

Central Bedfordshire
Council
Priory House
Monks Walk
Chicksands,
Shefford SG17 5TQ



please ask for Leslie Manning
direct line 0300 300 5132
date 12 February 2010

NOTICE OF MEETING

SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE

Date & Time

Tuesday, 23 February 2010 10.00 a.m.

Venue at

**Committee Room 1, Council Offices, High Street North,
Dunstable**

Richard Carr
Chief Executive

To: The Chairman and Members of the SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES OVERVIEW & SCRUTINY COMMITTEE:

Cllrs J N Young (Chairman), A R Bastable (Vice-Chairman), D J Gale,
Mrs R B Gammons, J Kane, Ms C Maudlin, Mrs M Mustoe, P Snelling and
P Williams

[Named Substitutes:

Cllrs: Mrs C F Chapman MBE, P A Duckett, M Gibson, Ms A M W Graham
and A Shadbolt]

All other Members of the Council - on request

**MEMBERS OF THE PRESS AND PUBLIC ARE WELCOME TO ATTEND THIS
MEETING**

AGENDA

1. **APOLOGIES FOR ABSENCE**

To receive apologies for absence and notification of substitute Members.

2. **MINUTES**

To approve as a correct record the minutes of the last meeting held on 26 January 2010 (copy to follow).

3. **MEMBERS' INTERESTS**

To receive from Members declarations and the nature thereof in relation to:

- (a) Personal Interests in any agenda item.
- (b) Personal and prejudicial Interests in any agenda item.
- (c) Any political whip in relation to any agenda item.

4. **CHAIRMAN'S ANNOUNCEMENTS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

To receive any announcements from the Chairman and any matters of communication.

5. **PETITIONS**

To receive petitions from members of the public in accordance with the Public Participation Procedure as set out in Annex 2 of Part A4 of the Constitution.

6. **QUESTIONS, STATEMENTS OR DEPUTATIONS**

To receive any questions, statements or deputations from members of the public in accordance with the Public Participation Procedure as set out in Annex 1 of Part A4 of the Constitution.

7. **CALL-IN**

To consider any matter referred to the Committee for a decision in relation to the call-in of a decision.

8. REQUESTED ITEMS

Members are advised that, under Procedure Rule 3.1 of Part D2 of the Constitution, the following matter has been referred to the Committee for consideration at the request of a Member:

Highways Customer Process

Procedure Rule 3.3 of Part D2 of the Constitution sets out the options which the Committee has in relation to the request.

Note: Members are reminded that this item was withdrawn from the agenda of the last meeting.

(report attached)

9. DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS

To consider any recommendations received from the Development Strategy Task Force in accordance with the requirements set out in the adopted Guidance Document.

REPORTS

Item	Subject	Page Nos.
10	Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document (DPD) for Central Bedfordshire North To recommend an amended shortlist of possible Gypsy and Traveller sites, including the pitch distribution for each of the listed sites, for inclusion within the Preferred Sites consultation document.	* 17 - 32
11	Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options Consultation To consider the Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options document and recommend what further action should be taken.	* 33 - 102
12	Quarter 3 Performance Report To receive performance information for the Sustainable Communities Directorate for the Quarter 3 period.	* 103 - 110
13	Quarter 3 Budget Management Report To receive budget management information for the Sustainable Communities Directorate for the Quarter 3 period.	* 111 - 124

14 **Work Programme 2009-2010** * 125 - 138

To consider and agree the Work Programmes for both the Committee and the Development Strategy Task Force and examine the need to establish any additional Task Forces.

15 **Date of Next Meeting** *

To note that the next meeting of the Committee will be held at 10.00 am on 25 March 2010 in the Council Chamber, Priory House, Chicksands.

Meeting: Sustainable Communities O&SC
Date: 23 February 2010
Subject: Highways customer process
Report of: Director of Sustainable Communities
Summary: This report provides a briefing on the highways contract and customer service provision.

Contact Officer: Basil Jackson, Assistant Director for Highways & Transport
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Executive/Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The Council priorities affected by this paper are:

- creating safer communities;

Financial:

Service response standards are agreed within the highways managing agent contract (i.e. 10 working days). If Members require more stringent response standards then this will incur a cost.

Legal:

The Highways Act 1980 requires highway authorities to keep public highways open and remove obstructions which may affect the use and safety of the highway. The Authority uses customer requests to aid its understanding of the condition of the highway network in order to help meet this statutory obligation.

A large managing agent contract (MAC) dictates how our highway works are delivered. However, being a £20 million pa contract, it is of strategic importance to both CBC and our provider Amey LG. As such, the parties have (where possible) preferred to move issues forward in partnership.

Risk Management:

Any significant changes to response standards could increase the amount of contact we are required to have with the public (e.g. introducing customer call backs). Such impacts would need to be properly understood and resourced prior to changes taking place.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

None

Community Safety:

Creating an attractive and accessible public realm has a part to play in getting people out and about, especially the more vulnerable members of the community who might experience isolation. Utilising customer feedback is an essential part of developing an accessible public realm.

Sustainability:

The effective maintenance of our highway network is a key part of accommodating Central Bedfordshire's growth agenda and ensuring that we are "open for business".

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. The Committee is asked to note and comment on the report.

Background

1. In the mid 1990s the former Bedfordshire County Council outsourced its highway services to separate providers responsible for consultancy services and works services respectively. In addition, many client functions across the authority including customer services were also outsourced. At the time, outsourcing to private sector partners did realise some benefits such as greater resource flexibility. However in highways, because two partner organisations were involved, it also led to a number of difficulties such as customer confusion as to who was actually delivering the service and a certain blame culture became evident between the two partners.
2. To resolve the majority of the above issues, in 2004/05 the former Bedfordshire County Council tendered and awarded a new contract to employ a single service provider. This resulted in the present contract establishing a partnership with Amey Local Government (Amey LG) that commenced on 1st October 2005 covering the delivery of all highway services. The type of contract that was adopted is known as a Managing Agent Contract (MAC). In a MAC the client (CBC) is responsible for setting budgets and service objectives; the contractor is responsible for delivery of the service. This type of contract, used on certain parts of the motorway and trunk road network, was one of the first to be used in local government and has won a number of awards.
3. The highways contract deals with all forms of road repair, from the maintenance of bridges, to highway grass cutting and salting the roads in winter. It also deals with improvement schemes from new lengths of footway to the Leighton Linlade 20mph zone.
4. CBC manages the contract through performance indicators, which are set annually by the Network Board so that Amey is incentivised to align its performance to the Council's objectives. The Network Board consists of the Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities, the Director of Sustainable Communities, the Assistant Director for Highways and Transport and one other senior highway officer from CBC, plus three senior managers from Amey, all working together to direct the contract.

5. Within CBC there is a small team of four CBC staff who oversee the highways contract, its finance and performance. All other staff engaged in works on the highway are employed by, or through Amey Local Government. This means that Amey carry out many of the services a client would usually provide in-house, such as developing the annual programme of works. This includes consultation with members, parish / town councils and the public. After consultation is complete, the Executive will approve the final programme. In this way Amey are fully responsible for what takes place on the ground and so accountability is clear.

How is the highway service presently set up to deal with customer enquiries?

6. For all customers, the first point of contact for highway issues within Central Bedfordshire Council is, and should be, the highway helpdesk; which is staffed by CBC employees. This has been set up to make it easy for people to report faults by telephone on 0300 300 8049, or by email to highways@centralbedfordshire.gov.uk. The helpdesk staff have been specifically trained in how to deal with highway enquiries. All enquiries are logged and customers are given a unique reference number. To follow the progress of their issue customers need to either call back and quote the number or check on-line by entering the number and their postcode. This system has been established as being the most cost effective way to properly manage the large volume of highway issues and requests we receive each week (approximately 500 pw) and officers continually stress the importance of using the above mechanisms when speaking to members, parishes and the general public.
7. Issues reported to the highway helpdesk are responded to within agreed timescales;
 - Potholes, surface defects, kerbing, general highway faults - 5 working days
 - Street lighting faults - 10 working days
 - All requests for new additions to the highway, e.g.: signs, lines or zebra crossings - 20 working days
8. Ward members, together with town / parish councils receive a weekly report of all highway service requests within their area along with the latest status of those requests. Officers are refining this report as there is room for improvement in how the information is presented.
9. It should be noted that choosing to use alternative mechanisms slows down our response times and makes it difficult to monitor our performance. It should also be noted that other ways of working could require additional staff resources - which would require additional funding.
10. When highway issues are received by letter they are logged and passed to Amey for reply. Amey is currently contracted to reply to correspondence within 10 working days. So for the majority of people reporting a highway maintenance issue using the highway helpdesk enables a quicker response to be given (i.e. within 5 working days).
11. To work more closely with members and local communities, Amey have established Area Teams (each comprising an Area Steward and an Area Technician) so that parish / town councils and ward members have direct contact with professionals who can react quickly to service requests. The Area Teams are allocated funding by CBC to deal with local highways issues and are tasked to liaise with elected members and parish / town councils. Contact details for the area teams have previously been sent to members and are attached in Appendix A of this paper.

12. One of the major challenges at the start of the Managing Agent Contract (MAC) was to gain the confidence of service users. We have seen significant success over the last four years as illustrated in the map shown in Appendix B that shows town and parish council satisfaction levels for 2005/06 and 2008/09 in a red, amber, green format. The 2005/6 results show perceptions for the period prior to the MAC commencing in October 2005. The latest survey shows that far more communities are satisfied with the Council's highway service and we hope to achieve further improvements in satisfaction in future years.
13. Each town / parish council has nominated a Highway Representative providing a dedicated link with the Amey area teams, who are in regular contact with each other throughout the year. Each Highway Representative has been offered training on the Council's priorities and has been issued with a manual to assist them in identifying the correct response to problems and reporting issues. In addition they are consulted annually on Parish Partnership Funded schemes and when the five-year programme is being developed. This link provides a close relationship for understanding and responding to community needs.
14. The majority of issues can be dealt with through the processes described above. It is important to use the formal mechanisms for requesting a service as our systems are set up to enable those closest to local area (i.e. area teams) deliver the necessary solutions. However, when issues need to be escalated, the following escalation process has been established:
 1. Contact your local Area Team - if that fails then;
 2. Contact your local District Manager - if that fails then;
 3. Contact the Watchman-in-Chief on 0845 3656 139 - if that fails then;
 4. Contact the Assistant Director, Highways & Transport.

Proposed Customer Contact Improvements

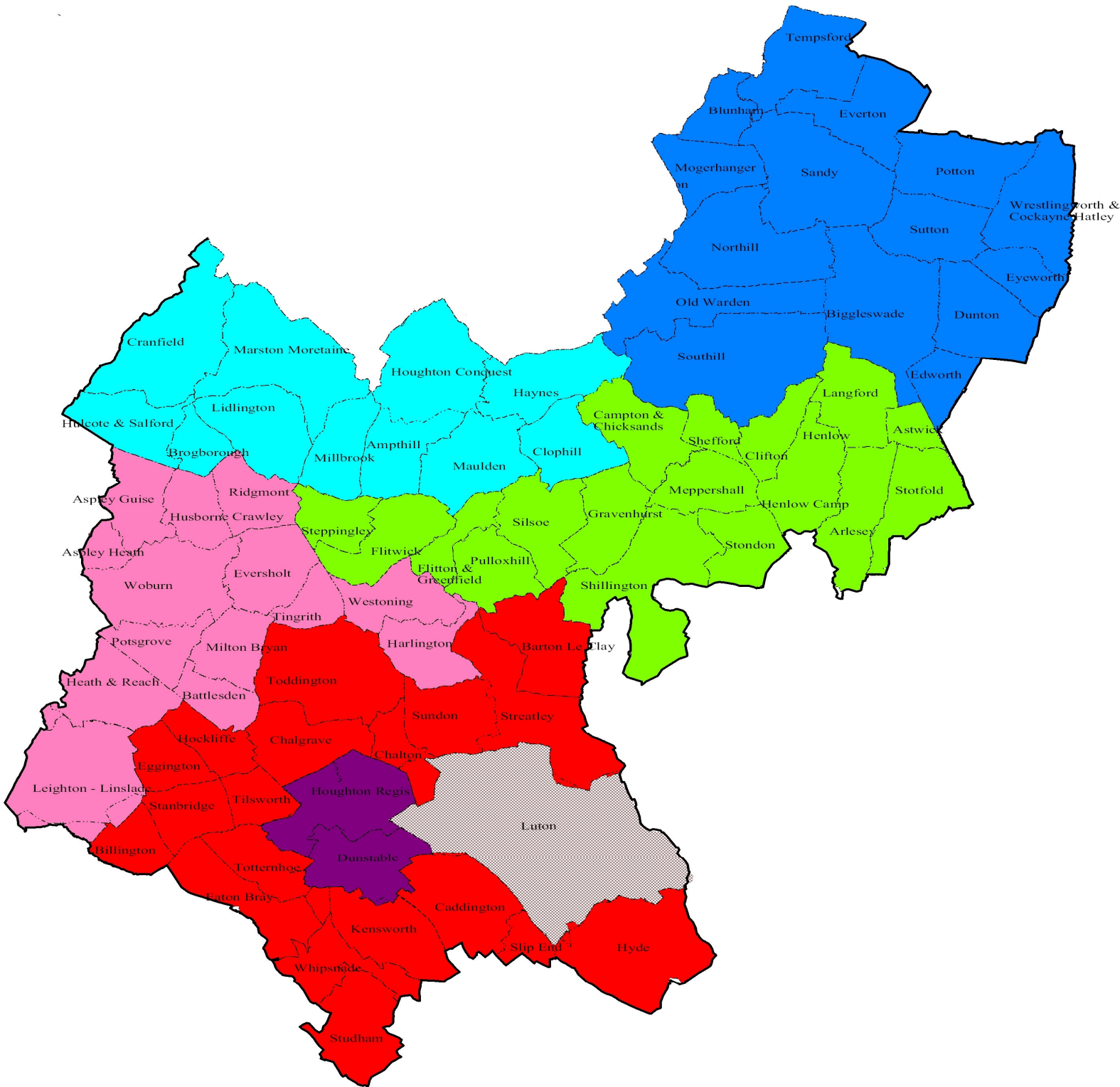
15. Officers recognise the need to:
 - Reduce the number of customer contact points
 - Encourage greater use of online customer self –service reporting
16. To achieve this the issues that have currently been identified for improvement are:
 - There has been a tendency for engineers, when responding to helpdesk enquiries, to write in jargon or abbreviations that the public struggle to decipher.
 - Introducing PIs into the customer feedback process to enable robust monitoring and auditing, and building these PIs into the contract management process.
17. In order to address the above issues, the following actions have been identified for implementation:
 - (a) Work is underway to improve the quality of information provided by the Area Teams in response to customer enquiries via the helpdesk. This includes training in Plain English and the provision of “standard responses” for engineers to pick from as appropriate.

- (b) Bedfordshire Highways undertake a monthly analysis of enquiry data to ascertain the percentage of queries that have been successfully closed down (Green), are currently under review (Amber) or have not received a response (Red). These are measured by means of a formal Partnership Performance Indicator (PPI). The format of this indicator, and its associated target, will be reviewed for 2010/11 to ensure that performance is directed to fully achieving the Council's objectives.

Appendices:

- Appendix A – Central Bedfordshire Highway Area Map
Appendix B – Bedfordshire Town and Parish Council Highway Maintenance Annual Survey Results
Appendix C – Facts and figures about CBC's highway asset

This page is intentionally left blank



CENTRAL BEDFORDSHIRE	AREA 3	DISTRICT MANAGER	Neil Hollis
		AREA STEWARD	Patrick Connolly
		AREA TECHNICIAN	John Chandler
	AREA 4	DISTRICT MANAGER	Neil Hollis
		AREA STEWARD	Jill Cross
		AREA TECHNICIANS	Emma Kynes
	AREA 5	DISTRICT MANAGER	Neil Hollis
		AREA STEWARD	Mark MacDonald
		AREA TECHNICIAN	Paul Joyce
	AREA 6	DISTRICT MANAGER	Anthony Hood
		AREA STEWARD	Alan Trille
		AREA TECHNICIANS	Geoff Parrott
	AREA 7	DISTRICT MANAGER	Anthony Hood
		AREA STEWARD	Nick Carofalo
		AREA TECHNICIAN	Kathleen Wilmshurst
	AREA 8	DISTRICT MANAGER	Anthony Hood
		AREA STEWARD	Chris Clarke
		AREA TECHNICIAN	Maureen Ridgley

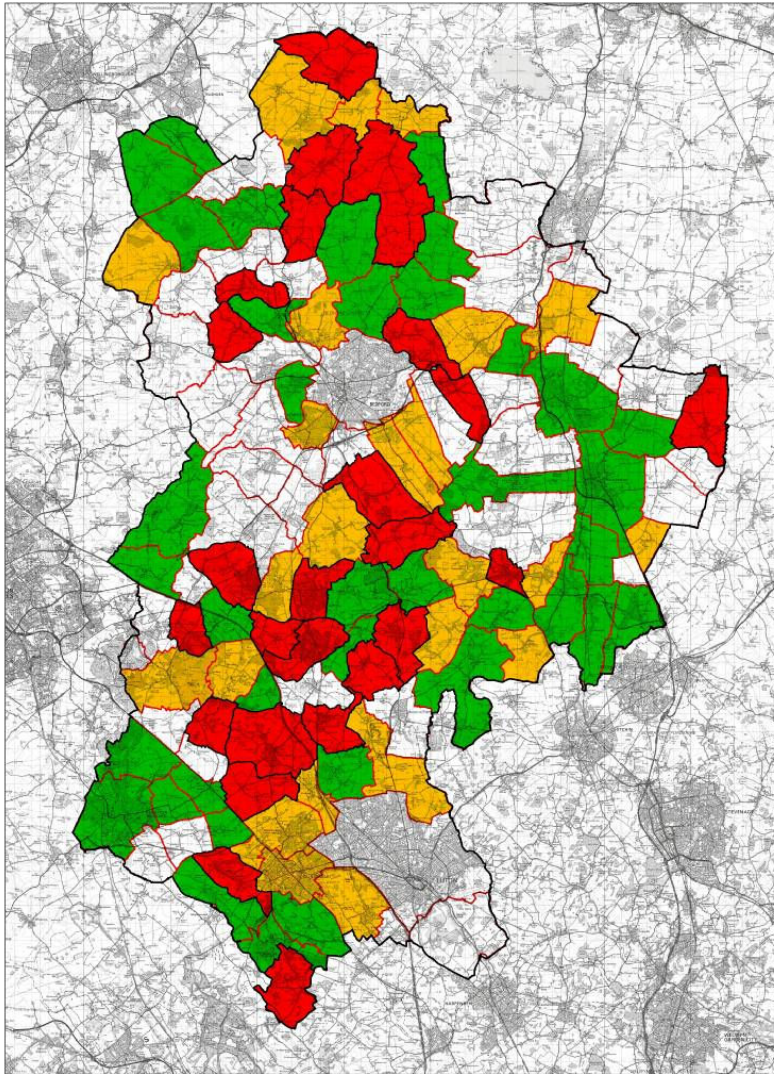
DUNSTABLE	DEPOT SUPERVISORS	Pat Dowling Joe Kelly
	DEPOT MANAGER	Ron Brodie

MID	NRSWA MANAGER	Carolyn Huckle
	NRSWA INSPECTOR	David Fuller
	SAFETY INSPECTOR	Charlotte Dunham
SOUTH	NRSWA INSPECTOR	Ken Britton
	SAFETY INSPECTORS	David Jaques Roger Croft
SENIOR NRSWA INSPECTOR		Barry Simons

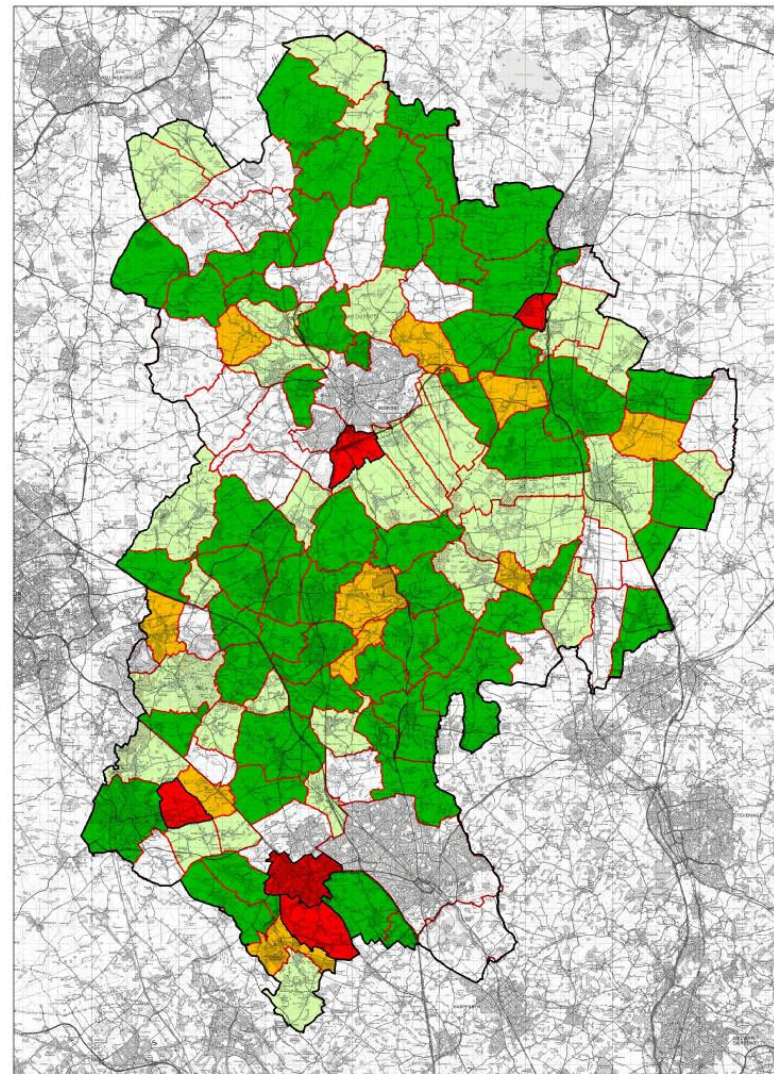
BRIDGES	Penny Turner Harrold Curson
ENVIROMENTAL MANAGER	Clive Parker
STREET LIGHTING	Andy Clark
	David Hull
	Alex Carnegie
STRUCTUAL MAINTENCE	Peter Hull
	Silv Chelaru
	Jason Hackett

This page is intentionally left blank

BEDFORDSHIRE TOWN & PARISH COUNCIL HIGHWAYS MAINTENANCE ANNUAL SURVEY RESULTS



Bedfordshire Town & Parish Council Survey 2006



Bedfordshire Town & Parish Council Survey 2009



This page is intentionally left blank

Facts and Figures about CBC's Highways Asset

A Roads	147.5km
B Roads	72.2 km
C Roads	336.6km
UC Roads	773km
TOTAL	1329.3km

Gullies	43,679
---------	--------

lighting columns	21,598
------------------	--------

Lit signs	1366
-----------	------

Bollards	578
----------	-----

Structures	360
------------	-----

This page is intentionally left blank

Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee

Date: 23 February 2010

Subject: Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document (DPD) for Central Bedfordshire North

Report of: Councillor Nicols, Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Development

Summary: The report seeks the consideration and recommendation of the Overview and Scrutiny Committee (OSC) on a variance of the Gypsy and Traveller site and pitch distribution report agreed on 4 January 2010. This follows the loss of one site option known as Land off New Road, Clifton for reasons that will be expanded upon in this report.

Contact Officer: Richard Fox, 0300 300 8000

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: The Wards in the former Mid Bedfordshire Council area

Function of: Executive

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The Local Development Framework is a fundamental part of the Council's key aim to manage growth effectively.

Financial:

The production of the Development Plan Document will require ongoing Officer input, particularly during the consultation period.

Legal:

The Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document, when adopted, will be part of the statutory development plan for the area.

Risk Management:

The adoption of the Development Plan Document will reduce the risk of the Council losing planning appeals for Gypsy and Traveller sites.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

Equalities/Human Rights:

In recent years, there has been a shift from traditional, land use planning to a broader approach, which recognises the key role of spatial planning in promoting sustainable and cohesive communities. A consideration of equality and diversity must lie at the heart of this vision.

Community Development/Safety:

The Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document is intended to reduce the incidences of unauthorised encampments which can create community development issues.

Sustainability:

The Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document when adopted will form part of the Local Development Framework. The report identifies the location of Gypsy and Traveller, Transit and Travelling Showpeople sites in accordance with the accommodation needs expressed in the East of England Plan. The Local Development Framework embraces sustainable development as its overarching aim and has and will continue to be subject to a sustainability appraisal.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

That the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee recommend that the Director of Sustainable Communities in consultation with the Portfolio Holder:

- (i) Approves an amended Gypsy and Traveller site list to include land east of A6001, Hitchin Rd and opposite Henlow Camp (RAF).**
- (ii) Approves the pitch distribution between the site options as detailed in Table 3 of the report for consultation in the Preferred Sites consultation document.**

1. Background

- 1.1 Following the Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 4 January 2010, the recommended shortlist of sites is no longer able to meet the need for 40 permanent Gypsy and Traveller pitches to 2016 due to the loss of the option at land south of Clifton and east of New Road, Clifton. The consequence of this is the need to find a site capable of accommodating the 8 pitch deficit left by the removal of the Clifton site.

- 1.2 Today Members are asked to consider and recommend an alternative site list and pitch distribution to enable the Council to fulfil its requirement to 2016 in accordance with the East of England Regional Spatial Strategy. This provision to 2016 is in accordance with the current legislative framework and methodologies for determining need.

2. The Shortlisted Sites Agreed on 4 January 2010

- 2.1 The Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee on 4 January 2010 recommended the following shortlist of sites:

Table 1: List of Sites Shortlisted by OSC on 4 January 2010

Site Name	Parish
Permanent Pitches	
Land rear of 197 Hitchin Road, Arlesey	Arlesey
1 Old Acres, Barton Road, Pulloxhill	Pulloxhill
Hermitage Lane, off Westoning Road, Greenfield	Flitton and Greenfield
Oak Tree Nursery & Magpie Farm, Upper Caldecote	Northill
Land between Common Road and Myers Road, South of Gypsy and Traveller site, Potton	Potton
Land south of Dunton Lane, Biggleswade	Biggleswade
Land south of Clifton and east of New Road, Clifton	Clifton
Transit Pitches	
Sutton Storage Compound, south of Sutton	Sutton

- 2.2 However following the OSC meeting it was brought to the Council's attention that the land at New Road Clifton was sold to a private owner in 2001 and therefore no longer in the Council's ownership. The current site owner has stated that he has no interest in promoting part of the land for the purposes of a Gypsy and Traveller site. This means that the site is no longer deliverable unless the Council is prepared to undertake a Compulsory Purchase Order, which is both time consuming and expensive.

