, addressess or email addresses will be removed from the viewable responses.

Exhibitions / Drop-In Sessions

10.9 Minerals and Waste Planning staff will be available at venues across Essex and Southend-on-Sea during the consultation period. This will include venues located near Preferred Sites and non-selected sites. The timetable for these events is available on both websites and distributed to Parish and Town Councils.

Workshop

10.10 A facilitated workshop, will be held during the consultation period. This will provide an opportunity to discuss and debate the topic of *"how to actively promote the waste hierarchy"*, a Preferred Approach in the WDD. Details of the date and location for the workshop are available on our website. Please register to book a place, by emailing your interest to mineralsandwastepolicy@essex.gov.uk.

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This document is published by
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www.essex.gov.uk/WDD or at **www.southend.gov.uk/WDD**

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