



Waste Core Strategy

Technical Paper WCS-B

Spatial Portrait and Vision

Living Draft

January 2008

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Summary

s1. This Technical Evidence Paper sets out Gloucestershire's Spatial Portrait (the way the County looks at the present time). The County's Vision for sustainable waste management over the next 10-20 years, the Strategic Objectives for meeting that Vision, and the Strategy for delivery.

s2. There has been a considerable amount of stakeholder engagement in discussing and determining what is an appropriate Vision for the County. Two key evidence gathering exercises included a stakeholder Forum (March 2006) and a formal Issues & options consultation (July – Dec 2006).

The Vision

s3. A revised Vision has been prepared. It states:

By 2026 Gloucestershire will be a clean, green, healthy and a safe place in which to live, work and visit. It will be a County whose inhabitants proactively minimise waste production to achieve zero growth by 2020 and where opportunities for re-using and recycling waste are maximised.

This will be delivered through a sustainable waste management system that: raises public awareness about waste minimisation; views waste as a resource; provides everyone with localised access to recycling facilities; supports markets for recyclable materials; and delivers a

network of sites that enable maximum diversion of waste from landfill.

Sufficient waste management facilities will be provided to enable all households in Gloucestershire to recycle and compost at least 70% of their rubbish by April 2010, with an 80% participation rate by 2020.

Gloucestershire's communities, key landscape / environmental assets and land liable to flooding will be safeguarded from the adverse impacts from waste management activities. Major waste facilities will be located in the central area of Gloucestershire proximate to the main urban areas along the M5 corridor. Smaller supporting facilities will be dispersed around the County.

s4. This vision is based on number of other documents, including the:

- Gloucestershire Waste Local Plan
- Gloucestershire Community Strategy
- Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy

Strategic Objectives

s5. Five Strategic Objectives relating to the Vision have been developed through the same process. These are:

Objective A

To influence Gloucestershire's residents, through partnership working, to reduce the

amount of waste they produce. And then subsequently to encourage them to view any waste they do generate as a resource for which they must take communal responsibility.

Objective B

To make the best use of Gloucestershire's waste by encouraging competitive markets for goods made from recycled materials and obtaining a benefit (value) from left over (residual) waste materials.

Objective C

To preserve and enhance the quality of Gloucestershire's environment and to avoid undesirable environmental effects, including risks to human health and unacceptable impacts on designated landscapes / nature conservation sites.

Objective D

To reduce the environmental impacts of transporting waste by managing the majority of Gloucestershire's waste within a reasonable distance from its source of arising, and to encourage the use of sustainable means of transporting waste.

Objective E

To co-locate similar or related facilities on existing waste sites or previously developed sites in preference to undesignated green-field locations (where appropriate) and to safeguard such land from development that may prevent this use.

Delivery Strategy

S6. Delivery mechanisms for ensuring implementation of the Vision and Strategic Objectives are outlined in Section 5. In summary they rely heavily on partnership working between the Waste Planning Authority and:

- Other internal elements of the County Council (e.g. the Waste Collection Authority, the Regeneration Team, the Community Strategy Team, the County Ecologist)
- District Councils in Gloucestershire
- external bodies (e.g. Natural England and the Environment Agency)
- the waste industry
- residents and businesses of Gloucestershire as the principle generators of waste

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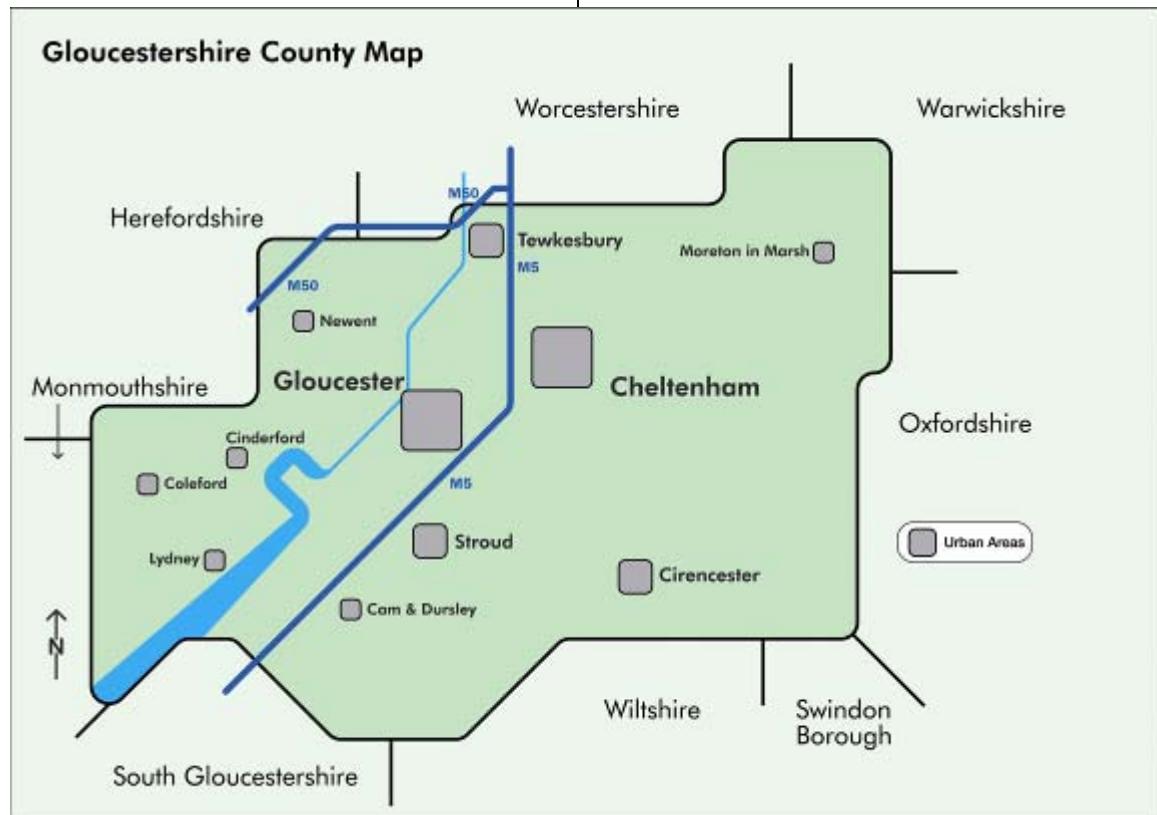
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Section 1 Introduction

1. Gloucestershire County Council are the Waste Planning Authority for Gloucestershire. Figure 1 (below) indicates the area within the County Council's responsibility.
2. The Waste Planning Authority are required to prepare a Waste Core Strategy (WCS) setting out how waste will be sustainably managed in Gloucestershire in the future.

3. As part of preparing this strategy Planning Policy Statement 12 'Local Development Frameworks' (PPS12, paragraph 2.9) requires core strategies to contain a spatial vision and strategic objectives for the area along with a spatial strategy for delivering that vision. The vision should emphasise local distinctiveness with a focus on delivery (PPS12 Companion Guide section 2.4).
4. Substantial work has been carried out by the County Council, through its waste planning and waste management functions, to determine an appropriate vision and strategic objectives. This report details the work that has been undertaken to date.

Figure 1



Partnership Working

5. The WPA has undertaken, and continues to undertake, meetings and discussions with a range of stakeholders concerning its Vision and Strategic Objectives. In particular work was undertaken jointly with the WDA culminating in a stakeholder forum (March 2006).

Stakeholder Forum (March 2006)

6. Key issues raised at the Forum were that people felt strongly that the vision should:
 - Place more emphasis on waste minimisation.
 - Be in clear and plain English, with no jargon (for example, it was pointed out that the term 'waste hierarchy' is not widely understood).
 - Include the importance of education to encourage people and businesses to reduce waste and recycle and compost more.
 - Encompass businesses as well as householders.
 - Focus on delivery and implementation.
7. With regards the objectives, stakeholders felt strongly that they were too complicated and used too much jargon. They should be short, simple and written in plain English. Examples of this include:
 - Attitudes and behaviour: the objective on 'changing behaviour' was felt to be unfocussed;
 - Business and markets: the term 'waste management enterprise' was confusing; and
 - Development planning: the meaning of 'opportunities' was not understood by all (i.e. 'to ensure that waste management issues are properly considered and opportunities are incorporated into new development proposals.')
8. **Attitudes and behaviour:** people felt that changing attitudes and behaviour was very important. The key word was 'education', which people said should be specifically included in the objectives.
9. **Business and markets:** two groups emphasised the importance of ensuring that there are markets for products made from recycled materials.
10. **Development planning:** the importance of ensuring that sites are available for waste management facilities was a key issue. People were unsure how effective the objective to 'safeguard' suitable sites for the location of waste management facilities over other uses would be. They considered protection of the countryside, and the Green Belt in particular, to be important.
11. The objective of ensuring that the community are involved in the planning process is important to include.
12. **Environmental impact:** the dominant theme to emerge from this discussion was a desire to strengthen the objectives. For

example, 'To minimise adverse environmental impacts' and 'To encourage sensitive waste management practices' were considered weak. Mention of meeting legal requirements should be made explicit in the objective.

13. **Partnership working:** no major themes from this discussion, although waste industry conflict of interest was raised.
14. **Process management:** no major themes arose from this discussion.
15. **Proximity to arisings:** this objective needed to recognise that different types of waste arise from different sources in different locations. The key was to minimise the distances such waste travelled for each situation.
16. **Resources and funding:** this objective should address more directly the issue of where funding will come from, currently the wording was felt to be too long and complex.
17. **Waste hierarchy:** the importance of education and increasing individual/ household/ community responsibility for waste was the key theme from this discussion. Waste minimisation, from the local to national level, was considered essential.
18. To respond to these views the consultants that independently facilitated the forum event recommended that:
 - The vision should be written in plain English without jargon.
 - The vision should encompass education regarding waste management and cover both business and householders.

- More emphasis should be placed on waste minimisation.

19. The key issue regarding the objectives were that they used too much jargon and were too complex.
20. Additionally, the consultants that facilitated the event recommended that:
 - Objectives be drafted in straightforward language and any jargon or technical terms are simply defined.
 - An objective regarding education should be integrated.
 - The feasibility of the objective regarding safeguarding suitable sites for waste management facilities should be reconsidered.
 - The objectives relating to environmental impact are weak and should be strengthened.
 - Resources and funding objectives need to be shorter and less complex and need to be more direct in defining the sourcing of funding.
21. To respond to the views on waste strategy it is **recommended** that:
 - Education features strongly in the strategy;
 - Options for incentives and penalties to encourage waste minimisation, recycling and composting are considered in the strategy;

- The scope of the waste strategy should include manufacturers and retailers;
- The strategy should aim to make recycling and composting easier;
- Energy recovery should be considered in preference to landfill following maximising recycling and composting; and
- Depending on the facility type, decentralised, local facilities should be considered in the strategy.

Issues and Options Consultation (July 2006)

22. Following on from the Forum an Issues and Options consultation on the WCS was carried out to gather information on stakeholders' views on vision / strategic objectives and strategy issues.
23. Key issues that arose are summarised below:
 - A spatial vision requires a geographic component.
 - Include a statement that refers to the management of greenhouse gas emissions.
 - Don't consider incineration or energy from waste due to potential for pollution.
 - The vision should be clear as to how Gloucestershire shall look in 2026, i.e. *'Gloucestershire's waste production shall be reduced by X and the remaining waste will be managed by X facilities located at....'*
 - Recycling of wood / card / paper /plastics should be compulsory for householders

and businesses. Subsidised composting kits for domestic use.

- Higher recycling rates. Encourage increased door step recycling and make it simple and consistent. Link the vision to the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.
- Reduce the amount of commercial waste landfilled. Place an emphasis on domestic and industrial recycling with fines for non-compliance. Don't accept waste from out of the County.
- Natural England and the Highways Agency in general support the interim spatial vision. The Environment Agency also consider it to be acceptable but believe the Waste Local Plan vision to be more comprehensive.
- The majority of new waste management facilities should be located near to point of production, Cheltenham and Gloucester.
- *"Within reasonable costs, to make Gloucestershire a place where reducing and recycling waste becomes second nature through the use of education, especially concentrating on young people".*
- There should be an aim for 'zero waste', protection of greenfield sites and environmentally sensitive land.
- Waste minimisation is important therefore authorities should have greater powers. Inclusion of a strong sharp statement i.e. 'zero tolerance of waste'.

Section 2

Current County Portrait

24. This section sets out Gloucestershire's current 'spatial portrait'. This is a statement of how the County looks at the present time. It covers a broad range of issues to contextualise the situation in which waste management currently operates.

Administration

25. Gloucestershire covers an area of 1,020 square miles (2,650 square kilometres) in the South West region of England. It is adjacent to the regions of the South East, the West Midlands and Wales.

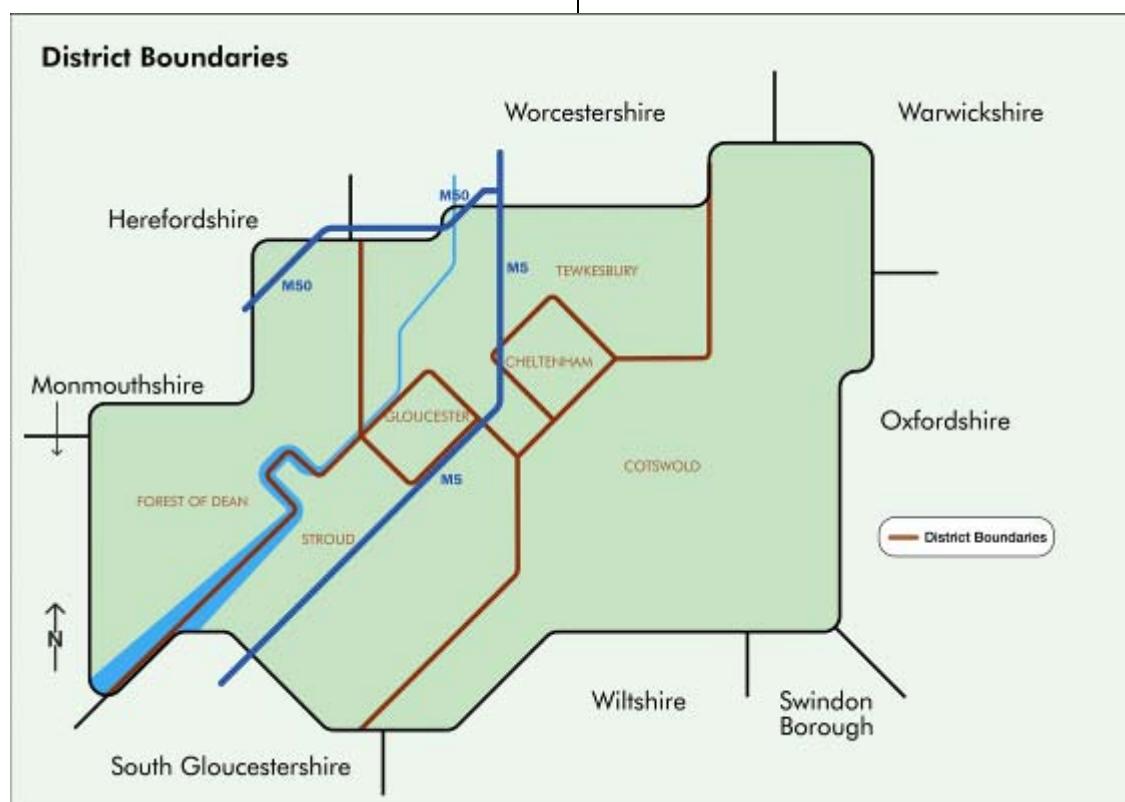
26. Gloucestershire has borders with Wiltshire, Monmouthshire, South Gloucestershire, Warwickshire, Swindon, Oxfordshire, Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

27. There are six district councils in the County: Cheltenham Borough; Cotswold District; the Forest of Dean District; Gloucester City; Stroud District; and Tewkesbury Borough (see Figure 2).

Demography

28. The County has a population of approximately 565,000; the two largest urban areas are Gloucester and Cheltenham. The emerging Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) for the South West suggests that by 2026 the County's population may have increased to 634,000.