- 2.3 Land at New Road Clifton was suggested for a minimum of 8 pitches which have now been lost from the total. As such the distribution of pitches and list of sites will have to be revised to determine how 40 pitches can be distributed across the north part of Central Bedfordshire.
- 2.4 The Estates Team are currently checking site ownership for all other shortlisted public sites. The results of this will be fed back to the committee at the meeting.

3. New Site Options and Pitch Distribution

- 3.1 In order to replace land at New Road, Clifton, the highest scoring sites have been revisited. These scores reflect the application of site criteria agreed by OSC on 1 September 2009. The top five scoring sites and the reasons for their original rejection are as follows (please note that one of the top scoring sites at Arlesey has been proposed for shortlisting and therefore does not feature in this list):

3.2 Table 2: List of Top Scoring Sites

Site Name	Score	Reasons for Rejection
Land North of Arlesey Road, Stotfold	142	This site was rejected at Task Force on 7 December 2009. The location is at the entrance site to settlement and therefore concerns were raised about the site being too exposed and having a detrimental visual impact.
Land North of Arlesey Rd, Stotfold (larger parcel)	139	This site was rejected at Task Force on 7 December 2009. The site forms part of a leisure centre development site. Concerns were raised that the site is too exposed and would have a detrimental visual impact.
Land North of West Drive, Arlesey	137	This site was dismissed during earlier considerations of the Gypsy and Traveller site options, prior to the publication of the Preferred Options consultation in Nov 2008. Concerns were raised about water logging on site and the difficult access from Arlesey High Street.

Land between the A421 and Woburn Rd junction, Marston Moretaine	133	This site was rejected at OSC on 4 January 2010. There is a possibility that this site is ecologically sensitive and further investigation would be required. The site is also adjacent to a flood plain and would require draining and raising.
Land East of A6001, Hitchin Rd and opposite Henlow Camp (RAF)	127	This was rejected at Task Force on 7 December 2009. Concerns were raised about the nearby doctors surgery being full and that the site is prone to water logging.

- 3.3 With the loss of the Clifton site, Officers have undertaken a review of those top scoring sites (Table 2) in order to find a suitable replacement. Of those, the Henlow Camp site is considered to be the least constrained in planning terms and offers the most potential in meeting the pitch deficit by accommodating at least 10 pitches. Officers consider that the reasons for its rejection at Task Force on 7 December 2009 are surmountable when compared to those constraints identified for the other high scoring sites. Namely, there is potential within the existing health care system to meet the demand and secondly, the potential issues of flooding/water logging can through mediation works be overcome. Furthermore the site is highly accessible being located on the edge of the settlement, adjacent to a school and opposite RAF Henlow. Moreover, it is within walking distance of facilities in Henlow.
- 3.4 With regards to the doctor's surgery capacity, NHS Bedfordshire have stated that the surgery in Henlow has three GPs in it, with a total of 5,000 patients. The NHS target is 1800 patients per GP so there appears to be some capacity at this surgery. The NHS stated that GPs can normally take the demand generated from up to 50 dwellings without the need for extension of the surgery. Additionally, there are two neighbouring medical centres, one at Arlesey and one at Hitchin, which residents at Henlow can use.
- 3.5 With regards to possible flood risk, the site is not located within an area of defined flood risk, although the Council have had reports that it is prone to flooding / water logging. These issues can be addressed through appropriate surface water attenuation techniques, such as the use of Sustainable Drainage Systems.

4. Pitch Redistribution

4.1 Overall the potential pitch distribution can be adjusted, as shown in Table 3 below. This shows an increased pitch delivery of 47 permanent Gypsy and Traveller pitches (and 2 transit pitches). Please refer to Appendix 1 for the site plans, showing the suggested allocation area. Suggesting high pitch numbers offers the opportunity to consult on a contingency if Members support this and depending on the results of the consultation, gives the Council the opportunity to adjust pitch numbers on certain sites.

4.2 Table 3: Pitch Distribution between Site Options

Site Name	Parish	Potential Pitch Numbers
Land rear of 197 Hitchin Road, Arlesey	Arlesey	Currently has temporary permission for 4 pitches. The site owner has expressed his support for more pitches. Authorise 4 pitches and add 6 new pitches to create a total of 10 pitches. Total = 10
1 Old Acres, Barton Road, Pulloxhill	Pulloxhill	Currently has temporary permission for 8 pitches. Authorise 8 pitches Total = 8
Hermitage Lane, off Westoning Road, Greenfield	Flitton and Greenfield	Currently 2 unauthorised, tolerated pitches. Authorise both existing pitches. Total = 2
Oak Tree Nursery & Magpie Farm, Upper Caldecote	Northill	Currently 3 pitches with permanent planning permission. The site owner has expressed his support for more pitches. Add 7 new pitches. Total = 7
Land between Common Road and Myers Road, South of Gypsy and Traveller site, Potton	Potton	Currently 14 pitches with permanent planning permission. Propose no new pitches as the site is currently overcrowded. Allocation of this extension will allow reconfiguration. Total = 0
Land south of Dunton Lane, Biggleswade	Biggleswade	Currently no development on this site. Propose 10 new pitches. Concerns has been raised about the lack of a footpath into

		Biggleswade or Dunton, but recent appeal decision where a LPA refused a planning application for a Gypsy and Traveller site between two settlements that was not served by a footpath was overturned by an Inspector. The Inspector determined that whilst both settlements lay within reasonable distance from the site and the roads lacked footpaths, the road was wide enough and quiet enough not to deter pedestrians and cyclists. However it would be preferable to provide a footpath to nearby services if this site is allocated. Total = 10
Land East of A6001, Hitchin Rd and opposite the RAF Henlow Camp	Henlow	Currently no development on this site. Propose 10 new pitches. Total = 10
Total Gypsy and Traveller Pitches		47
Sutton Storage Compound, south of Sutton	Sutton	Currently no development on this site. Propose 2 new transit pitches.
Total Transit Pitches		2

5. Conclusion and Next Steps

- 5.1 This report seeks the recommendation of the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee to the Director of Sustainable Communities in consultation with the Portfolio Holder:
- (i) Approves an amended Gypsy and Traveller site list to accommodate land east of A6001, Hitchin Rd and opposite Henlow Camp (RAF).
 - (ii) Approves the pitch distribution between the site options as detailed in Table 3 of the report for consultation in the Preferred Sites consultation document.
- 5.2 Following consideration of the revised way forward by OSC and their recommendation to the Director of Sustainable Communities in consultation with the Portfolio Holder, consultation will be undertaken on the site options from mid March until late April, early May.

5.3 The table below sets out the amended timescales for the DPD.

STAGE IN DPD PROCESS	ESTIMATED DATE
Period of consultation, following short listing of sites by Task Force and Overview and Scrutiny Committee	March – May 2010
Preparation of the Draft Submission Development Plan Document.	May - July 2010
Task Force consideration of the Draft Submission Development Plan Document.	August 2010
Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee consideration of the Draft Submission Development Plan Document.	End August 2010
Executive & Council approval of the Draft Submission Development Plan Document.	September 2010
A statutory period of six weeks of public consultation will take place offering members of the public an opportunity to comment on the Draft Submission Development Plan Document.	October – November 2010
The Council submit the Draft Submission DPD to the Secretary of State.	February 2011
The Gypsy and Traveller DPD will be subject to an Examination in Public in front of an independent Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State.	Spring 2011*
The Planning Inspector publishes the binding report making final recommendations.	Summer 2011*
Gypsy and Traveller Development Plan Document Formally Adopted	Autumn 2011*

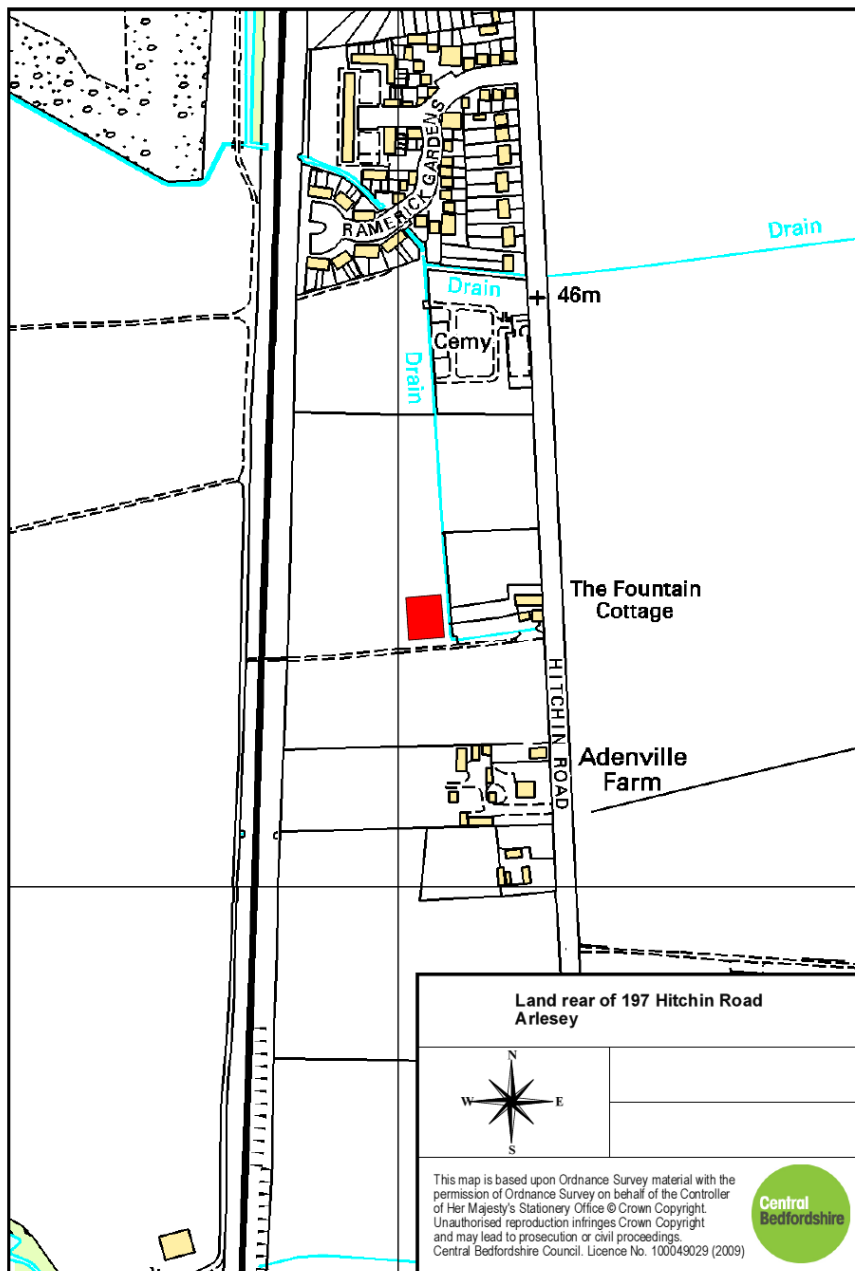
* Subject to the Planning Inspectorate's timescales.

Appendix 1 – Site Plans

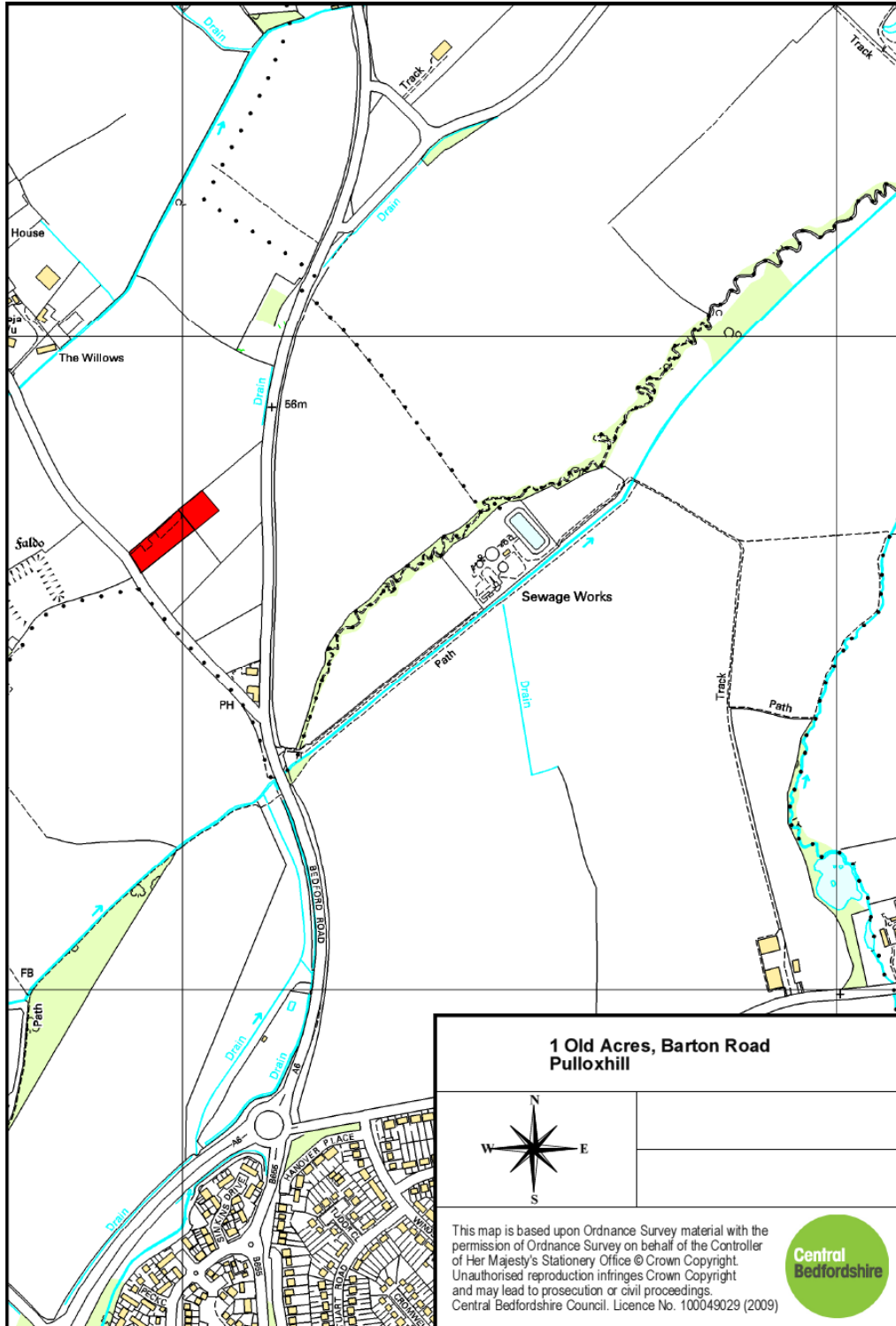
Appendix 1

Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 23 February 2010
Subject: SITE PLANS

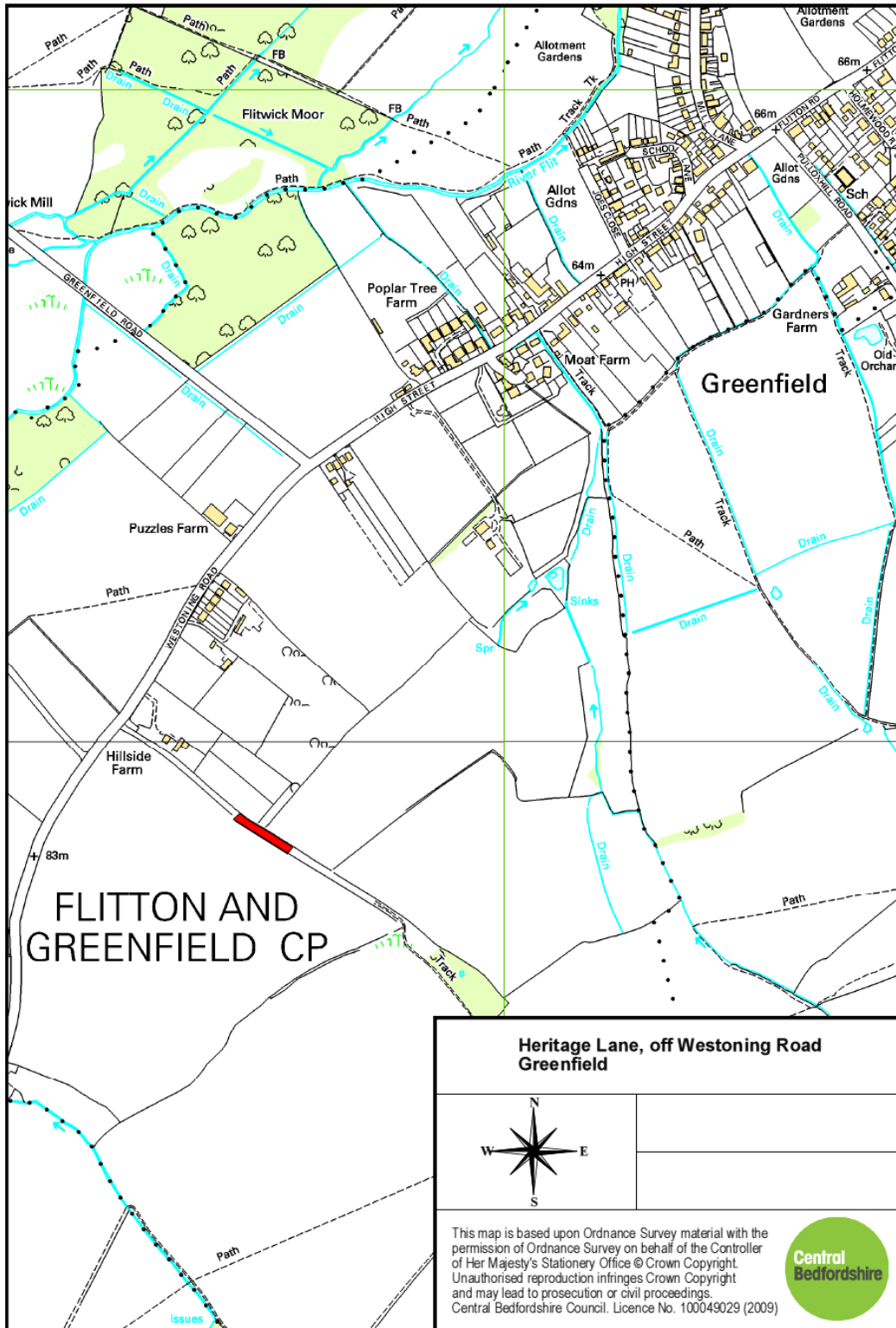
Land rear of 197 Hitchin Road, Arlesey



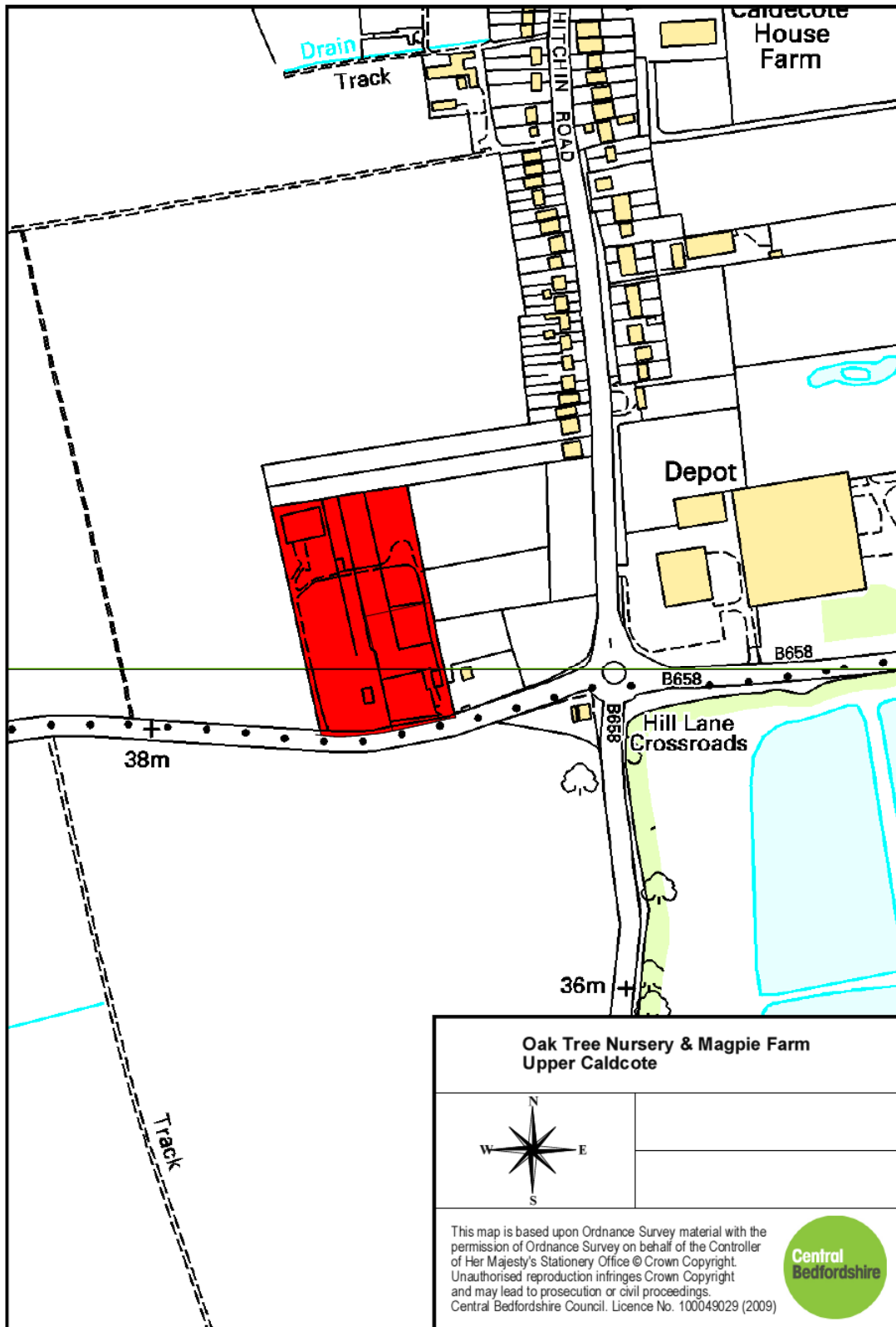
1 Old Acres, Barton Road, Pulloxhill



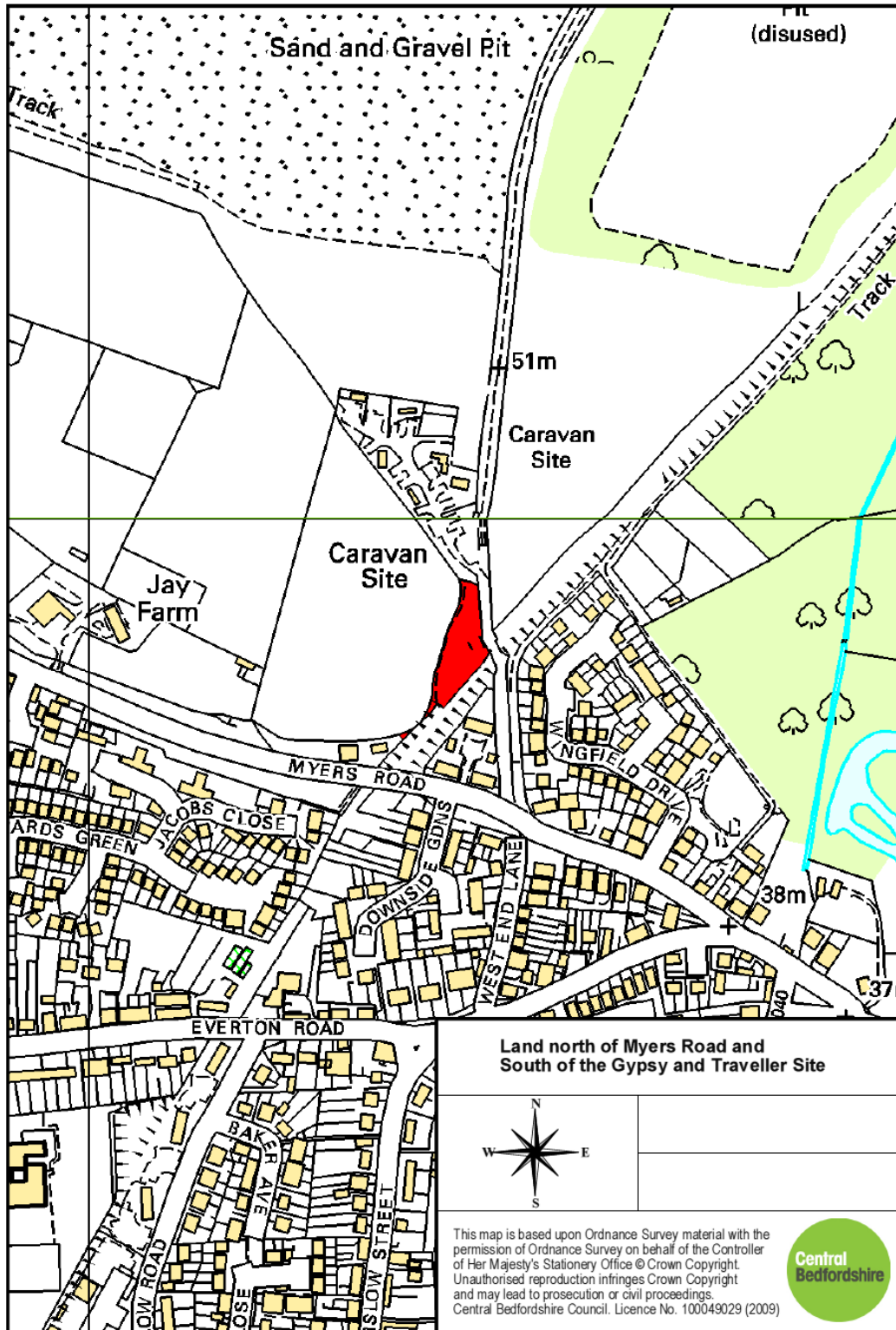
Heritage Lane, off Westoning Road, Greenfield



