

meeting **JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING & TRANSPORT**

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from: **JOINT OFFICER STEERING GROUP**

Report

JOINT WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS – UPDATE

Purpose of Report

1. To update the Committee on the latest position with regard to the Joint Waste Core Strategy.

Background

2. Joint Waste Development Plan Documents (DPDs) are under preparation as part of the Local Development Frameworks of both City and County Councils. At the meeting of 30th March 2007, Joint Committee was advised of the outcome of the first stage of public involvement (the 'Issues and Alternative Options' stage) which is aimed at teasing out a genuine choice of options which the final DPD will have to address.
3. Since then, Government thinking and advice on the preparation of Waste DPDs has evolved. Initial guidance that identification of locations or sites for major facilities should follow the Core Strategy in a Site Allocations DPD has changed, and several draft Core Strategies have now been found 'unsound' by the Planning Inspectorate because they provided insufficient location guidance, or omitted sites of a strategic nature. Guidance from the government and the Planning Inspectorate is that difficult decisions with regard to location of waste treatment and disposal facilities now need to be made at Core Strategy stage, rather than deferred to a later DPD.
4. The consultation undertaken last year was linked to the earlier advice, and therefore did not include the level of locational specificity now expected by the government and the Planning Inspectorate. Whilst the findings of that consultation are still valid, in order to meet the new guidance it will be necessary to supplement this with further consultation on issues and options more directly focussed on the location of facilities.

- 5 Evidence is currently being collated on the range of locational choices that are available for waste treatment and disposal in the City and County. This evidence base will inform a further round of consultation to build on that already undertaken. It is proposed that this consultation take place in the summer, although the precise date can only be determined once the evidence is in place.
- 6 A further report will be presented to this Committee setting out the new evidence base, highlighting potential issues and options, and setting out a programme for consultation and subsequent plan preparation.

RECOMMENDATION

- 7 It is RECOMMENDED that Members of the Committee note the contents of the report.

Background Papers

Draft Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS 8), September 2006
The East Midlands Regional Waste Strategy, January 2006
Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Joint Waste Issues and Options Report,
October 2006

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