Figure 2



Housing

29. Population growth and a change in household composition have resulted in more houses being needed in the county. The emerging Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) seeks to locate the majority of development over the period 2006-2026 at Gloucester and Cheltenham.
30. The Draft RSS (policies SR12 and SR13) requires provision of 875 per annum within and adjoining Gloucester's urban area and 625 houses per annum within and adjoining Cheltenham's urban area. This includes two urban extensions to the north of Gloucester and to the north west of Cheltenham (the majority of which are within the Tewkesbury Borough).
31. The district dwelling provision³ is as follows:

Table 1: Housing Allocations 2006 - 2026

Cheltenham Borough	8,500
Cotswold District	6,000
Forest of Dean District	5,400
Gloucester City	11,500
Stroud District	6,700
Tewkesbury Borough	10,500
County Total	48,600

Industry and Economics

32. Gloucestershire is predominantly rural with three quarters of the County's countryside being used for agriculture. Cropping is the main activity, though there are large areas

³ These figures are subject to change following the Examination in Public of the RSS.

used for forestry and sheep/cattle/dairy farming.

33. Gloucestershire has historically been a significant location for commerce primarily due to its location at a crossroads of trade routes between Wales and London and the Midlands and the South West. These locational factors, couple with good transport links, continue to make the county attractive as a business location today.

Environment

Landscape

34. Gloucestershire's landscape is characterised by three distinct areas:
 - The Forest of Dean, an ancient forest and upland area of old mining with scattered communities.
 - The Severn Vale, which is a mainly flat area that contains the majority of the County's population.
 - The upland limestone areas of the Cotswolds and Stroud.

These are illustrated schematically in Figure 3.

35. The **western area** comprises mainly the Forest of Dean District. The landscape⁴ character is comprised of woodland, pasture, arable land, hills, ridge lines, scarp slopes, vales, valleys and riverine landscapes. The Wye Valley AONB runs along the western boundary. There are

⁴ The Forest of Dean District Council adopted a Landscape Supplementary Planning Document (March 2007). They also have a Landscape Character assessment (2002) and a Landscape Strategy (2004)

distinctive vale landscapes bordering the Leadon and the Severn, the low hills containing numerous orchards and glasshouses north of Newent and the shifting landscapes of the Severn Sands.

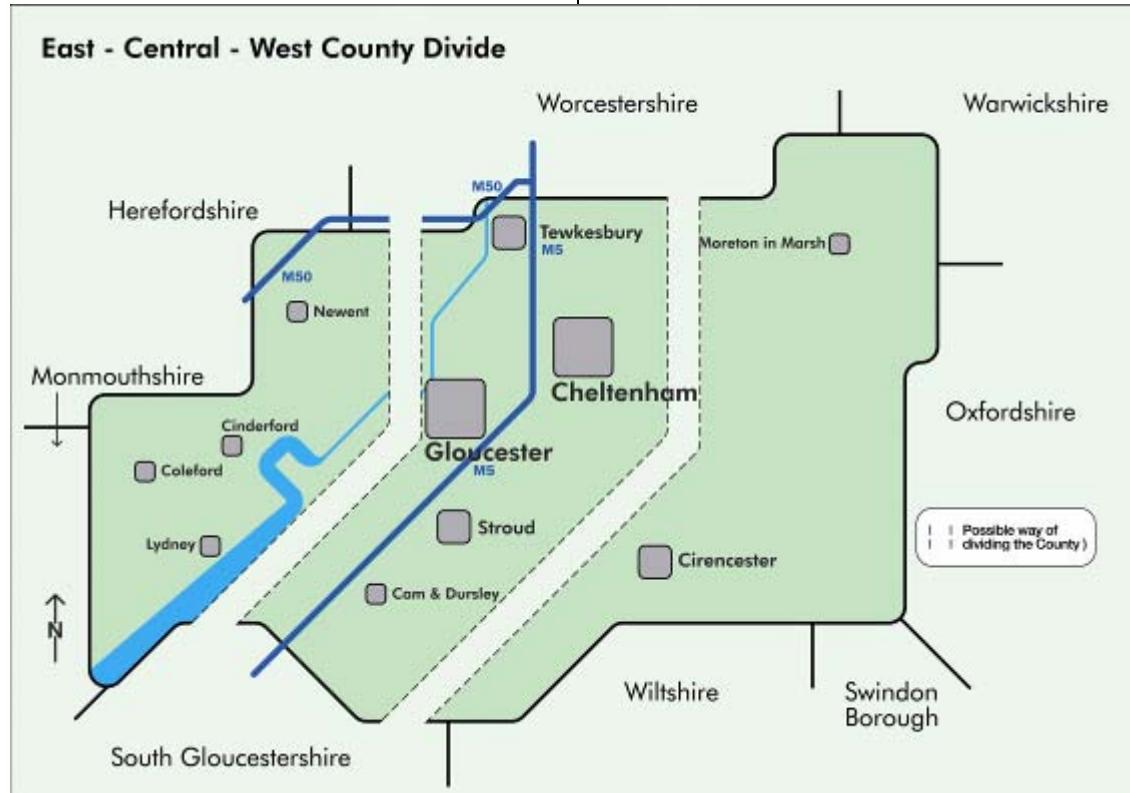
36. The **central area** is predominantly within Tewkesbury, Cheltenham, Gloucester and Stroud Districts/Boroughs. The majority of new housing allocations are in this area. The urban fringe around these areas comprises a mixture of brownfield land, Green Belt and business/industrial parks. It is within these areas that the majority of existing strategic waste management facilities are located.

37. The **eastern area** is similar to the west in terms of its 'rurality'. It comprises mainly the Cotswold District whose landscape is dominated by the AONB to the north (see Figure 4) and the Cotswold Water Park to the south.

38. The Cotswolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is one of the UK's largest AONB designations. The Wye Valley and part of the Malvern Hills AONB are also within the County (see Figure 4).

39. The historic legacy of agriculture, industry, architecture and social organisation makes a significant contribution to the distinctive landscapes found in Gloucestershire.

Figure 3



Green Belt

40. Green Belt land in the County (as shown on Figure 4) extends around the north, west and south of Cheltenham.

41. More details on the implications of Green Belt designation for waste management facilities are contained in Technical Evidence Paper WCS-I Waste Facilities in the Green Belt.

Nature Conservation

42. Gloucestershire has many important nature conservation designations, including:

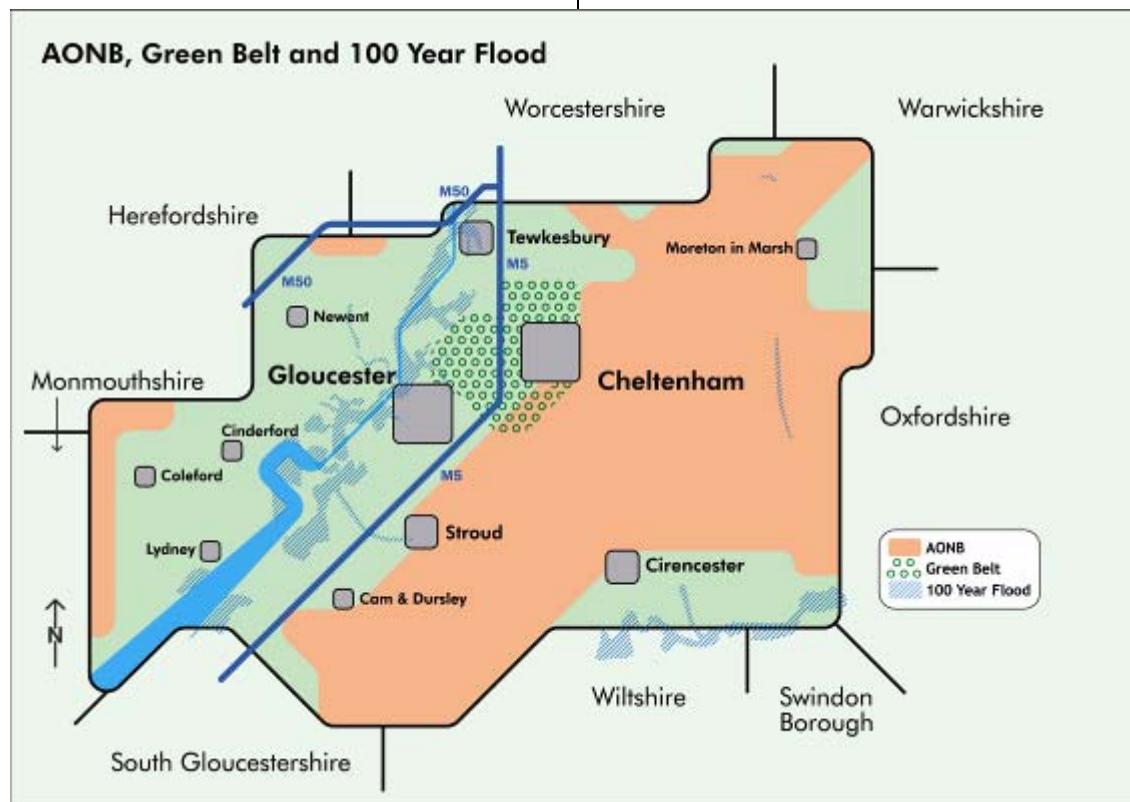
- Ramsar Sites (Walmore Common and the Severn Estuary);
- Special Protection Areas & Special Areas of Conservation; and

- over 100 designated Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) in Gloucestershire.

