

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

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CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN PREFERRED OPTIONS 2 CONSULTATION

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to agree the Council's response to the County Council's consultation document on Preferred Options 2 of the Minerals and Waste Development Plan. A copy of the full set of documents is available in the Planning Policy section of SCDC.
2. This is a key decision because it will have an impact on the communities living or working in the whole of the District. The location of some of the proposed mineral and waste sites will have a particular impact on specific communities.

Executive Summary

3. The report outlines the comments made by South Cambridgeshire District Council at the previous stage of the Minerals and Waste Development Plan (MWDP) –Preferred Option 1 in December 2006. The MWDP has not included a preferred approach to managing waste within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough rather it combines two scenarios (Para 12-14). The County has researched whether there is any additional sites that could be considered for waste facilities in the Cambridge area –looking at industrial and brownfield sites. The Council welcomes this research (Para 15) Consultants have now produced strategies for some waste management facilities but the Council is still concerned that the strategy for Household Recycling Centres has been determined though the Waste Management Strategies which are not part of this consultation. (Para16-19). The Waste Design guide should be referred to in the MWCS in order that it can become a supplementary planning document. (Para 20) Maps to show all the preferred sites included in the MWDP are within **Appendix 3**. The recommended response to these sites and their proposed allocations is included in **Appendix 1**. A summary of the strategic allocations for minerals and waste that appear in the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy (MWCS) is included in the report from paragraph 21-24. The Council request that an additional policy is added to the MWCS relating to routing agreements. (Para 25) The Site Specific Proposals DPD (MWSSP) contains a number of preferred sites allocated for minerals and the summary of the response to these sites is after paragraph 27. The report explains the new policy for safeguarding mineral areas and highlights some of the concerns this Council has with the current areas. (Par 28-32). The needs for minerals of the A14 improvements and the impact on this District are described and concern expressed at the transporting of these minerals. (Para 33-35). The allocation of Needingworth and Cottenham/Landbeach are highlighted as issues the Council requires further information on. (Para 36-37). The identification of waste sites in Preferred Option SSP10 appears to over allocate the number of facilities according to the needs shown by work by Jacobs. (Para 38) No allocation appears to have been made for bulking up facilities (Para 40). A summary of the response to the preferred waste sites follows paragraph 42. New policies for Waste Consultation Area and

safeguarding areas for Waste Water Treatment Works are described (Para 43-44)
The Recycling Centre to serve the south side of Cambridge is supported (Para 45)

Background

4. Cambridgeshire County Council is preparing jointly with Peterborough City Council a Minerals and Waste Development Plan (MWDP) as part of its new Local Development Framework (LDF). This will replace the adopted Waste Local Plan 2003 and the Cambridgeshire Aggregates (Minerals) Local Plan adopted 1991. The Plan also has regard to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England, which has specific policies relating to minerals and waste.
5. The MWDP will be vital in ensuring that construction materials are available to support planned growth in Cambridgeshire and that sustainable waste management is in place for existing and planned new communities. It sets out the County Council's preferred options in terms of policies that will guide minerals and waste development until 2026, and includes site-specific proposals.
6. The County Council consulted on the Issues and Options Paper 1 for the emerging MWDP in June 2005. That paper set out key issues and options, including aspirations for new sites for mineral extraction and waste management development, which had been put forward, by operators and landowners. A further Issues and Options Paper 2 was published in January 2006 containing additional site aspirations. The Preferred Options 1 consultation was carried out in December 2006, which outlines the strategy for minerals and waste as well as identifying the preferred sites for mineral extraction and for waste management facilities. These versions of the MWDP planned for a period up to 2021.
7. South Cambridgeshire Council responded to all these consultations. In December 2006 the Council responded to the Preferred Options 1 consultation as follows:

“A fundamental concern arising from the previous consultations was the lack of a strategy for minerals and waste. The Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD (MWCS) at this stage should include a clear spatial strategy for both waste and minerals. The Preferred Options stage of the MWCS disappointingly still does not provide a clear spatial strategy. It is therefore very difficult to provide informed comments on advantages and disadvantages of individual sites. This is particularly important for minerals and waste, which are often considered ‘bad neighbour’ uses and which may require strategic considerations to take precedence over site-specific concerns and to rely upon mitigation rather than avoidance of adverse impacts. “

Current consultation on the Preferred Options 2

8. As a result of representations on the Preferred Option 1 and advice from Central Government the County has carried out further work on the MWDP and has prepared the current documents that are being consulted upon – Preferred Option 2. The MWDP plan period has extended the plan period to 2026. Additional sites have been assessed for inclusion in these plans and revised areas for safeguarding.
9. The MWDP comprises of three Development Plan Documents (DPDs). These are:
 - The Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD (MWCS), which sets out the strategic vision and objectives and includes a suite of development control policies to guide minerals and waste development. This document also contains strategic allocations for minerals and waste.

