

## **MINUTES of a meeting of the WASTE PLANNING PANEL on Monday 27 September 2004**

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### **ATTENDANCE**

Members of the Panel:	S Batson, A Dodd (subbing for S Mills), M Green D Peek, S Pile (Chairman), D Scudder (Sub).
Additional Member:	D Clayton
Officers:	Sue Davidson, Tanya Burdett, Julie Reeve
Members of the Public:	Mr Malone – resident
Administrator:	Joyce Brooks

### **MINUTES**

1. **Apologies** were received from S. Mills.
2. **Minutes** of the meeting held on 23 July were agreed as a true record with the following minor amendments:
  - Cllr Newton's apologies to be added
  - Correction to spelling of Cllr Dodd
3. **Matters Arising** – 25 responses had been received to the Waste Industry Survey.
4. **Waste Development Plan – Issues and Options Paper (Final Version)**

This report asked the Panel to consider the Waste Development Plan Issues and Options Paper, Technical Appendices and Questionnaire prior to public consultation.

The Panel was advised that the final draft of the Issues and Options paper had been signed off by Cabinet on 13 September. The Technical Appendices which had been circulated to the Panel prior to the meeting had since been updated and this was tabled at the meeting. A table of existing sites with landfill capacity at Appendix B will be updated from the 2002 version and included in the Technical Appendices. Two maps at the back of the Issues and Options paper – Land Use and Transport Networks and Natural Features - highlighted the constraints affecting waste issues.

The Questionnaire will be sent out to a wide variety of consultees including Government Offices, Districts, Statutory Undertakers,

Libraries, Parish Councils, community groups and will be available on the website.

The Panel suggested the following :

- that an additional box should be provided in the Questionnaire at part "C" at each point where there is the opportunity for the consultee to suggest alternative options;
- publicise the end use of the recycled materials;
- publicise any financial gains to try to encourage more public awareness and participation so they can see what they are getting out of it;
- possible input into the Waste Aware Scheme;
- encourage Districts to help more where there are large amounts of waste to be collected.

The Panel accepted the Technical Appraisal and Questionnaire and asked for any further comments to be sent to officers by Friday morning, 1 October, at the latest.

#### **5. Update on New Planning System and Community Engagement Programme**

Tanya Burdett advised the Panel that this report set out the background of changes to the new planning system which comes into effect on 28 September 2004. It listed the Regulations and guidance put in place and the steps involved in producing the required documents.

Appendix 1 set out the Issues and Options Community Engagement Programme and Appendix 2 listed the Stakeholders in PPS12 and other parties to be consulted.

The aim of the Statement of Community Involvement is to work directly with the community throughout the process and to actually involve them so that their comments are fed into the Plan and will influence the decision making.

The Panel suggested that some face-to-face interviews with editors take place to produce press releases as well as advertisements and asked for costings to be provided for the Panel. Also to possibly involve secondary schools via focus groups and roadshows in some town centres next year. The Panel accepted the report.

#### **6. A.O.B.**

Sue Davidson reported that the Regional Spatial Strategy will include certain policies in relation to waste and will be signed off by the Regional Planning Panel in October. The policies will set out the main principles on recovery targets, regional imported waste, hazardous

waste and the intention to develop a Waste Strategy for London signposting some more detailed policies and any potential conflict in the Bedfordshire area, which is one of the major landfill areas.

Sue Davidson also advised the Panel that the Planning Officers' Society with support from the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister are running a pilot project with Districts, Boroughs and a County Council to try and develop good practice in preparing local development frameworks and to try to identify issues that need to be addressed. Hertfordshire has been chosen as the County to participate in this pilot scheme and will help take forward the whole Development Plan process and help influence the process.

#### **7. Date of Next Meeting**

It was agreed that the next meeting would be a joint meeting of the Waste Planning and Aggregates Panel to consider the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme. The suggested dates were

22 October at 2.00 p.m. OR  
26 October at 10.00 a.m.

Joyce Brooks to canvas the Aggregates Panel to see which date is preferred.