43. In addition there are also many local nature designations. More details on the implications of these designations are contained in Joint Technical Evidence Paper WCS-MCS-5 Ecology.

44. The Gloucestershire Biodiversity Action Plan provides a framework for the conservation of biodiversity based on targeting resources towards protecting priority habitats. Information on the implications of biodiversity for waste planning is contained in Joint Technical Evidence Paper WCS-MCS-5 Ecology.

Figure 4

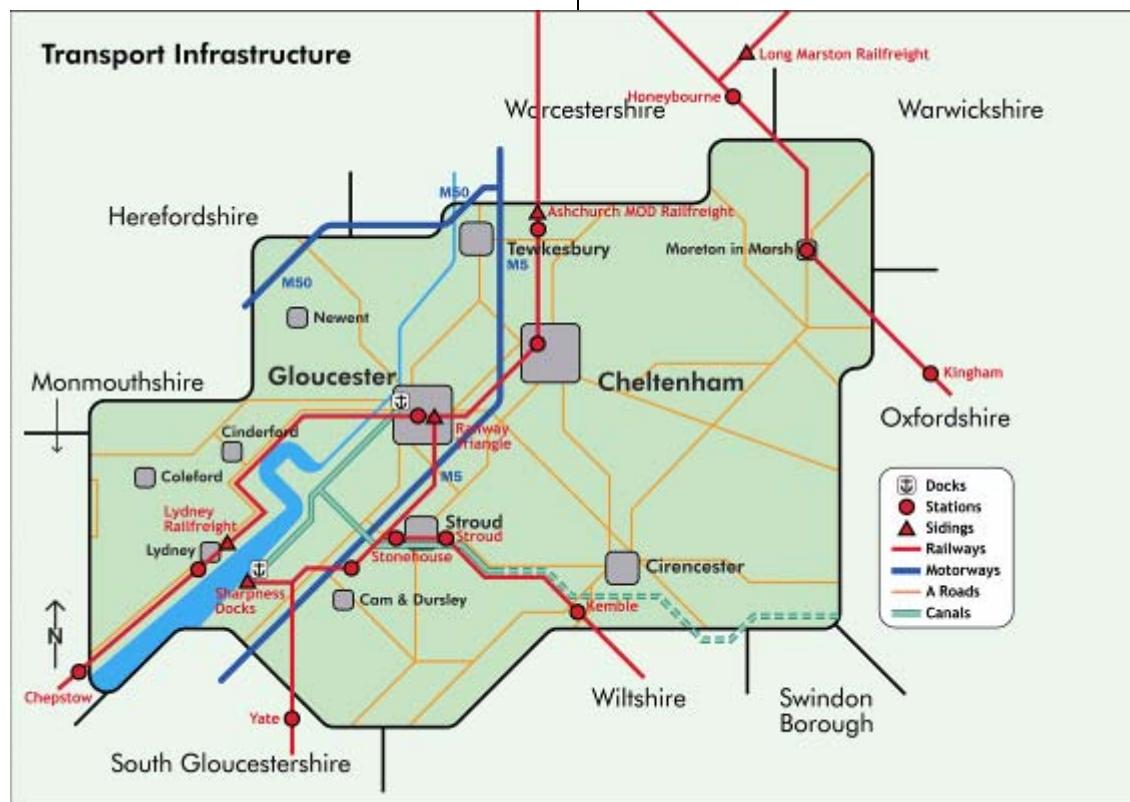


Water Environment

45. The River Severn is the main watercourse in the County. The River Wye runs along the edge of the Forest of Dean. And the River Thames has its source near Kemble in the Cotswolds. There are also a number of other tributary rivers to the main watercourses. There are two canals in the County (illustrated in Figure 5) the main one being the Gloucester-Sharpness canal.

46. There are a number of areas of the County that are prone to flooding, as illustrated on Figure 4, although many additional areas of the County flooded during the 'great floods of 2007'. This is a key issue for Gloucestershire and further information on flood risk issues is set out in the Joint Technical Paper WCS-MCS-D Hydrological Issues.

Figure 5



Historic Environment

47. Gloucestershire has a significant number of listed buildings, conservation areas, scheduled ancient monuments and battlefields/parks/gardens. A Joint Technical Evidence Paper WCS-MCS 6 'Archaeology' has been prepared to specifically deal with this issue.

Transport

48. Detailed information on transport issues in Gloucestershire is contained in Joint Technical Evidence Paper WCS-MCS-1 Transport. The section below provides a brief contextual summary.

49. The rail network in Gloucestershire contains four trunk lines. Additionally a line passes through Moreton-in-Marsh in the north east of the County.

- 50. The M5 is the main north-south route through the County, running roughly parallel to the River Severn. The M50 runs to the north of County and the M4 and M48 pass just below the southern boundary.
- 51. Sharpness Docks on the Bristol Channel provides extensive water-borne cargo-handling facilities and port-related services. It handles cargoes such as dry bulks, recycled metals, minerals and timbers.
- 52. Gloucestershire has almost 3,500 miles of footpaths, bridleways and green lanes that make up its public rights of way network (PROW). Four national routes run through Gloucestershire namely: the Thames Path; the Cotswold Way; the Gloucestershire Way; and Offa's Dyke Path.

Waste Production

- 53. Waste is produced throughout the County but the majority of arising are related to the urban areas. These are divided roughly into two areas: the three Forest towns (Coleford, Cinderford and Lydney) and the central Severn Vale axis (incorporating Tewkesbury, Cheltenham, Gloucester and Stroud).
- 54. Detailed information on how each of the waste streams is managed is set out in Evidence Paper WCS-A 'Waste Data'. Table 2 summarises the tonnages of waste managed in the County:

Table 2: Licensed Waste Management in Gloucestershire ('000 tonnes)

Waste Stream	Base Year	Total
MSW	2004/05*	309
C&I (including metals)	2005	462
C&D	2005	403
Hazardous	2004	72
Total		1,246

* Environment Agency data combines MSW and C&I biodegradable waste therefore the 2004/05 MSW figure is used here to compare similar years. The figure for 2006/07 was 324kt

Section 3 Spatial Vision

55. This section sets out the Gloucestershire's vision as to where we want the County to be in terms of waste management in 10-20 years time.
56. PPS12 (paras 2.9 and 2.10) requires core strategies to contain a long term spatial vision and the strategic policies to deliver that vision.
57. There are a number of 'visions' for the County. These have been set out in five key documents:
 - Gloucestershire Waste Local Plan (adopted Oct 2004)
 - Gloucestershire Waste Core Strategy Issues & Options papers (July 2006)
 - Draft Gloucestershire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2006)
 - Sustainable Community Strategy for Gloucestershire (2007)
 - Regional Waste Management Strategy for the South West (2004)
58. The vision that is finally adopted in the WCS will need to draw upon all of this evidence.

Gloucestershire Waste Local Plan

59. The vision set out in the Waste Local Plan was prepared under earlier planning guidance (Planning Policy Guidance Note

10), which has now been superseded by PPS10.

60. Notwithstanding this, the vision it contains was put forward as Option 1 in the Issues & Options consultation to provide a 'business as usual' scenario against which sustainability appraisal could be carried out.



61. The Waste Local Plan vision states:

Gloucestershire's vision for the period 2002 – 2012 through the Waste Local Plan is to:

- ***minimise, whenever possible, waste generation;***
- ***treat waste arisings as a valuable resource;***
- ***maximise, the potential for waste to bring benefit to the community through re-use, recycling and recovery.***
- ***Reduce the loss of amenities to Gloucestershire caused by waste management development, especially via the transportation of waste by road.***

These are to be implemented in accordance with the social, economic and environmental principles of Best Practicable Environmental Option.

WCS Issues & Options

62. The spatial vision in the WCS Issues & Options papers (referred to as Option 2) was prepared to stimulate stakeholder discussion. Its vision was:

“A sustainable and educational waste management system for Gloucestershire that reduces waste produced from businesses and households as a priority and diverts waste from landfill.”