- The Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals DPD (MWSSP) which sets out site specific proposals for mineral and waste development and supporting site specific policies.
- The Earith and Mepal Area Action Plan DPD, which is an area with inter-related waste and mineral issues that needed specific consideration (this plan does not cover any part of South Cambridgeshire district).

10. A Proposals map will accompany these documents.

Issues for consideration

Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD

11. The content of the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy (MWCS) has altered from the last consultation since it now contains strategic allocations for minerals and waste. This is as a result of changes in the guidance produced by Central Government regarding the content of Local Development Frameworks. However the general policy content of this document remains the same with some additions notably the policy on safeguarding mineral reserves.

Waste

12. The Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD still refers to four scenarios to consider different approaches to managing waste:

0. Do nothing
1. Meet targets
2. High minimisation and diversion
3. Integrated strategy with energy recovery

13. South Cambridgeshire District Council responded to this aspect of the MWCS in December 2006 as follows -

“The MWCS indicates a preference for scenarios 2 and 3, but it is not clear, which one will be included in the adopted plan or how a choice will be made. Importantly, there has been no previous consultation on these scenarios, which should have been a fundamental part of issues and options consultation in the front loaded system. Scenario 2 maximises recovery and recycling of waste but with no energy from waste. Scenario 3 is similar but specifically includes energy from waste.

It is important for the MWCS to include a specific preferred option that is capable of sustainability appraisal. If it is not possible to make a decision at this time on which scenario is preferred, the Council could suggest that a scenario is pursued that seeks to maximise recovery and recycling but also allows for an Energy for Waste (EfW) option where this is demonstrated through studies to be an appropriate solution. This would provide a single preferred option but allow flexibility for EfW to be considered, particularly in the context of the major developments, if it proves to be a desirable solution within the overall objectives of the MWCS.”

14. The MWCS is still unclear about which particular scenario has been chosen. It would appear that Cambridgeshire County Council has opted for scenario 2 since it entered a Private Finance Initiative (PFI) agreement which means that municipal waste will be collected through domestic waste collections by the District Councils and through a

network of household Recycling Centres. This waste will then be transferred to a central Mechanical Biological Treatment (MBT) facility at Waterbeach. The waste will be treated here and will produce a stable compost output. The waste that cannot be treated will be disposed of at the adjoining landfill. The plant will be in operation by 2009. However Peterborough Unitary Authority is progressing the development of an Energy Resource Recovery Facility, which is part of scenario 3. A further scenario should be included in the MWDP to allow for this combined approach.

15. South Cambridgeshire District Council was concerned that the earlier Preferred Options 1 had not given sufficient consideration as to the appropriate spatial strategy for locating waste facilities. Should they all be in or on the edge of Cambridge? Does this best serve the rural area? Sites for waste in this earlier consultation were identified in all the major development areas around Cambridge and it was not clear whether consideration had been given to brownfield sites in Cambridge. As part of the preparation of the Preferred Options 2 the County has carried out a study of brownfield and industrial land in the Cambridge area to ensure that there were not new or missed opportunities to locate waste management facilities within Cambridge in preference to greenfield or fringe areas. 95 sites were identified and assessed. Of these 21 sites were identified as having potential for accommodating a waste management use and had all already been considered in the MWDP. The study confirmed that no additional industrial or brownfield land was suitable for consideration for waste uses. It is to be welcomed that this research was carried out to inform the MWCS.
16. At the previous consultation stage South Cambridgeshire District Council had expressed strong concerns at the lack of a strategy for waste. The County has carried out further studies whilst preparing this Preferred options 2. Some of this work has been to provide strategies for the MWDP particularly for waste facilities. Consultants Jacobs have provided a 'Netwaste Site Selection Report' for the County, which has identified using NetWaste modelling technique strategies for different waste facilities. This was done by:
 - assessing the future need of waste facilities;
 - evaluating the existing network of facilities;
 - calculating how many new facilities are needed and what the catchment areas are;
 - identifying all the sites that have been considered for waste management facilities;
 - short listing these and finally after analysing each of these sites identifying preferred sites.
17. Jacobs carried out this assessment work for the following waste treatment facilities –
 - Material Recycling Facilities (MRF) – a large facility for processing collected recyclable waste.
 - In-vessel compost (IVC) facilities – involves the composting process inside a vessel where conditions are optimised for the breakdown of the material. This processes organic waste collections.
 - Energy from Waste facilities (EfW) – facilities designed to burn waste under controlled conditions at high temperatures; heat is received from the processes to generate electricity or heat water.
 - Inert Processing facilities- facilities for recycling materials that do not decompose

