South London Waste Plan

STAGE 2a CONSULTATION

Additional Sites
Consultation Document

8 February to 22 March 2010
Stage 2a: Questionnaire

South London Waste Plan

STAGE 2a CONSULTATION

Additional Sites

Questionnaire

8 February to 22 March 2010

Sutton
Royal
Kingston
merton
CROYDON COUNCIL
www.croydon.gov.uk
Consultation on Additional Sites
8 February to 22 March 2010

Landfill space is running out and buried waste releases climate-changing gases. New ways of dealing with waste are needed.

There is an urgent need to identify sites that are suitable for new waste management facilities.

Last year, we asked residents to comment on a shortlist of 28 sites located across the boroughs of Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton that are considered potentially suitable for waste management facilities to be built on in the future.

During that consultation, an additional eight sites were put forward by respondents as being worthy of consideration. We are now inviting comments on the suitability of these eight sites for waste management purposes.

Please get involved and tell us what you think.

Questionnaires and consultation materials are available online at: http://southlondonwasteplan.limehouse.co.uk

Alternatively you can view a copy of the consultation document in your local library, council main reception or you can arrange for a copy to be sent to you by contacting Emma Smyth:

Tel: 020 8547 5375
Email: southlondonwasteplan@rbk.kingston.gov.uk
NEWS RELEASE
For immediate publication: 8 February 2010
John Haynes - 020 8547 4710
PR173

Additional sites for waste management – have your say

The boroughs of Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton have launched a six-week consultation period giving residents an opportunity to comment on the suitability of eight sites for waste management purposes.

The sites under consideration are:

- Land west of Hawkhurst Road, Croydon
- Open area of land adjacent to Chessington Garden Centre, Kingston
- Land to the south of Silverglade Business Park, Kingston
- Land at the Hogsmill Valley, Kingston
- Wimbledon Greyhound Stadium, Merton
- Former gravel extraction works sites (the old Cemex site), Beddington Farmlands, Sutton
- Wandle Valley Trading Estate, Hackbridge, Sutton
- Land to the north of Jessop’s Way, Beddington, Sutton

These eight sites are ‘additional sites’ that were put forward by residents, land owners and waste operators during a previous stage of consultation which took place between July and October 2009.

The suitability of these eight additional sites has been assessed using a set of robust criteria that takes into consideration issues such as flood risk, traffic impacts and visual intrusion and gives a score to each site. All eight sites scored relatively poorly, when compared with the 28 sites that were shortlisted in the previous stage of the consultation in 2009. This indicates that, from a
planning perspective, there would be obstacles to them being used for waste management purposes.

Residents and other interested parties are now being asked for their views on the assessments of these eight sites and their suitability for waste management purposes.

Councillor Simon James, Executive Member for Planning and Regeneration at Kingston Council, said: “The sites have scored relatively poorly against the assessment criteria and so are clearly not sites we would seek to include in the Waste Plan. But it is still important that we seek the views of residents and other interested parties to make sure that we have investigated all of the options fully – just like we did with the 112 sites that scored poorly in the previous consultation stage. It is critically important that the South London Waste Plan is robust and reflects the views of local people, so we do not want to leave a stone unturned.”

The consultation will run from 8 February until 22 March. Questionnaires and consultation materials are available online at:  
http://southlondonwasteplan.limehouse.co.uk  
Alternatively, the consultation documents are available in libraries, council main receptions or by contacting Emma Smyth, Waste Planning Project Manager:  
Tel: 020 8547 5375  
Email: southlondonwasteplan@rbk.kingston.gov.uk

To accommodate this extra phase of consultation, the final version of the South London Waste Plan is now due to be published in the autumn of 2010. It will then be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination by an independent planning inspector.

Ends.
Notes for editors:

**The South London Waste Plan**

- How should planning applications for waste treatment facilities be assessed in the future and which sites in the region are suitable for this type of development? These are two key questions that will be answered by the South London Waste Plan, an important planning document that is being prepared jointly by the four boroughs of Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton.

