

Appendix 2 - Issues and Options Consultation Information

16th January 2014



Planning and Countryside

West Berkshire District Council
Council Offices
Market Street Newbury
Berkshire RG14 5LD

Our Ref: WBMWDPD I&O con
Your Ref:

Please ask for: Minerals and Waste
Planning Policy

Direct Line: 01635 519111

Fax: 01635 519408

e-mail: mwdpd@westberks.gov.uk

Dear Sirs,

West Berkshire Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document Issues and Options Consultation

The Council is currently preparing its Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document, which will form part of the West Berkshire Local Plan. When completed, this Development Plan Document will set out the overall minerals and waste planning strategy for West Berkshire.

We are now consulting interested parties, such as yourselves, seeking your views on the key Issues and Options that have been identified as being pertinent to the West Berkshire Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document.

To enable this initial stage of consultation on a West Berkshire specific minerals and waste plan we have produced a Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document Issues and Options Consultation document, which accounts for national policy, together with local policies and evidence.

The West Berkshire Minerals and Waste Issues and Options Consultation document is supported by a number of other documents that have informed the development of the consultation. These documents are:

- The West Berkshire Local Aggregates Assessment.
- The West Berkshire Local Waste Assessment.
- The Issues and Options sustainability appraisal scoping report.
- A, non statutory, interim environmental report which assesses the draft issues and options against the sustainability objectives identified through the sustainability scoping exercise.
- A level 1 Strategic Flood Risk Assessment for West Berkshire.
- Documentation regarding the Habitats Regulations Assessment.
- Equalities Impact Assessment screening document.

Alongside this consultation, we are also issuing a 'call for sites' for minerals and waste development. This allows land owners, mineral operators, waste management operators and the wider public to put forward potential mineral and waste development sites.

We are holding a six week consultation period on the West Berkshire Minerals and Waste Issues and Options Consultation document between Friday the 17th January and Friday the 28th February 2014. All consultation material (including all the documents outlined above) are available on the Council's website www.westberks.gov.uk/mwdpd and available to view at the Council Offices in Market Street, Newbury. The consultation material is also available to view online at all public libraries across the District. We will also be holding drop in sessions during the consultation period at Council Offices in Market Street, Newbury. Further details on these events can be found on the council's website www.westberks.gov.uk/mwdpd.

We would prefer that representations are made through the consultation portal <http://consult.westberks.gov.uk/portal> and to do this you will need to register on the consultation database. By doing this you will be kept informed about progress on this emerging Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document. It should be noted that the username database is managed by the Consultation Portal who provide the software to numerous authorities planning authorities. So you may have existing log in details for this system, although you need to register individually with each authority to receive the relevant notifications.

Representations for this Development Plan Document can also be made via email (mwdpd@westberks.gov.uk); by fax (01635 519408); or by post (preferably using the appropriate representation form), to the Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Team, Planning & Countryside, West Berkshire District Council, Market Street, Newbury, Berkshire RG14 5LD.

Please ensure that all representations made arrive with the Council, either electronically or at the address specified above prior to Friday 28th February 2014.

We encourage you to submit your comments online, if possible.

For further details on any of the consultation material please refer to our website at www.westberks.gov.uk/mwdpd or alternatively telephone Minerals and Waste Planning Policy on 01635 519111.

Yours faithfully,



Gary Lugg
Head of Planning and Countryside

Please help us save paper, and register your interest electronically

Vision for the WBMWDPD

Question 1

Do you agree that the vision for the WBMWDPD needs to be stated?

Response:

Question 2

If so, does the suggested wording encompass what is needed? If you feel that it does not, please explain why.

Response:

Objectives for the WBMWDPD

Question 3

Do you think that the stated objectives are suitable for the WBMWDPD in respect of minerals and waste development? If not, please indicate how you think the objectives should be changed.

Response:

Question 4

Do you think there are any other objectives that should be incorporated into the WBMWDPD? If so, please state what you think these objectives should be.

Response:

General Issue 1: End date for the WBMWDPD

Option 1.1

Should the WBMWDPD have an end date of 2031 in accordance with the guidance in the NPPF?

Response:

Option 1.2

Should the WBMWDPD have an end date of 2026 in accordance with guidance in PPS10?

Response:

Option 1.3

Should the WBMWDPD have an end date of 2026 to coincide with the end date of the West Berkshire Core Strategy?