63. This vision was based on work undertaken up to and including discussions at the joint waste forum (March 2006). The following matters were considered particularly important:

- Driving the management of waste up the waste hierarchy (waste minimisation);
- Using plain English without planning jargon;
- Educate people about taking communal responsibility for managing the waste produced within the County; and
- Safeguarding Gloucestershire's environment, including its residents, from the adverse impacts of waste management.

Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy

64. The Gloucestershire Local Government Association, quoted in the draft Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS, consultation version July 2007), has a vision for recycling and composting, which states:

“All households in Gloucestershire will have convenient and easy-to-use collection services, enabling them to recycle and compost at least 70% of their rubbish by April 2010.

Householders in Gloucestershire need to make informed buying and disposal decisions. We all need to minimise waste and help protect the local and global environment.”

65. The JMWMS goes to state that our waste management services will need to meet statutory objectives and targets and should be considered environmentally sound, cost effective and reliable. In addition, our waste management services will be integrated and co-ordinated providing consistency of services, reduced costs and transportation.

66. The JMWMS contains 9 strategic objectives:

- ***Changing consumers' behaviour*** towards consumption and disposal.
- ***Reduction first*** to minimise the amount of waste produced.
- ***Segregation of waste at source*** to increase householder recycling.
- Implement the ***composting hierarchy*** to encourage home composting where possible.
- Using ***residual waste as a resource*** through diverting non-recyclable waste from landfill.
- Providing clear ***leadership*** to implement the Strategy.

- **Work in partnership** with all involved in generating waste and managing it.
- Develop markets for recyclable material to **close the loop**.
- **Depollute the waste stream** by safely removing hazardous materials.

67. This Strategy is guided by the principles of the waste hierarchy, aims to minimise waste generation and view waste materials as a resource. Waste should be prevented from being produced, reused where possible, then recycled or composted. Any waste that cannot be reused, recycled or composted should be treated to recover any potential value (such as energy). Disposal should be the last resort.

68. The JMWMS contains a number of targets to measure progress towards the strategic objectives. These are:

From 2007:

- Visit a minimum of 50 schools each year.

By March 2008:

- Increase recycling & composting through existing schemes by 3%;
- Increase participation in recycling & composting schemes in low performing areas by 20%;
- Achieve a rate of 85% of householders classifying themselves as committed recyclers.

By April 2010:

- All households in Gloucestershire will have convenient and easy-to-use

collection services, enabling them to recycle and compost at least 70% of their rubbish

By 2020:

- Achieve an average participation rate of 80% in recycling & composting collection schemes;
- Achieve an average capture rate of 80% for targeted recyclable and compostable materials.
- To reduce the growth of Gloucestershire's municipal waste arisings to zero.

(Please note that additional targets relating to recycling and composting rates are set out in the Technical Evidence Paper WCS-A 'Waste Data').

69. This Strategy also aspires to positively contribute to the Gloucestershire County Council's Community Strategy, which aims to deliver economic, social and environmental well-being in a sustainable way.

Sustainable Community Strategy for Gloucestershire

70. Gloucestershire's Sustainable Community Strategy (2007) builds on the Vision in the 2004 Community Strategy, which states:



“make a positive difference for people who live in, work in and visit Gloucestershire”.

71. The 2004 Community Strategy then states that to ensure a better environment we will minimise the amount of waste produced and increase recycling (P4, page 21). School children in the County contributed their thoughts to what they would like to see Gloucestershire be like when they grow up.
72. Key themes that emerged were the need for the county to be clean, environmentally friendly, green, safe and healthy. These are factors that could be incorporated into a strategic vision for managing Gloucestershire's waste.
73. The 2007 Sustainable Community Strategy builds on this work and sets out 5 broad themes:
 - The future matters to us and our environment is central to our quality of life.
 - Our communities matter to us. People want to be safe, healthy and prosperous and get along with each other. They want to have a real say in issues that affect them.
 - Everyone matters. We must aim for good outcomes for all.
 - The places where people live have a huge effect on their quality of life. People want to live in clean and pleasant places where they can access the services they need.

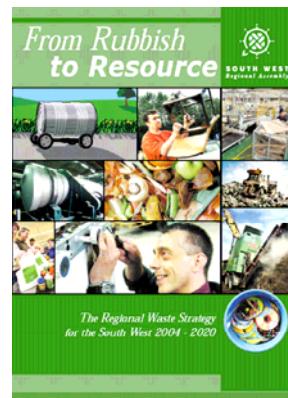
- Our vibrant urban and rural economy supports a diverse society. Gloucestershire's continued prosperity depends on the right business environment and on people having the opportunity to develop their skills.

74. A key driver identified for the future is “Environment - protecting the natural and built environment in the face of climate change and the challenges posed by economic growth (including housing, traffic, and waste management).”

Regional Waste Management Strategy

75. The vision set out in the Regional Waste Management Strategy (Appendix A, pg.60) is that:

“The South West Region will become a minimum waste producer by 2030, with business and households maximising opportunities for reuse and recycling”



Sustainability Appraisal findings

76. Two alternative 'visions' were tested at Issues & options stage against the seven key planning objectives of PPS10 and against 15 sustainability objectives. Option 1 was the WLP 'business as usual' vision. Option 2 was the vision prepared for Issues & Options consultation.

77. The sustainability appraisal's key findings are set out in Appendix C of this Evidence Paper. In summary, the two visions were found to be broadly sustainable when tested against the SA Objectives.

78. Option 2 however is favoured as the WLP vision (Option 1) is based on Best Practical Environmental Option criteria, which does not reflect current government policy in PPS10. Additionally, Option 2 sets out a more proactive approach to implementing the waste hierarchy and will have more positive long term effects.

79. Analysis of the two visions in terms of conformity with the key planning objectives of PPS10 (para 3) is set out in Appendix B. This illustrates that Option 2 generally provides a more direct link with the key objectives.

Stakeholders' Comments on the Issues & Options Vision (Option 2)

80. Respondents to the Issues & Options questionnaire clearly supported the inclusion of a spatial vision in the WCS. However, concerns were raised by stakeholders that the proposed vision (Option 2) reads more like an objective.

81. A number of representations identified that the vision needs to specifically relate to what Gloucestershire (as a geographical identity) should be like by 2026.

82. There were many suggestions by stakeholders as to how the vision could be improved and what it should contain. Issues for inclusion included:

- Conservation and enhancement of the environment
- Protection of local communities
- Partnership working
- Reducing cross region transportation
- Reducing waste by X%
- Managing waste at stated localities
- Finding an alternative to landfill before seeking to implement the waste hierarchy
- Safe disposal of waste
- Minimising landfilling
- Use of waste as a resource

Option 3 for the Spatial Vision

83. The Waste Planning Authority has considered all of the issues raised in respect of the Spatial Vision options 1 & 2. Additionally, emerging work from the Waste Disposal and Collection Authorities has informed the evolution of the Vision.

84. In terms of **timing**, the County urgently requires waste management facilities that will divert waste from landfill. The data set out in the Issues & Options Papers (Part B, Section 4) and updated through Evidence Paper WCS-A 'Waste Data' illustrates that there is a considerable 'gap' in capacity, particularly for diverting commercial and industrial wastes and residual treatment of MSW.

85. To introduce a form of artificial phasing could unnecessarily constrain the

development of new recycling facilities, which may reduce competitiveness and stifle innovation contrary to PPS10 (paragraphs 3 and 18 respectively). It is therefore not considered appropriate to state in the vision that facilities will be required within a set time period as they are required now.

86. Notwithstanding this the WCS should be informed by work being undertaken on the JMWMS and therefore the vision could echo its aspirations in terms of timing. Additionally the vision could incorporate target percentages for recycling and composting participation.
87. In applying the principles of spatial planning the vision needs to emphasise local distinctiveness with a focus on delivery (PPS12 companion guide, para 2.4) but it should avoid containing “undeliverable ‘wish-lists’ or require unrealistic levels of resources” (para 2.3).
88. This has important implications for the preferred options for managing waste. For example, whilst a strategy that assumes 100% waste recycling/re-use is desirable, it is unlikely to be a deliverable wish for economic and social reasons.
89. Whilst it is considered to be unrealistic to assume that there will be zero waste produced in the County by 2026, this is an approach that the Regional Waste Management Strategy sets out as something that ideally we should be working towards. The JMWMS seeks to attain zero growth in MSW by 2020.