- The Plan aims to improve certainty about waste development. Currently, there are few local planning policies which can be used to assess applications for waste management facilities. The South London Waste Plan will improve this situation: it will contain a number of robust policies against which all future planning applications for waste management facilities will be assessed. These policies will ensure the best outcomes for local people and the environment. It will also identify sites that are considered suitable for waste management purposes, providing the waste industry with clear direction in choosing appropriate locations.

- It is a requirement of all planning authorities to identify sites within their boundaries that could be used for waste treatment. EU and UK legislation (as well as the Mayor of London’s London Plan) require increasing amounts of this waste to be sorted and processed in facilities closer to where it was generated.

- To achieve this locally, new waste management facilities will be needed. An estimated 20 hectares (48 acres) of land will be needed across the four boroughs to accommodate the new waste facilities that are going to be required between now and 2021.

- The South London Waste Plan is being developed in close consultation with residents, land owners, waste operators and government departments.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Consultation phase</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Purpose</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Stage 1</td>
<td>September – October 2008</td>
<td>To define areas of search for compiling a ‘long list’ of potentially suitable sites. Also sought feedback on issues which needed to be taken into consideration when assessing a site’s suitability.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2</td>
<td>Summer – Autumn 2009</td>
<td>To seek views on a ‘shortlist’ of 28 sites that were considered potentially suitably (whittled down from a long list of 140 sites). Also presented for comment draft policies against which planning applications for future waste management facilities would be assessed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stage 2a</td>
<td>February – March 2010</td>
<td>To seek views on the suitability of eight additional sites put forward for consideration during the Stage 2 consultation. These sites all scored relatively poorly in their assessments and would not have made it on to the shortlist considered in Stage 2 of the consultation.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Feedback from all stages of consultation will play a central role in drafting the final version of the South London Waste Plan, which is due to be published in the autumn of 2010. It will then be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination by an independent planning inspector, including an ‘Examination in Public’ in the spring of 2011. The four Councils are due to formally adopt the Plan in the winter of 2011.
The development of the South London Waste Plan is running in tandem with the procurement of new waste treatment facilities through the South London Waste Partnership (see below for details). These are two entirely separate processes. However, any future planning applications for waste treatment facilities that are submitted as a result of the South London Waste Partnership’s procurement work will be considered against the new policies contained within the South London Waste Plan, once it has been finalised.

**The South London Waste Partnership**

- The South London Waste Partnership (SLWP) is a group of four London Authorities (Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton) that are working together to provide improved waste management services across the area.
- This is an unusual arrangement within the UK as it comprises four unitary boroughs who have voluntarily created formal arrangements for the procurement and management of contracts to treat and dispose of waste.
- The current focus of the SLWP’s activities is to divert waste away from landfill. Landfill tax is increasing at a rate of £5 per tonne per year, currently standing at £40 per tonne. These escalating costs are making landfill not only environmentally unsustainable but financially prohibitive as well.
- Reducing, reusing and recycling remains the best way of diverting waste away from landfill. With the help and commitment of residents, the four partner boroughs are all making substantial progress in this area – the SLWP procures and manages contracts for improved local recycling and composting facilities to ensure that this progress continues.
- The SLWP has already awarded three separate contracts:
  - **Contract 1** - Transfer, transportation and landfill disposal: awarded to Viridor in 2008
  - **Contract 2** - Management of seven Household Reuse and Recycling Centres located across the four boroughs: awarded to EWC in 2008.
- The SLWP is now procuring (with the support of £225m Defra PFI funding) further infrastructure to treat the remaining 200,000 tonnes of residual waste per year. This is waste that would otherwise have been destined for landfill.
- The procurement process is currently ongoing with the contract due to be awarded in March 2011. The resulting treatment facility (or facilities) is due to become operational in 2014/15.
- The SLWP must remain technology-neutral during the tendering process. But the Partnership has made it clear that if any bidder proposes to use thermal treatment, they must allow for the recovery of energy from waste and seek to provide efficient heat off-take for local use. All four boroughs are firmly against poor-performing, outdated technologies such as old-fashioned mass-burn incineration, which are visually intrusive and release high levels of noxious emissions.
Consultation on potential sites for waste management facilities in South London

8 February - 22 March 2010

Dear Local Development Framework (LDF) Consultee,

The boroughs of Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton are now seeking comments in response to the 'Stage 2a: Additional Sites Consultation' for the South London Waste Plan. Details on how to obtain consultation documents are found overleaf.