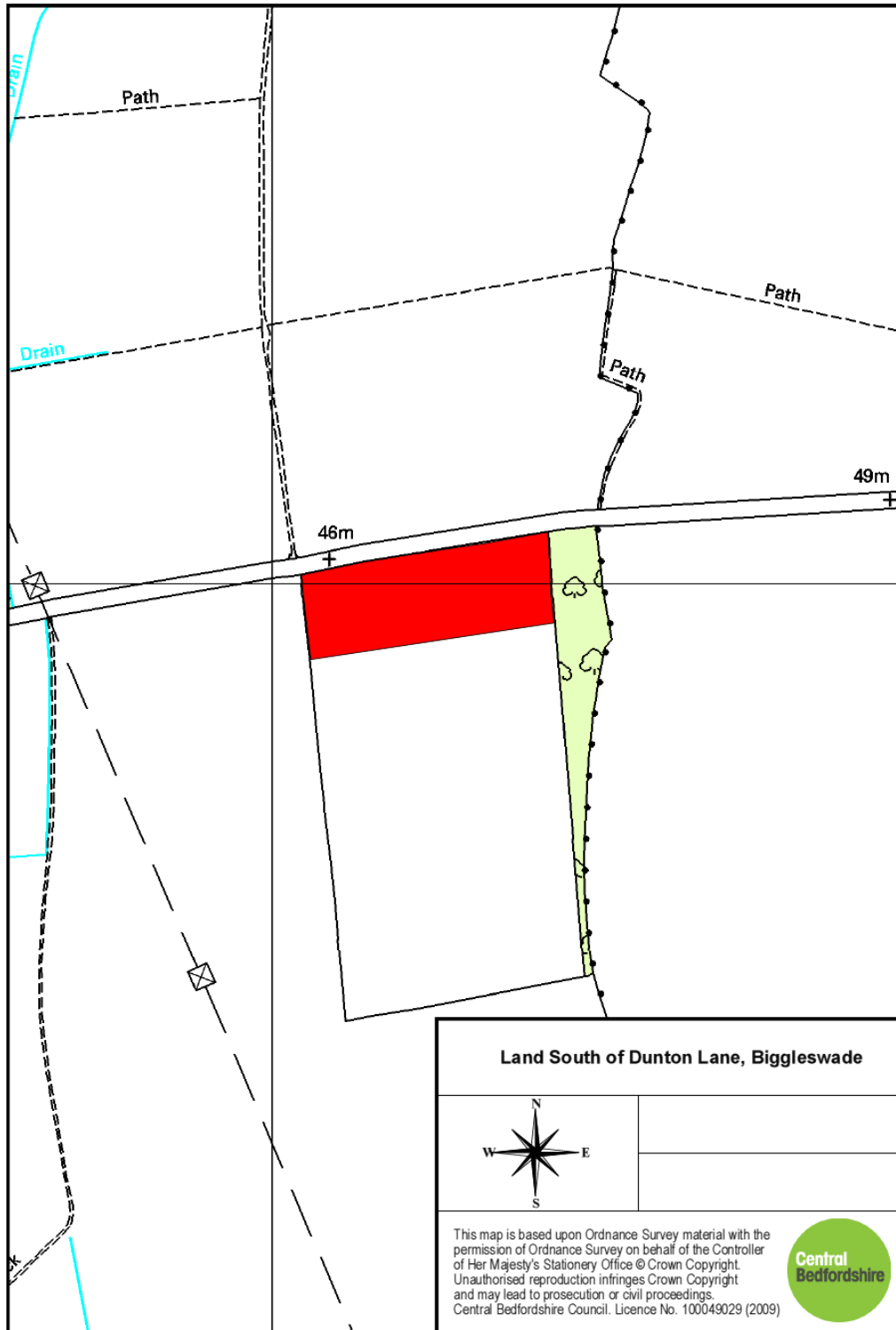
Oak Tree Nursery & Magpie Farm, Upper Caldecote



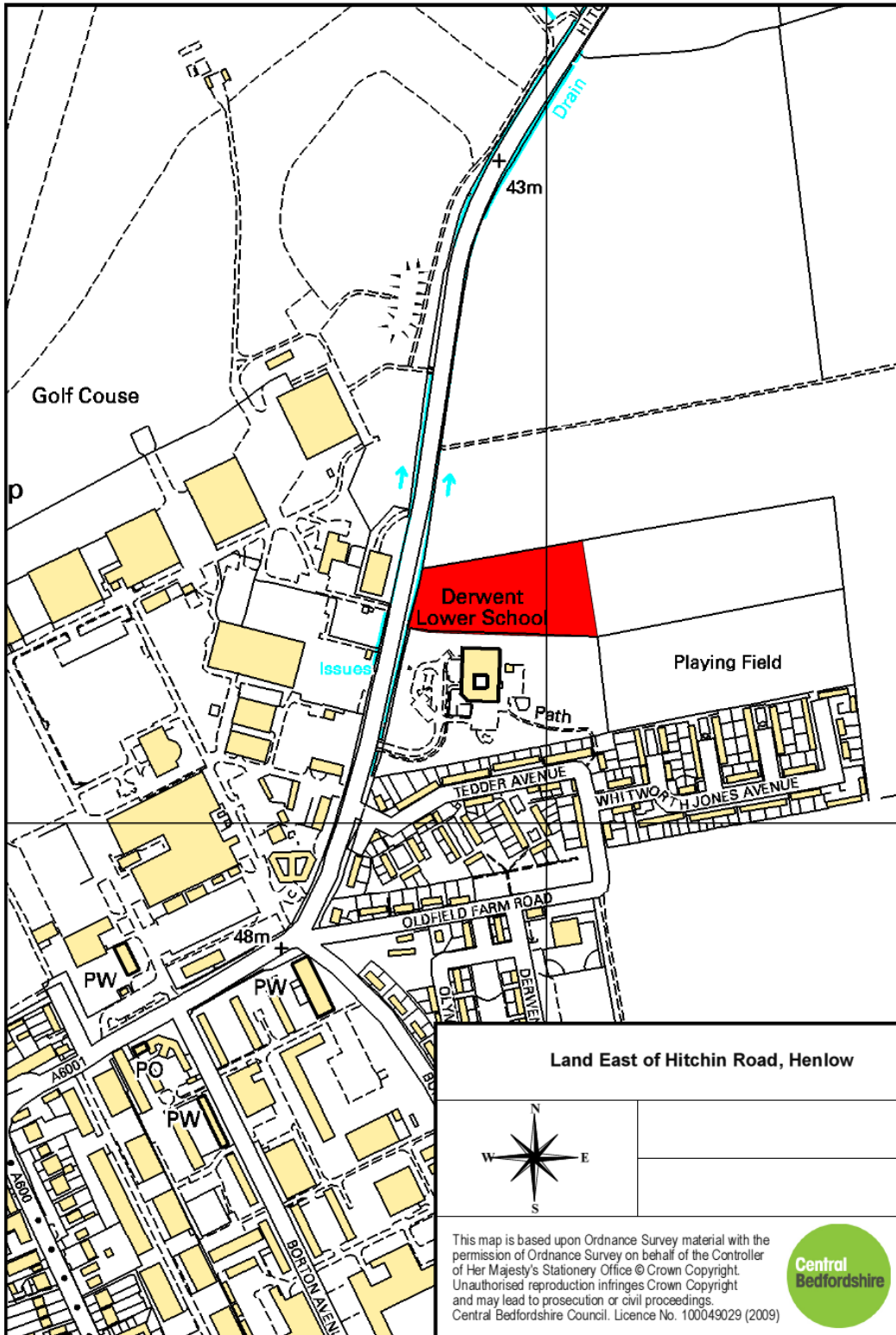
Land between Common Road and Myers Road, South of Gypsy and Traveller site, Potton



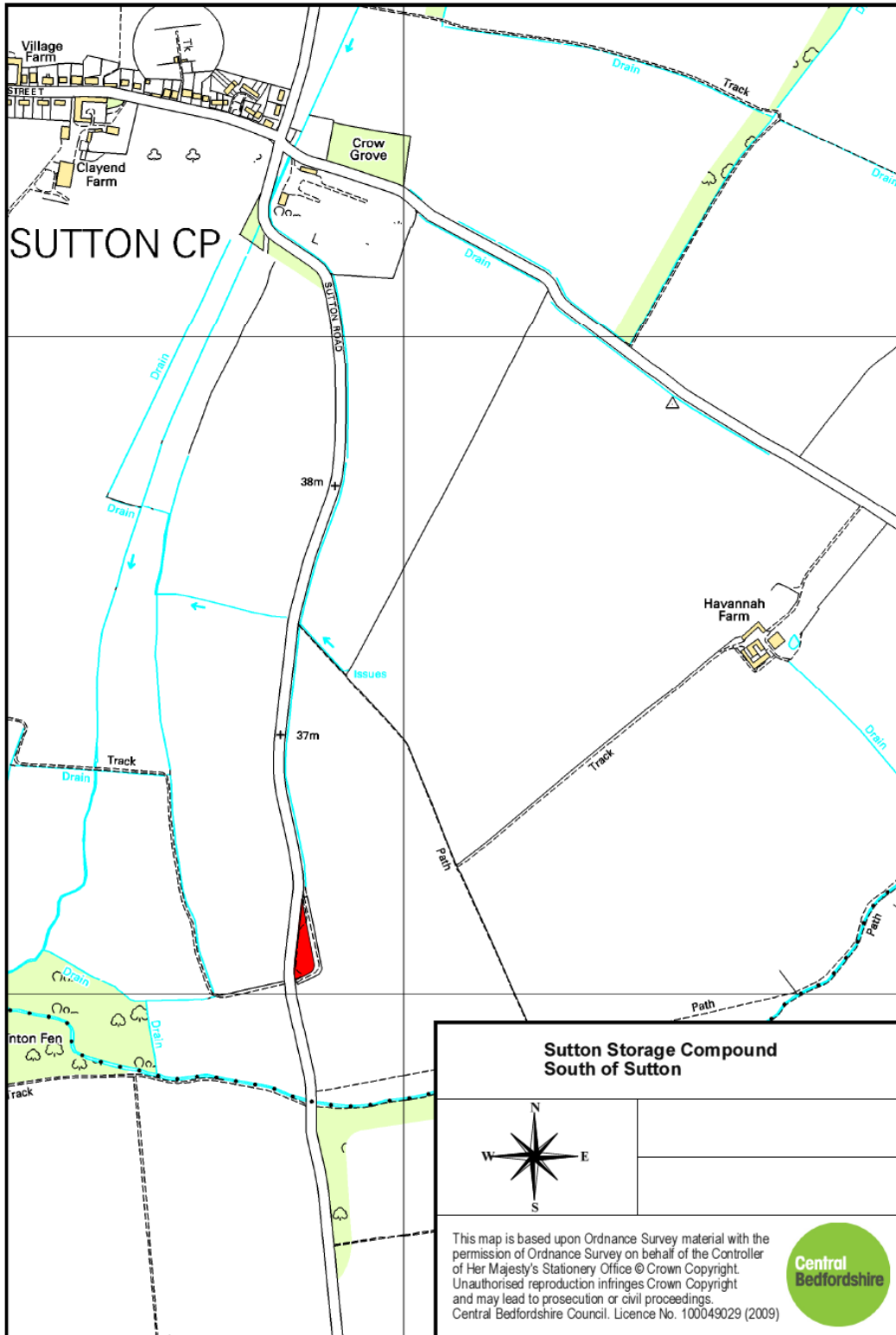
Land south of Dunton Lane, Biggleswade



Land East of A6001, Hitchin Rd and opposite the RAF Henlow Camp



Sutton Storage Compound, south of Sutton



Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny
Date: 23rd February 2010
Subject: Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options Consultation
Report of: Director of Sustainable Communities
Summary: The report proposes that the Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options document be recommended to the Portfolio Holder for approval to undergo consultation.

Contact Officer: Lester Hannington, Principal Minerals and Waste Planning Officer (0300 300 6219)
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The Waste Core Strategy will contribute to the agreed Council priority for “Managing Growth Effectively”, as set out in the Strategic Plan 2009-11.

Financial:

Consultants will be used for the Sustainability Appraisal of the Waste Core Strategy, including Strategic sites. The costs for those are set out in the existing budget for 2009-10, and are shared between three Councils (Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and Luton). The costs of consultation are expected to be insignificant. The most significant phase of costs will arise from the Examination in Public which will be held in 2011 or 2012.

Legal:

The Council is obliged to develop planning Policy documents for the control of Minerals and Waste Developments, according to a Local Development Scheme. This is a requirement under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

Risk Management:

In order to be broadly in line with the contents and timetable of the Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme adopted in 2009, a further stage of consultation on the Waste element of the Core Strategy must be undertaken, so that a Combined Core Strategy can be prepared and submitted by the end of 2010, or the beginning of 2011.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

There are no implications or changes to existing staff resources. The Waste Core Strategy is being prepared directly by the existing staff of the Minerals and Waste Planning Unit, a shared service funded by Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire Council, (and Luton Borough Council, for the Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework).

Equalities/Human Rights:

The Consultation document will be equally accessible to individuals and communities regardless of age, gender, race, ability, or sexual orientation. There are no Human Rights implications.

Community Safety:

There are no implications for the safety of communities.

Sustainability:

The consultation document will be subject to Sustainability Appraisal, the results of which will be published with the consultation document.

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. **That the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee**
 - i. **endorse the Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options document; and**
 - ii. **recommend that the Executive delegate authority to the Director of Sustainable Communities to make any necessary minor amendments.**
2. **That the Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options document be recommended to the Portfolio Holder for Planning**
3. **That the Executive be recommended to undergo public consultation on the Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options Consultation document according to statutory procedures.**

Where does this consultation document come from?

1. The Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme adopted in 2009 sets out an intention to create a combined Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, for submission to the Secretary of State. There have been two previous stages of consultations on the Minerals Core Strategy and Minerals Site Allocations Plans, and only one stage for the Waste Core Strategy and Site Allocations Plan. Before a Combined Core Strategy, (which will only include Strategic sites), is created for submission to the Secretary of State, a further stage of public consultation is to be undertaken on the Waste element of the Core Strategy (the "Waste Core Strategy").

2. The Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options document sets out a strategy for waste planning over a 15 year period, based upon the circumstances of three Councils who “own” the Minerals and Waste Development Documents (Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire Council, and Luton Borough Council). It considers alternatives in respect of the future growth of waste to be managed; alternative spatial distributions for waste facilities; and alternative possible Strategic sites.

Key Messages

3. The Waste Core Strategy sets out a preference for:
 - a lower rate of growth in wastes of all kinds, compared to the 3% per annum growth rate set out in the adopted Regional Spatial Strategy 2008, and because of more recent information and studies;
 - a Spatial Distribution of waste facilities, which will provide most Strategic facilities centrally, and smaller scale facilities more widely distributed;
 - identifies **Rookery Pit South**, and **land at the former Brogborough landfill site**, as the principal Strategic sites.
 - Identifies Land at **Elstow North** and **Thorn Turn** as Reserve Strategic sites.
 - identifies the need for additional landfill space for Non-Hazardous wastes,
 - identifies both **Rookery Pit South** and **Elstow Pit South** as necessary in order to provide sufficient void space for the disposal of Non-Hazardous wastes to Landfill..
4. It should be noted that this consultation document is at present awaiting finalisation in respect of presentation, such as internal images. Of most importance, it focuses on planning for the future provision of land for waste disposal, as well as facilities for the recovery of materials from waste, in respect of wastes arising from households, businesses, and industry within the Plan area. The Plan area includes Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire, and Luton, and the Plan relates to a period of 15 years post adoption. The only exception is that amount of waste requiring landfilling, which includes an amount of waste from London, agreed through the Regional Spatial Strategy. After 2015 waste from London to be landfilled will be restricted to post-treatment residues following the treatment of waste to recover the maximum of materials and energy, and will therefore have significantly less impacts on neighbours, in respect of their volume, odour, litter, and settlement following completion of landfilling.

Conclusion and Next Steps

5. Following the approval by each of the three Councils who own the Minerals and Waste Development Framework, the Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options document will undergo public consultation, and undergo Sustainability Appraisal. The responses received from consultation, and the results of the Sustainability Appraisal, will inform the development of a combined Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, for its submission to the Secretary of State later in 2010, or early 2011. The consultation document will be accompanied by a series of Technical Evidence Papers and an Evidence Base of supporting information. It is hoped that, subject to approval from all three Councils, consultation will begin on 12th April for a period of six weeks.

Background Papers: (open to public inspection)

Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options Consultation document
Waste Core Strategy Technical Evidence Papers
Waste Core Strategy Evidence Base
Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme 2009

Location of papers: Priory House, Chicksands

WASTE CORE STRATEGY

PREFERRED OPTIONS

CONSULTATION DOCUMENT

APRIL 2010



Central
Bedfordshire

LUTON
BOROUGH COUNCIL

Bedford Borough, Central Bedfordshire and
Luton Borough Council Working Together.

1 Introduction

Introduction

1.1 The Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options Consultation Document derives from the Issues and Options stage consultations carried out in 2007 on the Waste Core Strategy and Waste Site Allocations Plan. At that time the intention under the Local Development Scheme was to produce four separate Development Plan Documents:

Waste Core Strategy

Waste Sites Allocations

Minerals Core Strategy

Minerals Sites Allocations

1.2 The revised Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme published in 2009 shows an intention to merge the previous work carried out in respect of minerals. The working draft Waste Core Strategy will be merged with the Minerals Preferred Options stage Core Strategy and Strategic sites from the Minerals Site Allocation Plan, during 2010. Prior to that merger taking place, the Waste element of the Core Strategy will undergo a further consultation and publicity on the Preferred Options, as set out in this document.

1.3 The revised Planning Policy Statement 12 published in 2008 indicates that Core Strategies may identify Strategic sites. Strategic sites are not defined in PPS12. However, the inclusion of strategic sites only, rather than all possible sites, will bring about significant resource saving in respect of document production, work associated with undergoing and writing up consultations, as a result of the reduction in the number of Development Plan Documents to be produced.

1.4 To be fully in accordance with PPS12 (2008), the time period of the Core Strategy must be for at least 15 years post adoption. The revised Local Development Scheme adopted in 2009 indicates an intention to adopt the Core Strategy in early 2012, and consequently the period of Plan is to 2027.

2 Plan area and Policy context	5
3 The Vision	19
4 The Preferred Option	35
5 Implementation and Monitoring	54

2 Plan area and Policy context

Plan Area and Policy Context

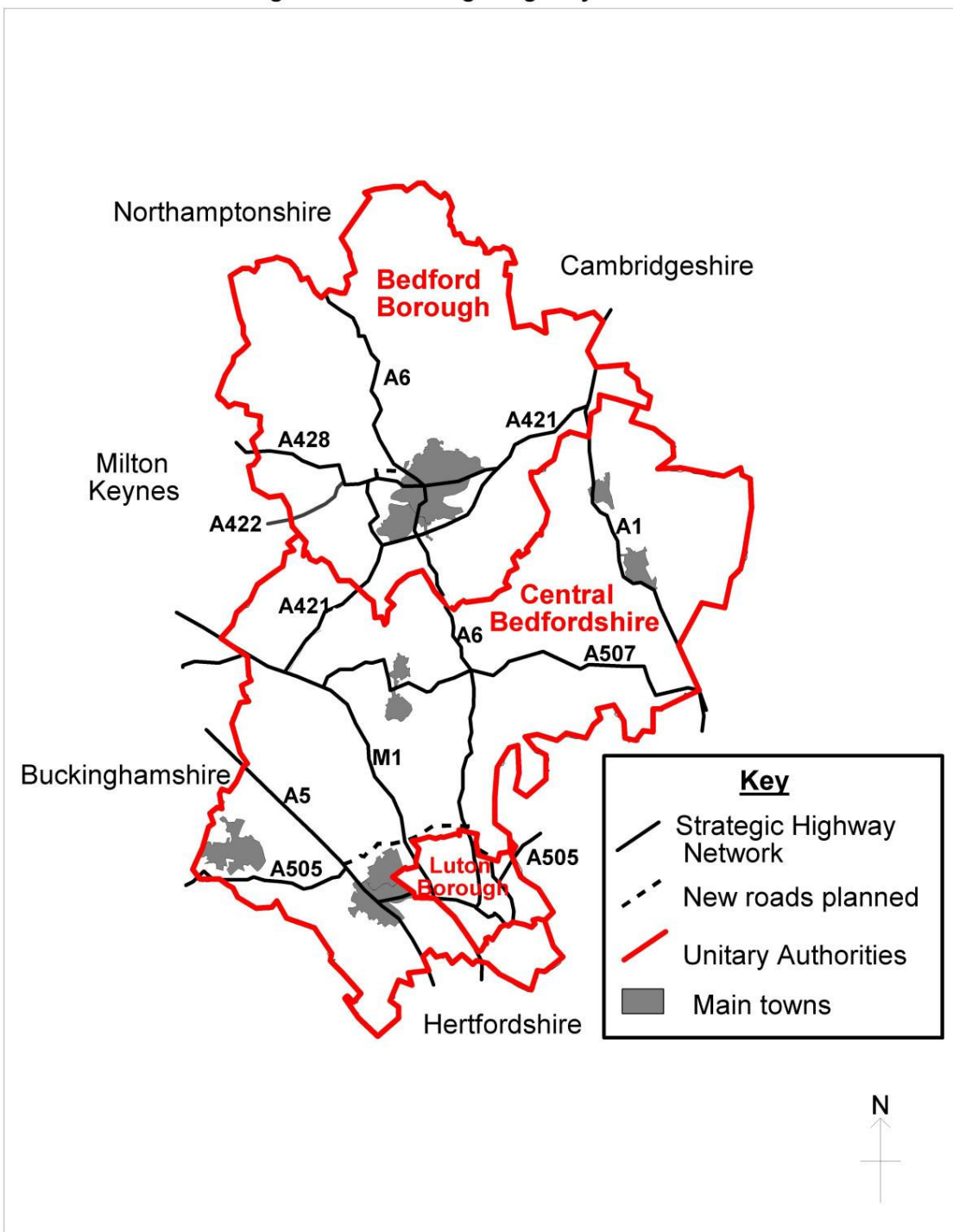
The geography of the Plan Area

The Plan area includes the areas of three Councils- Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire Council, and Luton Borough Council. Each of these Councils are Waste Planning Authorities, which means that they are responsible for the provision of Local Development Frameworks to establish where waste facilities should be located, and also for deciding planning applications for waste facilities. The Plan area has a common border with the areas of several other Waste Planning Authorities, including Northamptonshire to the north, Hertfordshire to the south and south east, Cambridgeshire to the east, and Milton Keynes and Buckinghamshire to the west.

The Plan area contains 610,700 people, and 1,235 square kilometres of land. Going from south to north, the Plan area contains the chalk bearing lands around Luton, falling gradually to the Greensand Ridge around Flitwick, Clophill, and Shefford. To the north of Luton is the Greensand Ridge, a distinctive feature which rises markedly from the clay vales to the north, such as the Vale of Marston, and which have been a traditional brick manufacturing area. To the east of the Plan area Biggleswade, Sandy, Pottton, and Wyboston, and the valley of the Lower Ouse river east of Bedford. The River Ouse flows through the middle of Bedford, with the Upper Ouse Valley to the north west of Bedford meandering through villages such as Harrold, Odell, and Bromham. Finally, the area to the north east of Bedford is sparsely populated, and borders Cambridgeshire to the north east, and Northamptonshire to the north/north-west.

The strategic highway network includes the A1 to the east, proceeding north-south, and the M1 on the western side, which proceeds north westerly past Luton and then beyond the Plan area. Other parts of the strategic highway network include the A6, which runs north-south from Luton through Bedford, to Northamptonshire; and the A421/A428, which runs west-east from the A1 to the M1. Diagram One shows the settlements, highway network, in the Plan area, and the boundaries of the three Councils.

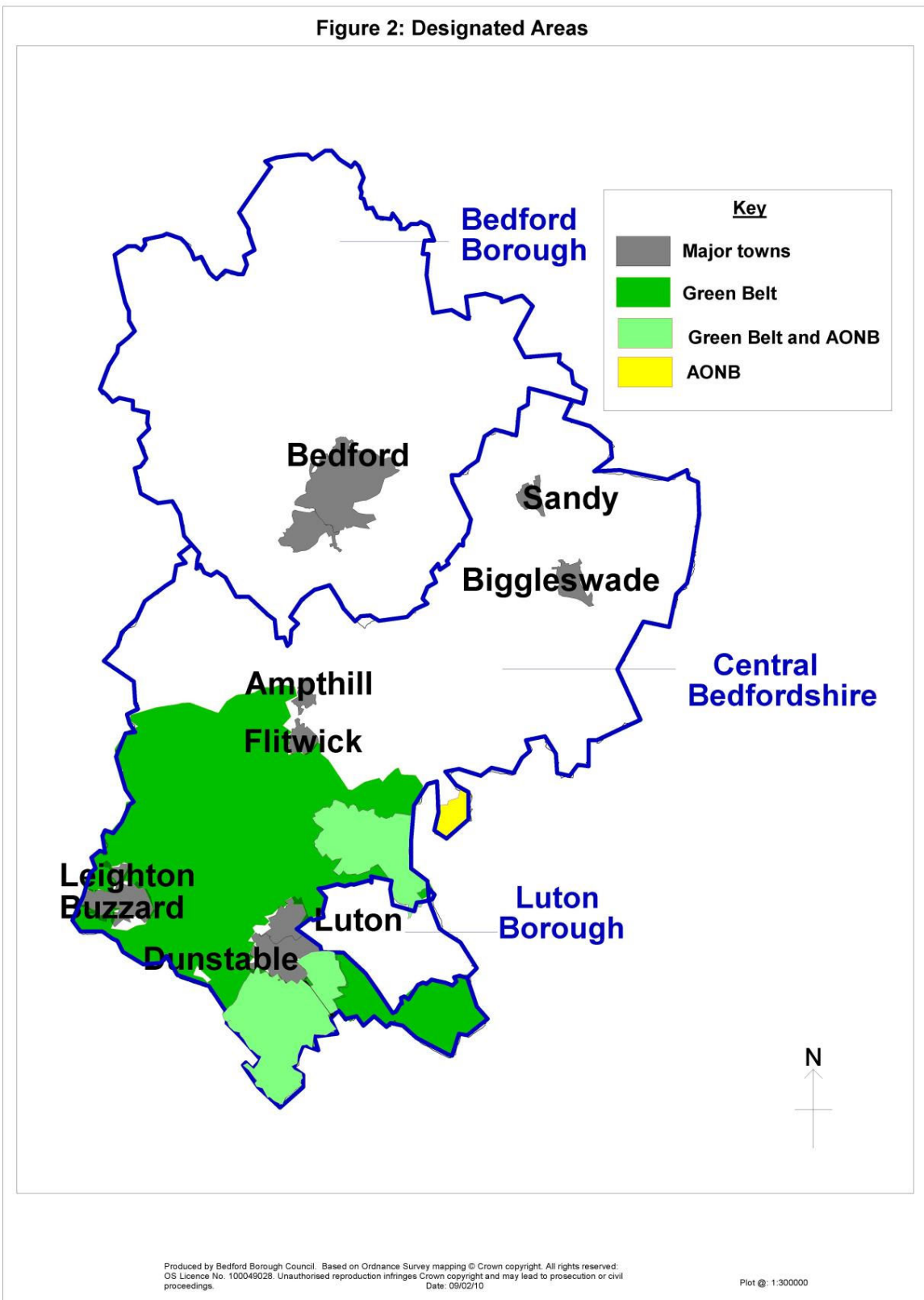
Figure 1: The Strategic Highway Network



Produced by Bedford Borough Council. Based on Ordnance Survey mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved.
OS Licence No. 100049028. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
Date: 05/02/10

Plot @: 1:360000

Figure 2: Designated Areas



Waste management

Waste is produced in households, businesses, shops, factories, offices, and many other locations (public and private). Waste that is collected and managed by Local Authorities, is defined as Municipal Solid Waste (MSW). Wastes managed by the private sector independently of Local Authorities is generically called Commercial and Industrial wastes, and is normally produced in far greater volumes than MSW. Certain other wastes are defined and managed separately such as Clinical wastes, agricultural wastes, and Hazardous wastes. The existing facilities in the Plan area are set out in the Evidence Base.

