

Equality Impact Assessment Surrey Waste Local Plan

1. Topic of assessment

EIA title:	Submission Surrey Waste Local Plan April 2019
EIA author:	Maureen Prescott

2. Approval

	Name	Date approved
Approved by	Paul Sanderson	12 April 2019

3. Quality control

Version number	Date	EIA published
v.0.2	26 November 2018	Background paper for 18 December Cabinet
V 0.3	3 April 2019	Submission to PINS

4. EIA team

Name	Job title (if applicable)	Organisation	Role
Paul Sanderson	Minerals and Waste Planning Policy Team Manager	Surrey County Council	Waste Plan project manager
Maureen Prescott	Planning Technician	Surrey County Council	EqIA author

5. Explaining the matter being assessed

<p>What policy, function or service is being introduced or reviewed by the county council?</p> <p>What proposals are you assessing?</p>	<p>Surrey Waste Local Plan 2018 – 2033</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Surrey County Council as the Waste Planning Authority (WPA) has identified a need to review and update the current Surrey Waste Plan which was adopted in 2008. Waste Planning is a statutory function of Surrey County Council that aims to ensure that Surrey has sufficient land supply and facilities to manage its waste in a sustainable way preventing any significant adverse impacts on the environment and communities. The new Surrey Waste Local Plan (SWLP) will: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Quantify the amount of land required to provide waste management infrastructure to support growth up to 2033.
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Identify and allocate where appropriate sites and areas that are considered suitable for waste management facilities. • Set out detailed policies against which planning applications for waste development will be determined. <p>4. The adopted SWLP will include a vision, objectives, spatial strategy, detailed policies for waste development, site allocations, areas of search and proposals map document.</p>
<p>Who is affected by the proposals outlined above?</p>	<p>The new SWLP will affect all residents, businesses and other individuals and organisations who produce waste.</p>

6. Sources of information

<p>Engagement carried out</p>
<p>Statement of Community Involvement</p> <p>5. In 2015 Surrey County Council as the Waste Planning Authority adopted a Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) which sets out how and when the county council will consult residents. The SCI takes forward the county council's Commitment to Public Involvement and conforms to statutory requirements and plan making guidance.</p> <p>6. The Issues and Options and Draft Plan consultations, and the Period for Representations have been undertaken in accordance with the 2015 SCI.</p> <p>7. The SCI is currently being updated.</p> <p>Public Consultations and Period of Representations</p> <p>8. The county council has carried out several stages of plan preparation including two public consultations and a Period for Representations.</p> <p>9. Between 2 September and 25 November 2016 the council consulted on an 'Issues and Options Paper' which sought views on the strategic context, vision and objectives for sustainable waste management in Surrey.</p> <p>10. Between 1 November 2017 and 7 February 2018 Surrey County Council consulted on the Draft Surrey Waste Local Plan and its supporting documents. The consultation sought views on the plan's vision and objectives, spatial strategy, policies, sites and site identification process, environmental and sustainability report and the Duty to Cooperate update statement.</p> <p>Between 14 January 2019 and 10 March 2019 the county council published the Submission Surrey Waste Local Plan to allow representations to be made on the soundness and legality of the Plan.</p> <p>11. At each stage of plan preparation, the county council sought views from residents, businesses, industry operators, district and borough planning authorities, and other statutory and non-statutory stakeholders.</p> <p>12. The council used a wide range of media (newsletters, website, and twitter), as well as emails, letters and meetings to notify individuals and organisations and seek their comments.</p>

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13. The consultations and Period for Representations were supported via dedicated webpages on Surrey County Council's website, including links to PDF copies of documents.
14. People were encouraged to respond using an online survey. A dedicated email address and postal address were also provided.
15. Printed copies of the documents were provided in the district and borough council offices.

Data used

Consultation Responses

16. Six hundred and forty seven responses were received during the Issues and Options consultation, 613 of which were from the public.
17. The Issues & Options Summary of Responses Report December 2016 summarises the comments made on the Issues and Options Paper and explains how the information gained was used to shape the Draft SWLP
18. Over three hundred responses were received during the Draft Plan consultation, including 266 responses from the public.
19. The Draft Plan Consultation Summary Report summarises the comments made during the consultation on the draft plan and how the plan has been refined in light of these where appropriate.
20. The Submission Surrey Waste Local Plan has been produced for submission to the Secretary of State in early 2019
21. During the Period of Representations one hundred and seventy three representations were made. One hundred and thirty-six of the representations were from the public.

