

**STOCKTON-ON-TEES BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**CABINET RECOMMENDATIONS**

**PROFORMA**

Cabinet Meeting .....4th December 2008

1. Title of Item/Report

Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents Preferred Options -  
Summary of Comments

2. Record of the Decision

Members were reminded that, in 2006, the Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit (JSU) had appointed consultants, Entec UK Ltd, to prepare two Joint Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents on behalf of Stockton on Tees Borough Council and the other four Boroughs in the Tees Valley. The two DPDs were the Core Strategy and a Policies and Sites document. The Core Strategy set out a long-term strategic vision and overarching policies for minerals and waste developments. The policies and sites document would identify specific minerals and waste sites in the area.

The documents were published for consultation at the Issues and Options stage of production in May 2007. This version of the DPDs, the Preferred Options, identified which of those options consulted on in May 2007 was the preferred choice. The consultation on the preferred options lasted for 6 weeks commencing on the 21st February 2008 and closing on the 2nd April 2008.

The purpose of this report is to summarise the main areas of concern raised by respondents to the consultation. Due to the size of the schedule of comments issues raised were not reproduced in full, however, members were supplied with a summary schedule of the actual comments received which, either related to issues concerning Stockton on Tees or were of a more general nature but were made by residents, businesses or organisations based within the Borough.

The main issues raised in the consultation can be summarised as follows:

- Issues with the tests of soundness that each DPD must be in accordance with;
- The proximity of minerals and waste developments to sites of nature conservation importance and the effect of proposals on habitats in these areas;
- The owner of the former anhydrite mines has identified the site as

a potential location for the disposal of hazardous waste. It should be noted that the Council is not supporting the use of the mines for any purpose within the documents;

- Scott Bros / Impetus Waste Management's response sought inclusion of two sites within the documents. One of these sites at New Road, Billingham has planning consent, the other site, known as "Billingham Bottoms", does not have planning consent and is located within an area of green wedge.
- Scott Bros are of the opinion that the strategy is complacent and that there is a lack of ambition and support to encourage and request the need for new state of the art waste management facilities and clusters. This is an opinion contrary to Stockton Viewpoint, who considers that minimising the risk to the environment should take precedence over managing waste as close to its source as possible. They are also concerned regarding importing waste from other areas for processing and the resulting image of the area.
- All other comments received can be categorised as references to typing errors, fact checks, adding additional information to the text and improving the terminology used in the document.

RESOLVED that

1. the contents of the report be noted.
2. the proposed responses to the representations received be endorsed.

3. Reasons for the Decision

Members are asked to note the contents of the report so that they are aware of the comments that have been made regarding these documents. Member endorsement, regarding the response to these comments, has been sought, in order for the study group to prepare the next version of these documents in an effective manner.

4. Alternative Options Considered and Rejected

None

5. Declared (Cabinet Member) Conflicts of Interest

Councillor Coleman declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of this item as he Member of Teesmouth Bird Club and RSPB

Councillor Cunningham declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of this item as due to his public position and statement opposing dumping waste in the anhydrite mines. Councillor Mrs Womphrey declared a personal non prejudicial interest in respect of this item due to her public position and statement opposing dumping waste in the anhydrite mines.

6. Details of any Dispensations

Not Applicable

7. Date and Time by which Call In must be executed

Not later than Midnight on Friday, 12th December 2008

Proper Officer  
08 September 2008