Last summer we wrote to all residents and other parties interested in the development of each boroughs' LDF, to let you know about a major planning consultation centred around a draft of the South London Waste Plan – an important planning document being jointly prepared by Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton councils.

The consultation, which ran from 20 July until 16 October 2009, gave people an opportunity to have their say about two key issues:

- **Sites** – respondents were asked for their views on a 'shortlist' of 28 sites across the four boroughs that were considered potentially suitable for waste management facilities. The sites that appeared on this shortlist had been whittled down from an original 'long list' of 140 sites, which were also published.
- **Policies** – respondents could also comment on a draft set of policies against which planning applications for waste management facilities will be assessed in the future.

In addition to asking for comments on the suitability of the draft policies and shortlisted sites, respondents also had the opportunity to put forward sites that had not been previously considered (i.e. were not included in the original 'long list' of 140 sites). Eight new sites were suggested by residents, landowners and waste operators which have been considered.
The eight sites now the subject of the ‘Stage 2a Additional Sites Consultation’ are:

- Land west of Hawkhurst Road, Croydon
- Open area of land adjacent to Chessington Garden Centre, Kingston
- Land to the south of Silverglade Business Park, Kingston
- Land at the Hogsmill Valley, Kingston
- Wimbledon Greyhound Stadium, Merton
- Former gravel extraction works sites (the old Cemex site), Beddington Farmlands, Sutton
- Wandle Valley Trading Estate, Hackbridge, Sutton
- Land to the north of Jessop’s Way, Beddington, Sutton

The suitability of these eight additional sites has been assessed using the same set of criteria that was employed to whittle the 140 sites down to 28 prior to last year’s consultation. All eight additional sites scored relatively poorly and would not have made it on to the ‘short list’ of 28 sites in the previous stage of consultation. The poor scores for these eight sites indicates that a number of obstacles have been identified which would constrain their development for waste management purposes.

A further six-week period of public consultation is now being held to ensure that residents and other stakeholders have an opportunity to comment on the assessment planning officers have undertaken of these additional eight sites.

This stage of the consultation (Stage 2a: ‘Additional Sites Consultation’) will run between 8 February – 22 March 2010. Your views will help develop the final version of the South London Waste Plan due to be published in October/November 2010. It will then be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination by an independent planning inspector.

Questionnaires and consultation materials are available online at: http://southlondonwasteplan.limehouse.co.uk where you can also view a full list of all eight additional potential sites that were put forward during Stage 2 of the consultation.

Alternatively, you can view a copy of the consultation document in your nearest library or council main reception or request a copy from the Waste Planning Project Manager, whose contact details appear below.

If you have any questions, please get in touch using the contact details below.

Yours faithfully,

Emma Smyth
Waste Planning Project Manager
South London Waste Plan
Consultation on potential sites for waste management facilities in South London

8 February - 22 March 2010

Dear Resident / Local Business,

During the summer and autumn of 2009, a major public consultation took place giving people an opportunity to have their say about a ‘shortlist’ of 28 sites that were considered potentially suitable for waste management facilities. The sites that appeared on this shortlist had been whittled down from an original ‘long list’ of 140 sites.

In addition to asking for comments on the suitability of sites and policies, respondents also had the opportunity to put forward sites that had not been previously considered. Eight new sites were suggested by residents, landowners and waste operators for consideration. I am writing to you because one of these sites is located close to where you live or work.

We have assessed the suitability of these eight additional sites using the same set of criteria employed to identify the 28 ‘shortlisted’ sites in last year’s consultation. All eight sites scored relatively poorly and would not have made it on to the ‘short list’ of 28 sites in the previous stage of consultation. The poor scores for these eight sites indicates that a number of obstacles have been identified which would constrain their development for waste management purposes.

