1. Summary

1.1 Kent County Council is consulting on a Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, Minerals Sites Development Plan and a Waste Sites Development Plan. This report identifies the main issues impacting on Dartford Council and suggests a response.

2. RECOMMENDATION

2.1 That the response set out at Appendix A be sent to Kent County Council as the Council's formal response to the consultations.

3. Background and Discussion

3.1. Kent County Council (KCC) is the planning authority for minerals and waste. Dartford Borough Council is the waste collection authority and KCC is the waste disposal authority.

3.2. Kent County Council is preparing a new Minerals and Waste Development Framework. This will consist of a Core Strategy as well as a Minerals Sites Development Plan Document and a Waste Sites Development Plan Document.

3.3. The Core Strategy is a statutory development plan that will provide the strategic planning framework for future minerals and waste development. It will identify broad areas where new waste management facilities and mineral extraction sites are to be located. It will also safeguard mineral resources and mineral importation facilities at wharves and rail-sidings. The Core Strategy will make provision for minerals and waste needs in the county up to the end of 2030.

3.4. The Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Issues Consultation document was reported to Cabinet on 25 November 2010 (see Minute 92). The main points made by the Council have not been taken on board by the County. These included the need for flexibility to allow for the closure of existing aggregates wharves where the facility is no longer required; concern about additional agricultural chalk extraction and continued use for asbestos landfill until 2030; and concern about safeguarding Lancebox at Manor Way Business Park, Swanscombe as it would prejudice the wider regeneration at Swanscombe Peninsula. The Council suggested that the Core Strategy should support an anaerobic digestion plant in North Kent, with planning applications to be considered against locational criteria. The County propose a policy (CSW8) for Energy from Waste Facilities which will be identified through the Waste Management Sites Development Plan. The Council
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made comments on areas identified as potential mineral safeguarding areas and expressed a wish to be involved in the definition of these areas but has not yet been invited to do so.

3.5. The Mineral and Waste Sites Development Plans set out sites put forward by operators and landowners in response to the County Council's 'Call for Sites' in 2010. At this stage of the process the County Council is seeking initial views and opinions on the sites put forward.

3.6. A copy of the Core Strategy: Strategy and Policy Directions, and Mineral and Waste Sites Development Plan Documents have been placed in the Members Room. The issues and suggested Council response are set out at Appendix A.

3.7. The Mineral Sites Development Plan Document Options Consultation identifies the following sites in the Borough for consideration; these have been put forward by operators and land owners:

a) Pinden Quarry for chalk extraction
b) FM Conway, Rochester Way as a secondary and recycled aggregate site

c) Lees Yard and Adjacent Site Old Rochester Way for household waste recycling and transfer. This would be an extension of the existing use. The site is used for the transfer of industrial and commercial waste and the site is well located for such use.

c) Stone Gate, also known as St James Lane Pit, is currently operating as an inert landfill site and the landowners would like the site to be considered for a wider range of wastes than currently approved to include non-hazardous wastes. The site is the current subject to a planning application for housing.
3.10. The proposals for land at Manor Way Business Park, Swanscombe; Pinden Quarry; and Stone Gate are considered at Appendix A.

4. Relationship to the Corporate Plan

Not applicable.

5. Financial, legal, staffing and other administrative implications and risk assessments

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<th>Financial Implications</th>
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<td>Legal Implications</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Staffing Implications</td>
<td>May require staff input to Kent &amp; Minerals Core Strategy Examination should the County not amend the Core Strategy in line with the Council’s objections. This will be accommodated within the existing staff complement but may have an impact on other parts of the work programme.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Administrative Implications</td>
<td>None</td>
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<tr>
<td>Risk Assessment</td>
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6. Details of Exempt Information Category

Not applicable

7. Appendices

Appendix A - Summary of Issues and Suggested Council Response

BACKGROUND PAPERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Documents consulted</th>
<th>Date / File Ref</th>
<th>Report Author</th>
<th>Section and Directorate</th>
<th>Exempt Information Category</th>
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<tr>
<td>Kent Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Issues Consultation. Report to DBC Cabinet 25 Nov 2010</td>
<td>Nov 2010</td>
<td>Paul Buckley (01322) 343202</td>
<td>Planning Policy, Regeneration</td>
<td>N/A</td>
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Minerals Sites Development Plan
Document
May 2011

Waste Sites Development Plan
Document
May 2011