Hazardous Waste recovered from end of life vehicles



In 2008/9, the Plan area produced the following amounts of municipal wastes:

- **Bedfordshire produced 207,418 tonnes of municipal wastes, of which 52% was sent to landfill.**
- **Luton - produced 102,343 tonnes of municipal wastes, of which 57% was sent to landfill.**

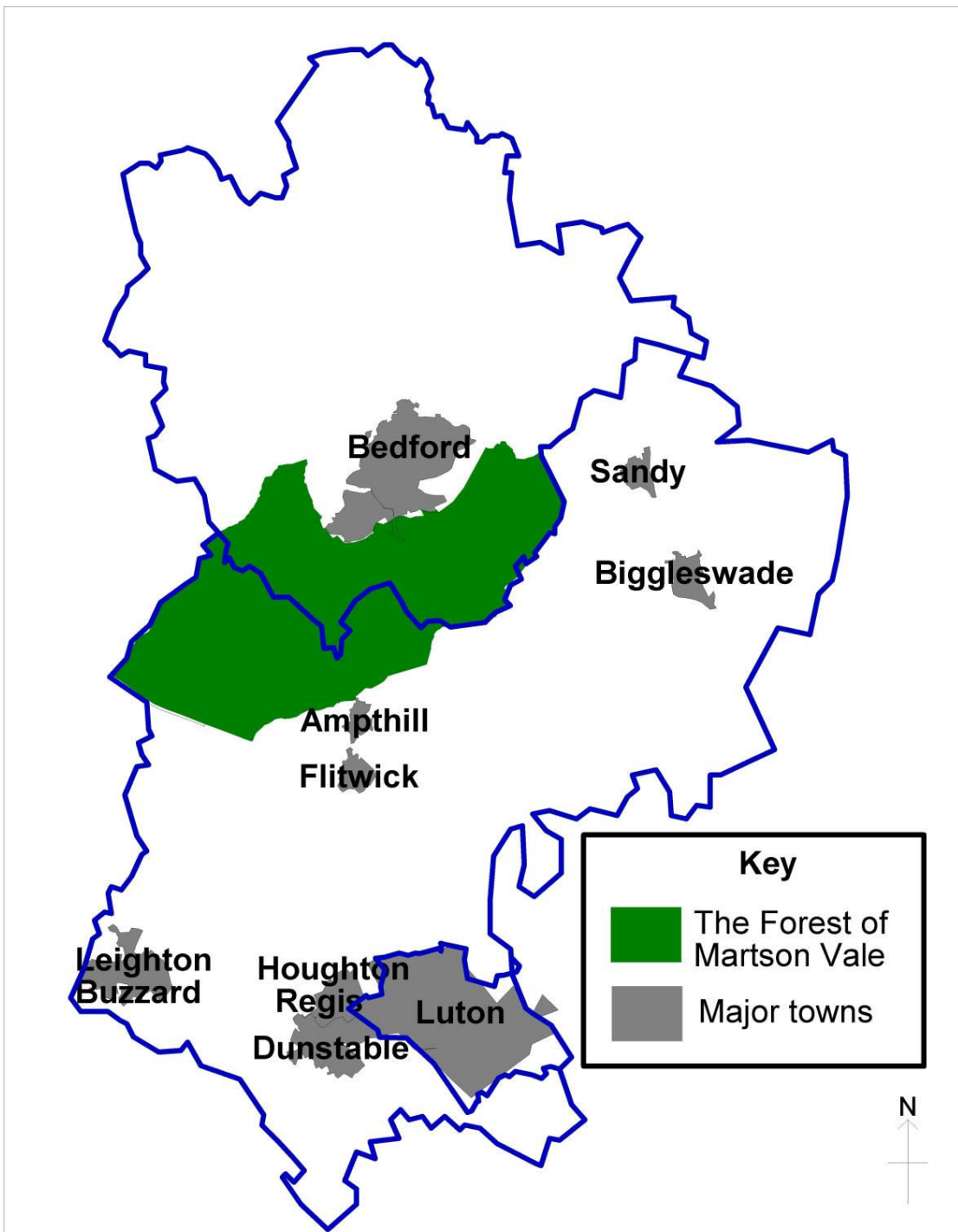
Since that date, Local Government re-organisation has led to the Plan area being divided into three unitary authorities, as of 1st April 2009. Each council has to comply with targets for landfilling Biodegradable Municipal Waste, and Municipal Waste, under Waste Strategy 2007 and the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme. Prior to the 1999 European Union Landfill Directive, the UK had been heavily dependent upon landfill as a means of disposing of its large volumes of wastes from all sources. The Plan area was especially dependent upon landfilling. However, the availability of suitable mineral extraction voids has decreased for a number of reasons including the greater protection given to aquifers by the Groundwater Directive, and a number of clay voids have been landfilled.

Rookery Brickworks

The long history of the extraction of clay in the Marston Vale area to the south-west of Bedford, for brick manufacture, led to the presence of substantial clay voids. Following the end of working the land for brick clay, many of these voids have become landfill sites, and have received tens of millions of tonnes of household, industrial, and business wastes. As well as locally arising wastes, large volumes of waste were brought in from London and the south east. There are also considerable amounts of unrestored land from the former brick manufacturing activity. The Forest of Marston Vale is an initiative to develop a combination of woodlands, wetlands, and public open spaces, in order to regenerate the landscape of the Marston Vale area as a whole. The Forest of Marston Vale is one of several community forests in England which have begun to be developed since 1990, with the aim of regenerating the landscape of an area, promoting biodiversity, and improving public access.

The Forest of Marston Vale

Figure 3: Map to show the Forest of Marston Vale



Produced by Bedford Borough Council. Based on Ordnance Survey mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved.
OS Licence No. 100049028. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
Date: 09/02/10

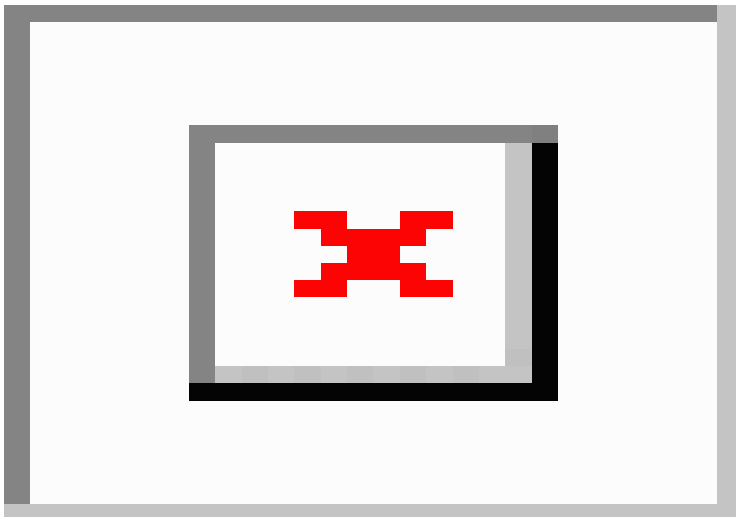
Plot @: 1:260000

The Planning Policy Context

European Policy Context

The UK is a member of the European Union, and implements into UK law Directives from the EU. For example the revised Waste Framework Directive 2008/98/EC sets the basic concepts and definitions related to waste management, and lays down waste management principles such as the "polluter pays principle" and the "waste hierarchy". It also requires plans to be created which will enable a network of waste facilities to be developed within each Member State.

The 1999 Landfill Directive introduced stringent standards for the engineering and operation of landfill sites, as well as targets for the reduction of the percentage of Municipal Solid Wastes going to landfill. In the UK these have been translated into targets for each Waste Disposal Authority, via the National Indicators. In addition, many individual waste streams have their own specific targets, which originate from EU legislation. Implementation of the landfill directive is a major driver for the development of waste management policies at national level, including efforts to promote the diversion of waste towards material recycling and biological treatment. Particularly important in this context are the restrictions on landfilling introduced by the directive, in particular the reduction in the amount of biodegradable waste going to landfill, and prohibition of the landfilling of certain waste types, including liquid wastes and tyres.



Tyres - now prohibited from going to landfill.

Improved management of certain problematic waste streams has been achieved through specific Community directives addressing important hazardous wastes such as waste oils, PCBs/PCTs, and batteries. Recycling and recovery targets have been set for key complex waste flows, such as packaging, end-of-life vehicles (ELVs), and waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE). Finally, the widespread use of separate collection systems is helping to achieve the objectives of European Community directives on specific waste streams, especially for end-of-life products which would otherwise enter the municipal solid waste stream.

In 2005 the European Commission proposed a new strategy on the prevention and recycling of waste. This strategy is one of the seven thematic strategies programmed by the 6th Environmental Action Plan. This long-term strategy aims to help Europe become a recycling society that seeks to avoid waste and uses waste as a resource. It will draw on the knowledge that the thematic strategy on resources will generate.

The European Union's approach to waste management is based on three principles:

1. **Waste prevention:** This is a key factor in any waste management strategy. If we can reduce the amount of waste generated in the first place and reduce its hazardousness by reducing the presence of dangerous substances in products, then disposing of it will automatically become simpler. Waste prevention is closely linked with improving manufacturing methods and influencing consumers to demand greener products and less packaging.
2. **Recycling and reuse:** If waste cannot be prevented, as many of the materials as possible should be recovered, preferably by recycling. The European Commission has defined several specific 'waste streams' for priority attention, the aim being to reduce their overall environmental impact. This includes packaging waste, end-of-life vehicles, batteries, electrical and electronic waste. EU directives now require Member States to introduce legislation on waste collection, reuse, recycling and disposal of these waste streams. Several EU countries are already managing to recycle over 50% of packaging waste.
3. **Improving final disposal and monitoring:** Where possible, waste that cannot be recycled or reused should be safely incinerated, with landfill only used as a last resort. Both these methods need close monitoring because of their potential for causing severe environmental damage. The EU has recently approved a directive setting strict guidelines for landfill management. It bans certain types of waste, such as used tyres, and sets targets for reducing quantities of biodegradable rubbish. Another recent directive lays down tough limits on emission levels from incinerators. The European Union also wants to reduce emissions of dioxins and acid gases such as nitrogen oxides (NO_x), sulphur dioxides (SO₂), and hydrogen chlorides (HCL), which can be harmful to human health.

National Waste Strategies

Each of the devolved administrations within the United Kingdom (Scotland, Wales, Northern Ireland), as well as England, have now produced their own Waste Strategies, which set targets for increasing the amount of different kinds of wastes which are to be recovered and diverted from landfilling. For England, **Waste Strategy 2007** is the most upto date Strategy for waste, and sets targets for the recovery and diversion of Municipal Wastes from landfill.

Waste Strategy 2007 for England has the following Objectives:

- **decouple waste growth (in all sectors) from economic growth and put more emphasis on waste prevention and re-use;**
- **meet and exceed the Landfill Directive diversion targets for biodegradable municipal waste in 2010, 2013 and 2020;**
- **increase diversion from landfill of non-municipal waste and secure better integration of treatment for municipal and non-municipal waste;**
- **secure the investment in infrastructure needed to divert waste from landfill and for the management of hazardous waste; and**
- **get the most environmental benefit from that investment, through increased recycling of resources and recovery of energy from residual waste using a mix of technologies.**

The Regional Spatial Strategy

Within England, each Regional Assembly has produced a Regional Spatial Strategy which sets out Policies and targets, for increasing the recovery of waste and diverting it from landfill. Many Regional Spatial Strategies apportion (or “divide up”) the amount of waste management capacity required down to sub-regional areas of individual Waste Planning Authorities, or groupings of WPAs (Waste Planning Authorities), within their region. The Plan area is located within the East of England Region, and the Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents must show conformity with the East of England Plan (Regional Spatial Strategy), or else show reasons for their divergence from it.

In 2003, the East of England Regional Assembly adopted a Regional Waste Management Strategy, which provided a non-statutory framework for waste management. In addition, consultants provided an estimate of the total volume of waste arising in the Region, as well as an Apportionment of London’s waste, which in combination provided the basis for the Waste Policies in the revised Regional Spatial Strategy published in May 2008. The East of England Plan (Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England) contains 8 policies on waste. These are set out in full in the Evidence Base.

East of England Plan Waste Policies:

- **WM1: Waste Management Objectives**
- **WM2: Waste Management Targets**
- **WM3: Imported Waste**
- **WM4: Regional Waste Apportionment**
- **WM5: Planning for Waste Management**
- **WM6: Waste Management in Development**
- **WM7: Provision for Hazardous Waste and other Regionally Significant Facilities.**
- **WM8: Actions for Waste Authorities, Waste Companies and other Partners.**

East of England Plan Policy WM3

The East of England is now planning for a progressive reduction in imported waste, such that waste imported from London after 2015 will only be waste to be landfilled has been subjected to comprehensive pre-treatment, so that the maximum practicable value has been recovered. Under RSS Policy WM3, the amount of waste from London to be managed falls from 240,000 tonnes in 2010/11, to 120,000 tonnes in 2015/16. However, for the Marston Vale this restriction on types of wastes applies immediately.

Mineral Policy

Mineral planning policy is relevant to the development of the Waste part of the Core Strategy. Of particular interest are the National Guidelines for the Provision of Aggregates in England, which are of importance since they have in recent years made an increasing reliance on the supply of “alternative materials”. Construction and Demolition Wastes can be crushed and screened and provide a substitute for land won aggregates. However, significant volumes of Construction and Demolition wastes are soils, and are not capable of being used to produce aggregates.

In the East of England Region there are no secondary aggregates which can provide an alternative to primary land won aggregates, other than construction and demolition wastes. The ‘National and Regional guidelines for the Provision of Aggregates in England 2001 to 2016’ assumes the provision of 110 million tonnes of Alternative Materials, as compared to 256 million tonnes of land won sand and gravel, within the East of England Region. The use of wastes arising from construction and demolition activities represents around 43% of the total amount of aggregates required up to 2016.

Community Strategies

Part I of the Local Government Act 2000 placed a duty on Local Authorities to prepare 'community strategies', for promoting or improving the economic, social and environmental well-being of their areas, and contributing to the achievement of sustainable development in the UK. It also gave authorities broad new powers to improve and promote local well-being as a means of helping them to implement those strategies.

Community Strategies:

- **allow local communities (based upon geography and/or interest) to articulate their aspirations, needs and priorities;**
- **co-ordinate the actions of the council, and of the public, private, voluntary and community organisations that operate locally;**
- **focus and shape existing and future activity of those organisations so that they effectively meet community needs and aspirations; and**
- **contribute to the achievement of sustainable development both locally and more widely, with local goals and priorities relating, where appropriate, to regional, national and even global aims.**

Community Strategies are an expression of the key challenges facing an area, and of how these challenges can be addressed. They are produced by a partnership formed of representatives from the community. Community Strategies provide a link between community aspirations, and the Core Strategy (as one part of the Local Development Framework) which can address and deliver them. The Core Strategy should act as the spatial vision of the sustainable community strategy. The cross linkages between the Core Strategy and the various existing and emerging Community Strategies for the Plan area, are set out in Technical Evidence Paper 3.

The Growth Agenda

The Plan area lies in the East of England Region, and borders the South Eastern Region and the East Midlands Region. The Regional Spatial Strategies for these Regions are based on assumptions of growth. In particular the general area of Milton Keynes and the South Midlands is one of four wider growth areas in the South East. This originates from the Government’s Sustainable Communities Plan, which sought to increase the supply of housing, and address other issues relating to the South East. Alterations to the Regional Planning Guidance for the South East, and East of England, were therefore sought, and a separate Sub-Regional Spatial Strategy produced. The Strategy contains assumptions about a high level of growth in housing throughout the Strategy area. This is of importance since a growth in housing, will lead to an increase in the production of waste.

The East of England Regional Spatial Strategy, adopted in 2008, contained an assumption of a high level of growth in the region, up to 2021. However, there is a partial review of the East of England Plan (Regional Spatial Strategy) ongoing at present, which will take into consideration the change in economic circumstances, and the lower rate of growth in housing completions, which began in 2008. The Partial Review is not expected to be completed until the spring of 2010.

Any alterations to the forecast level of housing growth, and of wastes, will need to be incorporated into the Waste Core strategy as and when such numerical revisions are adopted. Technical Evidence Paper 2 will need to be revised to reflect any alteration to housing and waste growth forecasts. However, the partial review of the East of England Regional Spatial Strategy is not likely to reach the stage of formal adoption until the middle of 2010.

The amount of growth in house construction strongly influences the demand for construction minerals, while household formation influences the volumes of household wastes that will arise. Consequently, new or expanded settlements will need more waste management facilities, ranging from facilities to receive bulky household wastes, as well as large scale recovery facilities, required to handle municipal waste, and enable the regional and national targets for recovery to be achieved. However, there is likely to be strong competition for land in these areas, and therefore problems in ensuring that these facilities are delivered.

In addition to this local growth situation, RSS Policy WM 3 commits the Plan area to continue to receive an apportionment of waste from London for landfilling. However the amount of waste that the Plan area is expected to receive from London reduces from 238,000 tonnes in 2010/11 to 116,000 by 2015/16.

The Bedfordshire Authorities Municipal Waste Management Strategy

The BAMWS was produced by the Bedfordshire Waste Authorities Partnership, and adopted in April 2006. The Municipal Waste Strategy for Bedfordshire provides a detailed implementation plan for municipal wastes. Following extensive public consultation the Municipal Waste strategy presents detailed proposals for future waste services, including recycling, composting, other potential waste treatment technologies. It sets out plans and policies for the period up to year 2020. The Strategy proposed the development of an Integrated Waste Management Solution, and led to the establishment of the BEaR Project.

More waste, but where should it go?

Policy documents from Europe, National Waste Strategies, and Regional Plans/Spatial Strategies, sets out targets for increasing diversion from landfill, and greater recovery of wastes. However to do so will require new, additional, waste recovery capacity to be developed. In addition, there will continue to be a need for capacity to dispose of the residual waste to landfill. At the beginning of the Plan period, only one Non-Hazardous waste landfill (suitable to receive Municipal Solid Wastes arising from households, as well as the majority of wastes from businesses and industries) was operational in the Plan area, and no others were permitted or awaiting a decision. In addition there are 7 operational landfill sites (as of October 2009) able to dispose of Inert wastes, arising from Construction and Demolition activities. A wide range of materials transfer and recovery facilities exist in the Plan area. The Evidence Base includes details of all existing waste facilities in the Plan area.

There is a need to identify a new landfill site or sites for Non-Hazardous wastes, with sufficient capacity to receive the volume of Non-Hazardous Wastes that will arise from Municipal, Commercial and Industrial sources. This is discussed in Chapter 4, The Preferred Option. The additional recovery capacity required in order to meet targets set out in Waste Strategy 2007, and RSS Policy, are discussed in Technical Evidence Paper 2.

Other parts of the Local Development Framework

In parallel to the Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework, the three Councils are preparing their Local Development Frameworks in respect of non-minerals and waste issues, (such as housing, employment, leisure, and transport). These LDF's include Core Strategies and Site Allocation Plans, and their progress and content are being kept under review during the preparation of the Waste Core Strategy, since they may have specific interactions as follows:

Potential interactions between the Waste Core Strategy and other parts of the Local Development Framework:

- **Locations of waste management facilities will directly affect haulage distances that wastes travel from residential, commercial, retail, and industrial areas. According to Waste Strategy 2007 and PPS10, waste facilities should always be “proximate” (i.e. as close as possible) to the sources of waste arisings.**
- **The scope for incorporating waste storage and recovery facilities into new built developments**
- **Conflicts between emerging areas for new housing or employment, and sites identified for waste management facilities.**
- **Opportunities to identify significant areas of land for large scale waste management facilities, as land becomes available from the cessation of its previous uses, or its former designation as Green Belt land is removed or identified.**
- **New or expanded settlements will need to have waste infrastructure incorporated, as it is built, including for sewerage, construction waste, and for household wastes.**

As can be seen from the points set out above, it is essential to take into account the Local Development Frameworks of the three Councils into the development of the Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

Bedford Borough Council adopted their Core Strategy and Rural Issues Plan on 16th April 2008. At the time of writing, Bedford Borough Council is now progressing an Allocations and Designations Plan, which will be important in respect of the location of new industrial/employment land, and housing land.

Central Bedfordshire Council is an amalgamation of the area of two former District Councils, and is developing its LDF in two parts. The north of Central Bedfordshire has an emerging Core Strategy and Development Management Policies DPD.

The south of Central Bedfordshire has a joint Core Strategy with **Luton Borough Council**. A Joint Core Strategy Document underwent consultation between June and October 2007 using an Issues and Options Paper. A draft submission document will undergo consultation in 2010, and a Site Allocations DPD will follow on after.

The UK Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme and the Waste Framework Directive

As a result of the introduction of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme, individual Local Authorities are now restricted in the amount of Municipal waste they can send for disposal to landfill. The UK is also bound by the targets contained in the Landfill Directive 1999, which requires the reduction of the proportion of MSW sent to landfill by target years. In order to achieve those targets, and remain within the LATS allowances, new waste recovery facilities are needed urgently. To make this happen, the Waste Framework Directive requires that the UK has in place Plans to identify a network of waste management facilities. These include facilities for the disposal and recovery of wastes from households, as well as business and industry.

The Chain of Waste Management

First in the chain of waste management is its PRODUCTION, in households, businesses, shops, factories etc, as unusable materials (e.g. packaging), or the by-products of manufacture, distribution, and consumption. However, there are a number of local and national initiatives to prevent waste arising, to prevent needing management in the first place.

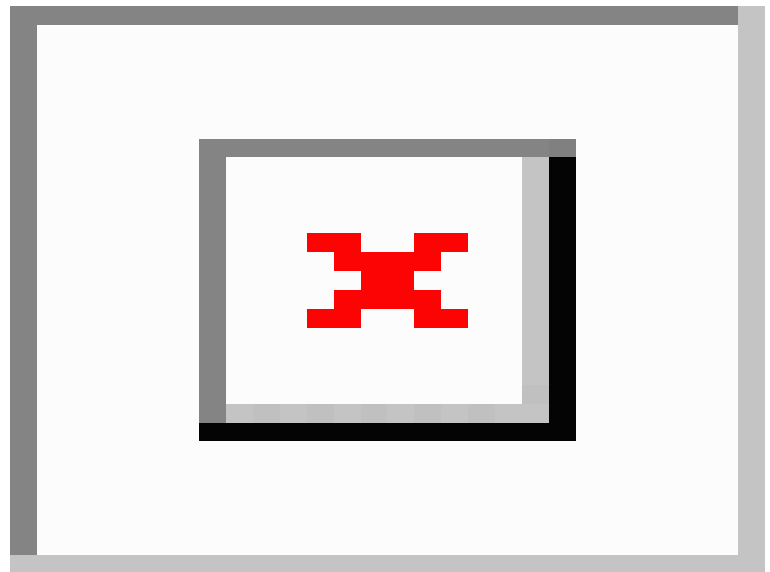
Secondly, wastes that require management off site requires COLLECTION. The three Councils (Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire Council, and Luton Borough Council) who own the Waste Core Strategy, each have their own arrangements for the collection of household wastes, as well as source-segregated recyclable materials. These recyclable materials are sent to industries which treat them and reuse them, (e.g. metal manufacturers, plasterboard manufacturers, plastic industries).

Thirdly, mixed or “co-mingled” wastes need to be SEPARATED, before being sent for reuse.

RECOVERY includes obtaining usable materials, or energy, from waste, by a range of available technologies.

Finally, residual waste, which is NOT capable of being RECOVERED, is sent for DISPOSAL at a landfill site.

Food waste collected and SEPARATED for treatment at Anaerobic Digestion Facility.



What is recovery capacity?

Recovery “capacity” means the amount of wastes that waste management facilities can process, through recovery (of either materials and/or energy) from waste into reusable materials, in a given period (usually expressed as a year). Technical Evidence Paper Two defines what permitted recovery capacity exists in the Plan area.

How much new recovery capacity will we need?

Technical Evidence Paper 2 sets out alternative scenarios for the growth of wastes that will need management. One scenario assumes a low level of growth, the other a much higher level. These scenarios set out indications of possible future levels of need, and neither should be seen as absolute and unquestionable. However they do provide a basis for estimating the level of additional both Recovery and Landfill disposal capacity, that needs to be provided throughout the period to 2027. This issue is addressed in Chapter Four.

3 The Vision

The Vision for Waste management to 2027

Principles for the Waste Preferred Option

3.1 In conformity with European and UK Policy, the Waste element of the Core Strategy seeks to bring about an increase in the capacity of waste management facilities in the Plan area, so as to achieve a significant increase in the diversion of all wastes from disposal to landfill, and the recovery of materials and energy from them. The Waste Core Strategy seeks to set out:

HOW MUCH waste needs to be planned for

WHERE waste facilities of different kinds should be located

WHEN new facilities will be needed

WHAT kinds of facilities

WHO are the key parties in managing waste

Where does waste planning policy come from?

3.2 An important consideration for the development of Waste Planning Policy, is the Waste Hierarchy, (expressed in the Waste Strategy for England 2007), which places the Prevention of waste arising, as of greatest importance above Reuse, Recycling, Energy Recovery, and Disposal to Landfill. The Prevention of waste arisings can be achieved by individuals, businesses, and the public sector, prior to waste arising that needs management. The Recovery of materials from waste can be achieved through a variety of technologies and waste facilities. The Waste Core Strategy seeks to provide guidance for all possible kinds of facilities, and for all kinds of waste that arise in the Plan area.

