SUMMARY

In July 2007, the Executive agreed that the Council would enter into joint working arrangements with Croydon, Merton and Sutton Councils to prepare a South London Joint Waste Plan Development Plan Document (DPD), in order to fulfil its obligations to plan for the sustainable management of waste from local businesses, industry and households.

The partner boroughs have been preparing the Joint Waste DPD (known as the ‘South London Waste Plan) over the past three years. The development of the South London Waste Plan is steered by a cross-borough Member Working Group who have now agreed to recommend the Proposed Submission version of the Plan to each boroughs’ Executive and Full Council for their consideration. Following this, the Plan will be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval. Extensive public consultation has been undertaken throughout its preparation.

Consultations and responses can be viewed at [http://southlondonwasteplan.limehouse.co.uk](http://southlondonwasteplan.limehouse.co.uk)

This report advises the Committee of progress with preparing the South London Waste Plan and the next steps.

The Proposed Submission version of the South London Waste Plan is available online, in the Libraries and the Members’ Room.

RECOMMENDATIONS

It is **RECOMMENDED** that the Committee note progress with the South London Waste Plan and provide any comments.

REASON FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

To give members an opportunity to comment on the South London Waste Plan before it is considered by Executive and Council for publication and submission to the Secretary of State.

BACKGROUND

1. Kingston is preparing a series of planning documents, known as the Local Development Framework (LDF) which will replace the Borough’s Unitary Development Plan.

2. The South London Waste Plan will form part of the Kingston’s LDF. It sets out the partner boroughs’ long-term vision, spatial strategy and policies for the
sustainable management of waste over the next 10 years. The Waste Plan contains a number of policies to promote the adequate provision of modern, high quality, clean and well-run waste management facilities on the most suitable sites in the partner boroughs. Importantly, the policies within the Plan ensure that development does not negatively impact communities’ quality of life.

**CONSULTATION**

3. The first round of consultation, ‘Stage 1’, took place in 2007-08. Comments were sought on the suggested criteria that the four boroughs would use to identify potentially suitable sites for waste management facilities. At that time, no specific sites were identified, but the area of search for sites was defined as existing waste sites and industrial areas identified in each of the four boroughs’ Unitary Development Plans, in accordance with guidance in the Mayor’s London Plan. During that consultation period, residents also suggested other sites to be considered. A ‘long list’ of around 140 sites was compiled following this consultation.

4. Following that first consultation, further evidence was collected and the suitability of the ‘long list’ of 140 sites was tested against a range of criteria including proximity to residential areas, potential traffic impacts and visual intrusion.

5. The ‘Stage 2’ public consultation was held in summer and autumn 2009 to give residents and other interested parties the opportunity to review and comment on 28 ‘short listed’ sites, as well as the remaining sites from the original ‘long list’ which did not make it on to the shortlist. Respondents were also given the opportunity to suggest sites that had not been previously considered (i.e. were not included in the original ‘long list’ of 140 sites). Importantly, residents and other interested parties were also asked to comment on a set of draft policies which would be used to assess future applications for waste management facilities.

6. The Stage 2 consultation attracted more than 1,200 responses from local residents, waste industry operators, land owners, national bodies and Government departments. In addition, 200 people attended public workshops and planning officers were also invited to attend 35 face-to-face discussions with local resident groups and organisations to discuss the development of the Plan.

7. During that ‘Stage 2’ consultation, eight new sites were put forward by consultees for consideration. These were put forward for comment from residents and other interested parties during the ‘Stage 2a’ consultation which took place in spring 2010.

**SUITABLE SITES**

8. The Joint Waste DPD Member Working Group has now agreed a Proposed Submission version of the South London Waste Plan that has taken account of earlier consultations and new evidence and guidance.
9. Following public consultations, the main changes that have been made to the Plan include identifying broad industrial areas on which waste management facilities can be developed, rather than specifying individual sites.

10. The reasoning behind this approach is that a key requirement for the identification of sites is that the site can be delivered within the next 10 years. A survey of the availability of potential sites and discussions with waste operators and site owners has revealed a paucity of individual sites available for waste use during the lifetime of this Plan.

11. Therefore, instead of allocating specific sites for the development of waste management facilities, the Waste Plan will:
   - Safeguard existing waste sites for their continued use, and;
   - Allow the development of waste management facilities on, up to a further seven hectares of land from amongst the industrial estates identified in Table 1.

12. These industrial estates total some 190 hectares and are considered to be the most suitable and most likely areas for waste management facilities to be developed. It must be stressed that these industrial estates in their entirety are not allocated for waste management purposes. Rather it is expected that up to seven hectares will be developed from within these estates to enable the boroughs to meet their need for additional waste management capacity.

