

## National Waste Policy

### National Planning Policy Framework (2012)<sup>4</sup>

The National Planning Policy Framework ('the Framework') sets out the Government's economic, environmental and social planning policies for England and provides a framework within which local people and councils can produce local and neighbourhood plans. Most of the existing Planning Policy Statements (PPSs) have been abolished and replaced by 12 'core' planning principles.

Unfortunately, the Framework does not provide much clarity on planning policy for the development of waste infrastructure and states that:

*'This Framework does not contain specific waste policies, since national waste planning policy will be published as part of the National Waste Prevention Plan for England. However, local authorities preparing waste plans and taking decisions on waste applications should have regard to policies in this Framework so far as relevant.'*

Further guidance is included in the Waste Management Plan for England (2013) which superseded Waste Strategy for England 2007 for these purposes

### National Planning Policy for Waste (2014)<sup>5</sup>

The National Planning Policy for Waste replaces 'Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management' (PPS 10) and is to be considered alongside other national planning policy for England - such as in the NPPF and the Waste Management Plan for England. As its primary focus is on planning for waste management facilities, it is not considered relevant to the Proposed Development.

### Waste Management Plan for England (2013)<sup>6</sup>

The Waste Management Plan for England, published in December 2013, provides an analysis of the current waste management situation in England and fulfils the mandatory requirements of Article 28 of the revised Waste Framework Directive (WFD). The WFD required that Member States ensure that their competent authorities, in this instance Defra, establish one or more waste management plans covering all of their territory.

The Plan does not introduce new policies or change the landscape of how waste is managed in England. Its core aim is to bring current waste management policies under the umbrella of one national plan. It supersedes the previous waste management plan, the Waste Strategy for England 2007.

The mandatory requirements of Article 28 of the revised WFD specify that waste management plans must contain the following information:

- 'An analysis of the current waste management situation in the geographical entity concerned, as well as the measures to be taken to improve environmentally sound preparing for re-use, recycling, recovery and disposal of waste and an evaluation of how the plan will support the implementation of the objectives and provisions of the revised WFD.
- The type, quantity and source of waste generated within the territory, the waste likely to be shipped from or to the national territory, and an evaluation of the development of waste streams in the future;
- Existing waste collection schemes and major disposal and recovery installations, including any special arrangements for waste oils, hazardous waste or waste streams addressed by specific Community legislation;
- An assessment of the need for new collection schemes, the closure of existing waste installations, additional waste installation infrastructure in accordance with Article 16 (on the proximity principle), and, if necessary, the investments related thereto;
- Sufficient information on the location criteria for site identification and on the capacity of future disposal or major recovery installations, if necessary; and
- General waste management policies, including planned waste management technologies and methods, or policies for waste posing specific management problems.

In addition, Schedule 1 to the Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011 sets out other obligations for the Plan which have been transposed from the revised WFD. These other obligations include:

- In pursuance of the objectives and measures in Directive 94/62/EC (on packaging and packaging waste), a chapter on the management of packaging and packaging waste, including measures taken pursuant to Articles 4 and 5 of that Directive.
- Measures to promote high quality recycling including the setting up of separate collections of waste where technically, environmentally and economically practicable and appropriate to meet the necessary quality standards for the relevant recycling sectors.
- As appropriate, measures to encourage the separate collection of bio-waste with a view to the composting and digestion of bio-waste.
- As appropriate, measures to be taken to promote the reuse of products and preparing for reuse activities, in particular -
  - (a) measures to encourage the establishment and support of reuse and repair networks;
  - (b) the use of economic instruments;
  - (c) the use of procurement criteria; and
  - (d) the setting of quantitative objectives.
- Measures to be taken to ensure that by 2020
  - (a) at least 50% by weight of waste from households is prepared for reuse or recycled.
  - (b) at least 70% by weight of construction and demolition waste<sup>7</sup> is subjected to material recovery.'

<sup>4</sup> Department for Communities and Local Government (DCLG) (2012) *National Planning Policy Framework* <http://www.communities.gov.uk/documents/planningandbuilding/pdf/2115939.pdf>

<sup>5</sup> DCLG (2014) *National Planning Policy for Waste* [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/364759/141015\\_National\\_Planning\\_Policy\\_for\\_Waste.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/364759/141015_National_Planning_Policy_for_Waste.pdf)