3.3 In order to achieve the substantial shift from a waste disposal to a resource recovery economy, the Core Strategy identifies four Strategic sites for waste recovery facilities with sufficient capacity to manage large quantities of waste. It is important to note that the Core Strategy identifies land, and not specific uses or technologies for these sites. It should also be noted that the Core Strategy identifies sites which are appropriate solely for a Strategic waste management use (as defined in Technical Evidence Paper Four, and below), and not for all possible waste management uses. Applications for planning permission at Non-Strategic sites will be considered against criteria-led policies set out here; the saved General and Environmental Policies of the Bedfordshire and Luton Minerals and Waste Local Plan; and the detailed Policies of the General and Environmental Policies DPD, when adopted.

a) PPS10: Planning and Sustainable Waste management, and PPS12: Local Spatial Planning

PPS10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management

3.4 Specific paragraphs of these adopted national policy documents are relevant to the selection of a Spatial Distribution, and of Strategic sites. "Planning Policy Statement Ten: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management" contains the following key paragraphs that relate to site location.

3.5 "In searching for sites and areas suitable for new or enhanced waste management facilities, waste planning authorities should consider:

Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options

- opportunities for on-site management of waste where it arises;
- a broad range of locations including industrial sites, looking for opportunities to co-locate facilities together and with complementary activities".

3.6 "In deciding which sites and areas to identify for waste management facilities, waste planning authorities should:

(i) assess their suitability for development against each of the following criteria:

- the extent to which they support the policies in this PPS;
- the physical and environmental constraints on development, including existing and proposed neighbouring land uses;
- the cumulative effect of previous waste disposal facilities on the well-being of the local community, including any significant adverse impacts on environmental quality, social cohesion and inclusion or economic potential;
- the capacity of existing and potential transport infrastructure to support the sustainable movement of waste, and products arising from resource recovery, seeking when practicable and beneficial to use modes other than road transport.
- give priority to the re-use of previously-developed land, and redundant agricultural and forestry buildings and their curtilages."

Planning Policy Statement Twelve: Local Spatial Planning

3.7 PPS12 is national guidance concerning the Preparation of Local Development Frameworks.

- "Core strategies may allocate strategic sites for development. These should be those sites considered central to achievement of the strategy. Progress on the core strategy should not be held up by inclusion of non strategic sites.
- The Core Strategy looks to the long term. It may be beneficial to the delivery of its objectives for details of key sites to be included in it, where these sites are central to the achievement of the strategy and where investment requires a long lead-in. But in general the core strategy will not include site specific detail which can date quickly. Where core strategies allocate strategic sites, they must include a submission proposals map. It may be preferable for the site area to be delineated in outline rather than detailed terms, with site specific criteria set out to allow more precise definition through masterplanning using an area action plan (if required) or through a supplementary planning document (SPD). If it is necessary to allocate land which has not already been allocated in the core strategy, a DPD rather than SPD must be used. "

Strategic Sites

3.8 Given the statements set out in PPS12, the Waste Core Strategy identifies Strategic "Technical Evidence Paper Four: Strategic Waste Management Sites and the Methodology for their identification" (TEP4) sets out the methods by which Strategic waste management sites have been considered. TEP4 identifies a number of Strategic sites, which are considered to be essential to the successful implementation of the Plan. These sites can be divided into:

Strategic sites are defined as including:

- **Landfill sites which are capable of receiving Non-Hazardous waste (including Municipal Solid Waste, as well as Commercial/Industrial wastes from businesses, offices and industry)**
- **Facilities for the recovery of materials and/or energy (from MSW, and/or Commercial and Industrial wastes) with a throughput of at least 75,000 tonnes per year**
- **Facilities for the management of specialist waste streams (such as Clinical or Hazardous Wastes)**

b) The East of England Regional Spatial Strategy, 2008

3.9 The East of England Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS) was published on the 12th May 2008, and approved by the Secretary of State. The RSS includes a number of Policies concerning Waste, which provide the regional context for the development of Local Development Documents. According to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase act 2004, all Local Development Documents are required to be in compliance with the Regional Spatial Strategy, or else justify their deviation from it.

3.10 Relevant policies in defining the spatial aspect of the Preferred Option are:

Relevant Regional Spatial Strategy (2008) Policies:

- **Policy WM1: Waste Management Objectives**
- **Policy WM3: Imported Waste**
- **Policy WM4: Regional Waste Apportionment**
- **Policy WM5: Planning for Waste Management**
- **Policy WM6: Waste Management in New Development**

3.11 “Policy WM3: Imported Waste” requires each Waste Planning Authority to plan for a progressive reduction in imported waste, with the provision for the management of imported waste after 2015 to be restricted to landfill of residual waste that has been subject to the maximum practical level of recovery and treatment. The Plan Area is required to provide landfill capacity for 240,000 tonnes in 2010/2011, and 120,000 tonnes in 2015/2016.

3.12 “Policy WM4: Regional Waste Apportionment” requires Waste Planning Authorities take responsibility for waste arising in their own administrative areas.

3.13 “Policy WM5: Planning for Waste Management” is specific to the Plan area, and requires:

Policy WM5: Planning for Waste Management requires:

- **Local Developments Documents should include policies which identify the additional capacity required to manage their apportioned wastes**
- **(LDDs) should identify sites and areas suitable to accommodate the required facilities, including for the collection, sorting and storage of waste, and its treatment, recycling, and disposal and sufficient landfill capacity to meet the anticipated need across the region.**
- **To minimise impacts on the growth area for Bedfordshire, the use of potential landfill capacity in the Marston Vale should reduce over time. New landfill development in the Marston Vale should not compromise proposals for environmental regeneration and housing development, and should only be permitted where the waste to be landfilled has been subjected to comprehensive pre-treatment such that the maximum practicable value has been recovered, and provision is consistent with Bedfordshire’s waste apportionment in Policies WM3 and 4.**

3.14 “Policy WM6: Waste Management in New Development” requires the minimum creation of waste, and the maximum use of recycled materials. This has been amplified by the development of the Supplementary Planning Document ‘Managing Waste in New Development’, which was adopted in April 2006. This addresses the need to reduce the amount of waste arising in new developments as well as making provision for the handling and storage of wastes when the development is operational.

c) The Bedfordshire Authorities Municipal Waste Management Strategy April 2006.

3.15 The Municipal Waste Strategy for (the former County of) Bedfordshire provides the detailed implementation plan for local municipal wastes. It sets out detailed proposals for future waste services, including recycling, composting, other potential waste treatment technologies, and sets out plans and policies for the period up to year 2020. Since Local Government Re-Organisation in April 2009, no replacement Municipal Waste Management Strategies have as yet been produced by each of the three Councils.

3.16 The Municipal Waste Strategy contains the following :

Policy WS1: Overall landfill strategy:

- **“We will take action to achieve the maximum possible reduction in landfill. For imported wastes, this will be achieved via development plan policies to reduce the supply of landfill capacity in Bedfordshire. For locally arising wastes, diversion will be achieved primarily via recycling and composting (or other bio-treatment). Where this is not practical, we will encourage use of energy from waste solutions in preference to landfill for locally arising wastes”.**

Policy WS3: Waste Minimisation

“We will work in partnership with other agencies to consolidate and promote waste minimisation activities in Bedfordshire and Luton”.

Policy WS6: Management of Municipal Waste in Bedfordshire and Luton

“We will develop future municipal waste management systems in a detailed strategy. This will be based on the following key principles:

- **We will aim to end landfill of untreated waste by year 2010.**
- **We will establish sufficient infrastructure to enable self-sufficiency for treatment of waste arising within Bedfordshire and Luton.**
- **We will establish a three-stream segregated waste kerbside collection system, integrated with treatment plant appropriate for each collected waste stream.**
- **As a minimum, we will recover materials for recycling and composting to the targets [as laid down under the Best Value regime]. Waste that cannot be recycled or composted will be processed for energy recovery.**
- **We will continue to develop and enhance the network of HWRC’s and local recycling sites”.**

d) The Bedfordshire Energy and Recycling Project

3.17 The three authorities produced 220,000 tonnes of municipal wastes in 2006, at a time when the Landfill Tax and the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme were making Local Authorities increasingly aware of the future costs of reliance upon landfilling Wastes. In response to these pressures, a partnership was created from the (former) Bedfordshire County Council as Waste Disposal Authority, and the (former)

District Councils as Waste Collection Authorities, working together on the Bedfordshire Energy and Recycling Project (the BEaR Project). This collaboration has been continued by the three Councils, until Bedford Borough Council and then Luton Borough Council left the Project.

3.18 The BEaR Project was established in order to develop a solution to the volumes of the residual MSW to be collected by Local Authorities in the future. The intention was to develop means to counter both the costs that would arise as a result of the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme, as well as meet the targets for the diversion of Municipal Solid Wastes from landfill. To achieve these aims, the BEaR Project proposes a single Integrated Waste Management Facility. The reference project utilised in the Outline Business Case submitted to the Department for the Environment Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) would recover energy and heat, as well as reduce the volume of residues requiring disposal to landfill. In addition, the Outline Business Case document included an assessment of 95 possible sites for such a facility, which were subject to a rigorous site selection exercise. The selection criteria included a wide range of planning issues, as well as issues such as the proximity to other waste related facilities, the potential to re-use existing waste infrastructure, proximity to the strategic road network and site access, the potential for Combined Heat and Power generation or materials re-use, and proximity to sources of waste arisings.

3.19 The “reference “ project used in the Outline Business Case submitted to DEFRA, was an Energy from Waste proposal, with the potential for Combined Heat and Power generation. The BEaR Project was intended as the key means by which Central Bedfordshire (and previously both Bedford Borough and Luton Councils) would be able to comply with the Landfill Allowance Trading Scheme. The Project was intended to procure a facility to reduce the volumes of household waste requiring landfill, following separation at source of recyclable materials. By this means the Council would achieve the regional and national targets for diversion of MSW from landfill, and the recovery of materials from waste

Other Council Initiatives to increase Recovery of Municipal Wastes

3.20 The BEaR Project, acting solely at that time for Central Bedfordshire Council, was refused Private Finance Initiative Funding by DEFRA in January 2010. Consequently, each of the three Councils who own the Plan, and are also responsible for the collection and management of Municipal Wastes, will each need to develop arrangements and potentially new facilities, in order to achieve higher rates of diversion from landfill, and recovery of materials. However, at present there is no clear indication of the nature of these arrangements and facilities, from each of the three Councils. In this context, the Core Strategy sets out policies which contain flexibility, since the Councils need to develop new facilities urgently, in order to comply with the LATS targets.

f) Strategic Objectives

3.21 The Vision (expressed in Chapter 3) sets out a number of Strategic Objectives, which are repeated below. These Objectives have contributed to the identification of the Preferred Option.

1. To manage as much as possible of wastes arising from within the Plan area, and the agreed apportionment of London wastes;
2. To promote the reduction of waste arisings;
3. To move away from dependence upon landfilling;
4. To provide greater capacity for the recovery of materials and energy;
5. To protect the biodiversity and landscape fabric of the Plan area;
6. To protect the safety of the road network in the Plan area;
7. To protect the cultural, social, and environmental heritage of the Plan area.

g) Other parts of the Councils' Local Development Frameworks

3.22 The Local Development Frameworks for each Council, and the individual Development Plan Documents, reflect the same overall sustainability principles which underpin the Waste element of the Core Strategy. In addition, in preparing the Core Strategy, effort has been taken so as to ensure that there is no material conflict between its spatial proposals, and those of the Councils' emerging Core Strategies and Site Allocations DPDs in respect of housing, employment land, leisure, retailing and transport. Finally, in considering emerging versions of the Council's DPDs for non-minerals and waste developments, they will also look to ensure that they take all opportunities to reflect the content and wider objectives of the Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework. In particular there are issues about including waste storage and management facilities in the design of new developments, and making provision for waste reuse and storage during the construction of new developments.

3.23 In addition to the non-minerals and waste Local Development Frameworks, each Council is responsible for developing its own Community Strategy. These documents contain a range of aspirations, some of which relate to land use planning issues. It is important to take into consideration these aspirations, in the identification of Core Policies, the Spatial Strategy, and identification of Strategic sites. Technical Evidence Paper Three sets out the linkages between the Waste Core Strategy and each of the Community Strategies.

f) The Spatial Vision

The Desired Future State:

By 2027, the Plan area will have a sustainable material resources economy. The Plan area will have sufficient waste management capacity for most kinds of wastes arising within its area, plus an apportionment of wastes from London, but will rely upon facilities elsewhere for some specialist wastes.

Specifically, the Plan area will maximise the reuse and recycling of wastes, and minimise the need for disposal. Consequently, the amount of MSW and Commercial/Industrial waste sent to landfill will be significantly lower than at the beginning of the Plan period. Value will be recovered through re-use, recycling and composting processes, and through the recovery of energy and / or materials from the waste. Consequently, the amount of waste going to landfill will be highly limited in both quantity, and in biodegradable content.

Facilities for the collection and storage of waste will be fully integrated into the design of all development, with waste management facilities located as close as possible to urban areas.

Transport of waste in the Plan area will continue to rely upon the use of the local road network, and should therefore be appropriately sited so as to be able to accommodate large numbers of traffic movements.

Do you agree with this Vision for the Future Desired State?

A) Agree

B) Disagree

If you disagree, please state your reasons.

b) The Core Strategy Objectives:

- A. To manage wastes arising solely from within the Plan area, and the agreed apportionment of London wastes;**
- B. To promote the reduction of waste arisings;**
- C. To move away from dependence upon landfilling;**
- D. To provide greater capacity for the recovery of materials and energy;**
- E. To protect the biodiversity and landscape fabric of the Plan area;**
- F. To protect the safety of the road network in the Plan area;**
- G. To protect the cultural, social, and environmental heritage of the Plan area.**

Do you agree or disagree with these Core Strategy Objectives?

A) Agree

B) Disagree

If you disagree, please state your Reasons.

a. Core Policies

WCP 1

Sufficient waste recovery and disposal capacity will be provided solely for wastes arising from within the Plan area, as well as an apportionment of waste from London as set out in the East of England Regional Spatial Strategy.

Do you agree with Waste Core Policy 1?

A) Yes

B) No

If you disagree with the Core Policy please state your reasons.

3.24 The East of England Plan waste policies was developed based on the principle of Self Sufficiency for each "County" area, with a requirement to landfill an amount of waste from London. According to RSS Policy WM5, after 2015 provision for the management of imported waste from London is restricted to the landfill of residual waste that has been subject to the maximum practical level of recovery and treatment, for which landfill is the only option, in the Marston Vale.

WCP2

Sufficient capacity for the recovery of materials and energy from waste will be provided in order to enable the following targets for diversion from landfill and recovery to be achieved as set out in the East of England Regional Spatial Strategy 2008:

- recovery of 50% of Municipal Solid Wastes by 2010, and 70% by 2015
- recovery of 72% of Commercial and Industrial Waste by 2010, and 75% by 2015.

Do you agree with Waste Core Policy 2?

A) Yes

B) No

If you disagree, please state your reasons.

3.25 RSS Policy WM2 seeks to eliminate the landfilling of untreated municipal and commercial waste by 2021, and to secure minimum levels of recovery. These targets are intended to be applied to the tonnages forecast to arise within the Plan area, and recovery capacity equivalent to to these amounts should be provided.

WCP 3

New or extended waste management facilities will be designed in their physical form and layout so as to give rise to as little negative impact as possible on adjacent occupiers and the surrounding locality. Innovative designs for waste management facilities which use colours and materials compatible with the locality, will be encouraged, in order to promote sympathetic designs and local distinctiveness.

Do you agree or disagree with Waste Core Policy 3?

A) Agree

B) Disagree

If you disagree, please state your reasons



3.26 Richmond Hill, Isle of Man - A good example of an Energy from Waste Facility compatible with its locality.

3.27 Waste management facilities are historically perceived as bad neighbours, since they are frequently unattractive in form, and can have a detrimental impact on amenity. However, waste facilities can be designed so as to be more attractive, and sympathetic to the area in which they are sited. Architectural design, choice of materials, and site layout, can all contribute to making waste facilities more acceptable to adjacent occupiers, and in the wider locality. Since a greater number of waste management facilities of every kind is needed, then promoting improved quality of design and layout is an important issue. The Commission for Architecture and the Built Environment (CABE) published a guide entitled "Designing Waste Facilities: A Guide to Modern Waste Facilities". This provides detailed guidance for waste management developers and waste planning authorities concerning the design and layout of new waste facilities.

<http://www.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/localauth/documents/designing-waste-facilities-guide.pdf>

WCP4

Waste disposal and recovery capacity will be provided for waste arising from within the Plan area, as well for the disposal of an apportionment of post-treatment residual waste from London, as agreed in the Regional Spatial Strategy. In order to ensure that waste management capacity, is used by the waste for which it is intended, new facilities (including materials and energy recovery facilities with a capacity above 75,000 tonnes per annum) will be required to enter into legally binding arrangements so as to restrict the origin of waste that they receive.

Do you agree or disagree with Waste Core Policy 4?

A) Agree

B) Disagree

If you disagree, please state the reasons.

3.28 The Plan area is narrow in width, and easily accessed from neighbouring areas and the adjoining Regions. New capacity for disposal and recovery arising from permissions for Strategic facilities will need to be protected so as to serve primarily the Plan area. Consequently legally binding arrangements will be required to enforce that the origin of the waste to be accepted at these new recovery and disposal facilities, originates primarily from the Plan area.

WCP5

All new development will be designed and planned so as to include sufficient and appropriate waste storage and recovery facilities.

Do you agree or disagree with Waste Core Policy 5?

A) Agree

B) Disagree

If you disagree, please state your reasons.

3.29 The design and implementation of these waste storage and recovery facilities in new developments, both during their construction and operation, will help to reduce the volume of waste arisings, and to enable the safe and convenient storage of wastes and recyclable materials, prior to their management elsewhere. The storage and recovery of wastes cannot be handled as purely an externality to the urban or industrial

Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options

environment. There is already an increasing trend for new commercial and distribution facilities to provide separation and storage facilities within their premises. Increasingly, wastes are separated at the point of arising, and this requires facilities to be included within their built form.

WCP6

Proposals for facilities to handle and transfer Clinical wastes, will be accommodated on the same premises as where they arise.

Do you agree or disagree with Waste Core Policy WCP6?

A) Agree

B) Disagree

If you disagree please state your reasons.

3.30 Clinical wastes are specialist in their requirements for management. Clinical waste arises at hospitals, surgeries, and historically has been incinerated or autoclaved on the hospital premises. In some cases, private sector healthcare facilities send their clinical wastes for management out of the Plan area.

WCP7

Small to medium scale facilities of a built form (with an annual throughput of less than 75,000 tonnes per annum), other than composting sites, shall be located:

- **on existing and allocated employment land**
- **on land allocated for employment use which is within the Central Bedfordshire/Luton Urban Extension Areas**
- **on land allocated for employment use in Bedford Borough;**
- **Strategic Waste management sites**

Do you agree or disagree with Waste Core Policy WCP7?

A) Agree

B) Disagree

If you disagree, please state your reasons.

3.31 Smaller scale waste management facilities will form part of the network of waste management facilities required, in order to move from a waste disposal economy to a resource recovery economy. These facilities contribute by the separating, bulking up, transfer, and the "treatment" of wastes, and assist to moving waste towards the recovery of materials, and thereby further up the Waste Hierarchy. Opportunities for these facilities exist to locate these facilities on employment land which is either existing or new, while the Strategic sites can also co-locate these facilities and provide beneficial synergies.

4 The Preferred Option

Chapter 4. The Preferred Option and its origins

Table of contents:

A. Alternatives and the Preferred Option

i) The Additional Recovery Capacity Requirement

iii) Options for the Spatial Distribution of New Facilities

iv) Strategic Sites

B. The Preferred Option

i) Recovery Capacity

ii) Landfill Capacity

iii) Inert Waste Landfill

C. Deliverability

i) Contingencies

ii) Infrastructure requirements and delivery issues for Preferred Sites

4.1 This Chapter describes the alternative spatial options that have been considered as possible ways of delivering the Visions and Objectives, and explains how the choice of the proposed 'Preferred Options' has been made.

A. Alternatives and the Preferred Option

i) The Scale of the Problem

4.2 In defining the Preferred Option, the starting point is the scale of the problem. This can be distinguished between the amount of additional Non-Hazardous Landfill capacity, and non-landfill Recovery capacity, required to the end of the Plan period. There will also be a need for landfill capacity to receive Inert Wastes, arising from construction and demolition activities. According to Technical Evidence Paper 2:

Additional recovery capacity required with High Growth expectations, incorporating the RSS diversion targets:

- **2010/11: 336,900 tonnes**
- **2015/16: 546,450 tonnes**
- **2021/22: 690,300 tonnes**
- **2026/27: 799,050 tonnes**
- **2027/28: 820,800 tonnes**

Additional recovery capacity required with Low Growth expectations, incorporating the RSS targets:

- **2010/11: 91,565 tonnes**
- **2015/16: 200,734 tonnes**
- **2021/22: 223,358 tonnes**
- **2026/27: 245,870 tonnes**
- **2027/28: 250,460 tonnes**

4.3 The two growth scenarios for waste set out in Technical Evidence Paper 2 are substantially divergent. The **High Growth Scenario** was based upon the adopted Regional Spatial Strategy for the East of England, the "East of England Plan". The Low Growth Scenario derives from projections of future arisings of Municipal waste produced for the BEaR Project, and of Commercial/Industrial wastes produced by ADAS (See Technical Evidence Paper Two) .

4.4 Expectations of lower growth in all wastes are consistent with the national Waste Strategy for England 2007, as well as the range of continuing initiatives to promote waste prevention, and reduction, at both national and local levels, carried out by Local Authorities and national organisations such as WRAP. For example, the growth in Municipal wastes have failed to achieve the 3% per year growth rate assumed in the East of England Regional Spatial Strategy, and may even be stable in certain Waste Collection Authorities.

4.5 The projections of future arisings have allowed figures for the amount of waste to be landfilled and recovered, to be derived, as set out in Technical Evidence Paper Two. While these derived figures for the recovery and landfill of wastes, are necessary as a basis for the Plan, they do not accurately prescribe the number of new facilities needed. This is because the annual throughput of large scale waste facilities is relatively flexible, and can be built to accommodate throughput ranging from around 100,000 tonnes per annum, to four, five or six times this amount. This is partly because most waste management facilities are modular in nature. However certain land use issues such as access and highways capacity, will provide a real constraint on throughput.

4.6 To contrast the two growth scenarios, by 2015 an additional recovery capacity of **546,000 tonnes per annum** would be required under the **High Growth Scenario**; compared to an additional **200,000 tonnes per annum** recovery capacity under the **Low Growth Scenario**. However, the amounts of both

Municipal wastes as well as Commercial/Industrial wastes arising in recent years, have been significantly less than the 3% growth rate set out in the Regional Spatial Strategy (East of England Plan). In addition, there are a range of initiatives concerning the reduction of waste arisings, at national and local level, which support the belief that the growth in wastes will be generally lower rather than higher, during the Plan period. Consequently the **Preferred Option for Waste Growth** is the **Low Growth Scenario**.

The Preferred Option for the amount of waste to be managed is the Low Growth Scenario.

The Preferred Option for Waste Growth Scenarios during the Plan period is the Low Growth Scenario. Do you:

A) Agree

B) Disagree

If you disagree, then please state your reasons.

iii) The Spatial Distribution of New Strategic Facilities

4.7 The majority of the population in the Plan area, are located in the south of the Plan area, whereas the existing large scale recovery facilities are located in the north of the Plan area. For instance, in 2006, Luton had a population of 202,500; compared to 154,700 for Bedford; and 249,200 for Central Bedfordshire. However, the majority of the existing waste recovery capacity is located along the A6 corridor to the northwest of Bedford, and the A421 corridor between Bedford and the border with Milton Keynes. By contrast, the bulk of the population is in the remainder of Central Bedfordshire, and Luton. However, the distance from Luton to the most northern existing facility (at Goosey Lodge, Wymington) is 25 to 30 miles. Although the distance involved is not considerable, the time taken for return journeys, especially given the scope for traffic congestion that may result, may easily mitigate against the use of these facilities, over the distances involved, or may make them a contributor to traffic congestion.

4.8 Highway linkages between the A6 and the M1 to the west, may be improved during the latter part of the Plan period. Concerning north-south movements, the Western By Pass around Bedford, will eventually take away the need for traffic to pass through the centre of Bedford. However, the completion date for this By Pass cannot be accurately estimated at present, as it has previously been dependent upon financial contributions from housing developers along the route of the By Pass.

What is a Strategic site?

4.9 The Spatial Distribution will need to address where different types of facilities should be located, both Strategic and Non-Strategic. The Strategic sites identified within the Core Strategy are those which are essential to the successful achievements of its objectives. Given the extreme paucity of land for Landfilling Non-Hazardous wastes, sites for the future landfilling of these wastes are considered to be of vital importance for the Plan. In addition, Facilities capable of handling a range of wastes and recovering Materials and Energy from them, with a capacity above 75,000 tonnes, will make significant contributions to diverting

Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options

waste from landfill and moving the Plan area to a resource reuse economy. However, there will continue to be a need for some specialist facilities, such as those which handle clinical, hazardous wastes, or WEEE (Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment).

Strategic sites are defined as:

- **Materials, energy recovery, and MSW transfer facilities (with a throughput of at least 75,000 tonnes per annum or more), for Non-Hazardous wastes only;**
- **Facilities for managing specialist waste streams;**
- **Landfill sites for the disposal of Non-Hazardous wastes.**

Concerning this definition of a Strategic site, do you either:

A) Agree

B) Disagree, if so please state your reasons.

4.10 According to this definition, it was identified that there were only two possible sites for the landfilling of Non-Hazardous waste:

Two proposed Non-Hazardous waste Landfill sites:

- **Rookery Pit South, WSD34**
- **Elstow South, WSD 16.**

4.11 In addition, there were ten potential Strategic Materials and Energy recovery sites. These included:

Potential Strategic Materials Recovery Sites

1. **Rookery South, WSD 34**
2. **Brogborough, WSD13**
3. **Land at Arlesey Landfill Site, WSD 15**
4. **Stewartby Sidings, WSD31**
5. **Chelveston Airfield, WSD33**
6. **Twinwoods WSD54**
7. **Roxton WSD46**
8. **Stewartby, WSD14**
9. **Thorn Turn, WSD2**
10. **Elstow North, WSD1**

4.12 However, only one site was proposed as a specialist facility site- Elstow North- for use as a waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) facility.

Site Assessment Information

4.13 In order to assess the sites suggested which meet the above definition of a Strategic site, and arrive at what sites should be Preferred, a wide range of planning information was assembled. Technical Evidence Paper Four sets out the range of information that was compiled in order to assess the proposed sites. This includes the responses received from technical consultees; the responses received from all other parties to the Issues and Options consultation; and National, Regional, and Local Planning Policy specifically applying to waste developments.

4.14 It should be noted that the presence of a potential conflict is only the beginning of the process of considering the acceptability of individual sites. Where the Site Assessment process has highlighted potential significant conflicts, these have been investigated concerning the degree of conflict, and the scope for mitigating or avoiding them.