Four of the eight sites (listed overleaf) have been put forward by the land owner and a waste operators, both of whom have shown interest in developing the land for waste purposes.
Stage 2a: Neighbour Notification (Page 2 of 3)

Sites supported by both the land owner and a waste operator:
1. Land at the Hogsmill Sewage Works, Kingston
2. Go Kart Track site off Beddington Lane, Sutton
3. Wandle Valley Trading Estate, Hackbridge, Sutton
4. Former gravel extraction works site (the old Cemex site), Beddington Farmlands, Sutton

*A map locating these four sites can be found on the back of this letter*

Residents and other interested parties are being asked for their views on the suitability of these additional sites for waste management purposes. Your views are particularly important as you live or work close to one of the sites.

Background
Local authorities are required to reduce the amount of waste they send to landfill and increase the amount of waste being recycled or composted. This waste should also be processed in facilities closer to where it was generated. To achieve this in South London, new waste management facilities will be needed.

Where these facilities are built and how planning applications for them should be assessed are two key questions that will be answered by the South London Waste Plan – an important planning document that is being jointly prepared by Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton Councils.

The South London Waste Plan will identify sites that are considered suitable for waste management facilities. Of course, any specific proposals for a waste facility would also be the subject of a separate planning and licence application, giving local residents and business owners further opportunities to have their say.

Previous consultation stages
Two stages of consultation have already taken place in developing the South London Waste Plan:

- **Stage 1: ‘Issues and Options’** – This initial stage of consultation is now closed. It took place between September and October 2008. We asked for feedback on the suggested criteria that the four councils would use to compile a ‘long list’ of potentially suitable sites for waste management facilities in accordance with the Mayor of London’s London Plan.

  Following this initial stage of consultation, the four councils carried out a search of sites in their respective boroughs. The result was a ‘long list’ of 140 sites. The potential suitability of these sites for waste management purposes was then assessed. The assessment looked at issues such as site configuration, proximity to residential areas, traffic impacts and visual intrusion and gave a score to each site. The 28 sites that achieved the highest scores were placed on a ‘shortlist’ that were considered in Stage 2.

- **Stage 2: ‘Potential Sites and Policies’** – This stage of consultation is now closed. It took place between July and October 2009. It gave residents and other interested
parties the opportunity to review and comment on the 28 ‘shortlisted’ sites as well as proposed planning policies. The remaining sites that did not make it on to the shortlist – because they were considered to have obstacles to their development – were also published at the time online and in an accompanying technical report.

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).

What happens next?
Your views will help develop the final version of the South London Waste Plan due to be published in October/November 2010. It will then be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination by an independent planning inspector.

This stage of the consultation (Stage 2a: ‘Additional Sites Consultation’) will run from 8 February until midnight on 22 March.

Questionnaires and consultation materials will be available online at: http://southlondonwasteplan.limehouse.co.uk where you can also view a full list of all eight additional potential sites that were put forward during Stage 2 of the consultation.

Alternatively, you can view a copy of the consultation document in your nearest library or council main reception or request a copy from the Waste Planning Project Manager, whose contact details appear below.

If you have any questions, please get in touch using the contact details below.

Yours faithfully,

Emma Smyth
Waste Planning Project Manager
South London Waste Plan

Tel: 020 8547 5375
Email: southlondonwasteplan@rbk.kingston.gov.uk
Update on the South London Waste Plan

Dear Respondent,

Thank you for taking part in our consultation last year on potential sites and policies for the South London Waste Plan. We received around 1,300 responses from residents, businesses, the waste management industry and government bodies. Planning officers were also invited to attend 35 meetings with interested residents and businesses across the four partner boroughs of Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton.

As you will recall, the consultation centred round a draft of the South London Waste Plan - a planning document being jointly prepared by Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton Councils. Once approved, this Plan will identify sites across the four boroughs that are suitable for the development of waste treatment facilities and will establish a set of robust policies against which planning applications for future facilities are assessed.

The findings of this consultation are now available and can be viewed at http://southlondonwasteplan.limehouse.co.uk, in libraries and Council main receptions. The wealth of feedback received during the consultation will influence the recommendations made in the final draft of the South London Waste Plan.