Response:

Option 1.4

Should the WBMWDPD cover a different period?

Response:

Minerals Issue 2: Future mix of supply of aggregates in West Berkshire

Option 2.1

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that relies primarily on meeting the need for construction aggregates through the extraction of primary minerals from reserves in West Berkshire, whilst also recognising the wider role that West Berkshire has in supplying minerals to other areas that have fewer resources?

Response:

Option 2.2

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that relies primarily on meeting its need for construction aggregates through the extraction of primary minerals from reserves in West Berkshire, but seek to maintain the remaining reserves for the construction and manufacturing industry within West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 2.3

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that relies primarily on meeting its need for construction aggregates through the maximisation of recycled aggregate production to reduce the reliance on land won sources?

Response:

Option 2.4

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that relies upon on meeting its need for construction aggregates through a mix of land won primary aggregates, imports of aggregates from other authorities and through the use of recycled aggregates?

Response:

Option 2.5

Do you think there is another strategy, relating to construction aggregates, that the WBMWDPD could develop? If so please explain what you think it should be.

Response:

Minerals Issue 3: Extraction of sharp sand and gravel from within the AONB

Option 3.1

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that seeks to meet its need for sharp sand and gravel from sites outside the AONB, recognising that the viable reserves in this area have already been heavily exploited, such that more constrained or sensitive sites may have to be worked, or that the level of aggregates that can be produced in West Berkshire may have to be limited?

Response:

Option 3.2

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that seeks to meet its need for sharp sand and gravel from sites both outside and within the AONB? If you agree with this strategy, do you think that the WBMWDPD should identify a strategic area / areas or sites within the AONB where the extraction of sharp sand and gravel could be permissible?

Response:

Option 3.3

Do you think there is another strategy that the WBMWDPD could develop? If so, please explain what you think it should be.

Response:

Minerals Issue 4: Soft Sand

Option 4.1

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that seeks to meet the need for soft sand from sites outside the AONB, recognising that the availability of viable reserves outside the AONB is limited, such that, the level of soft sand production in West Berkshire may have to be limited?

Response:

Option 4.2

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that seeks to meet the need for soft sand from within the AONB? If you agree with this strategy, should the strategy identify a strategic area(s) or sites within the AONB where mineral extraction will be permissible?

Response:

Option 4.3

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that seeks to meet the need for soft sand from sites outside the AONB, but recognise that there may be exceptional local circumstances where extraction of soft sand from within the AONB may be acceptable if, for example, it was to meet an overriding specified local need?

Response:

Option 4.4

Do you think there is another strategy that the WBMWDPD could develop? If so, please explain what you think it should be.

Response:

Minerals Issue 5: Safeguarding of minerals

Option 5.1

Should West Berkshire identify mineral safeguarding areas around potentially viable deposits of aggregates and if so, should a buffer applied around the deposits?

Response:

Option 5.2

Should West Berkshire identify mineral safeguarding areas around active mineral workings, as well as any preferred areas for mineral extraction identified in the WBMWDPD?

Response:

Option 5.3

Do you agree that there are the circumstances when surface development might be allowed over in-situ mineral deposits?

Response:

Option 5.4

Are there any other considerations that should be taken into account in when considering how to safeguard known mineral deposits?

Response:

Option 5.5

Are there any other mineral deposits, other than sharp sand and gravel that you think should be safeguarded from other surface development?

Response:

Minerals Issue 6: Existing industrial users of minerals

Option 6.1

Should the WBMWDPD acknowledge the existence of the Beenham tile factory through the provision of an identified landbank of aggregates designated solely for use by the factory?

Response:

Option 6.2

Should the WBMWDPD acknowledge the existence of the existing industrial users, such as the tile factory, asphalt plant and concrete batching plants, through the consideration and assessment of the overall demand for aggregates in West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 6.3

Should the existence of the existing industrial users, such as the tile factory, asphalt plant and concrete batching plants, be recognised through a policy approach that supports the use of indigenous primary aggregates within West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 6.4

Should the tile factory be treated the same as any other end user of aggregates in West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 6.5

Do you agree that the existing, and any subsequently approved, industrial users of construction aggregates should be safeguarded from other forms of development?

Response:

Minerals Issue 7: Recycled and secondary aggregates

Option 7.1

Do you agree that recycled aggregates can replace primary aggregates, and if so, do you agree that they can only replace crushed hard rock?

