

SOUTH CAMBRIDGESHIRE DISTRICT COUNCIL

REPORT TO: Cambridge City Fringes Joint (Section 29) Committee 28 September 2009
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THE RECYCLING CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH (RECAP) WASTE MANAGEMENT DESIGN GUIDE – DRAFT SUPPLEMENTARY PLANNING DOCUMENT (SPD) LINKED TO THE MINERALS AND WASTE PLAN

Purpose

1. The purpose of this report is to provide information and seek the preliminary views of the Committee about the Recycling Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Management Design Guide Draft Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) linked to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan prior to public consultation.

Executive Summary

2. (a) This SPD is being produced jointly between Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council and will be linked to the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Plan.
(b) It will provide guidance on the design and provision of waste management facilities as part of residential and commercial developments.
3. The SPD will be an important material consideration in the determination of planning applications within the County including those in the Section 29 Committee areas. It will be read in conjunction with the relevant planning policies and the existing and emerging development plans and transport plans. It does not replace the policies of the Minerals and Waste Development Plan but supplements them with design standards. The SPD also expands upon the requirements for developers to contribute to the development of the existing network of Household Recycling Centres and Bring sites as appropriate. However, this document does not indicate any specific sites for waste management purposes, as site specific proposals are contained elsewhere in the Plan.

Background

4. Significant progress has been made in recent years to divert waste materials produced by households away from landfills through increased recycling or composting in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. However there is currently no guidance setting out how waste management requirements should be reflected in the design of new developments and the impact upon existing waste infrastructure should be addressed by developers.
5. The Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Authorities together have responsibility for the collection and disposal of municipal waste. The Recycling Cambridgeshire and Peterborough (RECAP) Partnership was established to oversee waste management as a whole. The RECAP Design Guide was originally prepared by consultants Wisser Environment (an Environmental Consultancy) on behalf of the partnership and was

subsequently published in 2008. More recently the content of the Guide has been reviewed to ensure that it is consistent with the policies of the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Submission Plan and to take into account more recent developments e.g. current national planning policy.

6. The purpose of the SPD is to set out a series of development principles based on recognised good planning and design practice and is intended to be used by:
 - Developers and designers to ensure effective segregation, storage and collection of waste materials; and
 - Planning Authorities in assessing planning applications to ensure that waste management needs for both residential and commercial developments are adequately addressed and secured.

7. The aims of the Design Guide are as follows:
 - Detail the waste segregation, storage and collection requirements that designers and developers need to satisfy.
 - Provide a strategic tool for use by Planning Authorities when assessing development applications.
 - Address the unique waste management problems presented by high density (residential) developments.
 - State the requirements for developers regarding the funding and provision of additional waste management infrastructure.
 - Highlight the financial implications of waste management upon developers.
 - Highlight examples of good practice demonstrating what can be achieved.
 - Contribute to sustainability and reduced environmental impact

8. There are two design related SPDs linked to the Minerals and Waste Plan, both of which are relevant to waste management facilities. The focus of the RECAP Design Guide is the waste management facilities which are to be provided as part of residential and commercial developments allowing for the segregation of waste for recycling and composting. This includes establishing the need for and the design of expanded and/or additional Bring Sites (e.g. for bottles, paper and can recycling) and also identifying whether there could be a need for an expanded or new Household Recycling Centre to serve the development where appropriate.

9. It is also important to note that there is an additional Supplementary Planning Document on the Location and Design of Waste Management Facilities which sets out the principles relating to the design of waste management facilities in both urban and rural areas including Household Recycling Centres to ensure that future waste management development is of the highest standard in relation to layout, access, appearance and environment and the use of materials. Please see the separate report for further details of this SPD.

- Preparation of the Supplementary Planning Document***
10. It is intended that the SPD will go out for public consultation in February / March 2010 as part of the Submission Plan of the Minerals and Waste Plan. Consideration of the Submission Plan by County Council members will involve the following meetings:
 - Development Control Committee 10 September
 - Growth and Environment Policy Development Group 16 September
 - Cabinet 29 September

Any major comments or concerns raised by the Section 29 Committee will be reported verbally to Cabinet on 29 September. However, any formal comments can be submitted during the six-week formal consultation in February / March 2010.

11. The process of preparing the SPD is governed by planning regulations. This first stage is the preparation of a draft document. Changes in Government planning regulations have added to the requirements needed for the document to become a formal SPD. It has not previously been subject to a Sustainability Appraisal (SA) as it will be covered in the SA for the Minerals and Waste Plan documents as a whole. Changes in regulations have meant that the document has had to be subject to a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA). The HRA has been written for this SPD and will be published as a background document as part of the consultation in February / March 2010.
12. In accordance with the Government's emphasis on community involvement and standards set in out in the County Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement this SPD must undergo a period of consultation. This will be conducted over a statutory six-week period in February / March 2010, at the same time as the other Plan documents.
13. Representations that are received will then be considered and the two Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities will prepare a report identifying the main issues which are raised, and how they will be addressed in the final document. The Authorities will then make the relevant changes. Once the Core Strategy has been found sound by the planning inspector and adopted the SPD can also be adopted. It is anticipated that the Core Strategy will be adopted in July 2011.

