

Appendices

Appendix A - Planning Context

National Planning Policy

Planning Policy Guidance notes (PPG) set out the Government's policies on different aspects of planning. Planning authorities must take the local context into account in preparing their development plans and their guidance may also be material in the determination of planning applications. Planning guidance on national waste management policy is set out in PPG 10 Waste Disposal and Management, released in September 1999. It replaces sections of PPG23 Planning and Pollution Control that deal specifically with waste management issues. PPG 10 promotes the four following principles as the basis for future management planning:

- Best Practicable Environmental Option (BPEO)
- Regional Self-Sufficiency
- Proximity Principle
- Waste Hierarchy

The Government takes the view that it is appropriate to consider the provision of waste management facilities on a regional basis rather than provision for the area covered by a Waste Planning Authority (WPA) in isolation. It also acknowledged that waste management solutions, in accordance with BPEO principles, may sometimes need to cross WPA or regional boundaries. PPG 10 advocates that each region is to provide for facilities with sufficient capacity for at least 10 years.

To facilitate discussion, it was proposed that Regional Technical Advisory Bodies (RTAB's) be established. These are to be responsible for assembling data and providing advice on options and strategies for each region. The Advisory Body will comprise officers from the WDA, Environment Agency, representatives from industry and other relevant organisations. Their output is to be used to construct Regional Planning Guidance Notes issued by the Secretary of State for the Environment.

Waste Local Plans

PPG 10 provides guidance on the preparation and content of development plans for waste (Waste Local Plan). These are intended to provide a clear guide to waste operators and to the public on how WPAs propose to deal with the waste that will need to be managed in their areas. WPAs must make provision for all wastes generated within their area, not just those wastes for which the County has a statutory responsibility to dispose of (i.e. municipal wastes). In developing waste planning policies the waste hierarchy and the principles of proximity, regional self-sufficiency and the BPEO must guide WPAs. Some Waste Local Plans identify strategic sites considered suitable for different waste management activities, other Plans do not.

Leicestershire Waste Local Plan

The Leicestershire Waste Local Plan (WLP) was produced in 1996 and went to public enquiry in November 1999. The Inspector's report was received in October 2000 and overall supports the Plan, as recommended for modification, and considers that it provides a clear guide on the land use policies of the WPA for managing waste.

The Inspector supports the proposals of the WPA for additional landfill capacity at the New Albion and Newhurst Quarry (Shepshed) sites. Both sites proposed are for non-hazardous waste. Hanson has submitted an outline planning application for an integrated facility at the Newhurst Quarry (Shepshed) site but the outcome of the application is still to be determined. The site has a potential capacity of 6 million m³ after further mineral extraction. The New Albion site (to be operated by Onyx) has been granted Planning Permission for a putrescible waste landfill. The site is estimated to have a 13 year life and will be available to receive waste from 2001. No other waste treatment facilities were identified in the Plan.