

**ISSUE**

**12**

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**Gloucestershire  
Minerals and Waste Policy  
NEWSLETTER**



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**Welcome....**

...to the 12th Gloucestershire Minerals and Waste Newsletter. The newsletter is intended to provide a brief update on the progress being made by Gloucestershire County Council in preparing its future plans for mineral and waste development in Gloucestershire.

If you have responded to any of our consultations you will have been added to our database. This will ensure that you continue to receive important updates on mineral and waste planning in Gloucestershire.

However, if you are no longer interested please print off and fill in the update form provided at the back of this newsletter and return to us at the address provided. We will then take you off our mailing list and you will receive no further information on minerals and waste planning from the County Council. You can also use the update form to notify us of any address changes or changes within your organisation.

# WASTE CORE STRATEGY

## Publication and Focused Changes

In December 2010 the County Council formally published its Waste Core Strategy. Comments were invited on the proposed strategy, in particular if it met the Government's three tests of soundness (justified, effective and consistent with national policy) and was legally compliant. In response, we received over 200 comments from 48 individuals and organisations.

The comments that were received during the publication stage did not raise in the opinion of the council any fundamental issues regarding soundness or legal compliance. However it was considered that it would be beneficial to publish a revised version of the Waste Core Strategy incorporating a number of 'focused' changes. These 'focused' changes were consulted on for a six week period running from 27th June until 8th August 2011.

Copies of all of the representations received can be downloaded at  
<http://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/wcs/publication>

## Submission

Further to the publication stage the Waste Core Strategy and associated documents were formally submitted to the Secretary of State on the 5th September 2011. The key issues raised by respondents have been collated and summarised. The Planning Inspectorate on behalf of the Secretary of State will examine these alongside the Waste Core Strategy through an examination process. A copy of the submitted WCS and associated documents can be downloaded at <http://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/submit>

## Examination and Adoption

The next stage in the Waste Core Strategy process is the independent examination of the document by a Planning Inspector appointed on behalf of the Secretary of State. The examination is likely to place in November or December 2011, depending on whether a pre-examination meeting is needed. As part of this process a Programme Officer has been appointed to deal with procedural and administrative matters related to the examination. The Programme Officer is the point of contact with the Planning Inspector for both the County Council, stakeholders and the public. All relevant parties will be contacted by the Programme Officer with details of the stages leading up to and through the examination. Respondents will be contacted in due course by the Programme Officer with her details.

Once the examination is complete the Inspector will consider all of the points raised through the process and will submit a report to the County Council including any recommendations or actions in relation to the soundness of the document. If the document has been found 'sound' it will then be adopted by the County Council in Spring 2012.

# MINERALS CORE STRATEGY

As part of the last newsletter there was a 'Call for Sites'. Through this process we were looking for strategic sand and gravel and crushed rock sites to be brought forward by landowners and operators.

These sites along with those already considered suitable will be evaluated in coming months. A number of these sites will then be consulted on in 2012 as part of the 'Site Options' stage of the Minerals Core Strategy process.

If anyone does have a suitable site which they wish to promote and have not already done so, please email [m-wplan@gloucestershire.gov.uk](mailto:m-wplan@gloucestershire.gov.uk) or phone 01452 425668 and speak to a member of the team.



## Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS) Update

The MWDS is our timetable setting out what documents will be available for comment and when. For various reasons the previous MWDS has been amended.

The new timetable can be downloaded from: [www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/mwds](http://www.gloucestershire.gov.uk/mwds)

To summarise, the key dates are now as follows:

- Waste Core Strategy Examination Hearings—November/December 2011
- Waste Core Strategy Adoption—March/April 2012
- Minerals Core Strategy Site Options Consultation—July/August 2012
- Minerals Core Strategy Draft Publication—April/May 2013
- Minerals Core Strategy Pre Submission Publication—July/August 2013
- Minerals Core Strategy Submission—September/October 2013
- Minerals Core Strategy Examination Hearings—December 2013/January 2014
- Minerals Core Strategy Adoption—April/May 2014

# Annual Monitoring Report

The County Council submitted its sixth Minerals and Waste Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) to the Secretary of State in December 2010. The report contains annual minerals and waste data, plan performance and policy making for 2009-2010. All six of the AMRs are available to download from: <http://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/amr>

The 7th Annual Monitoring Report for 2010-2011 will be submitted to the Secretary of State by the end of December 2011. It will then be published and be available to download from the link above.



## Other News

### Localism Bill

The Localism Bill was published in December 2010 and is currently working its way through the Parliamentary process. The rationale behind the Bill is to shift power from Central Government, to Local Government and where possible onto local communities. Importantly the Bill proposes a number of changes to the planning system. These include the abolition of Regional Spatial Strategies (RSS), requiring public bodies to work together in preparing planning documents and other activities (duty to co-operate) and the introduction of neighbourhood plans i.e. strategies for local areas produced by communities in conjunction with the local planning authority. Other proposed changes include a requirement for developers to carry out pre-application consultation with local communities for major developments, stronger enforcement powers to tackle breaches of planning control, less power for Planning Inspectors to re-write local planning strategies and less rigid reporting requirements on plan progress and outputs. The Localism Bill is expected to come into force as legislation by early 2012.

### National Planning Policy Framework

In relation to the Localism Bill there will be a significant change to national planning policy guidance. The existing Planning and Minerals Policy Statements and Guidance Notes, and circulars will be replaced with a single overarching National Planning Policy Framework. Earlier this year there was an initial consultation asking for what priorities and policies should be included within the framework. As a result a draft of the National Planning Policy Framework has been recently been released for consultation. The consultation period ends 17th October 2011. A copy of the draft National Planning Framework can be downloaded from <http://www.communities.gov.uk/planningandbuilding/planningsystem/planningpolicy/planningpolicyframework/>

# DATABASE

We maintain an ever-expanding database of parties who have expressed an interest in minerals and waste issues within Gloucestershire.

Although we make all of our publications and consultations available on our website, we use the database to ensure that people can stay up-to-date without needing to keep checking the web. **It is very important to us that anyone who wishes to participate in our consultation process, is able to do so.**

- **If you are on our database** and have moved recently, or are about to move, please keep us up-to-date so that you do not miss out on anything important.
- Although we want to consult as many people as possible, we do not wish to cause annoyance, or waste taxpayers' money, by writing to people who no longer wish to be contacted. If you would like to be removed from our database, then please let us know.
- **If you wish to be added to our database** so that you can receive future newsletters, or notification of important events such as public consultations, **please let us know.**



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**Please select from the options below and then send to the address above.**

**Option 1** - I no longer wish to receive any M&W updates or participate in M&W consultations. (*Please provide your details below in order for them to be removed from our database*)

**Option 2**—I have not previously received any M&W updates or participated in M&W consultations. I would like to add my details to your database.

**Option 3**—I have recently changed my contact details and would like to update them on your database.

Title: First Name: Last Name:

Email Address (optional):

Address:

**To accompany Option 3 only:**

Previous contact details: