

COUNTY COUNCIL MEETING – 15 SEPTEMBER 2017

Statement from: Councillor E J Poll, Executive Councillor for Commercial and Environmental Management

STRATEGIC WASTE CONSIDERATIONS

Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy (JMWMS)

The waste partnership has launched an extensive consultation on options to provide an environmentally efficient waste service and programme of workshops is developing a strategic plan for the direction of waste services in the county. We anticipate agreeing a range of innovative approaches that will address the expected growth in waste arising from increasing economic activity and development, while making better use of our existing resources and infrastructure. A revised Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy setting out these approaches will be agreed during the coming two years.

Local Plans

The Council continues to be active in supporting our partners to develop effective planning policies to facilitate growth and improve the wellbeing of our communities. We are closely engaged currently in the examination in public of the East Lindsey Local Plan, and anticipate a similar level of involvement in the recently announced examination of the South East Lincolnshire Local Plan.

Lincoln Eastern Bypass

Work on the Lincoln Eastern Bypass continues to yield significant archaeological evidence for the county's past, creating sufficient interest to attract large number of visitors to the site itself and to open days held to explain the site and it's finds to the public. Options are being considered for a wider public exhibition illustrating what the site can tell us about the city and county history, supporting our objectives of sustaining Lincolnshire as a tourist destination and doubling the size of the visitor economy by 2030.

Coastal Management

We are working closely with the Environment Agency and many other partners and communities in the east of Lincolnshire as work progresses to determine the long term future of coastal management between Saltfleetby and Gibraltar Point. Following a series of public workshops to discuss possible ways of continuing to provide the current high standard of protection into the future, the Environment Agency are compiling a range of possible solutions for further public consultation from October this year. The management programme that is ultimately adopted is expected to be in place from April 2021.

Flood Risk Management

The Council and its partners have embarked on an ambitious review of its partnership arrangements for managing flood risk across the county and with its neighbouring authority areas. The aim is to ensure that the successful approach we have adopted up to now continues to adapt to changing circumstances to drive forwards a fully co-ordinated approach towards flood risk, together with water supply and quality to support the level of economic growth we wish to see in the county over the next few decades.

Minerals and Waste Local Plan

Following on from the adoption of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan Core Strategy and Development Management policies in June 2016, work on the second part of the local plan is now well advanced. The site location document, which sets out the council's preferred waste and minerals sites to meet the projected need for minerals and waste sites over the plan period to 2031, was successfully examined in July 2017 with no main modifications made to the plan.

Once we have confirmation from the inspector that the plan is sound and legally compliant, the council will be asked to adopt the plan later this year.

Processing of planning applications for waste and minerals developments has been undertaken significantly ahead of Government targets. In the first half of 2017 over 80% of applications for minerals and waste developments were determined within 13 weeks, well ahead of the Government's target of 65%.

In addition, 80% of applications for the Council's own development were determined in eight weeks or less. This ensures that appropriate developments are coming forward in suitable locations with minimal delay caused by the planning process.

Enforcement and Monitoring Officers have been checking sites to ensure compliance with planning conditions and reports of unauthorised developments are investigated and resolved. All active minerals and waste sites receive at least one site inspection a year ensuring the Council is pro-active in monitoring minerals and waste sites around the county.

SUMMARY / KEY TOPICS

- Waste Strategy and Waste Partnership progress
- East Lindsey examination in public of Local Plan taking place
- South East Lincolnshire examination in public to begin shortly
- Work on the LEB continues to yield significant archaeological finds which greatly increase our understanding of Lincoln's past and we are looking at an exhibition to bring this to life for Lincolnshire's communities