

## TOPIC PAPER 2: SPATIAL VISION, SPATIAL OBJECTIVES AND KEY PRINCIPLES

### Introduction

A spatial vision and clearly defined spatial objectives are required to provide an emphasis on local distinctiveness for delivery of the Joint Waste Development Plan Document (JWDPD).

This topic paper establishes what is meant by the terms 'spatial vision', 'spatial objectives' and 'key principles' and details the spatial objectives and key principles that have been put forward in the JWDPD Strategy and Project Plan<sup>1</sup>.

### Spatial Vision

The spatial vision provides the basis for the broad policies from which spatial objectives, strategic policies, monitoring and implementation frameworks flow. They should be informed by and conform to the 10 Greater Manchester Authorities' community strategies.

In developing a spatial vision for the JWDPD, it must be recognised that it is able to affect other issues which are broader than land use planning, such as efficient management of resources, waste minimisation, and the incorporation of waste management initiatives within all developments, not just waste related developments.

### Spatial Objectives

Spatial objectives establish the aspirations of the JWDPD and can be used to identify the key areas of growth within the Greater Manchester sub-region and the potential critical links to planning for waste management as a result of this growth, including non-waste related development.

Spatial objectives must be linked to the spatial vision for the area. This should also build upon relevant national, regional and local policy/strategies. For the JWDPD this includes PPS1, PPS10, PPS12, RSS for the North West, the two Municipal Waste Management Strategies (MWMS) for Greater Manchester Waste Disposal Authority and Wigan Waste Disposal Authority, and the 10 Community Strategies for Greater Manchester.

As a starting point, the JWDPD strategy has put forward the following short, medium and long-term objectives for the plan. They build upon the key planning objectives of PPS10 and establish the aspirations of the JWDPD:

- to inform and be informed by, the municipal waste management Strategies;

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<sup>1</sup> The JWDPD Strategy is a document which establishes the overall aims and objectives of the JWDPD, providing guidance and recommendations for its production. The JWDPD Project Plan provides a step-by-step guide to producing the JWDPD.

- to engage effectively with communities, enabling them to take responsibility for their own waste;
- to provide a sound framework within which to bring forward appropriate development;
- to be in general conformity with other DPD and the regional spatial strategy; and
- to be visionary, looking to sustainable development in the longer term.

These objectives may be used as a starting point for the JWDPD and should be developed further through consultation to ensure a robust and sound set of spatial objectives are developed.

The following overarching aim has also been developed, which may be used as a basis from which to draft a spatial vision for the plan. *“Ensure that an effective planning framework is in place to deal with the future demands of the waste management industry and to help reduce the risks to Greater Manchester’s and Wigan Metropolitan Borough’s municipal waste management strategies<sup>2</sup>”.*

In developing both the spatial vision and spatial objectives, it is important to consider the policy framework set out within PPS10, particularly the key planning objectives in paragraph 3, which recognise the importance of enabling a sustainable approach to waste management, moving waste up the waste hierarchy, and breaking the links between economic growth and the environmental impact of waste.

Topic Paper 3 details the current management of waste within Greater Manchester, identifying the arisings of different waste types and the current management options. This highlights that Greater Manchester is not currently following the ideals of the waste hierarchy; therefore the spatial objectives and vision may seek to address this concern and consider how changes in attitudes can be influenced over time.

### **Key principles**

The key principles for the JWDPD should identify the main issues that need to be addressed by the plan. They should be developed from information gained during the evidence gathering exercise of plan development. This includes information from the review of relevant plans, projects and programmes, baseline data and identification of issues for the plan area, as presented within the draft scoping report for the JWDPD.

The project plan developed for the JWDPD puts forward the following issues that may be addressed through key principles:

- matters of evidence – waste produced, growth forecasts, capacity requirement, LATS, and land availability;
- seeking to achieve or exceed national/regional targets;
- different types of waste technology - but avoiding this as an issue for discussion as national policy does not suggest DPD should abandon any one type of technology;
- site alternatives – use of Green Belt/Green Wedges, urban/rural;
- scale of facilities – large/small, centralised/dispersed; and location principles.

To support the last issue, Topic Paper 5 addresses the location principles for the JWDPD.

The key principles should be used to establish a sound planning strategy for the JWDPD. The strategy for the JWDPD sets out the following questions that should be addressed by the key principles.

- does it seek a reduction in the growth of waste?

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<sup>2</sup> Greater Manchester Joint Waste Development Plan Document Strategy (June 2006), page 2

- should waste management in Greater Manchester aim to achieve or exceed national and regional targets?
- where should new waste related development be focussed?

These are by no means exhaustive, and consultation during the issues and options stage will seek to expand on these questions further. Potential policy issues that key principles may be expected to include are also set out in the JWDPD Strategy in line with the principles of the waste hierarchy, and include:

- the waste hierarchy, including minimisation, reuse, recycling and market development;
- how to deal with the remaining residual waste in terms of processing;
- roughly how much waste might be expected to be disposed of to landfill;
- principles of self-sufficiency for Greater Manchester, including consideration of exporting waste, if relevant; and
- development control issues such as landscape designations and other constraints to development.

In addition to the obvious waste issues, key principles will also need address such considerations as greenbelt, environmental designations e.g., Areas Of Outstanding National Beauty, Sites of Special Scientific Interest and boundaries shared with the Peak District national park, amongst others.

Questions you may wish to consider in advance of the Stakeholder events:

1. What does the term Spatial Vision mean to you?
2. What would be an appropriate vision for the Plan?
3. Do the short, medium and long term objectives cover the key topic areas?
4. Should a more detailed list of objectives be prepared?
5. In terms of the key principles, does the suggested list cover the main issues?
6. What level of detail and matters of evidence do you think are required to advance the JWDPD?
7. What level of information will be required in order to answer the questions relating to the key principles?
8. Do the questions cover the main issues?
9. Does the list of potential policy issues cover the key issues?