90. The regional approach is to **minimise** waste production and to **maximise** opportunities for re-use and recycling. This accords with Gloucestershire's vision for managing MSW (as set out in the JMWMS).
91. Seeking an alternative to landfilling waste is a priority of the County Council. This desire is driven by social, economic and environmental factors. If waste is not produced in the first place then it will not need to be disposed of. There is therefore an important link between the waste hierarchy and landfill disposal.
92. There is an urgent need in the County to develop alternative means of managing the waste that is produced and which has not been recycled, re-used, or composted. The JMWMS (residual strategy element) will set out what technology this should comprise. Until this is known it is considered that the vision should neither rule in nor out any particular technology options.
93. It is consequently acknowledged that some aspects of the Vision are aspirational, however it is considered important to include such ideals if we are to move the County forward towards sustainable waste management in the long term.
94. Following consideration of these issues and stakeholder involvement to date, a preferred Spatial Vision has been prepared. To follow on from previous work it is referred to as Option 3:

Spatial Vision for Gloucestershire: Option 3

By 2026 Gloucestershire will be a clean, green, healthy and a safe place in which to live, work and visit. It will be a County whose inhabitants proactively minimise waste production to achieve zero growth by 2020 and where opportunities for re-using and recycling waste are maximised.

This will be delivered through a sustainable waste management system that: raises public awareness about waste minimisation; views waste as a resource; provides everyone with localised access to recycling facilities; supports markets for recyclable materials; and delivers a network of sites that enable maximum diversion of waste from landfill.

The aim will be to provide sufficient waste management facilities to enable all households in Gloucestershire to recycle and compost at least 70% of their rubbish by April 2010, with an 80% participation rate by 2020.

95. The WPA has sought to avoid prejudicing the outcome of stakeholder consultation and site-specific DPD preparation by stating exactly **where** waste will be managed prior to undertaking this work. However, whilst it is premature to include specific locations at this stage, the WCS does need to identify broad locations.
96. The draft RSS Policy W2 directs waste facilities to particular areas of search (see Technical Evidence Paper WCS-C 'Broad Locational Analysis'). It is therefore possible, as an alternative option, to include the following phrase in the vision:

Gloucestershire's communities will be safeguarded from adverse impacts of waste management along with key landscape/environmental assets and land

liable to flooding. Major waste facilities will be located in the central area of Gloucestershire proximate to the main urban areas along the M5 corridor. Smaller supporting facilities will be dispersed around the County.

97. This phrase, however, can only be incorporated into the vision if it accords with the outcome of the locational strategy consideration, as discussed in Technical Evidence Paper WCS-C 'Broad Locational Analysis'.

Preferred Option for the Spatial Vision

98. The preferred option for the Spatial Vision for the WCS is:

By 2026 Gloucestershire will be a clean, green, healthy and a safe place in which to live, work and visit. It will be a County whose inhabitants proactively minimise waste production to achieve zero growth by 2020 and where opportunities for re-using and recycling waste are maximised.

This will be delivered through a sustainable waste management system that: raises public awareness about waste minimisation; views waste as a resource; provides everyone with localised access to recycling facilities; supports markets for recyclable materials; and delivers a network of sites that enable maximum diversion of waste from landfill.

Sufficient waste management facilities will be provided to enable all households in Gloucestershire to recycle and compost at least

70% of their rubbish by April 2010, with an 80% participation rate by 2020.

Gloucestershire's communities, key landscape / environmental assets and land liable to flooding will be safeguarded from the adverse impacts from waste management activities. Major waste facilities will be located in the central area of Gloucestershire proximate to the main urban areas along the M5 corridor. Smaller supporting facilities will be dispersed around the County.

Reasons for discounting other options

- 99.** The preferred Vision has not used some suggested phraseology, for example “*...remaining waste will be managed by X facilities located at*”. To do so could prejudice the outcome of work being undertaken by the Waste Disposal Authority in preparing their municipal waste management strategy (the JMWMS). However, notwithstanding this the preferred option for the Vision has included greater spatial and target driven elements within it.
- 100.** Additionally, the implementation of a sustainable waste management system which restricts operations to a set number of facilities and locations (without having tested the suitability of those locations in a site specific DPD) and without recourse to the circumstances at that time is unlikely to provide an approach that is responsive to the needs of the waste management industry and society as a whole.
- 101.** Such an approach would potentially be contrary to the requirements of PPS1 (paragraph 7), which requires a

“transparent, flexible, predictable, efficient and effective planning system”.

Section 4 Strategic Objectives

102. National planning policy in PPS10 (paragraph 3) requires planning authorities to deliver planning strategies for waste management that:

- drive waste management up the waste hierarchy, treat waste as a resource with disposal as the last option;
- allow communities to take more responsibility for their own waste, and enable sufficient and timely provision of waste management facilities;
- implement the national waste strategy, and are consistent with European legislation and other guidance and legal controls;
- help secure the recovery or disposal of waste without endangering human health and without harming the environment, and enable waste to be disposed of in one of the nearest appropriate installations;
- reflect the concerns and interests of communities, the needs of waste collection authorities, waste disposal authorities and business, and encourage competitiveness;
- protect green belts but recognise the particular locational needs of some types of waste management facilities when defining detailed green belt boundaries;

- ensure the design and layout of new development supports sustainable waste management.

103. This section sets out how these national planning objectives will be incorporated within strategic objectives to help deliver Gloucestershire's Spatial Vision.

WCS Issues and Options

104. The WCS Issues and Options papers initially identified 14 aims and objectives to deliver the vision. These were based on work undertaken in the adopted Waste Local Plan; the emerging JMWMS; stakeholder input from the joint waste forum (March 2006); the planning strategy set out in PPS10 (above); and the emerging RSS.

105. The 14 aims and objectives were:

1. To reduce the amount of waste produced in Gloucestershire;
2. To make the best use of the waste produced within Gloucestershire through increased re-use and recovering value from waste;
3. To encourage sensitive waste management practices within Gloucestershire to preserve/enhance the overall quality of the environment and avoid risks to human health;
4. To achieve a sustainable waste management system by minimising waste as a priority and encouraging communities to take responsibility for the

waste they produce through better education about waste issues;

5. To assist in creating economic prosperity and employment for Gloucestershire by encouraging competitiveness, meeting the needs of business, and encouraging markets for goods made from recycled materials;
6. To ensure that waste management issues are properly considered and incorporated into new development proposals;
7. To reduce undesirable environmental impacts resulting from the handling, processing, transport and disposal of waste and meet legal requirements;
8. To protect communities from negative impacts of waste management and to protect designated landscapes and sites of nature conservation value from inappropriate development;
9. To make the best use of land by re-using previously developed sites in preference to undesignated greenfield locations;
10. To reduce the environmental impacts of transporting waste by encouraging waste disposal to take place at the closest appropriate facility and to use more sustainable means of transporting waste;
11. To provide a strategy for managing the majority of the County's waste in reasonable distance from its source of arising;
12. To safeguard sites suitable for the location of waste management facilities from other proposed development;
13. To provide a strategy for assessing the appropriateness of waste management

facilities in the Green Belt, and of the Green Belt boundaries themselves;

14. To set out a framework for monitoring and reviewing waste development plan documents.

Stakeholder Comments on the Aims and Objectives

106. Following consultation on the Issues & Options papers, stakeholders raised the following issues as being of importance to Gloucestershire:

- To minimise the generation of waste at source;
- To maximise opportunities for people and businesses to recycle, compost and recover value from waste;
- To clarify the objectives, including more focus for changing peoples behavior and the business aspects of waste management;
- To provide an integrated and sustainable waste management system for the county, including markets for recyclable materials and methods for disposing of unavoidable waste in the most appropriate way;
- Include waste education as a key aim;
- To take responsibility for managing waste proximate to its source of arising and to make sure sites are available for waste management uses;
- To protect communities from adverse impacts of waste management;

- To prove that the re-development of a previously used site is more sustainable than using a greenfield site.

Sustainability Appraisal

107. The 14 aims and objectives were tested against sustainability criteria (see WCS Issues & Options SA Report, July 2006, Appendix 1).

108. In general the test scores indicated that most of the 14 aims and objectives either promote the SA Objectives, have no clear link, or indicate some degree of uncertainty. Clearly some of the SA Objectives i.e. 7 & 13 are related more to minerals issues than waste issues and so there are uncertainties in relation to these scores.

109. The only aim/objective that produced scores that had a potentially negative impact (i.e. indirectly contradicted some of the SA Objectives) was Objective No.5. Unregulated economic prosperity or growth and meeting the needs of business (potentially over the needs of the environment) is clearly negative in sustainability terms. Negative impacts could include increased levels of pollution, increased lorry traffic and congestion both leading to wider climate change impacts.

Preferred Options for Strategic Objectives

110. At the request of stakeholders, to meet with the consultant's recommendations from the public forum and to accord with the revised

JMWMS nine strategic objectives, the 14 aims and objectives for the WCS have been simplified, planning jargon removed and where possible objectives have been combined. This has resulted in five strategic objectives to meet the spatial vision.

111. The preferred option for how these could read are:

Objective A

To influence Gloucestershire's residents, through partnership working, to reduce the amount of waste they produce. And then subsequently to encourage them to view any waste they do generate as a resource for which they must take communal responsibility.

Objective B

To make the best use of Gloucestershire's waste by encouraging competitive markets for goods made from recycled materials and obtaining a benefit (value) from left over (residual) waste materials.

Objective C

To preserve and enhance the quality of Gloucestershire's environment and to avoid undesirable environmental effects, including risks to human health and unacceptable impacts on designated landscapes / nature conservation sites.

Objective D

To reduce the environmental impacts of transporting waste by managing the majority of Gloucestershire's waste within a reasonable distance from its source of

arising, and to encourage the use of sustainable means of transporting waste.

Objective E

To co-locate similar or related facilities on existing waste sites or previously developed sites in preference to undesignated green-field locations (where appropriate) and to safeguard such land from development that may prevent this use.

112. These five strategic objectives incorporate the initial 14 aims and objectives as follows (the number shown as *[italics]* relates to the draft JMWMS objective to which it relates):

- Objective A (comprises I&O aims and objectives nos 1, 2, 4 and 6) [1,2,5,7]
- Objective B (comprises I&O aims and objectives nos 2 and 5) [5,8]
- Objective C (comprises I&O aims and objectives nos 3 and 8) [9]
- Objective D (comprises I&O aims and objectives nos 7, 10 and 11) [3,4]
- Objective E (comprises I&O aims and objectives nos 9 and 12)

113. The priority for the WCS is to reduce the production of waste. If this is successful it will, by default, reduce the amount of waste that has to be managed and the tonnage that ultimately ends up being landfilled.

114. The reality is that some waste will always be generated, not all of which can be readily recycled/re-used/composted etc. The alternatives to landfill for this residual

waste are therefore an important consideration.

115. The alternatives to landfill seek to derive value from the material, usually in the form of generating energy (incorporated through Strategic Objective B).

Reasons for Discounting Other Options

116. Objective nos.13 and 14 from the Issues & Options consultation, are matters that will be addressed in the WCS but are not considered appropriate to be set down as strategic objectives. Rather they are elements of process that will assist or assess the delivery mechanisms.

117. It is also not explicitly stated in the five strategic objectives that the WCS will meet legal requirements. If it does not meet legal requirements the document will not be 'sound' and therefore could not be adopted. Consequently, and in the interests of brevity, this is to be taken as read.

118. In respect of I&O Objective No.9, some stakeholders referred to the fact that a greenfield site could potentially be as sustainable as a brownfield one, either for locational or biodiversity reasons. The addition of the phrase "*where appropriate*" to this objective (now subsumed within Strategic Objective E) signifies that such an approach may not be the most sustainable in every case.

119. The requirement to prove that a previously developed site is more sustainable than a greenfield site is matter that would need to be addressed as part of the comparative analysis work to be undertaken at site specific DPD stage. This would be assisted by undertaking a sustainability appraisal.

120. Additionally, it is unlikely that definitive 'proof' could be attained as to which site is the most sustainable as planning involves a balance to be struck between competing (often subjective) interests, which is ultimately determined by democratically elected council members.

Section 5

The Strategy for Delivering the Vision

121. In order to implement the spatial vision and meet the strategic objectives it is necessary to determine an appropriate delivery strategy. This section sets out the preferred options for setting a strategy for delivering the spatial vision (outlined in Section 3) and the five strategic objectives (from Section 4).

Delivery Mechanisms

122. The five strategic objectives will be delivered through a number of mechanisms. Three overarching partnerships need to be created if Gloucestershire is to successfully deliver its Vision. These are between the Waste Planning Authority and:

- a) the Waste Disposal Authority (including its District Waste Collection partners);
- b) the waste industry (as the providers of the facilities);
- c) the residents/businesses of Gloucestershire as waste creators.

123. The JMWMS are working closely with the districts to harmonise the MSW strategy and the Waste Planning Authority has been

involved in joint meetings with these bodies.

124. Specific meetings have been held with all operators of significant waste management facilities in the County to discuss the way in which future waste management should be undertaken. The Waste Planning will continue having this dialogue with facility operators in order to pursue a sustainable approach to waste management.

125. The County Council is proactively engaging with residents to encourage take-up of the recycling opportunities available (see Objective 1 delivery mechanisms below). More specific delivery mechanisms are outlined below:

126. Objective A will be achieved by ensuring that waste issues are incorporated into new development proposals. A number of methods will be employed:

- The Waste Minimisation SPD is a key proactive mechanism for implementation. All local planning authorities are required to make planning decisions in accordance with the SPD.
- The Waste Disposal Authority (in conjunction with the Waste Collection Authorities) is proactively educating residents as to the benefits of recycling and home composting. This strategy is supported by the Waste Planning Authority through joint awareness raising initiatives.
- A network of local waste transfer, recycling, composting facilities will make residents aware that the waste they create does not disappear once it is

collected from their doorstep. Proximity of facilities to sources of arisings will help to reinforce this reality.

- The Sustainable Community Strategy has a key role to play in this respect and both the Disposal Authority and the Planning Authority are working with the Local Strategic Partnership (and subsequent Local Area Agreement preparation) to ensure that waste issues feature in the strategy.

127. Objective B will be delivered by:

- Supporting the activities of Gloucestershire 1st - the countywide economic partnership established to develop and support the economic well-being of the county. It brings together partners in the field of economic development to contribute to an overall strategic plan for the county. Recently established enterprises include an initiative in Stroud where there are plans to implement a wood recycling business. This is based on a social enterprise in Brighton which sells used wood back to the public.
- Regeneration is a central element of the County Council's re-shaped Environment Directorate. The Waste Planning Authority will make full use of this by working with internal partners to encourage the location of markets (manufacturing industries) for recycled materials proximate to the waste facilities that process them.
- Value from left-over waste will be obtained by converting the material into energy. The JMWMS residual waste

strategy will inform the most appropriate technologies for Gloucestershire to adopt. The Waste Disposal Authority are therefore the main means of implementing the second part of this objective.

128. Objective C is based on protecting people and other assets – health, landscape, biodiversity, environment etc. As such there are numerous potential tools for delivering this objective:

- The County's determination of planning applications is the principal mechanism for determining the appropriateness of built and operational development.
- The Waste Planning Authority will work closely with the Environment Agency to protect the environment from pollution and to avoid exacerbating flood risk issues.
- Nature conservation interests will be safeguarded through partnership working with Natural England, the Gloucestershire Wildlife Trust and the County's Ecologist.
- Partnership working with AONB Management Boards should help to ensure that nationally important landscapes are safeguarded whilst the needs of local communities for vital infrastructure are sensitively met.

129. Objective D is directly related to locational issues in terms of proximity to waste arisings. It therefore closely links with Strategic Objective B. It will be delivered by:

- Focussing the spatial strategy on proximity of waste facilities to sources of arisings.
- Delivering the draft RSS Policy W2 search criteria (see Technical Evidence Paper WCS-C 'Broad Locational Analysis') as part of the WCS's spatial strategy.
- Having regard to the Regional Freight Hierarchy and the Gloucestershire Advisory Freight Route Map (see Joint Technical Evidence Paper WCS – MCS 1 'Transport').
- Determining planning applications in accordance with this strategic objective.

130. Objective E further links to the search criteria of Strategic Objectives B & D and in doing so assists the aims of Strategic Objective C. This will be delivered by:

- Adopting a spatial policy approach in the WCS that steers waste development away from greenfield locations, unless such locations can be demonstrated as being sustainable for the circumstances in which the facility would operate.
- Making representations to local planning authorities where there may be a conflict of land-uses to proactively safeguard waste infrastructure (both existing and future).
- To encourage co-locate complementary facilities together, reflecting the concept of resource recovery parks, where the cumulative impact is not unacceptable on the host location (see Technical Evidence Paper WCS-L 'Cumulative Impact').