18. These types of waste facilities have now had strategies prepared for them. The evidence of how these strategies were devised is part of the supporting documents for the MWDP. It should be noted that the Council is concerned at two of the sites being proposed as suitable as preferred sites for inert waste facilities which has meant that there are concerns about the strategy for inert recycling. (Sites at Great Wilbraham and at Flint Cross)
19. The spatial strategy for municipal waste has largely been determined through the Waste Management Strategies that have been prepared by the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Authorities in their roles as Waste Disposal Authorities. The County adopted a Cambridgeshire Household Recycling Strategy in December 2006 which 'sets out the Authority's strategy for delivering these facilities as a resource to the public, and as a critical aid to meeting statutory waste to landfill diversion targets. This Strategy has been supplemented by further work which has refined the need and best locations for local recycling centres in Cambridgeshire.' (paragraph 6.45 Page 96 MWCS) These strategies and additional work are not part of this consultation and it is regrettable that they have not been included as supporting documents as it would have assisted the understanding of the recycling centres strategy. South Cambridgeshire District Council considers that these should have been part of the Preferred Options 2 consultation and been subject to a sustainability appraisal. The MWCS identifies Cambridge East; Cambridge North; Cambridge South and Northstowe as preferred allocations for household Recycling Centres. These preferred locations appear to have been decided upon through the County's Recycling Strategy- a non-statutory document.
20. The Waste Design Guide has not been mentioned in the MWDP. This is a document that provides guidance to developers as to the requirements for waste in development proposals. It has been jointly prepared by all the local authorities in Cambridgeshire and if it is to be progressed into a supplementary planning document (SPD) it must have a relevant policy in the MWDP for it to relate to. If it were formally adopted as an SPD it would gain weight in its use in influencing the waste content of planning applications. Wording should be added to Preferred Option CS25 – Waste Minimisation and Resource Recovery, which includes the need for waste audits to be prepared for all development proposals.
21. The Strategic Allocations that have been included in the MWCS are included in the following table. The recommended response to these allocations is contained in Appendix 1 and summarised in the table below: Maps showing the location of the sites are included in Appendix 3.

Nature of waste facility (Policy number from Core Strategy DPD and Site Specific Proposals DPD where relevant are in brackets)	Site (Specialist use where applicable in brackets) <i>Map number in italics refers to maps contained in the Site Specific Proposals DPD</i>	S Cambs District Council's proposed response
Commercial resource recovery and recycling facility – non landfill (CS13A)	Cambridge East <i>Map W9</i>	Support the uses being proposed for the site. - Cambridge East will be the largest single development in the Cambridge Sub-Region over the next 15 years and it is to be planned at high densities and therefore the

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		<p>location and design of the proposed waste management facilities must have regard to this. Support would be subject to consideration of the matters raised by Environmental Health.</p> <p>The facility should not be located so that it impacts upon the existing communities within Cambridge and in the villages of Teversham and Fen Ditton.</p>
Commercial resource recovery and recycling facility – non landfill (CS13F: SSP10)	Waste Management Park, Waterbeach <i>Map W26</i>	No objection subject to measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health. The Council supports the identification of the site for a range of waste management facilities.
Recycling Centres (CS14 A)	Cambridge East <i>Map W9</i>	<p>Support the use being proposed for the site. - Cambridge East will be the largest single development in the Cambridge Sub-Region over the next 15 years and it is to be planned at high densities and therefore the location and design of the proposed local recycling centre must have regard to this. Support would be subject to consideration of the matters raised by Environmental Health.</p> <p>The facility should be located so that it does not adversely impact upon the existing communities within Cambridge and in the villages of Teversham and Fen Ditton.</p>
Recycling Centres (CS14 B)	Cambridge North <i>Map W8</i>	Support in principle the use of the site for a Recycling

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		Centre subject to the measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health.
Recycling Centres (CS14 C)	Cambridge South <i>Map W27</i>	No objection subject to measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health. The Council supports the identification of the site for a recycling centre and welcomes the additional information provided by the County as regards how the facility will be designed to reduce its impact on the surrounding area.
Recycling Centres (CS14 F)	Northstowe <i>Map W7</i>	Support in principle subject to the measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health . The Northstowe Area Action acknowledges the suitability of a proposed general employment area at the northern end of the new town site (adjoining the proposed Park & Ride site).
Hazardous Waste Facility- (CS17A)	Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge (For a replacement clinical waste facility) <i>Map W21</i>	Support. This waste management facility is based on the Hospital's needs and can be supported.
Hazardous Waste Facility- (CS17B)	Brookfield Business Centre, Cottenham (waste oils and fuel) <i>Map W5</i>	No objection subject to measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health and Conservation. The proposed site could take the opportunity to introduce best practice and should have environmental improvements as part of the proposed extension to the existing facility.
Sustainable Transport of Minerals and Waste –	Barrington Cement Works Railhead, Barrington	No objection subject to measures to mitigate the

Nature of waste facility (Policy number from Core Strategy DPD and Site Specific Proposals DPD where relevant are in brackets)	Site (Specialist use where applicable in brackets) <i>Map number in italics refers to maps contained in the Site Specific Proposals DPD</i>	S Cambs District Council's proposed response
Transport Protection Zones (CS21 A)	<i>Map T1</i>	matters raised by Environmental Health and Conservation.
Sustainable Transport of Minerals and Waste – Transport Protection Zones (CS21 C)	Cambridge Northern Fringe East (Aggregates Railhead) <i>Map T3</i>	The Council supports the safeguarding in the short term of the railhead for aggregates given the needs of the A14 improvements but in the longer term such a use may not be appropriate for this site.

Minerals

22. Options for mineral extraction are constrained by the fact that minerals can only be extracted where they naturally occur. Their geological location has greatly influenced the minerals strategy. This strategy has been determined by the location of minerals in relation to the proposed development areas and the implications of extracting minerals on amenity of neighbours, traffic generation through towns and villages etc. There are policies in the MWDP to consider this.
23. The MWCS includes a number of strategic allocations of minerals within South Cambridgeshire. These are contained within the following table. The recommended response to these allocations is contained in Appendix 1 and summarised in the table below: Maps showing the location of the sites are included in Appendix 3.

Nature of mineral (Policy number from Core Strategy DPD and Site Specific Proposals DPD where relevant are in brackets)	Site (Specialist use where applicable in brackets) <i>Map number in italics refers to maps contained in the Site Specific Proposals DPD</i>	S Cambs District Council's proposed response
Sand and gravel extraction. (CS2 B; SSP1)	Cottenham / Landbeach <i>Map M3</i>	Object to the allocation until such time as more detailed information is provided on the full environmental impact of the larger site now being identified for extraction. Until this information is available it is difficult to evaluate this site. The Council would need to be assured that the mitigation measure identified by Environmental Health and Conservation could be adopted to minimise impact

Nature of mineral (Policy number from Core Strategy DPD and Site Specific Proposals DPD where relevant are in brackets)	Site (Specialist use where applicable in brackets) <i>Map number in italics refers to maps contained in the Site Specific Proposals DPD</i>	S Cambs District Council's proposed response
		on sensitive receptors.
Facility for the production of recycled and secondary aggregates (CS5C: SSP10)	Waste Management Park, Waterbeach <i>Map W26</i>	No objection subject to measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health. The Council supports the identification of the site for a range of waste management facilities.
Chalk marl extraction (CS7; SSP7)	Barrington <i>Map M12</i>	No objection subject to measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health and Conservation.

24. It is to be noted that the proposals for mineral extraction for Cottenham/ Landbeach and for Barrington are both ones that English Nature (EN) has identified as needing full Appropriate Assessments (AA) to be carried out. This is a requirement under the Habitat Regulations where any policies or specific minerals or wastes sites that are likely to impact on the conservation objectives of Natura 2000 wildlife sites must be fully assessed. The Natura 2000 sites that could be affected are the Ouse Washes and Wimpole and Eversden Woods. Changes may have to be carried out to the policies or sites if it is found that they adversely affect the wildlife sites. This assessment work has not yet been carried out.

Routing Agreements

25. Traffic routing agreements are a good way of reducing the impact of traffic movements to and from minerals and waste sites on the local community. The MWDP supports such agreements but because routing agreements are usually done as legal agreements then no specific policy has been included in the plan. Such agreements will be of particular relevance within South Cambridgeshire as heavy lorries carry minerals to the many development sites in the Cambridge Sub-region. Given the scale of all the development proposed this is likely to generate a considerable amount of traffic that must avoid going through the many villages in the District. In particular the Mepal/ Earith area has been identified in the MWDP as an area where there will be large-scale extraction of sand and gravel over the plan period and much of this is likely to have to be transported along roads in South Cambridgeshire to reach the new development areas in the sub-region. The Council would want the MWCS to include a policy to consider providing a routing strategy for the plan area. This must be an enforceable routing strategy that mineral and waste traffic must follow. The Council would wish to see included in this policy an identification of those settlements most likely to be affected by minerals and waste traffic so that they can be prioritised for bypasses – e.g. Willingham and Cottenham.

Site Specific Proposals DPD

Plan Preferred Sites

26. There are a number of sites allocated for minerals or waste facilities in the Site Specific Proposals DPD that are within South Cambridgeshire. Some have already been allocated as strategic sites in the Core Strategy DPD but have also been included in the MWSSP policies.

Minerals site allocations

27. No totally new areas have been allocated for minerals – instead the DPD proposes extensions of existing works (Policies SSP 1-7). The recommended response to the Preferred Sites is contained in Appendix 1 and summarised in the table below: Sites that have been identified as strategic allocations are marked with an asterisks*. Maps showing the location of the sites are included in Appendix 3.

