

Director of Community Services
Department of Community Services
County Hall
Glenfield
Leicester
LE3 8TE

Southfield Road, Loughborough, Leicestershire. LE11 2TN

Ask for: Richard Brown Planning Officer

Direct Line: 01509 634646

Email: richard.brown@charnwood.gov.uk

My ref:RB/LP/LCC/6

Your ref:

Dear Sir/Madam,

Representation from Charnwood Borough Council in response to the Leicestershire Minerals Development Framework and Leicestershire and Leicester Waste Development Framework (Preferred Options) Revised Spatial Strategy

The Borough Council thanks Leicestershire County Council for the opportunity to comment on Leicestershire and Leicester Minerals and Waste Development Frameworks. The Borough Council considered the documents at its Cabinet meeting 22nd November; and resolved that the following representations be made (min refers).

In responding to Waste Development Framework Preferred Options in 2006, Charnwood Borough Council raised concerns about the way potentially contentious waste management facilities may be considered at planning application stage. The Borough Council considered that for more contentious waste facilities, such as energy recovery/ disposal, at the lower end of the waste hierarchy, alternatives should be set out in the Framework itself.

Concern remains about the transparency with which potentially contentious facilities are put forward for public engagement.

The Preferred Options document could be clearer about the relationship between the Waste Development Framework the Leicestershire Municipal Waste and Management Strategy and the procurement process for dealing with municipal waste in Leicestershire. Transparency could be significantly improved by reference to and explanation of the evaluation process which is out in Appendix 2 of report on procurement of long term waste management facilities. (Report of Director Highways, Transportation and Waste Management, Leicestershire County Council Cabinet 24th July 2007)

It is recognised that there are significant public sensitivities about some forms of waste management, but it is considered that all technologies should be explained in the Waste Spatial Strategy for a more open, informed public debate.

The identification of broad locations for strategic waste management facilities in the Preferred Options around Loughborough, Shepshed, Coalville and Leicester is noted. The Borough Council remains of the view that the area around Loughborough and Shepshed does not represent a suitable location for strategic waste management sites incorporating energy from waste facilities due to prevailing winds and potentially close proximity to the large centres of population at Shepshed and Loughborough. The Borough Council would also question the inclusion of land north of Hamilton within Charnwood in the broad area of search for strategic waste management facilities. This area does not represent a suitable location for strategic waste management facilities due to the lack of transport infrastructure.

The Borough Council questions how the timescales for the preparation of the Waste Development Framework supports the delivery of Leicestershire Municipal Waste Management Strategy, and whether an adequate planning framework will be in place to guide the development of waste facilities.

With regard to the Minerals Development Framework, there should be reference to joint working between districts and the County Council with reference to proposals for a Charnwood Forest Regional Park. The

Preferred Option should address any implications the spatial strategy for minerals extraction could have in relation to the Regional Plan proposals to develop Charnwood Forest as a Regional Park

A copy of the relevant minutes and Cabinet report are attached for your information.

Yours Faithfully

Richard Brown

Principal Planning Officer

Encs: Minutes

Cabinet Report