

Merseyside Joint Waste Development Plan Document

APPENDIX 5

GOVERNANCE ARRANGEMENTS

1.0 Governance

1.1 Each of the Merseyside Planning Authority's Full Councils has agreed to work jointly to produce the Waste DPD. The existing governance arrangements are however to be used to gain the necessary approvals for each stage of the Waste DPD. No joint Committee Structure has been set up and each stage in the plan making process is subject to approvals by each of the six Planning Authorities.

1.2 Each stage of the Waste DPD preparation process will need to receive an appropriate level of approval by each of the six Merseyside Districts. The precise route by which these approvals are secured varies between each District according to the vagaries of the decision making process.

1.3 Benefits of Joint Working

In addition to the recognition that planning for waste management is a strategic and spatial issue significant benefits have been identified in adopting a joint approach. Some of the most significant include:

- Reduced and Shared Risks to individual Districts and procurement processes for new waste facilities.
- Direct financial savings in terms of sharing the cost of preparing the Waste DPD.
- Direct financial savings by sharing the cost of Examination in Public (EIP).
- Best Value in financial management and value for money.
- Efficiencies in managing and procuring advice and services.
- Reduced costs by joint commissioning of studies such as Sustainability Appraisal and evidence gathering.
- Single consultation process and reduced consultation burden on stakeholders and community.
- Consistent Policy across the sub-region will provide a timely and equitable policy framework over which the planning decisions can be made. This is crucial because some waste management facilities need to be of a certain size to be economic and by definition need to accept waste from more than one District / authority area. Such a collaborative approach also reduces the risk of policy conflict between the Merseyside Districts.
- A consistent approach to agree reporting and monitoring frameworks.
- A policy framework better suited to consider inter-sub regional movements of waste.
- Identification of opportunities for sub-regional action to reduce waste and improve re-use and recycling opportunities.