Equality Analysis

22. Following the Draft Plan consultation an equality analysis was carried out to assess how well we had reached residents.
23. As part of the analysis the proportion of responses from residents within protected groups was compared to the demography of Surrey.
24. The analysis suggests that engagement with residents was broadly successful.
25. The level of engagement with residents from younger age groups and some ethnic groups was low:
 - Only 2% of responses received were from residents who identified themselves as being aged 18-34
 - No responses were received from those identifying themselves as under 18 years old.
 - Very few respondents identified themselves as being from ethnic groups other than White British.
 - No responses were received from individuals who indicated that they were from Black or Black British backgrounds or from Mixed other backgrounds (as opposed to White any other backgrounds). It should be noted that in Surrey historically it has proved difficult to engage younger people and people from some ethnic groups on waste local plans.

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26. In terms of age, it is worth noting that 14 of the 266 residents who responded to the survey indicated that they were choosing not to reveal their age and 125 residents skipped the question.
27. In terms of ethnic origin, it is worth noting that 12% of respondents chose not to share their ethnicity status and also that people from Black or Black British or Mixed other backgrounds constitute in total only 3% of Surrey's population.
28. Following the Draft Plan consultation the SWLP communications plan was reviewed to try to ensure that future engagement is as good can reasonably be expected.

Assessment reports

29. The county council commissioned assessment work to be undertaken to consider the potential impact of waste related development at each site being proposed for allocation in the Submission Plan.
30. The assessments include:
 - Air Quality Impact Assessment
 - Habitats Regulations Assessment
 - Health Impact Assessment
 - Landscape and Visual Sensitivity Study
 - Strategic Flood Risk Assessment
31. The Submission Plan has also been subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment and Sustainability Appraisal which can be found in the Environmental and Sustainability Report.

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7a. Impact of the proposals on residents and service users with protected characteristics

Protected characteristic ¹	Potential positive impacts	Potential negative impacts	Evidence
All.	<p>Provision is made for the facilities needed to manage the waste produced in Surrey in a sustainable way based on the waste hierarchy.</p> <p>Information is provided for residents as to where future waste development is likely to be located.</p> <p>Waste operators are provided with criteria to help them judge where planning permission is likely to be granted.</p>	<p>No significant negative impacts are expected that cannot be mitigated to an acceptable level.</p>	<p>The county council has:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Used plan making and consultation processes that comply with legislation and national guidance. • Taken account of consultation responses and representations and refined the plan as appropriate • Taken account of sensitive land uses such as housing when considering sites that may be suitable for waste-related development. • Identified in the Submission SWLP only those sites where it is considered that potential adverse impacts can be mitigated to an acceptable level. • Included key development issues for all sites proposed for allocated in the SWLP. The issues specify particular aspects of the site that are required to be addressed by planning applications. <p>Following adoption of the SWLP, any planning applications for waste development will be subject to the development management process. This will involve further consultation and the submission of technical documents addressing potential impacts and proposed mitigation as appropriate.</p>

¹ More information on the definitions of these groups can be found [here](#).

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7b. Impact of the proposals on staff with protected characteristics

Protected characteristic	Potential positive impacts	Potential negative impacts	Evidence
All.	As above	As above	As above

8. Amendments to the proposals

Change	Reason for change
None made.	Not applicable.

9. Action plan

Potential impact (positive or negative)	Action needed to maximise positive impact or mitigate negative impact	By when	Owner
Action Plan not required	.		

10. Potential negative impacts that cannot be mitigated

Potential negative impact	Protected characteristic(s) that could be affected
No significant negative impacts are expected that cannot be mitigated to an acceptable level.	

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11. Summary of key impacts and actions

<p>Information and engagement underpinning equalities analysis</p>	<p>Issues and Options Paper, public consultation and consultation responses</p> <p>Draft Surrey Waste Local Plan, public consultation and consultation responses</p> <p>Submission Surrey Waste Local Plan, Period for Representations and representations received.</p> <p>Equality analysis of responses to our draft plan consultation</p> <p>Assessment reports on potential impact of waste related development at each site being proposed for allocation in the Submission Plan</p> <p>Draft Environmental and Sustainability Report which incorporates a Strategic Environmental Assessment and a Sustainability Appraisal.</p>
<p>Key impacts (positive and/or negative) on people with protected characteristics</p>	<p>Positive Impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information will be provided for residents as to where future waste development is likely to be located. • Waste operators will be provided with criteria to help them judge where planning permission is likely to be granted. • Provision will be made for the facilities needed to manage the waste produced in Surrey in a sustainable way preventing any significant adverse impacts on the environment and communities. <p>Negative Impacts:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The council does not expect any significant negative impacts that cannot be mitigated to an acceptable level.
<p>Changes you have made to the proposal as a result of the EIA</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Key mitigating actions planned to address any outstanding negative impacts</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Potential negative impacts that cannot be mitigated</p>	<p>None</p>