4.15 The Site Assessment Information was utilised in assessing the relative merits of these Strategic sites. Two sets of criteria were used to weigh up the merits of these proposed sites- Sustainability Criteria, and Planning Criteria (drawn from the Saved waste Policies from the Minerals and Waste Local Plan). These criteria are set out in Technical Evidence Paper 4. The particular circumstances and merits of these sites could then be examined in greater detail, and other planning considerations applied, so that the relative advantages and disadvantages of the proposed sites came to light.

Options for the distribution of Strategic (large scale) materials and energy recovery sites:

A Small number of larger sized sites:

- **equally distributed throughout the Plan area**
- **or centrally located across the Plan area.**

A Large number of smaller size sites:

- **centrally located within the Plan area.**
- **equally distributed across the Plan area.**

Distributed:

- **equally in/near centres of population**
- **in locations unrelated to centres of population**

The Preferred Option for the Spatial Distribution of Strategic sites is:

- **A small number of large sites, with the Principal sites located centrally, and the Reserve sites located equally towards the major centres of population.**

4.16 Taking into account the scoring of the potential Strategic sites, and bearing in mind where they are located in relation to the Preferred Strategic Distribution for Strategic Sites, the following sites for Materials Recovery have been identified. The potential sites landfilling Non-Hazardous wastes, and for Materials Recovery (with a capacity of above 75,000 tonnes per annum) have been considered using the methodology set out in Technical Evidence Paper Four. A scoring system considered the potential sites against criteria derived from Sustainability and Saved Local Plan Policies. Taking into account the results of this appraisal process, and a number of landuse considerations, **Rookery Pit South**, and **land at the former Brogborough Landfill** are the **Primary Preferred Sites**. In addition, land at **Elstow North** and **Thorn Turn** are **Reserve Strategic Sites**.

The Preferred Principal Strategic sites are:

- 1. Rookery Pit South**
- 2. Land at former Brogborough Landfill**

Reserve Strategic sites are:

- 3. Land at Elstow North**
- 4. Land at Thorn Turn**

Do you either:

- A) Agree**
- B) Disagree**

With these sites identified as Strategic. If you disagree, please state your reasons.

Why are these Strategic Sites Preferred?

4.17 The key issue in favour of the **Rookery Pit South** and land at **Brogborough Landfill** are that they are located centrally within the Plan area, and are being accessed from the A421, which is due to complete being dualled in late 2010. Consequently they are accessible to receive wastes from nearly all of the Plan area. Both of these sites are located in the Marston Vale, which has a history of clay extraction for brick manufacture, followed by landfilling. Rookery Pit South will be reclaimed under its Old Mineral Permission, which will include the relocation of the existing Great Crested Newt Population. Brogborough Landfill site is being progressively reclaimed following landfilling, and will be landscaped with extensive tree establishment. Forest of Marston Vale is being developed, with the aim of creating a combination of woodland, wetlands, and open spaces. Because of the establishment of the Forest of Marston Vale, and the reclamation of these sites, any new waste management developments involving structures and buildings will be increasingly screened, and able to assimilate into the surrounding landscape. Around these active sites the visual and landscape impacts of developing these sites for waste management facilities will be considerably less than those for the previously existing landfill sites in this area.

4.18 In addition, **land at Elstow North** and **Thorn Turn**, are identified as **Reserve Strategic sites**. **Elstow North** is already the site for a municipal waste Materials Recycling Facility and Waste Transfer Station, operated on behalf of Bedford Borough Council, and this handles collected recyclable Municipal Wastes. The site has a direct access from the A6, and is close to Bedford town, although physically separated by the A421. There is scope to increase the range of waste management facilities present on the site, so that it can act as a local Strategic site for the recovery and transfer of municipal wastes.

4.19 The proposed site at **Thorn Turn** is presently within the designated Green Belt. However, the Joint Core Strategy for Luton and South (Central) Bedfordshire proposes that three urban extensions are allocated. The land at Thorn Turn is within a Strategic Site Allocation, which when the Core Strategy is adopted, will release the land from its present Green Belt designation. The land at Thorn Turn would

Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options

provide a location for facilities for both the transfer and recovery of waste facilities. Of particular benefit is the close proximity of the site to Luton, Dunstable, and Leighton Buzzard. The Dunstable Northern Bypass (A5-M1 Link) will also be constructed just to the north of the site, and will enable the implementation of the Strategic Urban Extension. The identification of the land as a Strategic site for waste management use is therefore appropriate since it will be able to have good links to a high quality road network, and be proximate to existing and emerging areas of population. Appropriate waste management uses for this site include acting as a transfer point for the bulking of waste to be sent on for disposal by landfilling.

4.20 It is therefore proposed that these four sites are identified as **Preferred Strategic sites**, for the recovery of Materials from Wastes. The types of wastes to be handled at these Strategic sites may be either Municipal or Commercial/Industrial in origin, or a combination of both. The two Reserve sites- **Elstow South** and **land at Thorn Turn**- are both capable of acting as transfer points for Municipal Wastes from their nearby settlements, as well as siting Recovery facilities of various kinds. There is the scope for these facilities to contain either a single large scale facility (in terms of throughput), or a number of smaller facilities.

4.21 A key consideration expressed in the scoring of these sites and why they are Preferred, is the existing imbalance between the distribution of population, and the location of waste facilities in the Plan area. This imbalance is behind the selection of the Preferred Strategic Sites, as well as the the Spatial Distribution of Non- Strategic Facilities is as set out below. This Spatial Distribution seeks to address the availability of land compared to the sources of arisings, and the need for new facilities.

Non-Strategic Facilities

Preferred Spatial Distribution for Non-Strategic Facilities:

- Promote small to medium scale facilities evenly distributed within Bedford Borough, and Central Bedfordshire (outside of the area designated as either Green Belt or Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty); including any land taken out the Green Belt in the future; and within areas designated for new housing and industrial development
- Locate Aggregates recycling facilities with inert waste landfill sites
- Locate Windrow composting facilities on rural agricultural land with good quality highways access
- Locate In Vessel composting facilities in rural industrial locations
- Locate Anaerobic Digestion plants on industrial land in rural locations
- Locate Materials Recovery/Waste Transfer/Bulking Facilities in urban fringe locations
- Provide waste storage, handling, and recovery facilities, within new developments, by the implementation of the guidance contained in the adopted Supplementary Planning Document “Managing Waste in new Developments”

Concerning the Preferred Spatial Distribution for Non-Strategic Facilities, do you either:

A) Agree

B) Disagree

If you disagree, please state your reasons.

ii) Non-Hazardous Waste Landfill Capacity

4.22 The traditional management route for most wastes has been disposal to landfill. Even while the proportion of wastes that are recovered will continue to increase, the need to dispose of certain waste streams and post-treatment residues to landfill, will remain. It is estimated that between 6.9 million cubic metres and 9.4 million tonnes of Non-Hazardous waste will require void space for its disposal in Landfill sites capable of receiving Non-Hazardous wastes, during the Plan period to 2027.

Non-Hazardous Waste Landfill requirement to 2027 under the High Growth Scenario:

- 2010/11: 672,600 m3
- 2015/16: 3,669,410 m3
- 2021/22: 6,687,760 m3
- 2026/27: 9,412,510 m3

Non-Hazardous Waste Landfill requirement under the Low Growth Scenario:

- 2010/11: 552,204 m3
- 2015/16: 2,903,656 m3
- 2021/22: 5,074,434 m3
- 2026/27: 6,932,476 m3

4.23 The amount of land suitable for the landfilling of Non-Hazardous wastes is severely constrained by a number of factors, including principally the availability of suitable former mineral working voids, and the need to protect groundwater. As part of the Issues and Options stage consultations, only two former clay extraction voids were proposed. These were **Rookery Pit South** (with a potential capacity of 7 to 8 million cubic metres); and **Elstow South** (with a potential capacity of 2 to 3 million cubic metres). Together, these two sites represent a total potential capacity of between 9 and 11 million cubic metres. With an assumed conversion factor of one tonne of Non-Hazardous waste to one cubic metre of voidspace, the total landfill capacity of these sites is between **9 and 11 million tonnes**. Non-Hazardous Wastes includes Municipal Solid Wastes, as well as waste from Commercial, and Industrial sources. This level of landfill capacity would therefore be sufficient to meet the anticipated requirement for landfill for the Plan period.

4.24 Mineral working voids other than former clay workings are generally unsuited to acting as Non-Hazardous waste Landfill sites, due to the high engineering standards required for the long term containment of wastes. Former clay working voids are therefore most suited to becoming landfill sites. Few other former clay working voids exist in the Plan area. The Quest Pit was also suggested as a potential Non-Hazardous Landfill site, but this has permission for the NIRAH aquatic wildlife facility. It is considered that the choices of sites for Non-Hazardous waste Landfill sites available are limited to Rookery Pit South, and Elstow Pit South.

4.25 Beyond 2015, RSS Policies WM3 and WM5 require that Non-Hazardous Landfill sites in Marston Vale only receive pre-treated wastes after 2015, such that the maximum practicable value will have been recovered. Because of this pre-treatment, Non-Hazardous wastes sent to landfill will contain significantly less organic material, and be much less able to produce odour, compared to the present. Landfill sites receiving these wastes will be subject to far less post-completion "settlement", than has historically been the case, and therefore less intrusive visually and in the landscape in which they are sited.

4.26 In addition, odour, traffic, and visual intrusion are among the key impacts which have historically affected communities around landfill sites, and the scope for these impacts will be substantially reduced. In addition, modern landfill operations are highly regulated, and will therefore be far more acceptable in terms of their impacts on neighbours, when compared to similar landfill sites operating ten or fifteen years ago.

4.27 There are considered to be no planning reasons why both of these sites would be unable to come forward during the Plan period. Elstow Pit South has contamination and stability issues to address, and landfilling would assist in resolving these matters. Finally, it must be stated that both of these sites are required in order to ensure that sufficient Non-Hazardous waste landfill space forecast to be required will be made available in practice.

The Preferred sites for landfilling of Non-Hazardous wastes are:

- A) Rookery Pit South**
- B) Elstow Pit South**

Do you agree with the identification of Rookery Pit South and Elstow Pit South as Strategic sites for the landfilling of Non-Hazardous Wastes?

- A) Agree**
- B) Disagree**

If you disagree, please state your reasons.

Options for the Spatial Distribution of new Non-Strategic facilities

4.28 When examining the distribution of existing small scale facilities in the Plan area, it can be seen that they are located in either:

- urban, employment use locations; or
- brownfield land locations, either urban or rural;
- while Anaerobic Digestion Plants and Composting facilities have begun to occur in rural, employment use locations.

4.29 Larger scale waste facilities have begun to emerge within two corridors- along the A6, between Bedford and Northamptonshire; and along the A421, to the west of Bedford. The A6 corridor links the north of Bedford Borough to Rushden, Wellingborough, and other settlements in Northamptonshire which have substantial amounts of population and industry. However, this corridor is peripheral to the Plan area as a whole, and is not proximate to sources of waste arisings in Central Bedfordshire and Luton. Consequently it is not as desirable for facilities to develop in this area as in other parts of the Plan area that are more easily accessed from areas to the south, including land along the A421 west of Bedford.

Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options

4.30 The Plan Area includes several centres of population (such as Bedford, Dunstable, Leighton Buzzard, Biggleswade, and Luton) and more sparsely populated rural areas. A number of planning and geographical constraints apply to the Plan area, which have strongly influenced the pattern of the location of waste facilities. Firstly, a large area of land in the south west of the Plan area is designated as Green Belt, while a more limited area is designated as part of the Chilterns Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty. Waste management facilities are broadly inappropriate developments in either of these areas, according to national guidance in PPG2 (Green Belts) and PPS7 (Planning Policy Statement 7: Sustainable Development in Rural Areas).

4.31 Secondly, there are also several areas within the Plan Area which have been given a designation intended for their enhancement. These include the Forest of Marston Vale to the south west of Bedford; the Leighton Buzzard, and Heath and Reach Sandpit Strategy Area; the Ivel and Ouse Countryside Project Area; and the Greensand Trust Area. Within these areas the thrust of planning policy is towards enhancing the locality, its landscapes and features, rather than protecting its existing state. However it should be acknowledged that these designations are more appropriate in respect of mineral extraction and landfilling developments, than the wider range of waste management developments.

4.32 It would be appropriate to disregard the part of the Plan area designated as either an Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty, or Green Belt, due to the need to protect these areas from inappropriate development, that would harm their character and openness. This would exclude from consideration a large part of the Plan area. However, the area of land subject to Green Belt designation will change, as the Joint Core Strategy for Luton and the southern area of Central Bedfordshire is due to be adopted in 2011.

4.33 It should be noted that land has begun to be identified in these areas for future housing and employment uses. The opportunity therefore exists for the masterplanning of these areas to include the provision of waste facilities, of small to medium scale, which are vitally necessary in order to transfer wastes effectively from these areas of waste arisings to points of treatment or disposal.

4.34 The Joint Core Strategy proposes three areas of Preferred Strategic Urban extensions- north of Luton; north of Dunstable and Houghton Regis; and east of Leighton Buzzard. Once the Core Strategy is adopted, the area of existing Green Belt will be reduced in area, to allow these areas to be subject to housing and associated development. The release of land from the Green Belt in these areas will also have the scope to allow small to medium scale facilities to be developed in association with the development of new settlements.

4.35 There will continue to be a requirement for smaller scale transfer and recovery facilities with a capacity of less than 75,000 tonnes per annum. These include wood chipping, composting, aggregates recycling (of any capacity), Anaerobic Digestion plants (for food, agricultural, and green wastes), MSW Materials Recovery, and Commercial/Industrial Waste Transfer Facilities.

Options for the location of Non-Strategic Facilities:

- **Aggregates recycling facilities:** either co-locate them with inert waste landfill sites, mineral working sites, or on lower quality industrial land.
- **Windrow composting facilities:** either on rural agricultural land with good quality highways access, or concentrated with other waste management facilities in rural locations.
- **In Vessel composting facilities:** either located adjacent to Non-Hazardous waste landfill sites, or in rural industrial locations.
- **Anaerobic Digestion plants:** on industrial land, in either urban or rural locations.
- **Materials Recovery/Waste Transfer/Bulking Facilities:** either urban fringe, or general industrial locations.

The Preferred Spatial Distribution of Non-Strategic facilities is:

Generally, facilities will be evenly distributed throughout the Plan area, (beyond those areas designated as Green Belt/AONB), principally within larger settlements, and in the areas of new housing and employment land allocated in Local Development Frameworks.

Specific certain kinds of facilities, as set out below, should be located

- Aggregates recycling facilities, on landfill sites
- Windrow composting facilities, on rural agricultural land with good quality highways access
- In Vessel composting facilities, on rural industrial land
- Anaerobic Digestion plants, on rural industrial land
- Materials Recovery/Waste Transfer/Bulking Facilities in urban industrial locations, unless the size of the facility is such that an urban edge location is necessary for highways reasons.

Concerning the Preferred locations for Non-Strategic facilities do you either:

- A) Agree
- B) Disagree

If you disagree, please state your reasons.

Inert Waste from Construction and Demolition Activities

Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options

4.36 The production of demolition and construction waste can be of use in reclaiming mineral working voids, and in part for the creation of secondary aggregates. According to Technical Evidence Paper Two, the shortage of landfill space for the disposal of these wastes is estimated to be between 3 and 5 million tonnes by 2027/28. Some of this capacity is available already, given that a resolution has been made to grant permission subject to a Section 106 agreement, at Stone Lane, Leighton Buzzard, for 1.5 million tonnes of inert wastes. In addition it is likely that sites for the working of minerals such as sand, gravel, and specialist sands will provide sufficient void space for the volume of these wastes expected to arise. In addition, the amount of these minerals to be identified as Preferred in the combined Minerals and Waste Core Strategy is known. However, the reclamation strategies for these mineral sites are not known in detail, and therefore it is not yet possible to be clear of the amount of inert waste that will be needed to reclaim these sites. Rather, this is a matter which can be clarified in the creation of the combined Minerals and Waste Core Strategy for Submission to the Secretary of State.

Hazardous Waste

4.37 Hazardous waste arisings represent an insignificant proportion of the total amount of waste arisings. Nevertheless 19,954 tonnes arose in the Plan area in 2008, and the Plan area is a net exporter. Hazardous wastes are collected from a variety of sources and passed on to facilities elsewhere. This includes WEE facilities and Vehicles dismantling facilities. All facilities in the Plan are for the transfer of hazardous wastes, and for dismantling products which contain hazardous wastes, and none are for the destruction or disposal of these wastes.

4.38 Facilities for the disposal of hazardous wastes are a national issue which would be dealt with through applications to the Infrastructure Planning Commission. These facilities are of national importance, and are beyond the scope of the Waste Core Strategy.

iii) Deliverability

4.39 Sites that are proposed must be available for a waste management use in order to count as being deliverable. This means that to be deliverable there must be no land ownership reason why it could not be implemented, if granted planning permission. This has been tested by a combination of Land Registry Searches; as well contact with landowners, and the waste management operators who previously suggested the sites for allocation. The results have verified that the Preferred sites are all available for a waste management use

iv) Contingencies

4.40 It must be acknowledged that the requirements of the three Councils as Waste Collection and Disposal Authorities are not yet known following Local Government Re-Organisation in April 2009. Each of the three Councils will require new facilities for the transfer and the recovery of materials from wastes that they collect. The number and distribution of these facilities are therefore a key consideration in the Spatial aspects of the Waste Core Strategy. Given the circumstances in which the Plan is being developed, the Waste Core Strategy establishes a framework concerning where and under what circumstances, facilities of different kinds could be developed. But certain specific possible eventualities also need to be addressed, and they are set out here:

Possible eventualities to be addressed:

1. That neither Rookery Pit nor Elstow South will be implemented and developed, during the Plan period, as Non Hazardous Waste Landfill sites,
2. That a single large scale materials recovery facility is developed, but which will source the majority of its waste from outside of the Plan area,
3. That each Council develops small to medium scale facilities for its collected municipal wastes, located within its own area.

It is proposed that :

1. Non-Hazardous waste landfill capacity in the Plan area be monitored closely, including the disposal destinations of wastes collected by the Councils. A fuller assessment of the availability of land for landfilling may need to take place under the first review of the Core Strategy.
2. Clear and definite limits are placed on the amount of waste that can be received from outside of the Plan area, and will be implemented via a Core Policy.
3. New municipal waste management facilities developed by the Councils will be identified using firstly the Saved Policies from the Bedfordshire and Luton Minerals and Waste Local Plan (2005), and later the policies in the later General and Environmental Policies DPD, when adopted.

Do you agree with the above statements concerning actions to be taken?

A) Agree

B) Disagree

If you disagree, please say why.

v) Infrastructure requirements and delivery issues for Preferred Sites

4.41 Each of the Preferred sites have site specific issues concerning the constraints on them being implemented, and in particular the timing of their implementation. These are set out below:

4.42 Rookery Pit South: Access would need to be taken from the A421 via Green Lane. The A421 is presently being brought upto dual carriageway standard, and the site will have access to it via Green Lane. The timing of the implementation of this site is therefore particularly dependent on the completion of the A421 improvements, and any improvements to Green Lane.

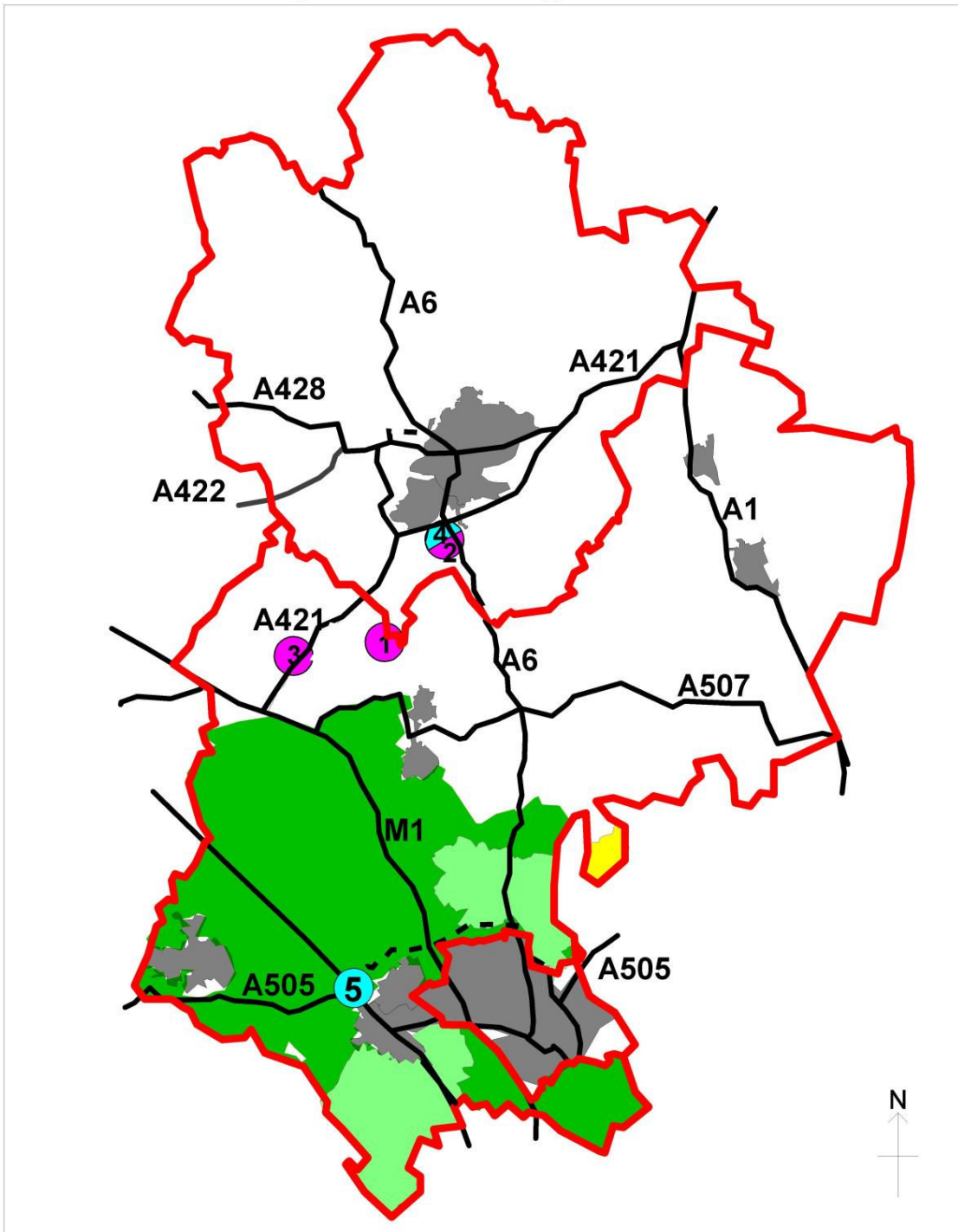
Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options

4.43 Land adjacent former Brogborough Landfill: This site is operational land within the site of the former Brogborough Landfill. Again, the completion of the works to bring the A421 to dual carriageway standard will be essential for the development of this site.

4.44 Elstow North: This site is bound on three sides by an area of the former landfill site, the majority of which has been permitted for use as a car park for the NIRAH development. The major constraint is the area available for a range of waste management uses.

4.45 Land at Thorn Turn: The implementation of this site is particularly dependent on the release of land from the Green Belt. This in turn depends on the adoption of the Luton and South (Central) Bedfordshire Core Strategy, which proposes three urban extensions. The Core Strategy is likely to be adopted in 2011. In addition, the A5-M1 Link Dunstable Northern Bypass Preferred Route has now been announced, which is the northern route, and runs to the north of the proposed waste management site.






Figure 4: Preferred Strategic Sites



Produced by Bedford Borough Council. Based on Ordnance Survey mapping © Crown copyright. All rights reserved.
OS Licence No. 100049028. Unauthorised reproduction infringes Crown copyright and may lead to prosecution or civil proceedings.
Date: 05/02/10

Plot @: 1:260000

Key

-  **Strategic Highway Network**
-  **Major towns**
-  **Green Belt**
-  **Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)**
-  **Green Belt and AONB**

Preferred Sites

- 1** WSD34 Rookery South (Landfill and/or Materials Recovery)
- 2** WSD16 Elstow South (Landfill)
- 3** WSD13 Brogborough (Materials Recovery)

Reserved Preferred Sites

- 4** WSD01 Elstow North (Materials Recovery/Transfer)
- 5** WSD02 Thorn Turn (Materials Recovery/Transfer)

5 Implementation and Monitoring

Introduction

5.1 The implementation, monitoring and review of this Core Strategy are an essential element of the Plan process, and serve to ensure that more sustainable waste management is achieved in the Plan area. Monitoring the implementation of the Core Strategy is essential in order that the Plan provides a relevant and flexible framework to guide future waste developments.

5.2 In order to establish the desirable outcomes of the Waste Core Strategy, it is first necessary to consider what the objectives of the Waste Core Strategy are. Chapter 3 sets out the following Objectives:

Waste core strategy objectives

- A. To manage wastes arising solely from within the Plan area, and the agreed apportionment of London wastes;
- B. To promote the reduction of waste arisings;
- C. To move away from dependence upon landfilling;
- D. To provide greater capacity for the recovery of materials and energy;
- E. To protect the biodiversity and landscape fabric of the Plan area;
- F. To protect the safety of the road network in the Plan area;
- G. To protect the cultural, social, and environmental heritage of the Plan area.

5.3 This Chapter now considers the parties and mechanisms involved in the implementation of these objectives and policies. Planning indicators are proposed which can be used to measure the success of policies quantitatively.

Implementation

5.4 It is recognised that spatial planning will need to be delivered through a wide variety of processes, tools, and activities. For instance as Waste Planning Authority, the Councils will implement the Plan priorities by determining planning applications, in accordance with its policies and provisions, subject to the other parts of the development plan and other material considerations.

5.5 Parties on whom the Plan relies upon for its implementation include:

- The three Councils (Bedford Borough Council, Central Bedfordshire Council and Luton Borough Council) as Waste Collection, Disposal, and Planning Authorities.
- Waste Management Companies, who operate landfill sites and materials recovery facilities.
- Landowners.
- Businesses and industries - which produce waste
- The public - as producers of Municipal Solid Waste
- Water companies - as managers of sewage and waste water.
- Metal recovery companies
- Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment operators
- Paper manufacturers - who reuse waste paper.
- Gypsum manufacturers - who reuse plaster.
- Plastic recovery firms, and plastic manufacturers who reuse plastics.

- Amenity bodies, (such as the Campaign to Protect Rural England).
- Environment Agency and Environmental Health Officers - who have responsibilities relating to the management of waste operations.

5.6 The Plan relies upon the presence of the right kinds of facilities in the Plan area, at the right time, so as to provide sufficient capacity to manage the various kinds of wastes arising.

