

**West of England Partnership Local  
Development  
Framework  
Joint Waste Core Strategy Examination**  
October 2010

**Key Issues Challenges, Vision and Strategic Objectives**

*Whether the Vision and Strategic Objectives are sufficiently focussed, spatial and locally distinctive; also whether they address adequately matters of self-sufficiency and timely provision'*

**Statement**  
submitted on behalf of  
**The Highways Agency**

## 1. Context

Since 2007 the Highways Agency (Agency) has made a series of representations to the Waste Core Strategy (CS). This statement seeks to build upon our previous submissions, clarify points raised through the Inspectors agenda for the Examination in Public, focusing specifically on matters relating to reducing the need to travel and the likely impact of the proposed waste sites on the Strategic Road Network (SRN). This statement should be considered as additional evidence at the session relating to Key Issues, Challenges, Vision and Strategic Objectives.

## 2. Strategic Objectives

As noted within our representations to the Joint Waste Core Strategy Pre Submission Document in January, 2010 the Agency would welcome further reference within the emerging policy to the need to reduce waste miles, as waste sites can give rise to significant HGV and other vehicle movements if not managed carefully. The Agency therefore considers that every effort should be made to locate waste sites as close as possible to potential users in order to minimise traffic movements on the SRN. One way of achieving this is to seek to co-locate waste management uses where appropriate.

Furthermore, the Agency considers that the emerging Core Strategy should also include reference, and seek to promote, the use of freight rail as a preferred mechanism in achieving more sustainable patterns of waste transfer. In addition, the Agency would welcome the inclusion of further text relating to the need for proposals to assist in securing sustainable patterns of development that do not increase the need to travel within (or outside of) the sub region.

The inclusion of such text would be entirely consistent with the aims of PPS 10 paragraph 21, which states that when deciding sites and areas to identify waste management facilities, waste planning authorities should assess their suitability for development taking account of “the capacity of existing and potential transport infrastructure to support the sustainable movement of waste, and products arising from resource recovery, seeking when practicable and beneficial to use modes other than road transport.”

In light of our comments above the Agency would welcome the clarification of bullet 5 of the Strategic Objectives section of the Core Strategy:

- To contribute to reducing and adapting to the impacts of climate change by driving waste up the hierarchy and encouraging the provision of waste management facilities at **appropriate locations**.