

# REPORT TO CABINET

**REPORT OF:** Councillor Francis Cartwright  
Economic Development Portfolio Holder

**REPORT NO:** PLA 845

**DATE:** 4<sup>th</sup> October 2010

<b>TITLE:</b>	<b>Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework: Consultation on Preferred Strategy and Submitted Sites</b>	
<b>KEY DECISION OR POLICY FRAMEWORK PROPOSAL:</b>	Key Decision	
<b>PORTFOLIO HOLDER: NAME AND DESIGNATION:</b>	Councillor Frances Cartwright Economic Development Portfolio Holder	
<b>CONTACT OFFICER:</b>	Karen Sinclair, Planning Policy & Partnerships Service Manager 01476 406438 <a href="mailto:k.sinclair@southkesteven.gov.uk">k.sinclair@southkesteven.gov.uk</a>	
<b>INITIAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT:</b>	Carried out and Referred to in paragraph (7) below: n/a	Full impact assessment Required: n/a
<b>Equality and Diversity</b>		
<b>FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT:</b>	This report is publicly available via the Local Democracy link on the Council's website: <a href="http://www.southkesteven.gov.uk">www.southkesteven.gov.uk</a>	
<b>BACKGROUND PAPERS:</b>	Lincolnshire Preferred Minerals and Waste Strategies (June 2010) Lincolnshire Submitted Minerals and Waste Sites (June 2010)	

## 1. RECOMMENDATIONS

**That Cabinet endorses the comments set out in Appendix 1 of the report and that this forms the basis of the Council's response to the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework Preferred Strategy and Submitted Site documents.**

## 2. PURPOSE OF THE REPORT

- 2.1 To enable the Cabinet to consider a response to the consultation being undertaken by Lincolnshire County Council (LCC) on the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MWDF).
- 2.2 The MWDF does not directly contribute to the Council's Priority themes.

### **3. DETAILS OF REPORT**

- 3.1 As part of the development of the MWDF Lincolnshire County Council have published two documents for non-statutory public consultation: the Minerals and Waste Preferred Strategy and Submitted Site Locations. The MWDF will eventually replace the Minerals Local Plan (1991) and Waste Local Plan (2006). The closing date for comments on this consultation is the 8<sup>th</sup> October 2010.
- 3.2 The timetable for preparation of the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy document is to undertake pre submission consultation in early 2011 before submitting the document for examination in May 2011. The timetable for the Site Locations document will run several months behind that of the Core Strategy in order to ensure the spatial strategy for minerals and waste has been found sound following examination. As a statutory consultee, this Council will be consulted and have the opportunity to make formal representations, if appropriate, at the pre submission consultation stage.

#### **Minerals and Waste Preferred Strategy**

- 3.3 This sets out the preferred strategy for location of future mineral and waste development. The document focuses on the need for new minerals and waste development and where, in broad terms, this should be located in the County.
- 3.4 For minerals the preferred strategy is to extend the existing areas of search rather than just rely on extensions of existing sites within these areas: this has the advantage of avoiding overworking of areas and resultant cumulative impacts on local communities. The existing relatively small area of search in the south of the District around the Baston/Langtoft area would be extended to include an area stretching from Stamford in the west to the District boundary with South Holland in the east and as far north as Bourne.
- 3.5 In the case of waste, the aim of the strategy is to move away from landfill and drive waste management up the waste hierarchy through greater recycling and energy recovery. Provision of facilities to achieve this are anticipated to be (based on waste needs forecast) sites for Waste Transfer Stations (4 no.) to serve the Energy from Waste Plant at North Hykeham and Household Waste Recycling Centres (2 no.) to serve areas not currently provided for. The preferred strategy for facility provision is to locate larger facilities within areas of search around sub-regional centres and main towns (Grantham - (10km search area, Stamford and Bourne – 5km search area). Over provision within these areas of search would be avoided by only allocating sites based on the needs forecast.
- 3.6 The sites designated as potential municipal waste transfer stations are limited to the Grantham area (Gonerby Moor). Currently the Council's collection service uses Leadenham, Colsterworth and Dogsthorpe (Peterborough's area) to tip residual waste. A detailed assessment (by Lincolnshire County Council) of the impact arising from a single tipping point is still awaited, however it would seem sensible at this stage for the County Council to provide an option in the South of the district as part of this site allocation process.

## **Submitted Mineral and Waste Sites and Sites Assessment Methodology**

- 3.7 Individual sites, where appropriate, will be allocated in a Site Locations Development Plan Document (DPD). The sites included in the consultation have been submitted by industry, landowners, agents and, in the case of some waste sites, LCC itself. At this stage no assessment has been made of the suitability of any of the submitted sites: the main purpose of the consultation is to advise the public, landowners, industry and other interested parties of the submitted sites and to seek comments on the proposed methodology for assessing them.
- 3.8 Within South Kesteven 15 mineral sites, mainly for sand and gravel extraction, and 5 waste sites have been submitted and will be subject to the assessment process.
- 3.9 The Site Assessment Methodology involves a 2 stage process:
- Stage 1 – sites assessed on availability and against exclusionary objectives i.e. absolute constraints which would prevent development from taking place thereby removing the site from further assessment
  - Stage 2 – remaining sites assessed using traffic light approach against a range of criteria including: policy fit (with existing and emerging Local Plans, Core Strategies); natural environment; agricultural land quality; historic and built environment; landscape capacity and visual impact; traffic; and proximity to sensitive receptors (schools, hospitals, residential)

It is considered that these criteria are comprehensive and using a traffic light approach to shortlist sites provides a robust, consistent assessment process.

- 3.10 Some of the submitted sites are within areas that this Council are currently considering for inclusion in the Site Allocation and Policies DPD and it would be appropriate to make this known to LCC so it may be accounted for in their site assessment process. The location of the submitted sites also raises operational issues for the District Council in its role as waste collection authority. Comments on the submitted sites are set out in Appendix 1 and it is recommended that these should form the basis of a formal response to the consultation.

## **4. OTHER OPTIONS CONSIDERED**

- 4.1 Not to respond to the consultation – although this is a non-statutory consultation it provides an opportunity for the Council to make known its views on the preferred strategy and possible site locations before they are taken to the next more formal stage.

## **5. RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS**

- 5.1 None at this stage other than officer time in responding to the consultation.

## **6. RISK AND MITIGATION (INCLUDING HEALTH AND SAFETY AND DATA QUALITY)**

6.1 None identified.

**7. ISSUES ARISING FROM EQUALITY IMPACT ASSESSMENT**

7.1 Not applicable as it is the responsibility of Lincolnshire County Council to undertake an assessment of their policy documents.

**8. CRIME AND DISORDER IMPLICATIONS**

8.1 None arising from this report.

**9. COMMENTS OF SECTION 151 OFFICER**

9.1 I have no specific financial comments to make in respect of this report.

**10. COMMENTS OF MONITORING OFFICER**

10.1 It is appropriate that the proposed strategy for Mineral and Waste framework for the County takes account of the proposals within the District as set out in the District Council's proposed site allocations and policies DPD and considerations relating to waste collection. It is essential that a response to the consultation is given in accordance with the comments attached and any other comments which the Members consider relevant.

**11. APPENDICES:**

Appendix 1 Comments on Submitted Sites

## APPENDIX 1 – COMMENTS ON SUBMITTED SITES

Site Name	Location	Proposed Use	Comment
M5.7 Thetford House Farm and M5.9 Urn Farm, Baston	Thetford House Farm and Urn Farm, Baston	Sand and Gravel extraction	Parts of both of these sites are within areas being considered for inclusion in the Site Allocations and Policies DPD. However, both are within Flood Zone 3 so residential development is likely to be opposed by Environment Agency. Baston Fen Special Area for Conservation lies to north of Baston and mineral extraction may have impact on this habitat.
Harlaxton No 4 (Ironstone gullet)	Land at Stroxtan, off Heath Lane	Inert Waste Landfill	Local road network unsuitable for potential number/nature of vehicular movements and little scope for mitigation or alternative means of transport to site
Waste Treatment Facility, Bourne	Spalding Road Business Park, Bourne	Treatment facility with energy recovery (extension of existing Household Waste Recycling Centre/Waste Transfer Station use)	Within area assessed as medium quality employment land and being considered for inclusion in Site Allocation and Policies DPD for employment uses (light industrial).  Does not appear to fall within stated facility needs to be provided for.
Grantham Municipal Waste Facility	Occupation Land, Gonerby Moor	Waste Transfer Station, Materials Recycling Facility, Household Waste Recycling Centre	Within existing employment allocation, now largely developed.  A detailed assessment (by Lincolnshire County Council) of the impact arising from a single tipping point is still awaited, however it would seem sensible at this stage for the County Council to provide an option in the South of the district as part of this site allocation process.
Grantham WTS	Vantage Park, Gonerby Moor	Waste Transfer Station	Within existing employment allocation, now largely developed, but remaining area assessed as being of high quality employment land  A detailed assessment (by Lincolnshire County Council) of the impact arising from a single tipping point is still awaited, however it would seem sensible at this stage for the County Council to provide an option in the South of the district as part of this site allocation process.
Stamford HWRC	Ryhall Road, Stamford	Household Waste Recycling Centre	Within area being considered for inclusion in Site Allocation and Policies DPD for mixed use urban extension. If this area is taken forward for allocation will be need for comprehensive planning to incorporate HWRC.