Monitoring

5.7 The Councils as Waste Planning Authorities will monitor the Plan firstly by means of annual surveys of waste facilities in the Plan area, to provide up-to-date statistics concerning the capacity of facilities, and the recovery rates of various waste types and streams. In addition it is hoped in the longer term that statistics provided by the Environment Agency will assist this process. All data collected will help the Councils as Waste Planning Authorities to assess trends, and establish how far the Plan's objectives are being achieved.

5.8 To this end, an Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) will be published each year which will establish how far the extent to which the objectives of the Core Strategy are being achieved. In addition it will help identify whether any part of Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework is in need of review. The Annual Monitoring Report will also identify any further actions needed to deliver the Vision set out in the Core Strategy. Finally, measures will be set out to review and update the Sustainability Appraisal, and ensure that Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework continues to contribute to the Sustainable Development of the Plan area.

Monitoring Indicators

5.9 Having identified the broad measures to be taken in implementing and monitoring the Core strategy, table 1 (below) sets out the specific implementation mechanisms, indicators, and targets etc, on a policy by policy basis.

Waste Core Strategy Preferred Options

5.10

Policy	Related Strategy Objective	Implementation		Monitoring		Implementation Issues
		Mechanism	Standards Responsible	Output Indicator	Target	
WCP1: Sufficient waste recovery and disposal capacity will be provided for wastes arising from within the Plan area, as well as an apportionment of waste from London set out in the East of England Regional Spatial Strategy.	A: To manage wastes arising solely from within the Plan area, and the agreed apportionment of London wastes; B: To promote the reduction of waste arisings;	Strategic sites will be identified to meet the capacity requirement set out in the Core strategy. These sites will be identified and appraised in accordance with core policies.	Waste Planning Authority (WPA); Industry; Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) / Waste Collection Authority (WCA)	Permitted capacity will be monitored against forecast arisings set out in the core strategy, taking into account requirements for recovery versus disposal set out therein. ⁽¹⁾	Capacity to match arisings in net terms.	Ability to monitor policy dictated by the quality of operator returns. Implementation of identified sites, and thus the ability to meet future recovery and disposal capacity requirements, is dependant on applications for those sites being brought forward.

1 Future reviews of the core strategy will consider the need to amend the amount of capacity for either disposal to landfill or recovery capacity.

Policy	Related Strategy Objective	Implementation		Monitoring		Implementation Issues
		Mechanism	Stakeholder Responsible	Output Indicator	Target	
<p>WCP2: Sufficient capacity for the recovery of materials and energy from waste will be provided in order to enable the following targets for diversion from landfill and recovery to be achieved as set out in the East of England Regional Spatial Strategy 2008:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - recovery of 50% of Municipal Solid Wastes by 2010, and 70% by 2015 - recovery of 72% of Commercial and Industrial Waste by 2010, and 75% by 2015. 	<p>A: To manage wastes arising solely from within the Plan area, and the agreed apportionment of London wastes;</p> <p>B: To promote the reduction of waste arisings;</p> <p>C: To move away from dependence upon landfilling;</p> <p>D: To provide greater capacity for the recovery of materials and energy;</p>	<p>Strategic sites to be identified within the core strategy to meet recovery and disposal capacity requirement set out in the core strategy. These sites will be identified and appraised in accordance with core policies.</p>	<p>Waste Planning Authority (WPA); Industry; Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) / Waste Collection Authority (WCA)</p>	<p>Monitor permitted recovery and disposal capacity against forecast arisings set out in the core strategy, taking into account requirements for recovery versus disposal set out therein.⁽²⁾</p>	<p>Capacity to match arisings in net terms.</p>	<p>Ability to monitor policy dictated by the quality of operator returns. Implementation of identified sites, and thus the ability to meet future recovery and disposal capacity requirements, is dependant on applications for those sites being brought forward.</p>

2 Future reviews of the core strategy will consider the need to amend the amount of capacity for either disposal to landfill or recovery capacity).

Policy	Related Strategy Objective	Implementation		Monitoring		Implementation Issues
		Mechanism	Stakeholder Responsible	Output Indicator	Target	
WCP 3: New or extended waste management facilities will be designed in their physical form and layout so as to give rise to as little negative impact as possible on adjacent occupiers and the surrounding locality. Innovative designs for waste management facilities which use colours and materials compatible with the locality, will be encouraged, in order to promote sympathetic designs and local distinctiveness.	<p>E: To protect the biodiversity and landscape fabric of Plan area;</p> <p>F: To protect the safety of the road network in the Plan area;</p> <p>G: To protect the cultural, social, and environmental heritage of the Plan area.</p>	<p>Poor design will undermine community acceptance of waste facilities⁽³⁾. Information relating to form and layout will be included within the Design and Access Statement, which should explain the design thinking behind a proposed development, and demonstrate how the development</p>	<p>Waste Planning Authority (WPA); Industry; Waste Disposal Authority (WDA)</p>	<p>Number of planning permissions granted contrary to advice set out in the local landscape / townscape character assessment.</p> <p>Number of waste management proposals permitted contrary to the advice of the landscape officer.</p> <p>Number of waste management proposals permitted contrary to the advice of the conservation officer.</p>	<p>None</p> <p>None</p> <p>None</p> <p>None</p>	<p>Policy implementation reliant on WPA DM officers liaising with developers early in the design stage. Also reliant on developers awareness of the policy.</p>

3 Conflicts surrounding public perception and waste management facilities stem in part from the fact that traditionally they were constructed with pure function in mind and were regarded as low quality developments with limited regard for their integration within the local setting. The design of new facilities has a pivotal role in changing the perception of specific development and the industry as a whole.

Policy	Related Strategy Objective	Implementation		Monitoring		Implementation Issues
		Mechanism	Stakeholder Responsible	Output Indicator	Target	
		is compatible with the surroundings. This information will be evaluated as part of the consideration and determination of planning applications.				
WCP4: Waste disposal and recovery capacity will be provided for waste arising from within the Plan area, as well for the disposal of an apportionment of post-treatment residual waste from London, as agreed in the Regional Spatial Strategy. In order to ensure that waste management capacity, is used by	A: To manage wastes arising solely from within the Plan area, and the agreed apportionment of London wastes; E: To protect the biodiversity and landscape fabric of Plan area;	Strategic sites to be identified to meet capacity requirement set out in the Core strategy. Facilities with a capacity of >75,000 tonnes per annum, will be required to enter into legally binding catchment area	Waste Planning Authority (WPA); Industry; Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) / Waste Collection Authority (WCA)	Number of planning permissions granted for waste management facilities with a capacity >75,000 tonnes per annum which were not required to enter into a catchment area restriction. Facilities failing to comply with their catchment area restriction.	None None	Difficulty in evaluating the authenticity / reliability of operator returns.

Policy	Related Strategy Objective	Implementation		Monitoring		Implementation Issues
		Mechanism	Stakeholder Responsible	Output Indicator	Target	
the waste for which it is intended, new facilities (including materials and energy recovery facilities with a capacity above 75,000 tonnes per annum) will be required to enter into legally binding arrangements so as to restrict the origin of waste that they receive.	G: To protect the cultural, social, and environmental heritage of the Plan area.	restrictions which will restrict the origin of waste that they receive.				
WCP5: All new built development will be designed and planned so as to include sufficient and appropriate waste storage and recovery facilities. The design and implementation of these waste storage and recovery facilities in new developments, both during their construction and operation, will help	B: To promote the reduction of waste arisings; C: To move away from dependence upon landfilling; D: To provide greater capacity for the recovery of materials and energy;	The consideration and determination of planning applications for new built development.	Waste Planning Authority (WPA); Industry / Developers; Highways Planning Authority (HPA); Waste Collection Authority (WCA) /	The number of permissions for new built development which include waste storage and recovery facilities within their design.	100%	

Policy	Related Strategy Objective	Implementation		Monitoring		Implementation Issues
		Mechanism	Standards Responsible	Output Indicator	Target	
to reduce the volume of waste arisings, and to enable the safe and convenient storage of wastes and recyclable materials, prior to their management elsewhere.	<p>F: To protect the safety of the road network in the Plan area;</p> <p>G: To protect the cultural, social, and environmental heritage of the Plan area.</p>		Waste Disposal Authority (WDA)			
WCP6: Proposals for facilities to handle and transfer specialist wastes, (such as Hazardous or Clinical wastes), will be accommodated only where the amenity and highway safety of the area can be adequately safeguarded, and where they form part of an ancillary and sufficiently related operation.	<p>F: To protect the safety of the road network in the Plan area;</p> <p>G: To protect the cultural, social, and environmental heritage of the Plan area.</p>	The consideration and determination of applications for new facilities for these wastes.		<p>The number of permissions granted for facilities which are free standing and are sufficiently related to an operation where these wastes arise, and;</p> <p>The number of permissions granted contrary to advice by the Highways Authority.</p>	<p>100%</p> <p>None</p>	

Policy	Related Strategy Objective	Implementation		Monitoring		Implementation Issues
		Mechanism	Stakeholder Responsible	Output Indicator	Target	
<p>WCP7: Small to medium scale facilities (with an annual throughput of less than 75,000 tonnes per annum), other than composting sites, shall be located:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - on existing and allocated employment land on land allocated for employment use which is within the Central Bedfordshire/Luton Urban Extension Areas - on land allocated for employment use in Bedford Borough; 	<p>C: To move away from dependence upon landfilling;</p> <p>E: To protect the biodiversity and landscape fabric of Plan area;</p> <p>F: To protect the safety of the road network in the Plan area;</p> <p>G: To protect the cultural, social, and environmental heritage of the Plan area.</p>	<p>The consideration and determination of applications for new facilities with an annual throughput <75,000 tonnes.</p>	<p>Waste Planning Authority (WPA); Industry.</p>	<p>The number of permissions granted for small and medium scale facilities (other than composting sites), located on existing and allocated employment land, land allocated for employment use within Central Bedfordshire/Luton Urban Extension Areas, or land allocated for employment use in Bedford Borough.</p>	<p>100%</p>	

Policy	Related Strategy Objective	Implementation		Monitoring		Implementation Issues
		Mechanism	Stakeholder Responsible	Output Indicator	Target	
WCP8: Subject to other planning criteria, waste management facilities will normally be preferred in the following locations: -Aggregates recycling facilities will be located on/adjacent to inert waste landfill sites; -Windrow composting facilities will be located on rural agricultural land with good quality highways access; -In Vessel composting facilities will be located in rural industrial locations; -Anaerobic Digestion plants will be located on industrial land in rural locations;	C: To move away from dependence upon landfilling; E: To protect the biodiversity and landscape fabric of Plan area; F: To protect the safety of the road network in the Plan area; G: To protect the cultural, social, and environmental heritage of the Plan area.	The consideration and determination of applications for these waste facilities.	Waste Planning Authority (WPA); Industry.	The number of permissions granted for: Aggregates recycling facilities located on / adjacent to inert waste landfill sites; Windrow composting facilities located on rural agricultural land with good quality highways access; In Vessel composting facilities located in rural industrial locations; Anaerobic digestion plants located on industrial land in rural locations; Materials Recovery/Waste Transfer/Bulking Facilities located in urban fringe locations, and; Waste storage, handling, and recovery facilities located within new developments.	100% 100% 100% 100% 100%	

Policy	Related Strategy Objective	Implementation		Monitoring		Implementation Issues
		Mechanism	Stakeholder Response	Output Indicator	Target	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Materials Recovery/Waste Transfer/Bulking Facilities will be located in urban fringe locations; -Waste storage, handling, and recovery facilities will be located within new developments; 						

Table 1 Policy Implementation and Monitoring Matrix

Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 23 February 2010
Subject: Quarter 3 Performance Report
Report of: Director of Sustainable Communities
Summary: The report highlights the Quarter 3 performance of the Sustainable Communities directorate

Contact Officer: Ian Porter, AD Policy, Partnerships & Performance
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The Quarterly Performance Report underpins the delivery of the Council's Priorities

Financial:

None directly but there are possible investment decisions to improve performance

Legal:

None

Risk Management:

Areas of ongoing underperformance are a risk to both service delivery and the reputation of the Council

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

It is important that consideration is given to our Central Bedfordshire communities when considering public facing performance indicators – particularly vulnerable groups.

Community Safety:

An indicator measuring the Council's performance against serious acquisitive crime, is contained within this report.

Sustainability:

None

RECOMMENDATION(S):

1. **That the Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee:-**
 - (a) **notes and considers this report;**
 - (b) **considers any issues from this report that could form part of their work programme.**

Introduction

1. The Council's framework for performance management supports the delivery of CBC's priorities. Those indicators that have been identified as 'critical' now form the quarterly corporate performance suite – included at Appendix A.
2. The Budget Monitoring Report comes to the same meeting as the Quarterly Performance Report to provide a better link with performance and finance.

Quarter 3 – Key Messages

3. As this is only the third Performance Report for Central Bedfordshire, work is still on going to ensure that we can accurately report on all of the indicators quarterly.

Conclusion and Next Steps

4. This is the third Quarterly Performance Report for Central Bedfordshire Council.
5. The Committee is asked to note and consider this report.
7. The Committee is asked to consider any issues from this report that could form part of their work programme

Appendices:

Appendix A – (Quarter 3 Performance Report)

Background Papers: (open to public inspection)

None

Location of papers: Melbourne House, Bedford

Sustainable Communities

Portfolio Holder Sustainable Development - Cllr Tom Nicols
 Portfolio Holder for Safer and Stronger Communities - Cllr David McVicar
 Portfolio Holder Economic Growth and Regeneration - Cllr Ken C Matthews

Director : Gary Alderson

Indicators	Linked to LAA	Unit	Good is	Outturn 08/09	Quarter 1 Apr-Jun 09	Quarter 2 Jul-Sept 09	Quarter 3 Oct-Dec 09	Quarter 4 Jan-Mar 10	Year to Date	Performance Judgement	Target 09/10	Comments
NI 16 - Serious Acquisitive Crime	Yes	No. Per 1,000 population	Low	15.12 (3,815 crimes)	3,249 (819 crimes)	2,689 (678 Crimes)	3,361 (857 crimes)	-	9,299 (2354 crimes)	On track	14.2	This indicator measures burglary in a dwelling; aggravated burglary in a dwelling; robbery of business and personal property; theft or unauthorised taking of a motor vehicle; aggravated vehicle taking; and theft from a vehicle. Whilst Q3 shows an increase, this indicator continues on track. The Community Safety Partnership will examine the increase in more detail to ensure the Serious Acquisitive Crime plan activities keep this indicator on track to achieve target.
NI 30 - Number of convictions recorded against Prolific and other Priority Offenders	Yes	No.	Low	19% Reduction (148 offences)	NA	NA	NA	-	NA	-	16% Reduction (81 offences)	Data is supposed to be available 4 months after the close of the quarter. However, we have still not received Quarter 1 data from the Home Office and do not expect this until year end. Target is 16% reduction in offences from baseline of 96 (no more than 81 offences).
NI 32 - Rate of repeat victimisation for those domestic violence cases reviewed by the Multi-Agency Risk Assessment Conference (MARAC)	Yes	%	High	18%	19%	22%	20%	-	20%	Off track	31%	Q3 has seen an increase in the number of cases being heard at MARAC and whilst the number of repeats has slightly increased this has remained at a rate well below the upper limit. Further work is being undertaken to increase referrals in to the MARAC, through MARAC Awareness Training, which continues to be rolled out across all MARAC agencies. As the number of referrals increase still, it is anticipated that repeat rates will rise again before the end of the financial year.
The percentage of planning applicants satisfied with the service received from the Planning department	No	%	High	NA	NA	NA	78%	-	78%	-	82%	New survey for Development Management commenced on 1 September 2009 so the first results are reported in Q3. The return rate is currently low with 72 applicants making response out of 630 sent out. This number is likely to increase in future months and work will be carried out to determine where responses are not being made eg architect offices making multiple applications but only one survey response.

Indicators	Linked to LAA	Unit	Good is	Outturn 08/09	Quarter 1 Apr-Jun 09	Quarter 2 Jul-Sept 09	Quarter 3 Oct-Dec 09	Quarter 4 Jan-Mar 10	Year to Date	Performance Judgement	Target 09/10	Comments
Quality of applications approved	No	No.	High	NA	NA	NA	NA	-	NA	-	NT	As this is a new indicator, a baseline is being established before a target is set. Commencement scheduled for Q4. Building for Life is a scheme run by CABE (Commission for Architecture and Built Environment) to assess the design quality of development across a range of criteria.
Principal Road network resurfaced. (Principal roads are defined as A roads only, representing 125km of the road network)	No	km	High	NA	0	7	0.71	-	7.41	-	NT	This indicator reflects the progress with the structural maintenance programme. In Q1 work focussed on non-principal roads. Due to weather conditions, Q2 sees that largest achievement of the programme. Due to winter maintenance programmes the level of surfacing in Q3 was restricted.
Non Principal Classified Road network resurfaced (Non principal roads are B & C roads only)	No	km	High	NA	5.5	15.1	4.9	-	25.5	-	NT	This indicator reflects the progress with the structural maintenance programme. In Q1 work focussed on non-principal roads. Poor weather (e.g. rain, snow etc) has an adverse affect on how quickly resurfacing work can be progressed. The most significant outputs for resurfacing are therefore delivered in Q2. Due to the high level of resurfacing carried out in Q2, this did not need to be replicated. The Winter maintenance programme also had an effect on the amount of road resurfaced. The length of B roads = 72.2km and C roads = 336.6km.
Road accident casualties (All people killed or seriously injured)	No	No.	Low	NA	37	46	28	-	111	Off track	121	The performance data in this table has been disaggregated and relates to CBC only. However, the national indicator relates to the administrative areas of Bedford, Central Bedfordshire and Luton up until March 2010. Engineering and enforcement solutions have produced a significant reduction in the number of accidents, however it will be challenging to meet the target. Enforcement programmes will continue, but the new focus will be on education campaigns to change driver behaviour.

Indicators	Linked to LAA	Unit	Good is	Outturn 08/09	Quarter 1 Apr-Jun 09	Quarter 2 Jul-Sept 09	Quarter 3 Oct-Dec 09	Quarter 4 Jan-Mar 10	Year to Date	Performance Judgement	Target 09/10	Comments
Road accident casualties (Children under 16 killed or seriously injured)	No	No.	Low	NA	2	4	2	-	8	Off track	9	The performance data in this table has been disaggregated and relates to CBC only. However, the national indicator relates to the administrative areas of Bedford, Central Bedfordshire and Luton up until March 2010. Engineering and enforcement solutions have produced a significant reduction in the number of accidents, however it will be challenging to meet the target. Enforcement programmes will continue, but the new focus will be on education campaigns to change driver behaviour.
Highways Emergencies responded to within 2 hours. Examples include oil spills, road traffic accidents, collapsed mains etc.	No	%	High	99.20%	99.10%	99.45%	98.10%	-	99.11%	On track	95%	Local indicator used to manage emergency response performance. There were 1453 requests of this nature in 08/09. There have been 1163 requests to date.
% of customer requests for service investigated and/or closed out - as recorded on weekly Highways Members Bulletin	No	%	High	99.34%	99.53%	99.40%	99.40%	-	99.50%	On track	99%	Local indicator used to manage response to customers. We receive approximately 1700 requests for service per month through the Helpdesk.

Indicators	Linked to LAA	Unit	Good is	Outturn 08/09	Quarter 1 Apr-Jun 09	Quarter 2 Jul-Sept 09	Quarter 3 Oct-Dec 09	Quarter 4 Jan-Mar 10	Year to Date	Performance Judgement	Target 09/10	Comments
Progress against LDF - North												
Core Strategy and Development Management Development Plan Document										On track		CBC has 2 Local Development Frameworks (LDFs) - one for the former MBDC area and a joint one for the SBDC and Luton area. The Local Development Scheme (LDS) is a timetable of implementation for the LDF documents and is used to monitor performance. For the former MBDC area the LDF is progressing in accordance with the agreed LDS except for the Gypsy and Traveller DPD which is running 9 months behind timetable. In the former SBDC area the joint Core Strategy with Luton is being progressed to timetable, however other DPDs (Development Management Policies, Site Allocations and Gypsy and Traveller Policies) are currently around 4 months behind as work focuses on delivering the Core Strategy, though this will be caught up within the next 12 months before any key milestones arise.
Site Allocations Development Plan Document										On track		
Gypsy and Travellers Development Plan Document										Off track		
Progress against LDF - South												
Core Strategy Development Plan Document	No	-	-	NA	NA	NA	NA	-	NA	On track	NT	
Site Allocations Development Plan Document										On track		
Gypsy and Travellers Development Plan Document										On track		
Development Management Policies Development Plan Document										On track		
Progress against Local Transport Plan 3 (LTP3)	No	-	-	NA	NA	NA	-	-	NA	-	NT	'Final guidance has been released. Executive agreed a way forward in September 2009. Central Bedfordshire Officers are now working on detailed consultations through 2010 ready for submission to the Local Transport Plan Overview and Scrutiny in late 2010. It is proposed that full Council will be making a decision on this in March 2011.'
NI 191 - Kg of Residual Household waste per household	No	Kg	Low	NA	136.8	139.5	Available Q4	-	276.3	On track	540	Due to the nature of data collection, verification and use of the government database WasteDataFlow, reporting of the waste indicators are one quarter behind. Q2- Still on track to hit target. Q3 and Q4 may be effected by disruption to collections over Christmas and residents disposing of recyclables in their residual bin.

Indicators	Linked to LAA	Unit	Good is	Outturn 08/09	Quarter 1 Apr-Jun 09	Quarter 2 Jul-Sept 09	Quarter 3 Oct-Dec 09	Quarter 4 Jan-Mar 10	Year to Date	Performance Judgement	Target 09/10	Comments
NI 192 - percentage of household waste sent for reuse, recycling & composting	No	%	High	NA	54.2%	52.0%	Available Q4	-	53.0%	On track	50.0%	Due to the nature of data collection, verification and use of the government database WasteDataFlow, reporting of the waste indicators are one quarter behind. It is entirely normal & expected that the percentage value for NI 192 will decrease as the year goes on. Q2- Still on track to hit target. Q3 and Q4 may be effected by disruption to collections over Christmas and residents disposing of recycling in their residual bin.
NI 193 - Percentage of municipal waste land filled	Yes	%	Low	48.34%	37.10%	41.00%	Available Q4	-	39.00%	On track	45.00%	Due to the nature of data collection, verification and use of the government database WasteDataFlow, reporting of the waste indicators are one quarter behind. It is entirely normal & expected that the percentage value for NI 193 will increase as the year progresses. Much lower in first two quarters due to a high volume of EfW diversion. Still expected to be within target and well within LAA2 Target of 50.62% for 09/10

This page is intentionally left blank

Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee
Date: 23 February 2010
Subject: Quarter 3 Budget Management Report
Report of: Portfolio Holder for Sustainable Communities
Summary: The report sets out the Budget Management position as at September

Contact Officer: Gary Alderson, Director

Public/Exempt: Public

Wards Affected: All

Function of: Council

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

Financial:

The Financial implications are set out in the report

Legal:

None

Risk Management:

The Director is assessing the risks and management actions.

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

The effect of any proposed efficiency savings will need to be considered as part of the Equality Impact Assessments particularly in identified high risk areas.

Community Safety:

None

Sustainability:

None

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. that the Committee notes and considers this report
2. that the Committee considers any issues from this report that could form part of their work programme

Introduction

1. The report sets out the financial position as at the end of December 2009 and the forecast position at year end. Table A shows the net revenue position.
2. Members are aware that this is a relatively high risk budget as it is the first one produced by Central Bedfordshire and it is for this reason that robust monitoring has been in place since day one. The Quarterly Performance Report will be presented to the Committee at the same time as this Budget Management Report to provide a better link between performance and finance issues.

Quarter 2 – Key Messages

3. The net favourable revenue position as at December is £221,000.

Conclusion and Next Steps

4. The Committee is asked to note and consider this report.
5. The Committee is also asked to consider any issues from this report that could form part of its work programme.

Appendices:

Appendix A – (December Budget Management Report)

First Draft

Date 15/01/10

SUBJECT:	Budget Management Report for the period as at 31st December 2009
REPORT AUTHOR:	Finance Manager on behalf of Director of Sustainable Communities
PURPOSE:	To provide information on the budget position at 31 st December 2009 to enable decisions to be taken on resource allocation and service delivery.
RECOMMENDATIONS:	<p>The Service Management Team/Portfolio Holder/Executive is recommended to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Note the latest budget projections for the year and the associated service implications. b) Agree to any management actions proposed at paragraphs 2.4 and determine whether any other changes to service provision need to be made in the light of these. c) Note budget virements since last report.

1.0 Introduction

- 1.1 The report sets out the financial position to 31st December 2009 and the latest forecast position at year end. Table A shows the net revenue position, Table B the movements in revenue forecast from the prior month and Table C the capital position.

2.0 Executive Summary Revenue

- 2.1 The full year forecast position for Sustainable Communities is £0.221m (previous month £146k) under budget on a net revenue budget of £39.258m. This represents a favourable variation of £75k in the forecast from last month.

- 2.2 Major movements in the year to date have been:

- The previous adverse forecast variation related to the budgeted use of £0.5m of transition funds throughout the directorate. During the budget process the sum was allocated with the intention of utilising it in 2009/10 to enable harmonisation of processes and systems during the year.
- Due to the adverse winter spells Highways Division have indicated that the current budget for winter maintenance and the contingency previously set aside has now been exhausted. The cost of the last snow spell is estimated at £450k. Therefore it is projected that each future incident of a bad spell of snow will cost an estimated £450k cost pressure overspend to the budget .
- In addition it should be noted that there are budgetary pressures on employee allowances (£220k) and travel (£70k) which are currently being met from an offsetting overperformance in achieving vacancy targets and an actual pay

award 1.5% below budgeted levels (£290k). No provision was made for these elements during the budget setting process.

- To date, savings of £325k have been specifically identified by AD's to meet this shortfall, primarily through delaying recruitment to vacant posts which has implications for the quality of service delivery provided.
 - An additional overspend is in the Passenger Transport service and relates to the support of public bus routes. This overspend represents 1.8% on a net budget of £4.9m and has arisen due to the original disaggregated budget not matching the operational reality of the service. The service prepared a full paper for Executive in September 2009 setting out options as to how this overspend could be tackled by reducing the level of subsidy to bus operators. At its October 2009 meeting, the Executive resolved to make the full year savings of £68,000, with a £17,000 saving in 2009/10.
 - The forecast includes an additional saving of £250k relating to a reduction in the Highways Area Team budget. This was approved by Executive Committee on 8th December 2009.
 - The forecast now includes an anticipated £90k saving relating to amounts paid to bus companies for concessionary fares along with additional vacancy savings within Highways.
 - Finally, it should be noted that October saw several key contracts receive their annual inflation and this has been incorporated in the forecast. Provisional allocation of the HPDG is set at £1.395m, current budget commitments total the bulk of this amount.
 - Full year fee income forecast for Building Control is reduce by £100k compared to budget due to anticipated reduction in actual income bringing about an additional budget pressure.
- 2.3 Budget realignment work continues with Assistant Directors along with HOS closely reviewing their budgets. Significant progress has been made in recent months in this regard and future reports will reflect this. In addition, actual income postings have been limited to date due to processing problems in the new income system. There is currently £1.2m of unreconciled income within the system which particularly affects Development Management actual income postings making income forecasting difficult. Finance and Planning are currently working together to provide an estimate of how much Development Management income is currently outstanding and are liaising with Revenues to resolve the situation.