Response:

Option 7.2

Should the WBMWDPD seek to maximise the production of recycled aggregates production?

Response:

Option 7.3

Do you think sites in the AONB would be appropriate locations for processing recycled and secondary aggregates? If so please provide reasoning.

Response:

Option 7.4

Would it be appropriate to identify Preferred Areas / sites to provide a presumption in favour of development if any additional processing capacity is required?

Response:

Option 7.5

Do you agree that existing and planned facilities that handle, process and distribute secondary and recycled aggregates should be safeguarded from other types of development?

Response:

Minerals Issue 8: Movement of aggregates

Option 8.1

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that seeks to rely primarily upon rail based transport for the importation, exportation and within District movement of aggregates? Do you agree further work would be required to deliver such a strategy?

Response:

Option 8.2

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that seeks to rely primarily upon road based transport for the importation, exportation and within District movement of aggregates?

Response:

Option 8.3

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that seeks to rely primarily upon water based transport for the importation, exportation and within District movement of aggregates? Do you agree further work would be required to deliver such a strategy?

Response:

Option 8.4

Should West Berkshire progress with a strategy that seeks to rely on a mix of road, rail and water based transport for the importation, exportation and within District movement of aggregates that is informed by the distances involved and sustainability of the proposed mode?

Response:

Minerals Issue 9: Importation of Primary aggregates and other materials by Rail

Option 9.1

Do you think that the capacity of the present rail depots should be reviewed, in order to provide for more capacity for importing minerals from outside West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 9.2

Should there be a presumption in favour of safeguarded rail depot sites being granted planning permission for new mineral uses, subject to meeting defined planning and environmental criteria?

Response:

Option 9.3

Do you agree that the existing road to rail aggregates depot, the road to rail cement depot and the rail connected coated roadstone plant should be safeguarded from other forms of development. This would allow the existing patterns of construction aggregate importation to continue?

Response:

Minerals Issue 10: Windfall sites

Option 10.1

Do you think that the present policies in the Replacement Minerals Local Plan for Berkshire relating to windfall mineral sites should be reviewed in order to allow more scope for exploiting windfall opportunities?

Response:

Option 10.2

Are further safeguards needed to minimise the impacts of the large construction projects (e.g. how the planning system can control construction, demolition and excavation waste arising from these projects and how this is stored/managed) that are inevitably associated with them?

Response:

Option 10.3

Do you agree that the WBMWDPD should make an allowance for windfall sites in calculating for the need / supply of aggregates within West Berkshire?

Response:

Minerals Issue 11: Restoration strategy for West Berkshire

Option 11.1

Do you think there is scope for more restoration of mineral workings to lakes following extraction, or do you think that there are there already enough lakes generated by mineral extraction in West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 11.2

Are there other forms of restoration, or an overall restoration strategy, that you would like to see developed in West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 11.3

Do you consider that there is sufficient infill material available for the restoration of future extraction sites back to land based uses?

Response:

Option 11.4

Do you think there is scope to infill some of the existing lakes created by historic mineral extraction back to land based uses or infill sites that were restored to low level land based uses, which could minimise any existing implications of too many lakes being located within a limited area or inadequate restoration. Or are there other reasons why this may not be an effective strategy (i.e affect on surface water flooding /or hydrological flows / diverting waste from already approved restoration schemes etc)?

Response:

Option 11.5

Do you think there is another restoration strategy that the WBMWDPD could deliver? If so, please explain what you think it should be.

Response

Minerals Issue 12: Chalk and Clay

Option 12.1

Does the WBMWDPD need to include a strategic policy to ensure that there are adequate safeguards in place to minimise the adverse effects of future extraction of chalk and clay?

Response:

Option 12.2

Do you think that there is a need for more certainty about where chalk and clay might be worked in the future (such as the identification of locations where viable deposits exist)?

Response:

Option 12.3

Do you think that the WBMWDPD should identify strategic areas for the working of chalk and clay (such as the identification of safeguarded areas / areas of search and / or preferred sites)?

Response:

Option 12.4

Do you think that the WBMWDPD should include development management policies that can be used to consider any proposals for the working of chalk and clay deposits over the life of the development plan document?

