

4.3 Hazardous Landfill

Policy LF 3 - Site for Hazardous Landfill

Development will be supported for the disposal of **residues from the treatment of hazardous wastes on land adjacent to and as an extension to Whitemoss landfill [ALC2]**, **only when the applicant can demonstrate:**

- there is a continuing national or regional need for that disposal to take place at Whitemoss landfill; and
- **that all possible alternatives to landfilling residues are exhausted, and the only residues that are counted towards need are those that cannot be recycled or recovered or otherwise treated at another facility nationally, or else deposited at a suitable licenced landfill nearer to where residues will originate; and**
- **that the permitted capacity is below the equivalent of five years predicted need and that this capacity taken together with a new extension will not exceed five years predicted need; and**
- **the application is accompanied by a planning obligation to give effect to full restoration of the existing and extended site by 2018.**

Justification

Policy CS8 of the Core Strategy requires the maintenance of adequate capacity to meet the predicted demand for hazardous waste. Policy LF3 identifies a site which could provide capacity during the plan period for those anticipated waste arisings without encouraging excessive landfilling. The Defra *Strategy for Hazardous Waste Management* promotes the waste hierarchy, with emphasis put on reducing the amounts of hazardous wastes, and recycling and recovering what is produced, with disposal being a last resort. **This policy provides for exhausting all alternatives to depositing the residues of hazardous wastes at Whitemoss landfill, and limits the residues that can be counted towards demonstrating a continuing national or regional need to those that cannot be recycled or recovered, or otherwise treated to reduce their quantity and/or environmental impact, at a facility elsewhere nationally.**

Year on year the amounts of hazardous waste sent to landfill are reducing, due to the implementation of further strict controls over the type of wastes that can be landfilled and better performance on recycling and recovering value from hazardous wastes. As an indication of the success of the UK in driving waste up the waste hierarchy, **the amount of hazardous waste disposed of to landfill fell from approximately 2 million tonnes in 2000, to just over 1 million tonnes in 2008 (representing 16% of hazardous wastes managed in 2008).** However, there remains a diminishing but continuing need for disposal of hazardous residues.

Whitemoss landfill site is one of a limited number of hazardous waste landfills and provides a national and regional significant waste management facility. **The site contributes to the Plan area's ability to work towards a net-self sufficient position for hazardous waste management, in which broadly equivalent volumes of hazardous**

waste enter and leave the area, expressed in Policy CS8 of the Core Strategy. In 2008, some 100,000 tonnes of hazardous waste from other areas was imported into the Plan area, with around 125,000 tonnes of hazardous waste produced in the Plan area exported outside to other areas.

Implementation

Approval of applications subject to appropriate conditions, or refusal of applications if proposals are unsatisfactory; to be monitored and reported in the Annual Monitoring Report - the remaining landfill void space is reported in the annual monitoring report. Allocations that are not taken up will be reviewed and updated at least every 5 years.

Applications will need to be accompanied by a full and detailed analysis of the types of residues predicted to be deposited, to include:

- the pre-treatment method, under the requirements of the Landfill regulations, expected to be applied to the type of waste;
- what potential each waste type has, in full or in part, to be fully recovered and turned into one or more alternative, quality products;
- what has to be done to produce a fully-recovered, non-waste product; and
- what facilities or markets there are on a national scale to undertake this, either existing at the time of the application or through emerging technologies.

Only those residues which are not recyclable or recoverable through this analysis, and for which there is no nearer suitable alternative licenced landfill, can be counted towards the assessment of need. In turn, this assessment of need will also inform a maximum position for five years capacity that will not be exceeded.
