



Full Council
22 June 2015

**Report from the Strategic Director of
Regeneration and Growth**

Wards affected:
All

Waste Plan

1.0 Summary

- 1.1 This report explains that the Council has received an Inspector's report into the Examination of the joint West London Waste Plan Development Plan Document and that the Inspector finds the document sound subject to recommended changes being made. It asks Full Council agree the adoption of the Waste Plan with the changes incorporated. The changes were considered and recommended for approval by Cabinet on 1 June 2015, but it is a legal requirement that all planning documents forming part of the Development Plan are formally agreed by Full Council.

2.0 Recommendation

- 2.1 That Full Council agree the adoption of the West London Waste Plan, incorporating the recommended changes set out in the Inspector's report.

3.0 Detail

Background

- 3.1 The six London Boroughs which comprise the West London Waste Authority (Brent, Ealing, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow and Richmond upon Thames) agreed to prepare a Joint West London Waste Plan (WLWP). The Plan, when adopted, will form part of Brent's development plan. The purpose of the WLWP is to set out a planning strategy to 2026 for sustainable waste management, deliver national and regional targets for waste recycling, composting and recovery and provide sufficient waste management capacity to manage waste arising across the six west London boroughs. Planning applications for any new waste management facilities will be considered in the light of the WLWP policies, and they will also be assessed by each council against their local planning policies.
- 3.2 The Plan identifies sites in west London which are allocated for waste processing. There are no additional sites proposed within Brent. The Brent sites included in the Plan are two existing waste management sites:
- Twyford Waste Transfer Station

Examination of the West London Waste Plan

- 3.3 In February 2014, the Boroughs published the Proposed Submission Version of the WLWP to allow for representations to be made on its "soundness" and "legal compliance". The Plan and the representations received were then submitted to the Secretary of State for examination of its soundness and legality. The Boroughs wrote to the Inspector on 1 September 2014 requesting that, as part of the Examination process, and pursuant to section 20(7) (c) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act (2004) (as amended), modifications be recommended to the WLWP to ensure it satisfies the requirements in subsection (5) (a) of the Act and is sound. Between 7 October and 10 October 2014, the Inspector held hearings on aspects of the WLWP as part of the Plan's Public Examination. During the hearings the Inspector indicated that, in order for the Plan to be sound, the Boroughs should modify the Plan in a number of areas. Proposed Main Modifications to the Plan were published for representations on their "soundness" and "legal compliance" during a six week consultation period running from 7 November to 19 December 2014. The Inspector has now issued his Report to the Boroughs and subject to the inclusion of certain modifications he concludes that the Plan is legally compliant and sound.

Inspector's Report

- 3.4 As indicated above, the Inspector has found the WLWP sound subject to a number of recommended changes. This means that the Council can adopt the document with the changes incorporated. The Inspector's report including detailed recommendations is available as a background document.
- 3.5 The non-technical summary of the Inspector's report is repeated below:

This report concludes that the West London Waste Plan provides an appropriate basis for waste planning in the west London boroughs over the next 17 years providing a number of modifications are made to the Plan. The borough councils have specifically requested me to recommend any modifications necessary to enable the Plan to be adopted. All of the modifications to address this were proposed by the boroughs and I have recommended their inclusion after considering the representations from other parties on these issues.

The principal main modifications can be summarised as follows:

- *adding reference to superseded policies;*
- *recognising updated national policy (National Planning Policy for Waste);*
- *aligning the Vision and Strategic Objectives with national policy;*
- *encouraging appropriate provision for construction, demolition and excavation waste and hazardous waste;*
- *adding a policy on the provision of new waste management capacity;*
- *ensuring the effectiveness of policies on safeguarding, the location of development, high quality development, decentralised energy and sustainable site waste management;*
- *correcting details regarding allocated sites;*
- *adding site descriptions and relevant considerations; and*
- *introducing monitoring triggers.*

- 3.6 When the WLWP is adopted, it will supersede saved UDP policies W3 (New Waste Management/ Manufacturing Proposals – Environmental and Access Criteria), W4 (Waste Management / Manufacturing Areas), W5 (Safeguarding of Waste Facilities), W6 (Proposals for Waste Management Facilities outside Waste Management/Manufacturing Areas) and W11 (Waste Transfer Facilities/Waste to Landfill).
- 3.7 Full Council is asked to agree the adoption of the WLWP with the changes included, as recommended by Cabinet on 1 June 2015.

4.0 Financial Implications

- 4.1 The preparation and ultimate adoption of the WLWP will provide a more up to date statutory Plan which carries greater weight in making planning decisions, which leads to fewer appeals and reduced costs associated with this. It also provides greater certainty for developers who are more likely to bring forward sites for development in the knowledge that schemes which comply with the requirements of the Plan have a good chance of receiving planning consent.
- 4.2 The cost of preparing the WLWP has been divided equally amongst the 6 boroughs. Brent's financial contribution has been met from the Planning & Regeneration budget (formerly Planning & Development). To date the total cost of taking forward the WLWP to Brent has been approximately £144,000.

5.0 Legal Implications

- 5.1 The preparation of the Local Plan, including the WLWP, is governed by a statutory process set out in the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 and associated Government planning guidance and regulations. Once adopted the WLWP will have substantial weight in determining planning applications and will supersede part of the UDP.

6.0 Diversity Implications

- 6.1 Full statutory public consultation has been carried out in preparing the Waste Plan. An Equalities Impact Assessment has also been carried out.

7.0 Staffing/Accommodation Implications

- 7.1 There are no staffing or accommodation implications arising directly from this report.

8.0 Environmental Implications

- 8.1 The identification and use of appropriate sites will mean that the environmental impact is controlled and minimised, particularly upon residential areas, and managing waste locally rather than it being sent to landfill will help mitigate the effects of climate change. A Sustainability Appraisal has been undertaken at all stages of preparing the Waste Plan.

9.0 Background Papers

West London Waste Plan, London Boroughs of Brent, Ealing, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow and Richmond, April 2015

Report to the Council of the London Borough of Brent, Harrow, Hillingdon, Hounslow and Richmond, The Planning Inspectorate, 16 March 2015

Contact Officers

Any person wishing to inspect the above papers should contact Claire Jones, Policy & Projects, 020 8937 5301

**Andrew Donald, Strategic Director of
Regeneration & Growth**