

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

Waste Prevention

Whether the provisions in respect of waste prevention, including the use of Waste Audits, are clear, focussed and spatial; also whether they would help in the achievement of the Strategic Objectives in a direct and effective way.

Statement
submitted on behalf of
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 Waste Prevention.

The Agency, on behalf of the Secretary of State for Transport, is responsible for managing, and ensuring the safe and efficient operation of the SRN in England. Amongst its activities, the Agency is responsible for considering the potential impact on the network of proposals for new developments including waste proposals. Part of this remit is to enable the network to support the economic viability and sustainable growth of regions. In this instance the Agency principle interest relates to the impact of future waste developments on the A4, M32, M4, M48, M49 and M5.

2. **Performance and Issues facing the SRN in the West of England**

The SRN in the West of England area experiences capacity constraints as a result of both daily and seasonal variations in traffic flow. It will be necessary to liaise directly with the Agency once the scale and points of impact on the SRN arising from specific proposals is known; the Agency will be able to advise on known existing and predicted capacity constraints at this time.

There is a programme for the implementation of Managed Motorways on the M4 and M5 motorways around the Bristol box. However, this project is currently on hold until such time that the Government Spending Review is completed.

3. **Waste Prevention - Policy 1 – Should Policy 1 require an assessment of the impact on the road network?**

The Agency would like to take this opportunity to respond to a question raised by the Inspectors list of issues and matters for discussion. As previously advised by the Agency within their submissions to the Preferred Options and Submission Stage document relating to the requirement for waste audits to include an assessment of the impacts on the SRN.

The Agency is supportive of this policy; in particular the need for Waste Audits to be submitted in association with major development proposals as this will assist in reducing the number of vehicular trips arising from such schemes.

However, the Agency wish to reiterate that our main concerns relating to the impact of residual waste trips on the SRN. We have specifically outlined the Agency position on this matter within our written statement submitted to the Recovery Facilities, Locations and Sites session.