

Minerals Core Strategy (MCS)

This document will set out the vision and strategic policies for determining the appropriate amount of aggregates and other minerals in Gloucestershire up to the next 20 years.

An interim vision for the MCS reads as follows: -

'To manage mineral resources in a sustainable manner so as to: meet society's need for minerals now and for the future; conserve and enhance the environment; and protect the local communities of Gloucestershire.'

Issues

To make sure there are enough minerals for society's needs the Government, through regional planning, has set figures for primary aggregates of **39.09mt of crushed rock limestone and 18.18mt of sand & gravel for Gloucestershire to find up to 2016**. The role of the County Council is to find enough sites to quarry these minerals. **What criteria should we use to identify suitable sites for quarries?**



Sand & gravel extraction

Government policy discourages the identification of future mineral resources in nationally designated areas. **How can we balance the need for minerals whilst safeguarding the landscape and other environmental assets?**

Building stone is important to preserve the appearance of historic buildings. **Quarries are needed to obtain this material. Should specific sites be identified or is a criteria based approach more appropriate?**

Greater recycling and more efficient use of materials can **help minimise the need for new minerals. What can we do to ensure that this happens?**

Forthcoming Minerals Events

We will be holding two half-day events during July 2006 to discuss the core issues in the MCS. One will be held on the **11th July** at the **Royal Agricultural College, Cirencester** in the Cotswolds. The other will be held on **18th July** at **Whitemead Forest Park, Parkend** in the Forest of Dean.

Following these events we will prepare the Issues and Options documents for consultation, similar to those that we have prepared for the Waste Core Strategy.

If you would like to participate in one of the events, please let us know ASAP by phone, post or e-mail.

Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS)

After the success of the waste forum in March 2006 we are now working on producing a draft strategy.

The JMWMS is being prepared by the Gloucestershire Waste Partnership (comprising the six District Councils and the County Council). The final JMWMS will contain the following elements:



Householder recycling box



Residual waste collection

- Overarching Strategy
- Action Plan
- Technical Analysis
- Strategy Analysis
- Consultation
- SEA

Further information on these will be available in due course on our website at:

www.goucestershire.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=76

In the first instance we will issue the overarching strategy & SEA for public consultation in Autumn 2006. It is anticipated that there will be six public meetings around the county to give people the chance to contribute to the development of the strategy. Further information on these events will be available on our website nearer the time.

It is hoped that the final strategy, together with business and action plans, will be approved by each of the District Councils and County Council in early 2007.



Metal cans for recycling

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Minerals & Waste Newsletter No.5

July 2006



This is our fifth minerals & waste newsletter. It contains a lot of information, providing you with an update on progress with:-

- **The Minerals & Waste Development Scheme;**
- **The Joint Waste Forum;**
- **The Waste Core Strategy;**
- **Sustainability Appraisal work**
- **The Waste Minimisation Supplementary Planning Document (SPD);**
- **The Minerals Core Strategy;**
- **The Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.**

For more background detail on these documents please refer to previous newsletters.

Revision to Minerals and Waste Development Scheme

The M&WDS sets out the timetable for preparing new style planning documents. We are required to submit a revised scheme every year to ensure that we have a continual 3-year rolling programme.

It is also necessary to review the key milestones for document production. These have been amended to ensure increased front-loading and engagement with the community at the formative preparation stage.

Forthcoming milestones for the Core Strategies are:

Preparation Stage	Waste Core Strategy	Minerals Core Strategy
Issues & Options consultation	July 2006	Sept 2006
Preferred Options consultation	May 2007	May 2007
Submission to Sec of State	Feb 2008	Feb 2008
Independent Examination	Sept 2008	Sept 2008
Adoption	Mar 2009	Mar 2009

Joint Waste Forum

During March 2006 a public forum was convened to discuss preparation of the Waste Core Strategy (WCS), and the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS).

In brief the JMWMS will set out **how** householder waste will be managed (composted, recycled, disposed) and the WCS will provide the framework for **where** these facilities should be located.



The Forum was advertised in local papers and Newsletter No.4 encouraged people to come along. The forum was attended by over 60 stakeholders. Discussions were held around the broad issues below:

- Stakeholder's Vision for sustainable waste management in the County;
- The objectives that should form the basis for waste management;
- What methods of managing waste should form part of the strategy; and
- What locational issues should the planning document consider?

Forum Outcomes

In terms of land-use planning the event was particularly useful in preparing our Issues and Options papers for the WCS. Some of the key themes that emerged from the Forum are set out below:

- **Waste minimisation** and **education** should be incorporated into the **Vision**, as should waste from **businesses** as well as **householders**;
- There were many issues raised about the **objectives** that should form the basis of the strategies;
- Increased **recycling** and **composting** is strongly supported;
- **Energy from waste** is seen as preferable to landfilling;
- Depending on the facility type, **decentralised, local facilities** should be considered in the strategy;
- **Transport** impacts are particularly important: sites should have good transport **access**, particularly by **sustainable modes**, and should generally be **proximate** to arisings;
- Choosing the best **locations** for waste management facilities is dependent on the size and type of facility;
- The **environmental impacts** of waste management are very important, including: **pollution control** and the potential impacts of sites on **human health**.

Waste Core Strategy (WCS)

The WCS document will provide the framework for sustainable waste management in Gloucestershire over the next 10-20 years. Following the Waste Forum it's draft **Vision** is:

"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."

Issues

The WCS papers set out a number of issues on which we would appreciate your views. Some of the key themes are introduced below:

Reducing the amount of waste generated was a key issue raised at the Waste Forum. The **waste minimisation** SPD is one way that we are seeking to promote this. **What other strategies could be adopted to reduce waste?**

We need to increase **recycling and composting**. Green waste can be composted outdoors, but kitchen waste requires special 'in-vessel' facilities. There are currently no such facilities in the County.



A strategy is needed to assess any future proposals for **hazardous waste facilities**. **What criteria would you use to assess them?**

How can I get involved?

A re-occurring theme that emerged was the need for documents to be **easier for people to read and understand**. As a result we have prepared our WCS Issues and Options papers in a new format. There will be a jargon-free **Part A** (which is the main consultation document) and a more technical **Part B** (containing detailed data and policy context).

To guide readers through the new style planning documents the Issues and Options papers will be accompanied by a **questionnaire**. This will reflect the issues raised in Parts A & B and help to focus people's responses.

Householder recycling 'bins'



We also need operations for **treating biodegradable waste** produced by households and businesses. **What criteria would you use to find locations for waste management facilities? Do you agree with the outcomes of the Forum?**

It is important that if you wish to contribute to the preparation of the new style planning documents that you do so as early in the process as possible. The sooner you can tell us what you think, the greater the likelihood that we will be able to include your ideas in the next phase of document preparation, which will be the **Preferred Options** stage.

We will publish the WCS Issues & Options papers for an extended consultation period during **July - September 2006**. Please send your ideas and thoughts to the Minerals & Waste Policy Team (the contact details are on the back of this newsletter).

Please let us know what you think about the issues, we want to hear your opinions.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

In April 2006 the SA Context & Scoping Reports were updated. They are available on the County Council's website at:

<http://www.goucestershire.gov.uk/index.cfm?articleid=11577>
They are also available at all libraries in the County and at District and County Council Offices. An SA Report is issued with both the Minerals & the Waste Issues and Options Papers. Please let us know your views on these Reports.

Waste Minimisation

We have prepared a planning document that prioritises the diversion of waste from landfill as a result of construction and demolition work. (More information is provided in Newsletter No.3).



The document also aims to get developers to allocate space in their developments for segregating householders recyclables (bottles, cans, paper etc.) and organic waste for composting. The intention being that people are more likely to recycle if there is the opportunity to do so.

In preparing the document we undertook a variety of public involvement exercises. These included an expert group workshop to steer initial preparation, a public newsletter (No.3 Sept 2005), a 3 month informal consultation (Oct – Dec 2005) and a formal 6 week consultation (May – June 2006). Thank you to all those of you who contributed.

The final document for adoption can be viewed on the GCC website under the **Planning and Development** link, and then **Minerals & Waste Policy**. It is anticipated that it will be formally adopted by the County Council during the Summer 2006, and then subsequently by District Councils.