

## SITE WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS - CONSULTATION

**EXECUTIVE MEMBER:** Deputy Leader Councillor G Clements  
Councillor G Blackwell  
**LEAD OFFICER:** Keith Parker  
**REPORT AUTHOR:** Keith Parker

### Summary & Recommendation:

This report advises Members of the Defra (Department for Environment Food and Rural Affairs) consultation paper on "Site Waste management Plans for the Construction Industry" (SWMP's) and suggests a recommended response.

### Recommendation:

That the Council formally replies to the consultation as outlined at paragraph 2.2 of this report.

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

- 1.1 Construction related fly tipping is a national blight and one that is increasing in some parts of the Country as the costs of waste disposal has increased significantly year on year. As Members will be aware landfill sites are running out of space and this together with increases in landfill tax means that the financial benefits of illegal tipping can be substantial.
- 1.2 Enforcement bodies including the Environment Agency and local authorities are taking ever increasing steps to prosecute offenders. The 2005 Clean Neighbourhoods and Environment Act has given enforcement agencies a new range of strengthened powers to help control the problem.
- 1.3 Briefly the Defra consultation paper is seeking views on how Site Waste Management Plans could be applied to the construction sector both to encourage more recycling and reuse of construction related waste materials as well as helping to prevent waste crime.
- 1.4 Fortunately here in Copeland we do not suffer from the scale of construction related fly-tipping as elsewhere in the Country. However in the context of the Consultation paper this means that making informed comments are more difficult. Put simply the consultation paper seeks views on the application of site waste management plans where the value of the construction project exceeds £250,000, at which point it is estimated

the cost of writing the plan is matched by the savings that could arise. The Council's waste management section historically deals with an average of one major construction related fly tip each year and even then it is assessed that these have arisen from construction related activities in the sub £100,000 bracket. It is felt likely that because of the nature of the borough such fly tips can readily be traced back to the originating site this makes enforcement easier and therefore compliance with existing regulations more practical for potential offenders.

- 1.5 The consultation paper asks 24 specific questions and asks for evidenced replies.

## **2.0 OPTIONS TO BE CONSIDERED**

- 2.1 Do nothing.
- 2.2 Reply positively on the basis that the Council welcomes the opportunity to be consulted but on this occasion due to the limited applicability of SWMP's and low construction fly tipping rates has no relevant comments to make.
- 2.3 Attempt to make a full reply on the limited local information available.

## **3.0 CONCLUSIONS**

- 3.1 It is proposed that a reply is made along the lines of that outlined in paragraph 2.2. This ensures that the Council is seen to be responding to Government consultation papers in line with the Corporate Plan commitments (Ref 1.1.2 applies) whilst at the same time not taking up too much time and resource in respect of an issue of minor significance in the borough.

## **5.0 FINANCIAL AND HUMAN RESOURCES IMPLICATIONS (INCLUDING SOURCES OF FINANCE)**

- 5.1 Nil

## **6.0 PROJECT AND RISK MANAGEMENT**

- 6.1 Nil

## **7.0 IMPACT ON CORPORATE PLAN**

7.1 Corporate Plan objective 1.1.2 is directly supported

### List of Appendices

None

**List of Background Documents:** Defra “consultation on Site Waste Management Plans for the Construction Industry” available at <http://www.defra.gov.uk/corporate/consult/construction-sitewaste/index.htm>

**List of Consultees:** Corporate Team, John Hughes, Tony Pomfret, Vic Emmerson, Toni Magean, Janice Carrol, Steve Bishop

### **CHECKLIST FOR DEALING WITH KEY ISSUES**

Please confirm against the issue if the key issues below have been addressed . This can be by either a short narrative or quoting the paragraph number in the report in which it has been covered.

Impact on Crime and Disorder	SWMP's should help reduce waste related crime
Impact on Sustainability	SWMP's will increase the sustainable use of construction resources
Impact on Rural Proofing	Nil
Health and Safety Implications	Nil
Impact on Equality and Diversity Issues	Nil
Children and Young Persons Implications	Nil
Human Rights Act Implications	Nil

Please say if this report will require the making of a Key Decision NO