

### What are SPDs?

SPDs are planning documents that sit alongside development plans. They are an important consideration to take into account when planning applications are decided.

### What is their purpose?

The purpose of this SPD is to provide additional detail about how a policy in the adopted development plan is to be implemented.

### What weight do they have?

SPDs do not have the same status as development plan documents (DPD). However, they provide a material consideration to be taken into account by decision makers.

### What public consultation is involved in preparing SPDs?

SPDs are formally consulted on for a maximum of 6 weeks. Following this they are amended and adopted. SPDs are not subject to an independent examination.

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## Minerals & Waste Newsletter No.3

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Whenever there is development, waste is generated. Minimising, or using this waste in the best way is the subject of a supplementary planning document (SPD) that we are preparing. This newsletter explains what waste minimisation is about, and seeks your input into the document. It also explains what an SPD is, what it does, and how it is prepared.



### What is waste minimisation?

'Waste minimisation' for planning purposes entails:

- **reducing** waste at source;
- **re-using** construction/demolition waste in building projects;
- **designing** buildings to accommodate recycling boxes, storage areas and composting bins.

### What does it seek to achieve?

Re-using waste from building sites will reduce the amount of primary materials that have to be quarried and purchased, prevent the haulage of these materials and reduce the amount of waste that has to be managed and ultimately disposed of. This not only benefits the environment but can also result in considerable financial savings for developers<sup>1</sup>.

### What does waste minimisation apply to?

Waste minimisation applies to all development, although it is generally true that the larger the development the greater its implications for using resources and generating waste. This however does not mean that smaller projects should not apply and abide by the principles of waste minimisation.

<sup>1</sup> Scottish Environment Protection Agency study suggests waste accounts for around 4% of turnover.

# Key Principles of Waste Minimisation

**Consider likely waste generation at the outset;**

**Reduce waste generation at source;**

**Design to accommodate recycling;**

**Re-use waste materials on-site.**

## Who is preparing the SPD?

Gloucestershire County Council are the lead authority preparing this SPD. However, the work is being undertaken in partnership with the six District/ Borough Councils in the County.

## Timetable for SPD preparation:

There is plenty of time for anyone with an interest in waste minimisation issues to put forward their ideas about what should be included in the document. Comments can be submitted at any time up to the end of 2005, though the sooner you can get them to us the more consideration we will be able to give them.

Formal consultation on a draft version of the SPD is timetabled for six weeks starting in March 2006. The hope is to adopt the waste minimisation SPD in August 2006.

## Have your say:

If you are interested in the issues raised in this newsletter we want to hear from you. Please send us your ideas about what should be included in the document. Any ideas raised will be considered for inclusion in the formal consultation draft (to be issued March 2006).

## Where do I send my comments?

You can e-mail or post your ideas to the Minerals & Waste Policy Team using the contact details set out on the back of this newsletter.

## Planning Context

Minimising waste is an important part of sustainable development. It is supported in National, Regional and local planning policy.

Gloucestershire's Waste Local Plan (Policy 36) sets the context for preparing this SPD. The purpose of the SPD is to make it clear to developers exactly what is expected of them when submitting a planning application.

## Planning Application Stage

A Waste Minimisation Statement (WMS) must be submitted with each planning application. Thresholds to reflect the size of development will be considered during SPD preparation to focus efforts on key development proposals.

Proposals should be designed to accommodate sustainable waste practices (eg. providing kitchen space for household recycling boxes and garden space for home composting bins).

## Construction Phase

Waste arises during construction, demolition and site engineering/landscaping. Disposing of this waste by landfill is expensive and environmentally undesirable. Re-using demolition waste will avoid landfilling and will reduce the need to quarry primary aggregates.

Three key messages are: don't over-order materials and prepare where possible; segregate different waste types to make it easier to re-use materials; re-using waste materials on-site should be the first priority.

## Sustainable Living

People are more likely to recycle if they are given the opportunity to do so. This means developers should, where appropriate, provide recycling boxes, composting bins and shared areas dedicated for storing recyclable materials.

Liaison between the developer/applicant, planning authority and waste collection authority is essential to ensure that the right solution is found.

