

AGENDA NO.

**REPORT TO PLANNING
COMMITTEE**

DATE: 4 April 2007

**CORPORATE DIRECTOR OF
DEVELOPMENT AND
NEIGHBOURHOOD SERVICES**

**LOCAL DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK: TEES VALLEY JOINT MINERALS AND
WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS - KEY ISSUES AND
ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS DOCUMENT**

SUMMARY

1. This report updates members on progress on the production of the Joint Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and seeks endorsement of the Issues and Options Report and Sustainability Scoping Report for public consultation. Both reports are attached for information purposes.

RECOMMENDATION

2. Members are recommended to:
 - i) Endorse the Production of Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents for the Tees Valley Issues and Options Report and the Sustainability Appraisal of Waste and Minerals Development Plan Scoping Report for public consultation.

BACKGROUND

3. Members will recall that the Tees Valley Joint Strategy Unit is preparing Joint Minerals and Waste Development Plan Document on behalf of the Tees Valley Local Planning authorities. In setting up the arrangements for this joint working, it was agreed that each authority would separately approve any draft consultation documents.
4. The Minerals and Waste DPDs will eventually replace the minerals and waste policies in the adopted Tees Valley Structure Plan. The DPDs will comprise:
 - Joint Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD that will set out the overall strategy and generic development control policies for minerals and waste.
 - Joint Minerals and waste Site Allocations DPD. This will identify specific sites for future development and will contain detailed policies for assessing planning applications.
5. The Key Issues and Alternative Options Report is a statutory requirement and it is intended to publish it for a six-week period of public consultation (21st May – 30th June).
6. The overall vision for minerals and waste planning in the Tees Valley is:

“In 2021, the Tees Valley will be a sub-region where

 - a. Minerals are used, managed and extracted in a sustainable manner, which drives minerals up the minerals hierarchy; and
 - b. Where human health and the environment is protected by reducing the amount of waste produced and by using waste as a resource, in accordance with the waste hierarchy.

Minerals and waste related development will contribute to the Tees Valley being a place where present and future generations have a high quality of life and where all members of the community have the opportunity to realise their full potential through the provision of a vibrant economy, a safe and healthy environment and dynamic educational and cultural resources.”

7. Six strategic objectives are identified;
 - To make provision for an adequate and steady supply of minerals needed by society, while aiming for reduction in the requirement for primary extraction,
 - To safeguard minerals resources from unnecessary sterilisation;
 - To drive the management of waste in all waste streams up the waste hierarchy, towards the minimisation of waste production;
 - To reduce the impacts of climate change and to protect and enhance the environment, amenity and human health;
 - To promote the use of sustainable transport;
 - To provide sufficient waste management facilities in a timely and sustainable manner, in order for all waste to be managed as near as possible to its source.

8. The following key issues and options are identified;
 - Are current mineral workings sufficient to meet supply during the period to 2021 or do further mineral working sites need to be identified or safeguarded,
 - Should the potash mine expand surface workings into East Cleveland or transport all minerals to Teesside from the existing mine-head at Boulby,
 - Should the development control policies be limited in scope and leave regulation to other agencies or be fully detailed and comprehensive,
 - Should greater weight be given to the positive or negative impacts of new development when proposals are assessed,
 - Should sustainable transport issues be addressed through the LDF/LTP process or specifically addressed in the DPDs,
 - Should new waste handling facilities in the Tees Valley be clustered together or widely dispersed,
 - Should the allocation of sites be flexible and open ended to deal with changing circumstances or focused to give more certainty but requiring regular amendment,
 - Should the allocation of sites focus on existing sites in the Tees Valley or look to provide new sites in order for all waste to be managed as near as possible to its source.

9. The report invites interested parties to submit sites for possible consideration for mineral working and waste resource handling.

THE NEXT STEPS

10. Following the consultation period, all comments received and submitted sites will be assessed and the preferred options and sites will be incorporated in the Preferred Options Report which will be published for consultation in February 2008.

RECOMMENDATION

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Corporate Director of Development and Neighbourhood Services.

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Background Papers – Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.
Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning and Waste Management
Planning Policy Statement 12: Local Development Frameworks

Financial Implications – Any financial implications of this report will be accommodated within normal budgetary provision.

Environmental Implications- The documents seek to achieve the sustainable use and production of mineral and waste.

Community Safety Implications - N/A

Human Rights Implications - The provisions of the European Convention of Human Rights 1950 has been taken into account in the preparation of this report.

Ward and Ward Councillors - N/A