Nature of mineral (Policy number from Site Specific Proposals DPD where relevant are in brackets)	Site (Specialist use where applicable in brackets) <i>Map number in italics refers to maps contained in the Site Specific Proposals DPD</i>	S Cambs District Council's proposed response
Sand and gravel extraction (SSP1)	Needingworth <i>Map M2</i>	Object to the allocation until such time as more detailed information is provided on the full environmental impact of the site now being identified for extraction. Until this information is available it is difficult to evaluate this site. The settlements of Willingham and Over are very close to the proposed site and the Council would need to be assured that the mitigation measure identified by Environmental Health and Conservation could be adopted to minimise impact on sensitive receptors.
Sand and gravel extraction (SSP1)	Cottenham * <i>Map M3</i>	See comments in MWCS section
Chalk marl extraction (SSP4)	Barrington Quarry, Barrington * <i>Map M12</i>	See comments in MWCS section
Specialist mineral extraction (SSP7 B)	Station Quarry, Steeple Morden (Chalk) <i>Map 14</i>	No objection subject to measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health and Conservation.

Mineral Safeguarding Areas (Preferred Options CS23 and SSP8)

28. There have been changes in guidance from Central Government in the definition of Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSAs). In the Preferred Options 1 consultation there were limited areas safeguarded for minerals. Areas were identified for safeguarding sand and gravel supplies in Cottenham and in Needingworth within South Cambridgeshire. However now a Minerals Planning Authority (MPA) must identify where there is a known economic mineral resource. The purpose of MSAs is to ensure that mineral resources are adequately protected and effectively considered in land use planning decisions so like other finite resources they are not needlessly sterilized. Therefore within these areas the MPA must be consulted when planning applications are made for major developments¹.
29. When the County Council was preparing the safeguarding areas there was some informal consultation with officers at South Cambridgeshire on the proposed extent of the areas. The response to comments made by officers and the County's reply is included in Appendix D to MWSSP. Within South Cambridgeshire there are proposed very large areas of mineral safeguarding for sand and gravel, which surround many settlements. It should be emphasized that there is no presumption that the land safeguarded will ever be worked for the extraction of minerals. However the policy that accompanies MSAs does not emphasize this point and it would be beneficial to add in order to reduce the potential confusion by those communities directly affected by these areas.
30. South Cambridgeshire District Council is well advanced in the preparation of its LDF and has a number of adopted Development Plan Documents. Some of the proposed minerals safeguarding areas are over sites that are affected by specific non-minerals related policies. This relates specifically to -
- Northstowe;
 - Established employment areas including Cambridge Research Park, Landbeach and Granta Park, Great Abington; and
 - Bayer Cropscience at Hauxton
31. Given that these sites are within adopted DPDs it would seem confusing to suggest that the proposed mineral safeguarding areas should continue to be allocated over these sites. This concern was pointed out to the County during the informal consultation and they concluded '...it would be more appropriate to retain MSA designation on allocated sites and to amend the methodology to advise local planning authorities that it is preferable not to allocate land which are in MSAs but in the event that this is done the requirements arising from MSA designation will apply'. The designation of these areas is still of concern and the methodology should be revised to take into account existing allocations.
32. The Council at the informal consultation also expressed its concern that there are extensive areas of sand and gravel identified in MSAs around the Shelfords, Grantchester and Newnham areas where it is important to protect the landscape character and setting of Cambridge. The MSAs also impact on many villages that have conservation areas where the setting of these areas must be preserved such as Little Shelford; Whittleford; Foxton; Duxford; Horningsea. Whilst the Council can accept that there may be reserves, there are over-riding planning and environmental reasons why they should never be worked. The methodology used for identifying

¹ The definition of major development is that found in the Town and Country Planning (General Development Procedure) Order 1995

MSAs must be flawed if such areas must continue to be included. Likewise environmentally sensitive areas such as the Gog Magog Hills/ Wandlebury Country Park, Grantchester Meadows and Denny Abbey should be excluded from MSAs. By including such areas to be safeguarded it creates concern amongst the local communities surrounded by such areas. Such reserves cannot ever be considered as economic resources because they have too high a value attached to them for environmental reasons. The MSAs boundaries should be revised accordingly.

The needs of the A14 improvements

33. The A14 upgrade will require approximately 6 million tonnes of material including –
 - 2 million tonnes of sand and gravel
 - 1 million tonnes of crushed rocks
 - 3 million tonnes of other fill material e.g. engineering clay
34. There is now a preferred option in the MWCS to allocate land for sand and gravel borrowpits to serve particular road schemes.(Preferred Options CS9 and SSP2). Some of these allocations are specific to serve the A14 improvements but none are within South Cambridgeshire. It is noted that the four sites allocated for the A14 are to be confirmed following completion of liaison with the Highway Authority (HA). It is not yet finalized how many borrowpits will be needed for the A14. Since sections of the A14 that are to be improved are within South Cambridgeshire it is hoped that this lack of borrowpits will not result in sand and gravel having to be transported greater distances within the district. If further sites are proposed following discussions with the HA this Council must be offered the opportunity to make representations on them.
35. Crushed rock will be needed but this is not produced locally and will come from outside of the County possibly Leicestershire. The crushed rock is likely to come by rail to an aggregate railhead in the Cambridge Northern Fringe. It will then be transported to the A14 and it is hoped that this will not result in unnecessary traffic on roads through this District.

