Planning for Waste in West Sussex

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Waste Planning

- County Council is the Waste Planning Authority:
  - ensure sufficient provision is made for management of all waste in West Sussex

- Main tasks:
  - preparation of statutory Minerals and Waste Development Framework (MWDF)
  - determining planning applications for waste management
  - ensuring compliance with planning permissions
  - investigating unauthorised waste development (and taking appropriate action)
“Planning is often a complex and bewildering world. [The Government does] not underestimate the challenges of ensuring effective waste planning [which] is integral to delivering sustainable communities.”

Baroness Andrews
Minerals and Waste Core Strategy

- Key document in MWDF
- Will cover the period to 2026
- Will include:
  - strategic objectives
  - strategy for waste planning
  - generic and use-specific policies
  - allocation of ‘strategic sites’ for waste management
  - monitoring and implementation framework
- Must be consistent with national policy
- Must conform generally with South East Plan
Strategic Objectives for Waste?

- Enable delivery of municipal waste strategy
- Enable progressive movement of commercial and industrial waste away from landfill
- Enable net self-sufficiency for West Sussex
- Protect existing sites
- Enable provision of new sites/capacity:
  - including landfill to meet identified need
Is this the future ... ?
Or is it this ... ?
Waste Arisings – 2008/9

- municipal solid waste 17% 435,000t
- commercial & industrial 29% 735,000t
- construction & demolition 53% 1,340,000t
C&I Recycling

- Current rate of C&I recycling – 34%
- Targets for C&I recycling in South East Plan:
  - 55% by 2015
  - 60% by 2020
  - 65% by 2025
- Current recycling capacity is 250,000tpa
- Recycling capacity required to meet targets:
  - 420,000tpa in 2015
  - 475,000tpa in 2020
  - 530,000tpa in 2025
- Recycling rate of only 50% in 2025 more likely
C&I Landfilling and Treatment

- Current rate of C&I landfilling – 50%
- Targets for diversion from landfill in South East Plan:
  - 75% by 2015
  - 81% by 2020
  - 84% by 2025
- Current treatment capacity is 40,000tpa + transfer
- Treatment capacity required to meet diversion targets, assuming SEP recycling targets are met:
  - 150,000tpa in 2015
  - 165,000tpa in 2020
  - 155,000tpa in 2025
- Capacity shortfall of 220,000tpa in 2025 more likely
Key Issues?

- Commercial and Industrial Waste:
  - legislative change? carrots and/or sticks?
  - economic climate? future investment?
- Construction and Demolition Waste:
  - temporary permissions
  - unneighbourly uses
- Landfill:
  - continued need in short and medium-term
  - assumptions about waste growth; waste arisings; increased capacity from new sites
  - London waste?
- South Downs National Park
May be the future is more like this ...
... and this ...
What do we need?

- Improved data e.g. waste arisings, movement
- Greater certainty about future direction:
  - West Sussex Commercial & Industrial Waste Strategy
  - National policy and legislative change
- More positive and proactive approach:
  - ‘partnership’ with waste industry
  - Better joint working Partnership with Districts and Borough Council – shared agenda
  - Less ‘conservative’ about using greenfields for built facilities
- Demonstrate availability and deliverability
West Sussex – the strategic context
Tailored Solution for West Sussex

- Key issues:
  - close to where waste is generated (three sub-regions plus rural)
  - access to strategic and local lorry routes
  - avoid, where possible, main constraints e.g. AONB

- Build in contingencies:
  - phasing landfill provision?

- Need to make difficult decisions:
  - moving away from landfill will not happen without new facilities for recycling and treatment
Spatial Options

- **Options for recycling:**
  - a single large capacity facility e.g. 300ktpa
  - a medium-sized facility e.g. 100ktpa in each sub-region
  - more than one smaller facilities e.g. 50ktpa in each sub-region

- **Options for treatment:**
  - a single large capacity facility e.g. 200ktpa
  - a medium-sized facility e.g. 80ktpa in each sub-region
  - more than one smaller facilities e.g. 40/50ktpa in each sub-region sites in each sub-region

- **Options for open-air composting, in-vessel composting, and inert recycling (e.g. C&D waste)
The future is unwritten ...