Response:

Minerals Issue 13: Energy minerals – coal gas and shale gas

Option 13.1

Should the WBMWDPD include a policy approach to ensure that there are adequate safeguards in place to minimise the adverse effects of possible future extraction of energy minerals?

Response:

Option 13.2

Do you think that there is a need for more certainty about where energy minerals might be worked in the future (such as mapping viable energy mineral resource areas)?

Response:

Option 13.3

Do you think that the WBMWDPD should identify strategic areas for the working of energy minerals (such as safeguarded areas / areas of search / preferred areas of working)?

Response:

Option 13.4

Do you think that the WBMWDPD should include development management policies that can be used to consider any proposals for the working of energy minerals over the life of the development plan document?

Response:

Waste Issue 14: Pattern of waste management

Option 14.1

Should West Berkshire seek to maintain a pattern of waste management facilities that concentrate on the upper parts of the waste hierarchy, such as recycling facilities?

Response:

Option 14.2

Should West Berkshire plan for a more diverse pattern of waste management facilities that cover all aspects of the waste hierarchy, excluding landfill?

Response:

Option 14.3

Should West Berkshire plan for a more diverse pattern of waste management facilities that cover all aspects of the waste hierarchy, including landfill?

Response:

Option 14.4

Do you think there is another strategy that the WBMWDPD could develop, and if so, please explain what you think it should be?

Response:

You may wish to comment on these options in respect of the various waste streams arising in West Berkshire, or more generally for all waste arising in the authority.

Waste Issue 15: Self sufficiency in waste management

Option 15.1

Should West Berkshire plan for net self sufficiency, with the aim to plan for the provision of sufficient waste management capacity (recycling, treatment and recovery facilities) equal to the volume of waste arising in West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 15.2

Should West Berkshire plan for a level of waste management capacity (recycling, treatment and recovery facilities) greater than the volume of waste arising in West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 15.3

Should West Berkshire plan for a level of waste management capacity (recycling, treatment and recovery facilities) that is less than the volume of waste arising in West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 15.4

Do you think there is another strategy that the WBMWDPD could develop? If so, please explain what you think it should be.

Response:

Waste Issue 16: Landfill / Land raising of non inert wastes

Option 16.1

Should West Berkshire plan to meet the demand for the disposal of non inert waste that is generated in West Berkshire to land (either by landfill or land raising)?

Response:

Option 16.2

If West Berkshire is not going to plan for the disposal of non inert waste to land, within the authority, do you agree that the authority should plan to provide a greater amount of recycling capacity to maximise recycling rates and maximise the value that can be derived from waste materials?

Response:

Option 16.3

If West Berkshire is not going to plan for the disposal of non inert waste to land within the authority, do you agree that the authority should plan to provide a greater amount of recovery and / or treatment capacity to maximise the value that can be derived from waste materials, and minimise the volumes of waste originating in West Berkshire that is disposed of to land?

Response:

Option 16.4

Do you think there is another strategy that the WBMWDPD could develop? If so please explain what you think it should be.

Response:

Waste Issue 17: Location and distribution of waste sites

Option 17.1

Do you consider that, when planning for the waste management requirements of West Berkshire the WBMWDPD should aim towards:

- (i) The expansion of existing permanent facilities and the co-location of new facilities with existing permanent facilities;
- (ii) The concentration of new facilities in the larger urban areas and centres of population and growth;
- (iii) A decentralisation approach with facilities distributed evenly across both the urban areas and rural areas within West Berkshire;
- (iv) The concentration of new facilities in areas of waste arisings that currently have limited existing capacity;
- (v) A hybrid of one or more of the above options.

Response

Option 17.2

Do you think there is another strategy that the WBMWDPD could develop? If so, please explain what you think it should be.

Response:

Waste Issue 18: Safeguarding of existing, and proposed, waste sites

Option 18.1

Do you agree that the WBMWDPD should aim to safeguard existing, permitted permanent waste sites from alternative uses?

Response:

Option 18.2

Do you agree that the WBMWDPD safeguard any proposed Preferred Areas for waste management identified in the final adopted plan from redevelopment to alternative uses?

Response:

Option 18.3

Do you agree that the WBMWDPD identify and safeguard existing industrial areas that could provide additional waste management capacity within the existing, permitted industrial areas?

Response:

Option 18.4

Are there any particular types of waste management facility that you consider should have a greater level of protection / safeguarding than others?