Key issues

36. Needingworth – This site was formally safeguarded for sand and gravel supplies but now is a preferred site for extraction. This is an extensive areas and the Council is concerned at the proximity of the settlements of Willingham and Over to these proposals. Further environmental information needs to be provided by the County before this Council can evaluate the site and decide if it is an appropriate allocation.
37. Cottenham/ Landbeach - This site has doubled in size as a preferred site for the extraction of sand and gravel and is identified as a strategic allocation. It is recognized that extraction of this reserve would have to be phased. The Council is concerned at the potential impact on the local road network at this increase in scale of working and at the impact on the nearby communities at Smithy Fen and within Cottenham. Further environmental information needs to be provided by the County before this Council can evaluate the site and decide if it is an appropriate allocation.

Waste site allocations

38. Policy SSP 10 includes a table, which identifies all the sites (including Areas of Search) for waste recycling and recovery facilities. As in the previous consultation in December 2006 there are more sites identified for particular uses than the waste

strategy indicates it needs for the plan period. For example the work done by Jacobs using the NetWaste modeling exercise to produce a strategy for inert waste processing facilities indicates that 15 additional facilities would need to be found across the plan area- however 21 sites have been identified in SSP10. This seems an over-supply of sites. The County Council has indicated that some of the preferred sites may be suitable for a number of uses. "Government guidance (PPS10) regarding the use of potential sites is to maintain flexibility so a single or range of uses may take place on different sites, including new technology if this is appropriate." (Page 56 MWSSP –paragraph 4.42) This does not result in a very clear strategy as should be expected at this stage in the production of the MWDP.

39. In the previous consultation in December 2006 mention was made in the table accompanying policy SSP10 of the need for bulking up facilities alongside Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRC) now renamed simply Recycling Centres. In the MWSSP in paragraph 4.44 it states that there will need to be a network of waste transfer and bulking up facilities to support the facilities identified in SSP10 - there is no indication of where these may be located. If such facilities are required then it should be included in this consultation.
40. There are throughout the MWDP terms that need to be defined for the non – waste or mineral expert. MRF, which is included in the following table, is not defined in the glossary but appears in the texts as a 'Materials Recycling Facility' or as a Materials Recovery Facility. There is no clear explanation of what this involves. It is therefore difficult to make a judgment on whether such a use is suitable for Cambridge East or the Waterbeach Waste Management Park. A definition of MRF should be included in the glossary.
41. It should be noted that the proposals for specialist waste facilities at Cottenham Business Park and at Addenbrookes Hospital have both been identified by English Nature (EN) as needing full Appropriate Assessments (AA) to be carried out. This is a requirement under the Habitat Regulations where any policies or specific minerals or wastes sites that are likely to impact on the conservation objectives of Natura 2000 wildlife sites must be fully assessed. Such assessments have not as yet been carried out.

Table included in Preferred Option SSP10.

Map Ref	Site name	Area of Search	MRF ²	Househ'd Recycling Centre	Energy from Waste	Specialist	In vessel Composting	Inert waste recycling
W5	Brookfield Business Centre, Cottenham					Yes		
W7	Northstowe Area 2	Yes		Yes				
W8	Cambridge Northern Fringe	Yes		Yes				Yes
W9	Cambridge East	Yes	Yes	Yes				Yes
W16	Great Wilbraham Quarry, Great							Yes

² Materials Recycling Facility/ Materials Recovery Facility.

Map Ref	Site name	Area of Search	MRF ²	Househ'd Recycling Centre	Energy from Waste	Specialist	In vessel Composting	Inert waste recycling
	Wilbraham							
W17	Bridgefoot Quarry, Flint Cross							Yes
W19	Needingworth Quarry, Needingworth							Yes
W21	Addenbrookes Hospital Cambridge	Yes				Yes		
W26	Extension of Waste Management Park, Waterbeach		Yes		Yes		Yes	Yes

42. The recommended response to the Preferred Sites is contained in Appendix 1 and summarised in the table below with key issues identified. Sites that have been identified as strategic allocations are marked with an asterisks*. However since some sites have been identified as having the potential for a number of waste uses it may only be one specific use that has a strategic allocation. Environmental Health comments generally that in major new developments it would be possible to ensure minimal environmental impact at the design stage by incorporating mitigation measures into the development. Maps showing the location of the sites are included in Appendix 3.

