

Aggregates Panel Members:- R N Copping (Chairman), B C Engel (Sub), F Clayton (sub), G Churchard, R Roberts, R Sanderson, H M Saunders, W Storey, B York

**Final Draft Minerals and Waste Development Scheme**

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**1. Purpose Of Report**

- 1.1 To advise the Panel of further comments from GO-East regarding the Hertfordshire Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS), and to seek endorsement of the Panel to proceed to approval by Cabinet for Submission to the Secretary of State by Monday 28 March 2005.

**2. Background**

- 2.1 The Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS) sets out the documents to be prepared by the County Council as part of the newly adopted planning policy framework for minerals and waste in the county. The MWDS also establishes the programme for preparation and review of these key development documents up until March 2008.
- 2.2 The County Council must submit the minerals and waste development scheme to the Secretary of State within six months of commencement of Part 2 of the Act (i.e. by 28 March 2005).
- 2.3 The MWDS has been prepared in consultation with GO-East, who have been consulted on the latest draft. Their comments to date have been incorporated into the final draft MWDS. Their latest comments are awaited and will be incorporated once received.

**3. Hertfordshire Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS) – Response and comments from GO-East to the second draft MWDS.**

- 3.1 Further advice on the latest draft of the MWDS has been sought from GO-East and comments are expected prior to the Panel meeting. These will be circulated once received and the proposed response will be reported at the Panel meeting.
- 3.2 Further to the last Panel meeting, the issue of timing of Issues and Preferred Options has been discussed with GO-East. Initially it was proposed that a Council meeting be scheduled for September 2005 to approve this document. Following these discussions it has been concluded that this might be optimistic. The timetable has therefore been adjusted to seek Council approval for Issues and Preferred Options and Proposed Site Allocations in November 2005. The timetable has been adjusted thereafter

to plan for a three-year period to adoption of the final documents and, on the advice of GO-East, this is flagged up in the risk section of the MWDS.

#### **4 Next Steps**

- 4.1 Once finalised, the MWDS needs Cabinet approval in order to be submitted to the secretary of state by 28<sup>th</sup> March 2005 (6 months after the Act came into force) It is intended that the MWDS be considered by Cabinet on 21 February 2005.
- 4.2 The MWDS will not be subject to independent examination and it will not be published for the public to make formal comment. Subject to the Secretary of State not intervening or requesting more time, the MWDS will be brought into effect 4 weeks after its submission.
- 4.3 Prior to finalising the draft MWDS, approval will be sought to place the draft scheme on the County Councils web site.

#### **5 Conclusions/Recommendations**

- 5.1 The Panel is asked to accept the comments of Go-East, and subsequent changes to be made to the MWDS, with any further comments from the Panel to be incorporated in the final draft for Cabinet approval, to be circulated by Thursday 3 February 2005.

***Appendix 1 – Minerals and Waste Development Scheme, Final Draft January 2005***