*Table 1: Industrial areas, from within which up to seven hectares of land will be permitted to be developed for waste management.*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Site Description</th>
<th>Borough</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Purley Way, Lysander Road and Imperial Way Industrial Area</td>
<td>Croydon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factory Lane Industrial Estate</td>
<td>Croydon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Factory Lane (South Side) (rear of HWRC)</td>
<td>Croydon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Purely Oaks Highway Depot</td>
<td>Croydon</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chessington Industrial Area</td>
<td>Kingston</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Garth Road Industrial Area</td>
<td>Merton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Willow Lane Industrial Area</td>
<td>Merton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Plough Lane / Durnsford Road Industrial Area</td>
<td>Merton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Wandle Valley Trading Estate (part of)</td>
<td>Sutton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kimpton Industrial Estate (land north of Minden Road)</td>
<td>Sutton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beddington Industrial Area</td>
<td>Sutton</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**POLICY GUIDANCE**
13. The seven hectares relates to the need for additional waste management capacity identified for the four partner boroughs in the Mayor’s Adopted London Plan.

14. It should be noted that the London Plan is currently under review. At the time of writing, the Greater London Authority is undertaking a London-wide waste survey which is expected to show that the amount of waste produced within the capital is increasing at a slower rate than previously thought. Once this evidence is released, it may be possible to review the amount of land needed to meet the waste management requirements for the South London Waste Plan. Any new evidence to support a lower land allocation will be included in the future development of the Waste Plan.

KINGSTON SITES

15. The Kingston sites referred to in the South London Waste Plan are:
   - The existing Villiers Road waste site, and;
   - The Chessington Industrial Estate.

16. The existing waste site at Villiers Road is protected within the South London Waste Plan, together with all other existing waste sites across the four partner boroughs. The boroughs are required by the Mayor’s London Plan to safeguard all existing waste sites.

17. Chessington Industrial Estate is one of 11 industrial estates identified across the four partner boroughs as the most suitable and likely industrial areas to locate waste management facilities. As stated above, the South London Waste Plan allows the development of up to seven hectares of land from within these 11 industrial areas for waste management purposes. Chessington Industrial Estate is not allocated solely for waste management purposes. The policy designation of the estate does not change.

18. Nine policies are included in the South London Waste Plan. These have been strengthened in response to comments received from residents and other interested parties.

NEXT STEPS

19. The next stage of the process is for the Waste Plan to be submitted to the Secretary of State for further deliberation, including an examination in public by an independent planning inspector. Before this however, the partner boroughs are required to publish the Plan for a period of six weeks. This will take place in January and February 2011. It should be noted that the publication of the Plan is a legal requirement to allow objectors to raise any remaining concerns. All representations received during that six week period will be forwarded to the Secretary of State.

20. Following submission of the Plan, the Secretary of State will appoint an independent inspector to examine the South London Waste Plan over a
period of approximately four months to check that it is “sound.” The Inspector will examine whether the South London Waste Plan is:

- founded on robust evidence including public consultation results;
- in general conformity with the London Plan and national guidance;
- the most appropriate strategy for the area, setting clear priorities and making tough decisions where necessary, and;
- that it is clearly deliverable and able to be monitored.

21. The Inspector will then make their recommendations for changes to the Waste Plan, following which the Plan will be amended accordingly and adopted by the four partner boroughs. The detailed timetable is set out in Table 2.

**Table 2: Timetable to the Adoption of the South London Waste Plan**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>South London Waste Plan Stage</th>
<th>Proposed timetable</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Neighbourhood Committees</td>
<td>13 and 20 October 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Executive considers the South London Waste Plan</td>
<td>2 November 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Council considers the South London Waste Plan</td>
<td>7 December 2010</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pre-submission publication of the South London Waste Plan</td>
<td>January/February 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Submission of the South London Waste Plan to the Secretary of State</td>
<td>March 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Examination in Public</td>
<td>July 2011</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adoption of the South London Waste Plan</td>
<td>Winter 2011</td>
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</tbody>
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**FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS**

22. Publication and submission of the South London Waste Plan is funded from agreed budgets. The costs of the project are shared equally by all four partner boroughs.

**ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS**

23. The South London Waste Plan sets out policies to protect the environment and communities of the Borough. It has been subject to an Environmental Appraisal that will be published alongside the South London Waste Plan in January 2011.

**EQUALITIES IMPLICATIONS**

24. There are no equality impact assessment implications arising specifically from this report. An equality impact assessment (EQIA) will be published alongside the South London Waste Plan in January 2011.

**Background papers** held by Author of report: Steve Cardis; 0208 547 5349  
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• Joint Waste Development Plan Document