Nature of waste facility (Policy number from Site Specific Proposals DPD where relevant are in brackets)	Site (Specialist use which is not a strategic allocation in referred to in brackets) <i>Map number in italics refers to maps contained in the Site Specific Proposals DPD</i>	S Cambs District Council's proposed response
Waste recycling and recovery facility (SSP10)	Brookfield Business Centre, Cottenham* <i>Map W5</i>	See comments in MWCS section
Waste recycling and recovery facility (SSP10)	Northstowe Area 2 (Temporary Inert recycling facility) <i>Map W31</i>	Support in principle to the locating of a temporary inert recycling facility recognising that it may be more appropriate to have a number of smaller sites to serve the development of Northstowe. Support would be subject to the measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health. The facility should not be located so that it impacts

Nature of waste facility (Policy number from Site Specific Proposals DPD where relevant are in brackets)	Site (Specialist use which is not a strategic allocation in referred to in brackets) <i>Map number in italics refers to maps contained in the Site Specific Proposals DPD</i>	S Cambs District Council's proposed response
		<p>upon the existing communities of Longstanton, Oakington or Rampton Drift.</p> <p>Also Northstowe should be considered for a facility for Energy from Waste under Preferred Option SSP10.</p>
Waste recycling and recovery facility (SSP10)	Cambridge Northern Fringe* (Inert waste recycling) <i>Map W8</i>	Support in principle the use of the site for inert waste recycling subject to the measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health.
Waste recycling and recovery facility (SSP10)	Cambridge East* (Inert waste recycling) <i>Map W9</i>	<p>The inert recycling facility is supported however it should be recognised that it may be more appropriate to have a number of smaller sites to serve the development of Cambridge East. Support would be subject to the measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health.</p> <p>The temporary inert facility should not be located so that it impacts upon the existing communities within Cambridge and in the villages of Teversham and Fen Ditton.</p>
Waste recycling and recovery facility (SSP10) Inert waste landfill disposal (SSP11)	Great Wilbraham (Inert waste recycling; and inert landfill) <i>Map W16</i>	Object. The identification of this site as preferred for inert waste recycling and landfill is of concern to the Council. This Council must question the strategy for inert waste facilities if this site is the best one proposed to serve the Cambridge area. Much of the inert waste that is likely

Nature of waste facility (Policy number from Site Specific Proposals DPD where relevant are in brackets)	Site (Specialist use which is not a strategic allocation in referred to in brackets) <i>Map number in italics refers to maps contained in the Site Specific Proposals DPD</i>	S Cambs District Council's proposed response
		<p>to be generated will arise from development, which is located in and on the edge of Cambridge or to the north of the city.</p> <p>Whilst accepting that a study has been carried out by the County looking for suitable additional sites for waste facilities this site would need to take into account the concerns of Environmental Health and Conservation if it is to be allocated as an inert recycling and landfill site.</p>
Waste recycling and recovery facility (SSP10)	Bridgefoot Quarry, Flint Cross (Inert waste recycling) <i>Map 17</i>	<p>Object. The identification of this site as preferred for inert waste recycling is of concern to the Council. This Council must question the strategy for inert waste facilities if this site is the best one proposed to serve the Cambridge area. Much of the inert waste that is likely to be generated will arise from development, which is located in and on the edge of Cambridge or to the north of the city.</p> <p>Whilst accepting that a study has been carried out by the County looking for suitable additional sites for waste facilities this site would need to take into account the concerns of Environmental Health and Conservation if it is to be allocated as an inert recycling site.</p>
Waste recycling and recovery	Addenbrookes Hospital,	See comments in MWCS

Nature of waste facility (Policy number from Site Specific Proposals DPD where relevant are in brackets)	Site (Specialist use which is not a strategic allocation in referred to in brackets) <i>Map number in italics refers to maps contained in the Site Specific Proposals DPD</i>	S Cambs District Council's proposed response
facility (SSP10)	Cambridge* <i>Map 21</i>	section
Waste recycling and recovery facility (SSP10)	Extension of Waste Management Park, Waterbeach. (Energy from Waste, In Vessel composting, Inert waste recycling) <i>Map 26</i>	No objection subject to measures to mitigate the matters raised by Environmental Health. The Council supports the identification of the site for a range of waste management facilities.

Waste Consultation Areas – (Preferred Options CS27 and SSP16)

43. Waste facilities both existing and allocated will have a waste consultation area around them extending 250metres. If a planning application is made in this area the WPA must be consulted except where it is for a householder application or for an advertisement. Additional sites within South Cambridgeshire have been identified around permitted reserves and operational sites and are to be welcomed. These are as follows –

Cottenham Skips	Map W41
Pet Crematorium, A505, Thriplow	Map W43
Milton (Landfill)	Map W47
Dawson Plant Hire, Swavesey	Map W48
Meldreth (Landfill)	Map W53
Thriplow HWRC	Map W57

Waste Water Treatment Works (WWTW) safeguarding areas (Preferred Options CS27 and SSP15)

44. There is a new policy (Preferred option SSP15) to protect existing WWTW from encroachment from sensitive receptors and from the increasing pressure from non-waste management proposals. The safeguarded areas have been defined around the whole of existing sites plus an additional buffer zone of some 400metres – this may vary depending on local circumstances. Such safeguarding is to be welcomed. In South Cambridgeshire the following WWTW have such a safeguarding –