The RECAP Waste Management Design Guide

14. The Draft SPD provides advice on the design and provision of waste management infrastructure as part of residential and commercial developments. In terms of waste management design the SPD includes advice on:
 - **Internal storage capacity:** including a requirement to provide between 35-40 litres of space within the kitchens of new homes to give residents sufficient space to allow for recycling and composting (as appropriate).
 - **External storage capacity:** the Guide sets out recommendations for amount of space which is required to store bins for different types of waste to serve residential and commercial developments including different standards for communal bins in relation to flats / apartments. In the case of commercial development the amount of space required is dependant upon the use of the land, e.g., requirements for restaurants and fast food outlets are greater. For residential development it is dependant upon whether it is a house or the number of rooms in the case of flats/apartments (excluding kitchens and bathrooms). For example, a single house would need to provide 775 litres, whereas a one bedroom flat with a living room in a four floor development would provide 320 litres.
 - **Location of Waste Storage:** issues which should be considered in relation to location of bins including ensuring that they are accessible for both users and collection crews and that the amenity of residents is protected.
 - **Waste Storage Infrastructure:** sets out a minimum specification for compounds to store residential and commercial waste above-ground and guidance in relation to the design of underground facilities.
 - **Highway Design:** requirements for the design of new roads given the emphasis away from car dominated environments in urban design to take into account the need for waste collection vehicles to serve new developments effectively.
 - **Additional waste management measures:** identifies a range of complementary measures, which can be introduced to support the effective management of waste, e.g., educational schemes.
15. In terms of implementation the SPD includes advice on:

- **Household Recycling Centres:** These facilities enable residents to bring and deposit bulky wastes and other waste types not normally collected by the County Council and Peterborough City Council. Given the significant amount of future development planned within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough there will be a need to expand the existing network of 11 Recycling Centres (1 of which is in the Peterborough City area). The Guide sets out a requirement for developers to contribute to the existing network of centres by providing financial contributions and in some cases land to upgrade existing centres or provide new Recycling Centres in the case of strategic developments, e.g., Northstowe.
- **Bring Sites:** These sites are generally located within publicly accessible areas, e.g., public car parks, and comprise a number of separate containers allowing for the separate collection of materials for recycling. The SPD provides guidance on suitable locations for additional Bring Sites to avoid the disturbance of residents and ensure the effective collection of recyclables. Developers are to be required to assess the impact of their proposals on the existing network of 380 Bring sites within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. Following this assessment developers will be required to provide additional Bring Sites, upgrade existing sites in the locality or provide a financial contribution as appropriate. In relation to new sites it is important to note that the Guide includes an assumption that there will be one Bring site per 800 households.

Climate Change

16. The SPD makes it clear that the development of new facilities must address the challenges of climate change. The implications of Climate Change for residential and commercial development will be included in other planning documents being prepared by Local Planning Authorities. The SPD takes account of the supplement to PPS1 on Climate Change published in December 2007 and refers to relevant principles relating to waste management facilities as follows:
- The proposed provision for new development, its spatial distribution, location and design should be planned to limit carbon dioxide emissions;
 - New development should be planned to make good use of opportunities for decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy;
 - New development should be planned to minimise future vulnerability in a changing climate;
 - Mitigation and adaptation should not be considered independently of each other, and new development should be planned with both in mind.
17. Policy CS 22 of the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy states that waste management proposals should set out how this will be achieved, which may include:
- Quantifying the reduction in carbon dioxide and other relevant greenhouse gases, e.g., methane, that will be achieved as part of the proposal, and how this will be monitored and addressed in future.
 - Demonstrating how the location, design, and transportation related to the development will limit greenhouse gas emissions.
 - Demonstrating carbon off-set measures which will be put in place, and how these will be delivered / implemented.
 - Setting out how the proposal will make use of renewable energy, e.g., opportunities for energy from waste (waste proposals only), use of decentralised and renewable or low carbon energy.
 - Incorporation of sustainable drainage schemes to minimise flood impacts.
 - The creation of carbon sinks formed by habitat creation, e.g., through restoration / landscaping schemes.

Considerations

18. Whilst this Draft SPD provides general guidance for the design and provision of waste management facilities for all residential and commercial developments within Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. It is particularly relevant to the Section 29 Committee areas where there is a requirement for developers to provide funds and/or land to enable the development of additional Household Waste Recycling Centres in accordance with the Minerals and Waste Plan.

Options

19. The purpose of this report is to inform the Section 29 Committee of the purpose and content of the RECAP Waste Management Design Guide and to seek the views of the committee prior to consideration by the County Council's Cabinet.

Implications

20. This SPD will provide guidance on the design and provision of additional Waste Management Facilities to be provided as part of new residential and commercial development. This guidance will need to be followed in the Section 29 Committee areas. There will be no requirement for the Committee to prepare further supplementary guidance on this topic.

21.	Financial	None
	Legal	None
	Staffing	None
	Risk Management	None
	Equal Opportunities	None

Consultations

22. As set out above the content of the Design Guide has been reviewed for consistency with the Minerals and Waste Plan jointly with a Project Team representing the RECAP Partnership. It is intended that this document will be subject to statutory public consultation for a period of six weeks in February / March 2010.

Conclusions / Summary

23. This draft submission SPD is suitable to be issued for consultation following approval by the Cabinet of Cambridgeshire County Council on 29 September 2009.

Recommendations

24. It is recommended that the Section 29 Committee notes the content of the RECAP Waste Management Design Guide and provide any initial views prior to consideration by the County Council's Cabinet.

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

Draft Supplementary Planning Document for the RECAP Partnership Waste Management Design Guide

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