

West of England Partnership
Planning, Housing & Communities Board
16th July 2009

Joint Waste Core Strategy (JWCS) Progress Report

Recommendation

That members note the further progress made and give their views on the proposed scope and policy context, set out at the Appendix, for the draft of the Joint Waste Core Strategy.

1. Background

1.1 The JWCS Preferred Options document was consulted upon during January to March 2009. Responses to these consultations sought clarification on the scope of the JWCS, and requested a further opportunity to provide views when all parts of the evidence base became available, in particular the Flood Risk and Habitats Regulation Assessments.

1.2 The Partnership responded to this request for ongoing engagement and (following agreement from this Board in April) published a Progress Update on June 5th. The Update is available on the website: <http://www.westofengland.org/waste/planning/progress-update>. E-mails to stakeholders and consultees referred them to this website and invited them to give further views. Following a report to the Partnership Board on June 25th, the Board requested that the Progress Update be advertised in the local press. Advertisements were placed in early July, and, in a further message to stakeholders and consultees, the opportunity to provide further views was extended to 31st July.

1.3 The following technical reports by ERM Consultants, commissioned by the Partnership, are available as part of the Progress Update:

- Statement on Scope of the Joint Waste Core Strategy
- Sustainability Appraisal interim comment
- Feasibility Study-potential for exporting non-hazardous waste to landfill
- An assessment of the current future waste management capacity needs
- Revised detailed Site Assessment
- Habitats Regulation Assessment of the Joint Waste Core Strategy (incl maps)
- Strategic Flood Risk Assessment of the potential locations for waste facilities
- Summary Consultation Documents including all representations to the Consultation.

Officers will consider these, and responses received to their content, in their report to the Board in September.

2. Scope of the JWCS and potential policies to be included.

2.1 In March ERM Consultants reviewed work completed to date on the Preferred Options document, and recommended that the scope of the JWCS be amplified. An outline of the scope for amplifying the JWCS was made available as part of the Progress Update. Members are now requested to give their views on the draft of the scope and policy context for the JWCS appended to this report.

2.2 The following policy areas have been developed further in the appendix.

- Waste minimisation
- Recycling and composting
- Residual waste treatment and sites of strategic importance
- The role of urban extensions
- Waste water management
- Hazardous Waste
- Landfill
- Development Control

2.3 The JWCS will provide a framework to ensure there are adequate facilities to treat Commercial, Industrial and Municipal waste. The Strategy will include setting out where strategic facilities could be located to treat residual waste, and would remove the requirement for individual UAs to produce site allocation DPDs for waste sites (although the UAs could still do so if desired). The JWCS will also provide a framework for non-residual facilities to come forward i.e. household recycling centres and composting facilities.

3. Next Steps

3.1 In summary, the key actions and milestones up to the Submission of the Strategy to the Secretary of State are as follows:

5 th June 2009	Progress Update to stakeholders and respondents
4 th September	Joint Scrutiny The outcome and response to Public consultations and the proposed Submission Document.
7th Sept 2009	Planning Housing & Communities Board. The outcome and response to Public consultations and the proposed Submission Document.
Oct-Nov 2009	Council Cabinets The outcome and response to Public consultations and approval for the Submission Document. (Should the JWCS be considered at Councils the submission date would be July 2010 not April 2010).
Nov-Dec 2009	Publication of Submission Document. Seek representations on soundness of Submission Document (Regulation 28)
Dec 2009-Feb 2010	Consideration of representations received on published Submission Document.
Feb-Mar 2010	Council Cabinets to approve the final Submission Document
April 2010	Submission of Joint Waste Core Strategy to Secretary of State (GOSW)

3.2 The September meeting of the Board will receive the draft Submission Document with a summary of the responses to the public consultation and the Progress Update.

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