The consultation asked respondents to consider and comment on a 'shortlist' of 26 sites across the four boroughs that are considered potentially suitable for developing new and/or enhanced waste management facilities. The sites that appeared on this shortlist had been whittled down from an original 'long list' of 140 sites. The sites that did not make it on to the shortlist – because they were considered to have obstacles to their development - were also published at the time, online, and in an accompanying technical report. Residents and other interested parties were also invited to comment on these.

In addition to commenting on the suitability of the shortlisted and long listed sites, the consultation gave respondents the opportunity to put forward sites that had not been previously considered. Eight new sites were suggested by residents, landowners and waste operators which have been considered.
We have assessed the suitability of these eight additional sites for waste management purposes. All eight sites scored relatively poorly and would not have made it onto the shortlist of sites considered in the previous stage of consultation in which you took part. These poor scores indicate that from a planning perspective, there would be obstacles to them being used for waste management purposes (see the table overleaf for a summary).

Residents and other interested parties are now being asked for their views on the site assessment and the possible use of these additional sites for waste management related purposes. As you took part in the previous phase of the consultation, we would be interested to hear your views on these additional sites.

We welcome your comments on the eight sites identified in this Stage 2a consultation document. We are not asking for comments on sites identified in earlier consultations, nor inviting people to identify any further sites.

Consultation documents will be available for six weeks from 8 February until midnight on 22 March at the following locations:
- http://southlondonwasteplan.limehouse.co.uk
- All libraries in Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton (please ask at the reception)
- All main council receptions in Croydon, Kingston, Merton and Sutton (please ask at the reception)

Alternatively, please contact the Waste Planning Project Manager using the contact details below for a copy to be posted to you.

What happens next?
To accommodate this extra phase of consultation, the final version of the South London Waste Plan is now due to be published in October / November 2010. It will contain planning policies for assessing future waste management applications and the list of suitable sites which could be used for such proposals. It will then be submitted to the Secretary of State for examination by an independent planning inspector.

Please take this opportunity to find out more and give us your views. If you have any questions, please get in touch using the contact details below.

Yours faithfully,

Emma Smyth

Waste Planning Project Manager
South London Waste Plan

Tel: 020 8547 5375
Email: southlondonwasteplan@rbk.kingston.gov.uk
Rising stars honoured at awards evening

Outstanding young achievers from Merton’s secondary school, academies, special schools and further education colleges were honoured at a special ceremony at the More London Leisure Centre in November to mark the annual Merton Young Achiever Awards.

Students from across the borough were recognised by their teachers for their special achievements and contributions. As well as recognising academic excellence, the awards aimed to highlight those young people who had excelled in other areas such as performing arts and sport, as well as those who had shown kindness, leadership and support to their fellow pupils.

Swepstone High School’s Headteacher, Mr Paul Williams, received an award for outstanding educational leadership and achievement, including community work. Councillor Debbie Chatwin, cabinet member for children and young people, presented a certificate to the school’s head teacher as well as a cheque to the charity of its choice.

High School’s students were also recognised for their achievements, including outstanding academic performance and leadership. Their awards were presented by the school’s Headteacher, Mr Paul Williams.

Swap to Fairtrade for 2010

Merton is officially a Fairtrade borough, which means that all local authorities, schools, and businesses are encouraged to support Fairtrade products.

The Fairtrade Fortnightly campaign is taking place in February and March, and aims to encourage people to swap their usual products for Fairtrade ones.

Have your say on new potential waste sites

A public consultation is taking place on a new potential waste site in the Borough of Merton. The council is seeking your views on the site, which is near the town centre, and is inviting comments from local residents.

All change your Freedom Pass, please

If you’re not sure how to register as a disabled student with a Freedom Pass or if your details have changed, you can contact the Merton Information Centre.

Merton 6th forms on track

It’s been a busy few weeks for Merton’s 6th forms, with many new students joining the school. The 6th form is a great place to continue your studies, whether you’re looking for a new challenge or simply want to continue your education in a relaxed and supportive environment.
Stage 2a: Croydon Public Notice
Stage 2a: Kingston Public Notice
Stage 2a: Merton Public Notice