2.4 Key Management Actions

- AD's are continuing to review budgets in order to identify potential in year savings to compensate for the lack of transition funds. To date £325k has been identified.
- All budget managers will need to continue to monitor employee expenditure to ensure that performance is maintained. Particular care continues to be taken with regard to the use of interim staff. A full review of the use of interim staff has been undertaken to ensure all such appointments remain necessary and where practical have been engaged through Carlisle Managed Solutions, the Council's preferred supplier.
- Finance to consult with AD's and HOS's to ensure that the base budget and actual expenditure are shown correctly on SAP.

3.0 Executive Summary Capital

(a) The 2009/10 capital programme has been approved by Executive Committee.

4.0 Detailed Revenue Analysis by Operational Group

Table A – Revenue Actuals to date and Forecast Year End position

Table A - Net Revenue Position	Annual Budget	Profiled Budget	Actual spend	Variance	December Forecast Outturn	Forecast Variance
<i>Net Expenditure</i>	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000
Director for Sustainable Communities						
Director of Sustainable Commun	826	619	1,164	545	766	-60
Economic Growth & Regeneration	1,147	860	915	55	1,112	-35
Highways	11,672	8,755	8,289	(466)	11,509	-163
Planning and Dev Strategy	2,941	2,206	2,526	320	2,892	-49
Waste	16,988	12,741	12,118	(623)	17,056	68
Development Management	2,258	1,694	1,654	(40)	2,240	-18
Community Safety & Public Prot	3,141	2,356	2,195	(161)	3,177	36
BEaR Project	285	214	-46	(260)	285	0
Total Director of Sustainable Communities	39,258	29,445	28,815	(630)	39,037	(221)

4.1 Table B – Movement on Forecast Year End Position (to previous month)

Table B - Movement in Forecast	Nov Forecast Outturn	Dec Forecast Outturn	Movement in Forecast
<i>Net Expenditure</i>	£000	£000	£000
Director for Sustainable Communities			
Director of Sustainable Commun	766	766	0
Economic Growth & Regeneration	1,147	1,112	-35
Highways	11,608	11,509	-99
Planning and Dev Strategy	2,938	2,892	-46
Waste	17,056	17,056	0
Development Management	2,135	2,240	105
Community Safety & Public Prot	3,177	3,177	0
BEaR Project	285	285	0
Total Director of Sustainable Communities	39,112	39,037	(75)

4.2 Detailed Commentary on Director and Service Development team

- (a) Variances over £50k – none identified.
- (b) Service Implications – none identified.
- (c) Management Actions – none identified.

4.3 Detailed Commentary on Economic Growth and Regeneration

- (a) Variances over £50k – none identified.
- (b) Service Implications – none identified.
- (c) Management Actions – none identified.

4.4 Detailed Commentary on Highways

(a) Variances over £50k

- Passenger Transport £90k (1.8%) on a net budget of £4.9m. This is due to the reality of existing service provision being different to the original disaggregated budget estimate.
- Highways Area Team saving in maintenance costs (£250k).
- Concessionary Fares anticipated saving in payments to bus operators (£90k).
- Budgeted use of transition funds (£125k) will not be possible, however compensatory savings have been identified to mitigate against this.
- Potential additional overspend for each future bad spell of snow estimated at £450k.

(b) Service Implications

- Area Team saving affects Category 2 repairs and low level maintenance.

(c) Management Actions

- The service prepared a full paper for Executive in September 2009 setting out options as to how this overspend could be tackled by reducing the level of subsidy to bus operators. At it's October 2009 meeting, the Executive resolved to make the full year savings of £68,000, with a £17,000 saving in 2009/10.
- Executive Committee in December has approved the Area Team saving.
- Potential overspend due to possibility of additional bad snow spells needs to be accurately estimated. This will enable the council to correctly anticipate the potential level of additional funding that may be required.

4.5 Detailed Commentary on Planning and Development Strategy

- (a) Variances over £50k – none identified.
- (b) Service Implications – none identified.
- (c) Management Actions – none identified.

4.6 Detailed Commentary on Waste

- (a) Variances over £50k
 - Budgeted use of transition funds (£176k) will not be possible.
 - LAA Grant for Waste not now anticipated.
- (b) Service Implications – none identified.
- (c) Management Actions
 - Finance have consulted with AD Waste to review budgets in order to identify potential in year savings to compensate for the lack of transition funds. Detailed work has been done on establishing the correct budget and actual position to date, and now the contract inflation rates are known, a more accurate forecast to year end has been made.

4.7 Detailed Commentary on Development Management

- (a) Variances over £50k
 - Full year fee income forecast for Building Control is reduce by £100k compared to budget due to anticipated reduction in actual income bringing about an additional budget pressure
 - Budgeted use of transition funds (£93k) will not be possible.
- (b) Service Implications
- (c) Management Actions
 - Finance have consulted with AD Development Management to review budgets in order to identify potential in year savings to compensate for the lack of transition funds. Savings have been identified through staff vacancies and by removing two consultants; however detailed work is ongoing to clarify income to date to enable an accurate outturn forecast.

4.8 Detailed Commentary on Community Safety and Public Protection

- (a) Variances over £50k
 - Budgeted use of transition funds (£56k) will not be possible.
- (b) Service Implications
- (c) Management Actions
 - Finance have consulted with AD Community Safety and Public Protection to review budgets in order to identify potential in year savings

to compensate for the lack of transition funds. Further work is being carried out with the intention of minimising the forecast overspend.

4.9 Detailed Commentary on Bear Project

- (a) Variances over £50k – none identified.
- (b) Service Implications – none identified.
- (c) Management Actions – none identified.

5.0 Revenue Virement Requests

There has been two virements to date in the net sum of £78k. This related to the transfer of a CRB co-ordinator post from the Transport Team to Human Resources (£25k) and the transfer of grant income relating to domestic violence from Adult Social Care (£53k).

For information, it should be noted that several technical adjustments have been actioned in order to more accurately realign legacy budgets to Central Bedfordshire operational requirements. This process is ongoing. The key adjustments actioned to date relate to the cascading of payroll budgets to services and movements between AD areas. It is anticipated that all additional requirements will fall within the technical adjustment definition, but any that do not will be reported here.

6.0 Key Risks and Cost Drivers

Cost Driver	Target	Current Performance	Previously Reported Performance	Comment
Tonnes of refuse sent to landfill.	Data not yet available.	Apr – Sept 09 25,728 tonnes	N/A	A key indicator within Waste as it is influenced by waste minimisation and diversion initiatives. Any waste sent to landfill incurs £40/tonne landfill tax charge on top of disposal costs. Landfill tax set to rise by an additional £8 per tonne cumulatively over the next 3 years
Directorate achievement of employee	Full achievement of	6.6% assuming pay award of	N/A	39% of the Directorate's budget relates to

costs budgets.	Directorate's 5% vacancy target.	1% and including use of contractors to cover vacancies.		payroll costs therefore achievement of vacancy targets is a good indicator of likely outturn.
Achievement of Planning and Building Control income targets.		Data quality issues currently being rectified. (expected resolution November)	N/A	The current economic climate makes close monitoring of these volatile budgets essential.

- 6.1 Potential unachievable budgeted income within Waste. Income relating to LAA performance targets for 2008/09 may not be realised due to targets being expressed in tonnage recycled rather than as a % of waste recycled. An appeal has been submitted, as the target was only missed because of our over achievement of waste minimisation targets.
- 6.2 Continued close monitoring of all fees and charges will be required to take account of the effects of the economic downturn and ensure budgets are attainable. Further reconciliation of unallocated income is required in addition to close working between finance and services.
- 6.3 Highways contract requires to be carefully monitored to ensure that Amey forecast fully takes account commitments as well as completed works. Potential additional expenditure overspend

7.0 Achieving Efficiency Savings

Sustainable Communities was budgeted to achieve £2.1m of efficiency savings in 2009/10. Current forecasts indicate that £2.1m of these efficiencies will be achieved, relating to vacancy savings (£808k), Waste and recycling (£833k), and supplies and services (£478k).

8.0 Reserves Position

The reserve position has been confirmed but further review is required.

9.0 Carry forward Requests

None.

10.0 Detailed Capital Analysis

See Executive Summary 3.0.

11.0 Workforce Data

Sustainable Communities	AD Area	Original Budgeted FTE	Fully funded posts not in original employee budget	Total FTE
Community Safety	Comm Safety Development	94.00	3.00	97.00
Development Mgt	Mg Economic Growth	136.00	7.50	143.50
Economic Growth	Highways	14.00	3.50	17.50
Highways	Highways	87.00	3.00	90.00
Service Development	Service Dev	15.00		15.00
Strategic Planning	Plan&Dev Strat	67.00		67.00
Waste	Waste	28.00		28.00
SC Director incl. BEaR project	Sust Comm'ty	2.00	6.00	8.00
		443.00	23.00	466.00

The above table reconciles the original budgeted employee FTEs for Sustainable Communities to the current establishment. The movements have all been financed either from existing budgeted resources or through additional external funding. It should be noted that 39FTEs within Development Management are employed within Albion Archaeology which is fully funded from trading activities.

12.0 Aged Debt Analysis

To be reported next month.

13.0 Payments Indicator

No data on payments within terms currently available. To be included in future reports.

14.0 List of Appendices

Appendix A Detailed revenue net expenditure by service area

Appendix B Capital expenditure monitoring

Director	Annual Budget	Profiled Budget	Actual spend	Variance	Full Year Forecast	Full Year Forecast Variance
	£000	£000	£000	(C) - (B) £000	£000	£000
Net Expenditure						
Director of Sustainable Commun	826	619	1,164	545	766	(60)
Director of Sustainable Commun	233	174	790	616	233	0
Service Development	593	445	374	(71)	533	(60)
Economic Growth & Regeneration	1,147	860	915	55	1,112	(35)
Economic Growth & Regeneration	699	524	575	51	698	(1)
Business Growth	273	205	67	(138)	241	(32)
Regeneration & Skills	175	131	273	142	173	(2)
Highways	11,672	8,755	8,289	(466)	11,509	(163)
Highways	(93)	(69)	160	229	(45)	48
Highways Contracts	6,462	4,847	4,212	(635)	6,212	(250)
Traffic Management	475	356	284	(72)	475	0
Passenger Transport	4,828	3,621	3,633	12	4,867	39
Planning and Dev Strategy	2,941	2,206	2,526	320	2,892	(49)
Strategic Planning, Housing St	(271)	(203)	192	395	(271)	0
Development Plan	1,537	1,153	1,190	37	1,536	(1)
Housing Strategy & Community	795	596	505	(91)	794	(1)
Transport Policy & Programme	880	660	639	(21)	833	(47)
Waste	16,988	12,741	12,118	(623)	17,056	68
Waste	798	599	755	156	823	25
Waste Operations	16,076	12,057	11,334	(723)	16,147	71
Strategy	114	85	29	(56)	86	(28)
Development Management	2,258	1,694	1,654	(40)	2,240	(18)
Development Management	(746)	(559)	991	1,550	(745)	1
Development Control Manager 1	1,302	976	(1,501)	(2,477)	1,148	(154)
Development Control Manager 2	821	616	1,038	422	822	1
Building Control	881	661	814	153	985	104
Albion Archaeology	0	0	312	312	30	30
Community Safety & Public Prot	3,141	2,356	2,195	(161)	3,177	36
Community Safety & Public Prot	(280)	(210)	(25)	185	(281)	(1)
Emergency Planning	230	172	120	(52)	256	26
Area Public Protection 1	1,042	782	793	11	1,043	1
Area Public Protection 2	792	594	589	(5)	792	0
Community Safety	1,357	1,018	718	(300)	1,367	10
BEaR Project	285	214	(46)	(260)	285	0
BEaR Project	285	214	(46)	(260)	285	0
Total	39,258	29,445	28,815	(630)	39,037	(221)

This page is intentionally left blank

General Fund	Original Budget 2009/10	Slippage from 08/09	In Year Budget Adjustments (incl. approved slippage to 10/11)	Current Budget Approved	Actual to Date	Forecast Outturn	Additional Slippage to 10/11	Forecast Variance to Approved Current Budget	
Director	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
Business Transformation	304	727	(523)	508	166	374	0	(134)	-26%
Children, Families & Learning (schools & non sh	15,635	5,726	(3,835)	17,526	8,231	16,049	(1,479)	2	0%
Children, Families & Learning (leisure & culture)	8,739	373	(6,225)	2,887	1,351	2,887	0	0	0%
Corporate Resources	4,972	657	(1,537)	4,182	636	4,443	0	261	6%
Social Care Health & Housing	4,225	7,914	(3,130)	9,009	2,578	8,126	0	(883)	-10%
Sustainable Communities	31,111	4,334	(3,371)	32,074	12,257	26,866	0	(5,208)	-16%
Less Budgeted Net Slippage going forward	(15,000)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Total Expendiure	49,986	19,731	(18,621)	66,186	25,219	58,745	(1,479)	(5,962)	
Grants & Contributions	(32,342)	(14,851)	7,448	(39,745)	(16,526)	(39,745)	0	0	0%
Revenue Contribution	(70)	0	0	(70)	0	(70)	0	0	0%
Borrowing	(8,787)	0	0	(8,787)	0	(8,787)	0	0	0%
Capital Receipts	(8,787)	0	0	(8,787)	0	(8,787)	0	0	0%
NET General Fund	0	4,880	(11,173)	8,797	8,693	1,356	(1,479)	(5,962)	

Housing Revenue Account	Original Budget 2009/10	Slippage from 08/09	In Year Budget Adjustments (incl. approved slippage to 10/11)	Current Budget Approved	Actual to Date	Forecast Outturn	Additional Slippage to 10/11	Forecast Variance to Approved Current Budget	
Director	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	£000	%
SCH&H	5,686	(79)	0	5,607	3,101	5,578	0	(29)	-1%
Total Expenditure	5,686	(79)	0	5,607	3,101	5,578	0	(29)	
Grants & Contributions	(3,649)	0	0	(3,649)	0	(3,649)	0	0	0%
Revenue Contribution	(343)	0	0	(343)	0	(343)	0	0	0%
Borrowing	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0%
Capital Receipts	(1,694)	79	0	(1,615)	0	(1,615)	0	0	0%
NET Housing Revenue Account	0	0	0	0	3,101	(29)	0	(29)	
NET TOTAL Capital Programme	0	4,880	(11,173)	8,797	11,794	1,327	(1,479)	(5,991)	

Meeting: Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee
Date: 23 February 2010
Subject: Work Programme 2009-2010
Report of: Jon Partridge, Overview & Scrutiny Officer
Summary: The report provides Members with details of the currently drafted work programme.

Contact Officer: Jon Partridge (0300 300 4634)
Public/Exempt: Public
Wards Affected: All
Function of: n/a

CORPORATE IMPLICATIONS

Council Priorities:

The work programme of the Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee should contribute to all 5 Council priorities, and will specifically support those 2 directly related to the work of the Sustainable Communities directorate, being managing growth effectively and creating safer communities.

Financial:

None

Legal:

None

Risk Management:

None

Staffing (including Trades Unions):

None

Equalities/Human Rights:

None

Community Development/Safety:

None

Sustainability:

None

RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. **That the Sustainable Communities Overview & Scrutiny Committee:**
 - (a) **considers and approves the attached work programme, subject to any further amendments it may wish to make; and**
 - (b) **considers whether it wishes to add any further items to the work programme and/or establish any Task Forces to assist it in reviewing specific items.**

Work Programme

1. At its first meeting the Committee received a presentation providing an overview of the Sustainable Communities directorate and the key issues and challenges facing it. A work programme was subsequently drafted containing a number of priority items to allow officers to plan accordingly.
2. The work programme is regularly kept under review by the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and officers and is amended as appropriate, which also includes adding further items during the course of the year if Members so wish and capacity exists. This current agreed work programme is attached at **Appendix A**.

Task Forces

3. Development Strategy Task Force

The Development Strategy Task Force has met on a number of occasions to consider items including the Design Guide for Central Bedfordshire, site allocations for housing and employment and gypsy and traveller sites and the Local Transport Plan. An indicative work programme for the Task Force for 2009 – 2010 is attached at **Appendix B**.
4. Member Advisory Group

The Committee has also established a Member Advisory Group for the purpose of consultation on the proposed programme of highway works (**Minute SCOSC/09/18 refers**) composed by Councillors Bastable, Gale, Kane, Maudlin and Williams. Following conclusion of the capital allocation by Full Council on 26 February 2010 a draft highways programme will be developed. The Member Advisory Group will then be canvassed to advise on this.

Conclusion

5. The Committee is requested to consider the work programme attached and make any further amendments it considers necessary. Members are also requested to consider highlighting those items within the work programme where they wish to establish a Task Force to assist the Committee in its work.

Appendices:

Appendix A: Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Committee Work Programme 2009 – 10

Appendix B: Development Strategy Task Force Work Programme 2009 - 10

This page is intentionally left blank

Appendix A

Sustainable Communities Overview and Scrutiny Work Programme 2009 – 2010

Ref.	Indicative Overview & Scrutiny Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue Description	Comment
1.	25 March 2010	Development of a Uniformed Presence for Central Bedfordshire	To consider the options available for Central Bedfordshire to undertake enforcement of a range of environmental and community safety legislation (including the Environmental Protection Act (EPA) and Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act (CNEA)) and exploring the role that a uniformed team has in that respect.	The item was deferred from 26 January 2010. Executive: 6 April 2010
2.	25 March 2010	Central Bedfordshire Energy and Recycling Project (CBEaR)		Executive: 6 April 2010
3.	25 March 2010	Parish Partnership Scheme		This report was requested by the Chairman in reference to the OSC on 4 August 2009. The date is still to be confirmed.

Items marked with * are linked to the Development Strategy Task Force.

NB: each agenda will include (1) an item to receive any recommendations as appropriate from the Development Strategy Task Force in accordance with the requirements set out in its purpose and guidance; and (2) a report regarding the Committee's work programme.

Ref.	Indicative Overview & Scrutiny Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue Description	Comment
4.	25 March 2010	Road Accident Casualties	To receive a report detailing Council performance in relation to road accident casualties, all people seriously killed or injured (including children under 16). Also to consider initiatives underway to resolve this issue and best practice from elsewhere.	This report was requested at the Committee meeting on 24 November 2009.
5.	20 April 2010	TBC		
6.	18 May 2010	Waste Management Strategy	To consider the first strategy document required by a new duty on all Local Authorities (providing waste minimisation and recycling solutions to 2020 ensuring alignment with other CBC policies/ priorities).	
7. *	18 May 2010	Housing Strategy	To receive the final draft strategy and any appropriate considerations by the Development Strategy Task Force prior to submission to the Executive.	Reports will also be received by the Development Strategy Task Force prior to submission to the Committee. Executive: 8 June 2010
8.	18 May 2010	CCTV Service Options	To consider options available to move to an approach for the provision of a CCTV service within Central Bedfordshire.	This item was deferred from 26 January 2010. Executive: 8 June 2010

Items marked with * are linked to the Development Strategy Task Force.

NB: each agenda will include (1) an item to receive any recommendations as appropriate from the Development Strategy Task Force in accordance with the requirements set out in its purpose and guidance; and (2) a report regarding the Committee's work programme.

Ref.	Indicative Overview & Scrutiny Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue Description	Comment
9.	July 2010 (TBC)	Winter Maintenance Policies	To consider the lessons learnt from the weather throughout winter 2009 – 2010 and to understand the Council's winter maintenance policies and the ways in which they are carried out. To consider what improvements can be made to these policies in light of recent experience.	This item was requested by Councillor Snelling
10.*	August 2010 (TBC)	Local Development Framework (North): Gypsy and Traveller DPD	To consider results of consultation and draft submission DPD, prior to consideration by Executive and Council	Executive and Council approval needed prior to submission. Executive: 14 September 2010
11.	October 2010 (TBC)	Local Area Economic Assessment	To consider the outcomes of the local area economic assessment and agree the priorities for the development of the Central Bedfordshire Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy and action plan.	
12.*	March 2011 (TBC)	LDF for the former Mid Beds Area: Gypsy & Traveller DPD	To note the Inspector's Draft Report into the Gypsy & Traveller DPD following Examination and the changes required by the Inspector	Pre-consideration may be required by the Task Force
13.	TBC	Central Bedfordshire Economic Development and Regeneration Strategy	To agree and adopt the strategy for Central Bedfordshire.	

Items marked with * are linked to the Development Strategy Task Force.

NB: each agenda will include (1) an item to receive any recommendations as appropriate from the Development Strategy Task Force in accordance with the requirements set out in its purpose and guidance; and (2) a report regarding the Committee's work programme.

Ref.	Indicative Overview & Scrutiny Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue Description	Comment
14.*	TBC	Local Transport Plan (LTP3)	To consider the proposed Local Transport Plan (LTP3) prior to submission to Executive for approval.	Pre-consideration of the draft LTP3 would be given by the LDF Task Force.
15.	TBC	Congestion Strategy for Central Bedfordshire		
16.	TBC	Items related to the Passenger Transport Review	Further to the Committees agreement to act as a reference group for the project there will be various items to be add to the work programme at appropriate stages in the project.	
17.	TBC	Joint Local Development Framework for Luton & the former South Beds Area: Core Strategy	To consider the Council's response to the Draft Submission Core Strategy following formal approval & publication by the Joint Planning Committee	Pre-consideration of the Draft Submission DPD would be given by the LDF Task Force.
18.	TBC	Development Strategy Task Force	4 monthly reports on progress and the work programme of the Task Force	

Items marked with * are linked to the Development Strategy Task Force.

NB: each agenda will include (1) an item to receive any recommendations as appropriate from the Development Strategy Task Force in accordance with the requirements set out in its purpose and guidance; and (2) a report regarding the Committee's work programme.

Appendix B

Development Strategy Task Force Work Programme 2009 - 2010

Ref.	Indicative Task Force Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue Description	Comment
1.	8 March 2010	Housing Strategy	<p>(i) To receive the draft housing strategy including details on the SHMA and how the outcomes of that assessment have been applied to develop a housing strategy that is fit for purpose for Central Bedfordshire</p> <p>(ii) to receive the outcomes of stakeholder consultation</p> <p>(iii) to recommend the document for formal public consultation and provide any further guidance to a final draft of the Strategy prior to its submission to the Executive</p>	<p>Members of the SCHH OSC will also be invited to attend this meeting. This item was originally scheduled for 14 January but was put back to enable the Task Force to receive feedback from Member and stakeholder workshops and to receive details from the SHMA.</p> <p>Contact: Mark Saccoccio</p>
2.	7 April 2010	TBC		
3.	May 2010	Local Development Framework (North): Site Allocations DPD	To consider results of draft submission consultation and agree any pre-submission suggested changes	The Council cannot amend the document following pre-submission consultation. However, changes can be put forward for the Inspector's consideration.

Ref.	Indicative Task Force Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue Description	Comment
4.	June 2010	Local Development Framework (South): Dunstable Town Centre Strategy and Masterplan SPD	Consideration of draft SPD as part of the public consultation, to provide comments to the JPC prior to final approval of the SPD in October	Date for item to be confirmed. Author: Andy Lewis, Town Centre Development Officer
5.	June 2010	Local Development Framework (North): Biggleswade Town Centre Strategy and Masterplan SPD	Consideration of draft SPD prior to public consultation	Was originally scheduled for March 2010. Author: Samuel Caldbeck, Major Projects Office
6.	August 2010	Local Development Framework (North): Gypsy and Traveller DPD	To consider results of consultation and draft submission DPD, prior to consideration by Executive and Council	Executive and Council approval needed prior to submission. Contact: Richard Fox
7.	TBC	Local Development Framework (North and South): Central Bedfordshire Planning Obligations Strategy SPD	To comment on full review of existing SPD for consultation	This new SPD will cover the whole of Central Bedfordshire and will bring together two S106 regimes for the first time. Contact: Mark Saccoccio
8.	September 2010	Local Development Framework (North and South): Central Bedfordshire Planning Obligations Strategy SPD	To consider full review of existing SPD following consultation, prior to consideration by Executive and Joint Committee	SPD needs to be formally adopted by Executive and Joint Committee. Contact: Mark Saccoccio

Ref.	Indicative Task Force Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue Description	Comment
9.	November 2010	Local Development Framework (North): Gypsy and Traveller DPD	To consider results of draft submission consultation and agree DPD for submission to Secretary of State.	
10.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Gypsy & Traveller DPD	To note the Inspector's Final Report into this DPD following Examination and the changes required by the Inspector	
11.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Development Management DPD	To consider the Council's response to the Issues and Options consultation document issued by the Joint Planning Committee	
12.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Site Allocations DPD	To consider the Council's response to the Issues and Options consultation document issued by the Joint Planning Committee	
13.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Gypsy & Traveller DPD	To consider the Council's response to the Issues and Options consultation document issued by the Joint Planning Committee	
14.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Development Management DPD	To consider the Council's response to the Preferred Options consultation document issued by the Joint Planning Committee	

Ref.	Indicative Task Force Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue Description	Comment
15.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Site Allocations DPD	To consider the Council's response to the Preferred Options consultation document issued by the Joint Planning Committee	
16.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Gypsy & Traveller DPD	To consider the Council's response to the Preferred Options consultation document issued by the Joint Planning Committee	
17.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Core Strategy	To consider the Council's response to the Submission Draft consultation document issued by the Joint Planning Committee	
18.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Development Management DPD	To consider the Council's response to the Submission Draft consultation document issued by the Joint Planning Committee	
19.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Site Allocations DPD	To consider the Council's response to the Submission Draft consultation document issued by the Joint Planning Committee	
20.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Gypsy & Traveller DPD	To consider the Council's response to the Submission Draft consultation document issued by the Joint Planning Committee	

Ref.	Indicative Task Force Meeting Date	Report Title	Issue Description	Comment
21.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Core Strategy	To note the Inspector's Final Report into this DPD following Examination and the changes required by the Inspector	
22.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Development Management DPD	To note the Inspector's Final Report into this DPD following Examination and the changes required by the Inspector	
23.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Site Allocations DPD	To note the Inspector's Final Report into this DPD following Examination and the changes required by the Inspector	
24.	TBC	Local Development Framework (South): Gypsy & Traveller DPD	To note the Inspector's Final Report into this DPD following Examination and the changes required by the Inspector	

This page is intentionally left blank