Royston STW	Map ST08	Melbourn STW	Map ST22
Utton's Drove STW	Map ST12	Foxtton STW (Cambs)	Map ST24
Over STW	Map ST13	Waterbeach STW	Map ST27
Sawston STW	Map ST14	Papworth Everard STW	Map ST33
Haslingfield STW	Map ST16	Duxford STW	Map ST37
Bourne STW	Map ST17	Gamlingay STW	Map ST38
Teversham STW	Map ST18	Bassingbourn STW	Map ST40
Linton STW	Map ST19	Balsham STW	Map ST45

Key issues

45. Household Waste Recycling Centre to serve the area to the south side of Cambridge. Since the last consultation the County has considered a number of options for a Recycling Centre to the south of the City and has identified as its preferred option a site south of the Addenbrookes Access Road. South Cambridgeshire District Council is supportive of this preferred site. Non-preferred sites considered in preparing MWDP are included in the following table. Site reference refers to maps included in Appendix C of MWSSP.

Site Ref	Site Name
SS4-004	Bayer Crop Site East, Hauxton
SS4-008D	Cambridge Southern Fringe
SS4-027	Glebe Farm, Trumpington
SS4-046	Thriplow HWRC
SS4-047	Area of Search near M11
SS4-048	Bayer Crop Science Site, Hauxton
SS4-051	Bayer Crop Science Site West, Hauxton
SS4-052	Park and Ride Site at Trumpington
SS4-053	Magistrates Court at the Park and Ride, Trumpington
SS4-054	M11 Area of Search, South of Addenbrookes Access Road
SS4-055	Extension of existing Thriplow HWRC site
SS4-056	Adjacent land at Pet Crematorium Site off A505 near Thriplow
SS4-057	A1307 Corridor (Babraham) – Search Area 1
SS4-058	A1307 Corridor (Babraham) – Search Area 2
SS4-059	A1307 Corridor (Babraham) – Search Area 3
SS4-060	Sawston/Shelford area as part of Babraham Area of Search.
SS4-088	Glebe Farm Area of Search, Trumpington
SS4- 089	Trumpington Road, Trumpington
SS4-092	M11 Area of Search – Clay farm
SS4-093	M11 Area of Search – East of A10
SS4-094	M11 Area of Search – Monsanto Site
SS4-095	M11 Area of Search – North of Addenbrookes Access Road
SS4-097	M11 Area of Search – South of Monsanto site
SS4-098	M11 Area of Search – West of A10
SS4-099	Land North of Sawston Village College
SS4-101	Glebe Farm Area of Search 2, Trumpington
SS4- 112	Glebe Farm 3
SS4- 114	West of M11/A10 junction, Haslingfield + The Eversden/ Trumpington

46. More detailed comments on the Core Strategy DPD and the Site Specific DPD are set out in **Appendix 2**.

Implications

Financial	None
Legal	The Council will be obliged to show Mineral and Waste allocations and safeguarding areas for minerals on its own LDF Proposals Map once the Minerals and Waste Development Plan is adopted
Staffing	None

Risk Management	There is a risk that the MWDP could include allocations for land not acceptable to the Council for example waste management issues could prevail over amenity and other planning considerations
Equal Opportunities	None

Consultations

47. Consultations have taken place with officers in Environmental Health; Major Development and Development Control.

Effect on Corporate Objectives and Service Priorities

48. **Work in partnership to manage growth to benefit everyone in South Cambridgeshire now and in the future**
 The MWDP provides an input into the managing of growth within the district. The plan identifies the minerals needed in construction of both the new communities and the major infrastructure projects. The waste facilities allocates for the needs for waste of the future communities. Without this planning the growth would not be well co-ordinated.
- Deliver high quality services that represent best value and are accessible to all our community**
 To ensure that the MWDP does not by allocating particular sites affect the delivery of services or accessibility of the affected communities
- Enhance quality of life and build a sustainable South Cambridgeshire where everyone is proud to live and work**
 By providing a response the Council will ensure that the MWDP reflects the needs of the district and that local communities are not adversely affected by the proposals.

Conclusions/Summary

49. The County has carried out additional work in preparing the Preferred Options 2 consultation. Some of these studies has assisted South Cambridgeshire in understanding the framework of policies and site allocations that have been developed in the MWDP.

Recommendation

50. Cabinet is recommended to agree the responses to the Minerals and Waste Development Plan consultation contained within the report and in Appendices 1 and 2.

Background Papers: the following background papers were used in the preparation of this report:

Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD
 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Site Specific Proposals DPD
 Appendix C MWSSP – Site Assessments and Methodology
 Appendix D to MWSSP- Mineral Safeguarding Areas and Methodology
 Brownfield and Industrial Land in the Cambridge Area – background paper to MWDP
 Netwaste Site Selection Report - Jacobs

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