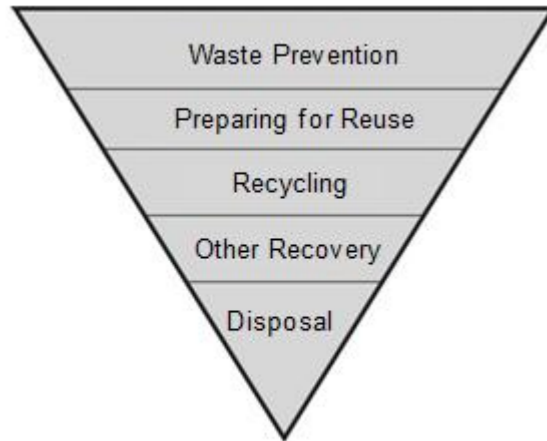
<sup>6</sup> Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA) (2013) *Waste Management Plan for England* [https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/265810/pb14100-waste-management-plan-20131213.pdf](https://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/265810/pb14100-waste-management-plan-20131213.pdf)

## Waste Hierarchy

The Waste Hierarchy requires avoidance of waste in the first instance followed by reducing the volume that requires disposal after it has been generated.

It gives an order of preference for waste management options to minimise the volume for disposal, as shown in **Figure A1.1**.

Figure A1.1: The Waste Hierarchy



Source: Waste Framework Directive

The main principles of the Waste Hierarchy are:

- Waste should be prevented or reduced at source as far as possible;
- Where waste cannot be prevented, waste materials or products should be reused directly or refurbished and then reused;
- Waste materials should be recycled or reprocessed into a form that allows them to be reclaimed as a secondary raw material;
- Where useful secondary materials cannot be reclaimed, the energy content of the waste should be recovered and used as a substitute for non-renewable energy resources; and
- Only if waste cannot be prevented, reclaimed or recovered, should it be disposed of into the environment and this should only be undertaken in a controlled manner.

The Waste Hierarchy has been implemented in England and Wales by the *Waste (England and Wales) Regulations 2011*. These regulations require that an establishment or undertaking that imports, produces, collects, transports, recovers or disposes of waste must take reasonable steps to apply the Waste Hierarchy when waste is transferred or disposed of.

## Waste Policy & Guidance for London

### London's Wasted Resources – The Mayor's Municipal Waste Management Strategy (2011)<sup>7</sup>

The Municipal Waste Management Strategy is part of a series of strategies that together set out actions and policies to make London the best big city in the world, by improving the quality of life of Londoners and making the city more sustainable.

By reducing the amount of waste produced and reusing waste that cannot be prevented presents the greatest economic and environmental benefits for London. It is not feasible to continue managing waste by investing in expensive waste collection and treatment infrastructure without implementing an active strategy of reduction and reuse. The Mayor therefore sets out in the Municipal Waste Management Strategy what actions London's households and businesses can take to reduce waste and also calls on the government and industry to play a role.

### Making Business Sense of Waste: The Mayor's Business Waste Strategy for London (2011)<sup>8</sup>

Making Business Sense of Waste is the first Mayoral strategy for London's business waste. It sets out initiatives to help all kinds of London's businesses, from shops, restaurants, office buildings, manufacturers to construction companies to save money and reduce harm to the environment through better waste management.

### The London Plan: Spatial Development Strategy for London Consolidated with Alterations since 2011 (2016)<sup>9</sup>

The London Plan is the 'strategic plan setting out an integrated social, economic and environmental framework for the future development of London'.

The strategy includes the following waste management policy that has influenced the development of more specific business waste guidance:

#### Policy 5.16 Waste net self-sufficiency

A. The Mayor will work with London boroughs and waste authorities, the London Waste and Recycling Board (LWaRB), the Environment Agency, the private sector, voluntary and community sector groups, and neighbouring regions and authorities to:

- a. manage as much of London's waste within London as practicable, working towards managing the equivalent of 100% of London's waste within London by 2031;
- b. create positive environmental and economic impacts from waste processing, and
- c. work towards zero biodegradable or recyclable waste to landfill by 2031.

B. This will be achieved by:

<sup>7</sup> Greater London Authority (GLA) (2011) *London's Wasted Resources – The Mayor's Municipal Waste Management Strategy*  
[https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/municipal\\_waste\\_final.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/municipal_waste_final.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> GLA (2011) *Making Business Sense of Waste: The Mayor's Business Waste Strategy for London*  
<http://www.london.gov.uk/publication/londons-wasted-resource-mayors-municipal-waste-management-strategy>

<sup>9</sup> GLA (2016) *The London Plan The Spatial Development Strategy for London Consolidated with Alterations Since 2011*  
[https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the\\_london\\_plan\\_malp\\_final\\_for\\_web\\_0606\\_0.pdf](https://www.london.gov.uk/sites/default/files/the_london_plan_malp_final_for_web_0606_0.pdf)