Response:

Waste Issue 19: New waste management technologies

Option 19.1

Should the WBMWDPD include general policies for site allocations and the control of development that allow a range of technologies to come forward in a given location?

Response:

Option 19.2

Should the WBMWDPD include policies for site allocations and the control of development that specify where particular technologies or types of facility would be acceptable?

Response:

Option 19.3

Should the WBMWDPD include policies to support the development of the waste re/processing or recycle industry?

Response:

Option 19.4

Do you think there is another strategy, relating to emerging waste technologies, that the WBMWDPD could develop? If so please explain what you think it should be.

Response:

Waste Issue 20: Facilities in the AONB

Option 20.1

Should small scale waste management facilities, that meet an identified local need, be allowed in the AONB?

Response:

Option 20.2

Should large scale, strategic waste management facilities be allowed in the AONB?

Response:

Option 20.3

Should all waste management operations, with the possible exception of inert landfilling (if necessary to facilitate the restoration of any mineral extraction permitted within the AONB, which may be dependant on the outcome of the mineral issues outlined above) be excluded from the AONB?

Response:

Option 20.4

Do you think there is another strategy that the WBMWDPD could develop? If so, please explain what you think it should be.

Response:

Waste Issue 21: Equine waste

Option 21.1

Do you think that West Berkshire needs more waste management capacity to deal with equine waste?

Response:

Option 21.2

Do you agree that facilities to manage equine waste should be located near to the waste arisings, accepting that this may result in the provision of waste facilities in the AONB?

Response:

Option 21.3

Do you think that the management of equine waste is:
(i) a strategic matter, or should be considered independently or alongside agricultural waste.
Or
(ii) should criteria based polices be used to consider any forthcoming applications?

Response:

Waste Issue 22: Waste water treatment

Option 22.1

Do you think that West Berkshire needs more waste management capacity to deal with sewage?

Response:

Option 22.2

Do you agree that sewage facilities should be located near to the waste arisings, accepting that this may mean developing new waste facilities or expanding existing facilities in sensitive areas, such as the AONB?

Response:

Option 22.3

Do you think that the management of sewage is:
(i) a strategic matter, or should
(ii) criteria based polices be used to consider any forthcoming applications?

Response:

Waste Issue 23: Radioactive Waste arisings

Option 23.1

Should the WBMWDPD plan for the management (treatment / storage / packaging) of VLLW arising within West Berkshire to be managed in West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 23.2

Should the WBMWDPD plan for the management (treatment / storage / packaging) of LLW arising within West Berkshire to be managed in West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 23.3

Should the WBMWDPD plan for the management (treatment / storage / packaging) of ILW arising within West Berkshire to be managed in West Berkshire?

Response:

Option 23.4

Should the WBMWDPD plan for a strategic VLLW facility (treatment / storage / packaging), accepting that this would mean that VLLW could be imported into West Berkshire for management?

Response:

Option 23.5

Should the WBMWDPD plan for a strategic LLW facility (treatment / storage / packaging), accepting that this would mean that LLW could be imported into West Berkshire for management?

Response:

Option 23.6

Should the WBMWDPD plan for a strategic ILW facility (treatment / storage / packaging), accepting that this would mean that ILW could be imported into West Berkshire for management?

Response:

Option 23.7

Should criteria based policies be included to allow the consideration of any future applications (treatment / storage / packaging) to manage radioactive waste?

Response:

Option 23.8

Is there another strategy that the WBMWDPD could develop in respect of managing radioactive waste?

Response:

Waste Issue 24: Management of London's Waste

Option 24.1

Should the WBMWDPD plan for waste from London to be managed at existing or new waste management facilities in West Berkshire? If so please indicate how much capacity (recycling, treatment, recovery) should be provided.

Response:

Option 24.2

Should the WBMWDPD plan for waste from London to be disposed of via landfill in West Berkshire? If so please indicate how much landfill capacity should be provided.

Response:

Waste Issue 25: Re-working old landfill sites

Option 25.1

Should the WBMWDPD provide a strategic position on the re-working of former landfill sites?

Response:

Option 25.2

Should the WBMWDPD provide development management policies that relate, and ensure appropriate control over, the potential for applications to come forward for the re-working of former landfill sites?

Response:

General Issue 26. – Any other issue?

Option 26.1

Are there any other comments or issues that you consider need to be addressed in the WBMWDPD?

Response: