

**Report to: Environment, Highways and Waste Policy Overview and Scrutiny Committee (POSC)**

**By: Paul Crick : Director of Environment and Planning**

**Date: 8<sup>th</sup> April 2011**

**Subject: The Minerals and Waste Development Framework : (1) Core Strategy, 'Strategy and Policy Directions' Consultation; (2) Mineral Sites Development Plan Document (DPD)'Options' Consultation and (3) Waste Sites DPD 'Options' Consultation**

---

## **Summary**

**To report on progress regarding the Minerals and Waste Development Framework, and to seek the views of the POSC on the Core Strategy Consultation Document (at Strategy and Policy Directions Stage) and to note the contents of the Mineral Sites 'Options' DPD and the Waste Sites 'Options' DPD.**

---

## **1 Background**

1.1 The Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MWDF) is both a long term strategy and a land use plan, which will contain planning policies and proposals for all economic minerals in Kent and all waste streams for the next 20 years. Its preparation is separate from KCC's role as Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) for household (municipal) waste. It is also distinct from KCC's role as Planning Authority in determining minerals and waste planning applications.

1.2 The MWDF will become part of the statutory development plan, alongside the District Council *Local Development Frameworks*. Once the MWDF DPDs have been through an independent examination process, they will need to be adopted by the Council. After adoption, all future minerals and waste applications will be assessed against their policies and allocations.

1.3 Members of the EHW POSC will recall that a MWDF project progress report was given at the meeting on the 22<sup>nd</sup> September 2010. It was then resolved to (a) note the progress with the MWDF and (b) Members were requested to submit their views on the Core Strategy 'Issues' consultation which was published in September 2010.

1.4 The purpose of this report is to inform the EHW POSC of progress with the MWDF, and to seek the Committee's views on the draft documents being prepared for the second round of consultations.

## **2 The MWDF process**

2.1 KCC is required to first produce and adopt a *Core Strategy*, which contains the planning strategy and broad policy framework. The first stage in the plan making process, the Core Strategy at 'Issues' stage, was consulted upon in Sept-November

2010. It received over 1000 comments from 85 individuals and organisations. The vast majority of the comments were positive and many were very supportive. Those comments have been reviewed and where possible, have been used to inform the next stage of the plan making process.

The immediate step is to seek the views of this Committee on the draft consultation document for the *Core Strategy at 'Strategy and Policy Directions'* which is to be released for consultation in May 2011.

2.2 The consultation will ask for views on the preferred options for various issues in relation to the strategic planning needs for minerals and waste in Kent. It will also ask for comments on the suite of emerging draft policies being included within the Core Strategy.

2.3 The programme for the *Core Strategy* is set out below:

<b>Future Programme for the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy</b>	<b>Dates</b>
The <i>Strategy and Policy Directions</i> edition will be published for consultation.	May 2011 for 8 weeks
The consultation response will be considered and a " <i>Pre-Submission</i> " Core Strategy (a full draft of the plan) prepared for consideration by the Informal Members Group (IMG), EH&W POSC and Council. The Pre-Submission Core Strategy will be published for consultation.	Nov./ Dec. 2011
Subject to the consultation response, KCC will then submit the <i>Minerals and Waste Core Strategy</i> to Government.	February 2012
An <i>Examination in Public</i> into the submitted Core Strategy will take place before an appointed Planning Inspector	June 2012
Receipt of the Inspector's Report	Oct. 2012
KCC must take account of the Inspector's Report and formally Adopt the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy	Dec. 2012

2.4 Running in parallel with the Core Strategy, but one stage behind, KCC must produce the *Minerals Sites Development Plan Document* and the *Waste Sites Development Plan Document*, which will detail the land to be developed for minerals and waste. These are programmed for adoption one year after the Core Strategy.

### **3 The Core Strategy - Strategy and Policy Directions Consultation and Mineral Sites DPD and Waste Sites DPD at 'Options' Stage.**

3.1 The draft *Core Strategy at 'Strategy and Policy Directions' Stage Consultation* document was considered in detail by the Informal Members Group (IMG) at their meeting of 28<sup>th</sup> March 2011. Members considered the various options that are being considered as well as the 'Preferred Options' being identified and the draft suite of planning policies. The preferred options are becoming evident from consideration of the evidence base, the Sustainability Appraisals and consultees responses to the 'Issues' document.

3.2 The Mineral Sites DPD and the Waste Sites DPD at '*Issues*' stage will also be consulted upon in May 2011 for 8 weeks. These DPDs include details of all proposals submitted to the MWDF team in response to the 2010 'Call for Sites'. At this early consultation stage there are no decisions given regarding whether the sites

will be acceptable or not. These decisions will be made after the site appraisal process. The responses to the 'Issues' consultation will help to inform the decisions regarding site allocations.

3.2 Printed copies of the three draft development plan documents, the *Core Strategy at Strategy and Policy Directions Stage*, the *Mineral Sites DPD at Options Stage* and *Waste Sites DPD at Options Stage Consultation* will be made available to members of this Committee for their consideration. A number of technical Topic Reports on minerals and waste have also been prepared to inform the MWDF plan making process.

#### **4 The consultation process**

4.1 The process for the *Core Strategy* consultations will comply with the statutory requirements of the Planning Acts and regulations, and with KCC's duty to inform, consult and involve under the Local Government and Public Involvement in Health Act 2007.

4.2 Under of the 2004 Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act, KCC must prepare a *Statement of Community Involvement* (SCI) for all its planning functions, setting out how individuals, groups and organisations will be involved in the planning process. The revised SCI was adopted in January 2011. It will commit KCC to make information accessible to everyone, to consult at formative stages, and to respond to the views expressed.

4.3 The *Core Strategy Consultation* at Strategy and Policy Directions Stage as well as the two '*Sites*' *DPDs at 'Options'* stage can begin soon after the agreement of POSC is given, and will last for 8 weeks. Copies of the consultation document and supporting evidence will be sent to all statutory consultees and other interested organisations. Meetings will take place with the industry, district councils and environment groups, and with the Kent Association of Local Councils. All documents will be published on the KCC web site, and on a "consultation portal" through which responses can be made electronically by consultees and the public. The use of the portal will be encouraged.

#### **Recommendation**

Members are asked to note the progress with the Minerals and Waste Development Framework and to give their views on the *Core Strategy Strategy and Policy Directions DPD*, the *Mineral Sites DPD at 'Options' stage* and the *Waste Sites DPD at 'Options' stage*, to be published in May 2011.

#### **Background Documents:**

---

The Minerals and Waste Core Strategy at Strategy and Policy Directions Stage

The Waste Sites Development Plan Document at 'Options' Stage

The Mineral Sites Development Plan Document at 'Options' Stage

Minerals and Waste Development Framework Statement of Community Involvement

---

Accountable Officer:

Lillian Harrison  
Minerals and Waste LDF Manager (01622) 221602  
[lillian.harrison@kent.gov.uk](mailto:lillian.harrison@kent.gov.uk)

Integrated Strategy and Planning  
Kent County Council  
March 2011