- Determining planning applications in accordance with this strategic objective.

Determining an Appropriate Strategy

131. In terms of providing a spatial strategy for managing waste in Gloucestershire, which is based on land-use issues, there are two distinct issues that need to be addressed:

- **Location** – where the facilities should go (see Technical Evidence Paper WCS-C 'Broad Locational Analysis').
- **Provision** – how many and what type of facility (see Technical Evidence Papers WCS-A 'Waste Data' and WCS-F 'Making Provision').

Please refer to the signposted technical evidence papers for more detail on these two issues.

Appendix A

LDF Preparation in Gloucestershire

Gloucestershire: Local Development Frameworks, District Housing Strategies, Community Strategies – Timetable as at March 2007.

District	Adopted Local Plan	LDF – Core Strategy	Housing Strategy	Community Strategy
Cheltenham Borough	1991 to 2011 (adopted June 2006)	LDS currently under review with GOSW. Core Strategy Preferred Options for consultation expected early 2008	Existing covers period 2001 – 2010 (adopted 2005)	Community Plan October 2003 – March 2007 Sustainable Community Plan 2007 - 2010 currently being drafted
Cotswold	2001-2011 (adopted April 2006)	Issues/options for consultation (Reg 25) – Sept 2007 Preferred options for consultation (Reg 26) – March 2008	2005-2008 (Adopted 2005)	Community Strategy Action Plan 2006-2007 Sustainable Community Strategy 2007-2010 (Nov 2007)
Forest of Dean	November 2005	Preferred Options due OCT 2007	2005-08	Under Review, previous version 2004-09
Gloucester City		Preferred Options May 2007 Submission October 2007	2005-2010 (Actions updated each year)	Community Strategy Currently under review. Completion Sept 2007
Stroud	Adopted 10 November 2005	Issues and Options (I/O) consultation May 2008. Preferred Option consultation January 2009	Existing covers period 2005 – 2009. To be replaced by Regional Housing Strategy.	Currently under review. To discuss joint LDF/LSP work on community involvement prior to Core Strategy I/O consultation.
Tewkesbury Borough	TBLP to 2011 adopted March 2006	Currently at evidence gathering and frontloading stage, Preferred option stage programmed for June 2008	2005-2010	2005-2008 Review Jul – Dec 07. New Sustainable Community Strategy Apr 2008
County	Minerals Local Plan 1997 – 2006. Adopted April 2003	Minerals LDF Preferred Options for consultation January 2008		Community Strategy Currently under review. Competition Sept 2007
	Waste Local Plan 2002 – 2012 Adopted Oct 2004	Waste LDF Preferred Options for consultation January 2008.		

Appendix B

Conformity with the Key Planning Objectives of PPS10

The key planning objectives of PPS10 are set out in section 4 (above)

Key Planning Objectives of PPS10 → Waste Core Strategy Options ↓	Key Planning Objective 1	Key Planning Objective 2	Key Planning Objective 3	Key Planning Objective 4	Key Planning Objective 5	Key Planning Objective 6	Key Planning Objective 7
Option 1: (Business as usual). Current vision in the adopted Waste Local Plan.	+	+	++	++	+	+	+
Option 2: The proposed vision: "A sustainable and educational waste management system for Gloucestershire that reduces waste produced from businesses and households as a priority and diverts waste from landfill."	++	++	++	++	++	++	+

Key	
++	The Aim / Objective directly promotes the SA Objective
+	The Aim / Objective indirectly promotes the SA Objective
0	The Aim / Objective has no clear link to the SA Objective
-	The Aim / Objective indirectly contradicts the SA Objective
--	The Aim / Objective directly contradicts the SA Objective
?	Uncertain

Appendix C

Sustainability Appraisal Findings for Issues & Options Visions

SA Objectives

1. To promote development that is socially, economically and environmentally sustainable.
2. To give the opportunity to everyone to live in an affordable and sustainably designed and constructed home.
3. To safeguard sites suitable for the location of waste management facilities, or future mineral development from other proposed development.
4. To protect and improve the health and well-being of people living and working in Gloucestershire as well as visitors to the county.
5. To contribute to a sustainable Gloucestershire which provides excellent opportunities for education, economic development, employment and recreation to people from all social and ethnic backgrounds.
6. To safeguard the amenity of local communities from the potential adverse impacts of minerals and waste development.
7. To conserve minerals resources from inappropriate development whilst providing for the supply of aggregates and other minerals sufficient for the needs of society.
8. To provide employment opportunities in both rural and urban areas of the county, promoting diversification in the economy.
9. To protect, conserve and enhance Gloucestershire's biodiversity, natural environment, landscape and tourist assets including the historic environment.
10. To prevent flooding, in particular preventing inappropriate development in the floodplain and to ensure that development does not compromise sustainable sources of water supply.
11. To protect and enhance Gloucestershire's environment – (the land, the air and water) from pollution and to apply the precautionary principle.
12. To reduce the adverse impacts of lorry traffic on communities, through reducing the need to travel, promoting more sustainable means of transport (including through sensitive routing and the use of sustainable alternative fuels) and to promote the management of waste in one of the nearest appropriate installations.

13. To restore mineral sites to a high standard in order to achieve the maximum environmental and nature conservation benefits.
14. To reduce waste to landfill and in dealing with all waste streams to actively promote the waste hierarchy (i.e. Prevent, Reduce, Reuse, Recycle, Dispose) to achieve the sustainable management of waste.
15. To reduce contributions to and to adapt to Climate Change.

Vision Testing (Option 1 'business as usual' WLP Vision)	
SA Objective No.	Comments
1.	Generally positive effects likely in terms of the promotion of this broad objective.
2.	Uncertain effects in terms this housing focused objective.
3.	Very positive effects in terms of the safeguarding of sites to 2012.
4.	Positive in relation to this objective.
5.	Very positive in the general sense of 'contributing to a sustainable Gloucestershire', although specific effects in terms of education, economic development, employment and recreation are not clear.
6.	Positive in relation to this objective.
7.	Positive in relation to this objective.
8.	The effects in relation to the provision of employment opportunities are uncertain.
9.	Positive effects in terms of this objective.
10.	Very positive.
11.	Very positive against this objective.
12.	Generally positive effects in terms of aiming to reduce the impacts of lorry traffic. Unclear on promoting the use of sustainable alternative fuels.
13.	Uncertain effects.
14.	The vision is generally very positive in promoting this objective.
15.	Generally positive effects.

Vision Testing (Option 2 'WCS Issues & Options' draft vision)	
SA Objective No.	Comments
1.	If the principles of the waste hierarchy are followed this should lead to social, economic and environmental sustainability in terms of the management of waste, but this will require a culture change in society focused on the reduction of waste.
2.	The specific link between the proposed vision and this objective is unclear.
3.	It is possible that in the long term there are uncertainties over the allocation and safeguarding of sites. In the future there may be less sites needed with communities increasingly taking responsibility for the waste they produce. However, in the short to medium term – sites are needed in order to provide for the needs of society for effective waste management.
4.	The vision is positive in this regard.
5.	The vision is very positive in this regard.
6.	If the principles of the waste hierarchy are followed this should lead to a reduction in the adverse impacts of minerals and waste development.
7.	If the principles of the waste hierarchy are followed this should lead to an increased use of recycled and secondary aggregates thus conserving primary resources.
8.	The employment issues are unclear in the vision. In the longer term there may be reduced employment in certain waste management facilities but there may be positive spin-offs in other areas. The 'recycling industry' may be a major growth area of the future.
9.	The vision would promote this objective.
10.	The vision would promote this objective.
11.	In the longer term, it is likely that effects will be positive particularly should efforts be aimed at the reduction of waste – the top of the waste hierarchy.
12.	The vision would promote this objective – a reduction in waste produced should reduce the need to travel. However more attention needs to be focused on the promotion of sustainable fuels in vehicles transporting waste. This is a somewhat neglected issue.
13.	Mineral sites need large volumes of inert materials for successful restoration schemes. It is unclear how the promotion of the waste hierarchy (possibly reducing levels of inert waste) will impact on minerals restoration.
14.	The vision fully accords with this objective.
15.	The vision would have a positive effect particularly in the longer term.

