

Response to A City for All Londoners

From the

South East Waste Planning Advisory Group (SEWPAG)

and the

**East of England Waste Technical Advisory Group
(East of England WTAB)**

December 2016

1. This Response has been drafted on behalf of the South East Waste Planning Advisory Group and the East of England Waste Technical Advisory Body. These groups are officer-level meetings of waste planning professionals who meet to share data, policy responses and develop common approaches to planning for waste management.

2. The Member Authorities of SEWPAG and the East of England Waste TAB are listed below:

**South East Waste Planning Advisory Group
(SEWPAG)**

Bracknell Forest Council
Brighton & Hove Council
Buckinghamshire County Council
East Sussex County Council
Hampshire County Council
Isle of Wight Council
Kent County Council
Medway Council
Milton Keynes Council
Oxfordshire County Council
Portsmouth Council
Reading Council
Royal Borough of Windsor and Maidenhead
Slough Council
South Downs National Park Authority
Surrey County Council
West Berkshire Council
West Sussex County Council
Wokingham Council

**East of England
Waste Technical Advisory Body**

Bedford Borough Council
Cambridgeshire County Council
Central Bedfordshire Council
Essex County Council
Hertfordshire County Council
Luton Borough Council
Norfolk County Council
Peterborough City Council
Southend-on-Sea Council
Suffolk County Council
Thurrock Council

3. SEWPAG and the EoEWTAB very much welcome the commitment from the Mayor of London that he will work constructively with the local authorities in the Wider South East and look forward to continuing our work together. We hope that future discussions will include the topic area of waste which has been somewhat neglected to date, and that this engagement results in clearer London Plan policies on waste net self-sufficiency and exports.
4. Intensifying development around stations is desirable for good planning, but it is not clear how alternative provision is to be made for industrial uses such as waste if new stations, eg: for Crossrail 2, are to be developed on existing industrial land. We hope to see the new London Plan preserve industrial land for strategic infrastructure which serves London, including waste facilities.
5. The document includes a commitment to “protect and sustain the important, job-creating role of these areas of strategic national and international importance, by resisting moves to convert offices to housing unless this can be justified.” SEWPAG welcomes this since the waste management implications of such conversions can be detrimental to the local environment and also the sustainable management of waste. These implications include
 - a lack of sufficient space for the storage of waste for residents, particularly if the separation of recyclable materials is to be achieved.
 - a lack of sufficient space to enable the collection of waste from converted premises by conventional refuse collection vehicles
6. Housing is a high priority within this document. Therefore consideration will need to be given as to how to integrate waste management infrastructure into the proposed development of high density housing. The possibility of a London Plan policy requiring small-scale waste management facilities within large scale redevelopments (Opportunity Areas and similar) should be explored. This could work well for Anaerobic Digestion to deal with food waste.
7. There are references to the circular economy and to the production of an environmental strategy during the course of next year. We hope to see the topic area of waste examined in detail in this strategy, to include all waste streams and the impact of waste exports on the wider south east and for this to be reflected in London Plan policies.

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