# Applications Referred to Committee for Determination: Great Yarmouth Borough: C/6/2016/6001:

Change of use to a mixed use development to allow the acceptance of trade waste in addition to household waste; and to allow the ancillary small scale sale of non-recycled products (compost bins, green waste sacks, Christmas trees and logs):

Norfolk County Council, Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services

Report by the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services

## Summary

Planning permission is sought to enable the existing Caister Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) to accept trade waste in addition to household waste, and to facilitate the small-scale sale of non-recycled products such as compost bins, green waste sacks, Christmas trees and logs in order to promote the recycling service, and generate a small income to offset the cost of running the service.

No objections have been received from statutory or non-statutory consultees, or from any other third parties.

In accordance with the Council's Constitution, the application is being reported to the Planning (Regulatory) Committee because it was submitted on behalf of the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services, and therefore cannot be dealt with under delegated powers.

The proposal conforms to development plan policies and national policy, and there are no material considerations that indicate the application should be refused.

#### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services be authorised to:

- (i) Grant planning permission subject to the conditions outlined in section 12.
- (ii) To discharge conditions (in discussion with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the committee) where those detailed above require the submission and implementation of a scheme, or further details, either before development commences, or within a specified date of planning permission being granted.
- (iii) Delegate powers to officers (in discussion with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the committee) to deal with any non-material amendments to the application that may be submitted.

#### 1. The Proposal

1.1 Location : Caister recycling centre, Pump Lane, Caister,

Norfolk, NR30 5TE

1.2 Type of development : Household Waste Recycling Centre.

1.3 Site Area : 0.36 Hectares

1.4 Annual tonnage 6000 tonnes per annum

1.5 Duration : Permanent

1.6 Hours of working : 1 October – 31 March (winter hours)

Sunday to Saturday: 08.00 – 16.00

1 April to 30 September (summer hours)

Sunday to Saturday: 08.00 - 18.00

1.7 Vehicle movements and

numbers

: **Trade Waste**: Anticipated to be up to 8 (4 in/out)

additional daily vehicle movements (up to 3.5

tonne)

Sales of Goods: Anticipated to be up to 10 (5 in/ out) additional daily movements during peak

season i.e. sale of Christmas trees.

1.8 Access : Access is from Pump Lane, off the A149 Caister

Bypass, with the entrance marked. The site

provides an In/out for circulation and parking area.

#### 2. **Constraints**

2.1 The site is located within 1 km of the Great Yarmouth North Denes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and 1.3km of the Special Protected Area.

The site is in the Environment agency's flood zone 3.

#### 3. **Planning History**

3.1 Planning permission was granted for the Household recycling centre in 2011 under application C/6/2011/6011, for land transfer to provide a new recycling centre and Highways depot with the recycling centre including a drainage system, replacement hardstanding, a staff welfare unit and a relocation of the existing plant and waste containers.

3.2 The site has been running since with no complaints, and has been an industrial area since circa 1993.

#### 4. **Planning Policy**

4.1	Norfolk Minerals and	:	CS5	General location of waste management
	Waste Local			facilities and associated facilities
	Development Framework		CS6	General waste management
	Core Strategy and			considerations
	Minerals and Waste		CS7	Recycling, composting, anaerobic

	Development Management Policies Development Plan Document 2010-2016 (2011)		CS13 CS14 CS15 DM1 DM3 DM4 DM8 DM10 DM12 DM13	digestion and waste transfer stations Climate change and renewable energy generation Environmental protection Transport Nature conservation Groundwater and surface water Flood risk Design, local landscape and townscape character Transport Amenity Air quality			
4.2	Great Yarmouth Local Plan (Adopted 2015)	:	CS1 CS6 Cs11 CS13	Focusing on a sustainable future Supporting the Local economy Enhancing the Natural Environment Protecting areas at risk of flooding or coastal change			
4.3	The National Planning Policy Framework (2012)	:	11	Conserving and enhancing the natural environment			
4.4	National Planning Policy for Waste (2014)						
4.5	National Planning Practice Guidance Notes (2014)						
5.	Consultations						
5.1	District Council	:	No objections				
5.2	Ecology Manager	:	No comment				
5.3	EHO	:	No comment				
5.4	Environment Agency	:	No objections as long as waste types received at site are as described in environmental permit.				
5.5	Highway Authority (NCC)	:	No objections				
5.6	Lead Local Flood Authority (NCC)	:	No objections				
5.7	Landscaping Officer (NCC)	:	No objections				
5.8	Broads Authority	:	No comment				
5.9	Parish Councillor (Patrick Hacon)	:	No objections :				

: No objections

5.10

Local residents

## 6. Assessment

#### **Proposal**

- Planning permission is sought to enable the existing Caister Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) to become a mixed use development to accept trade waste (in addition to household waste), and to facilitate the small scale sale of additional items such as compost bins, green waste sacks, Christmas trees and logs (for firewood).
- 6.2 The County Council wishes to introduce a service aimed at small and medium sized businesses to deposit waste at the site for a charge (currently traders are not permitted to use the recycling centre). Waste would be separated into different material streams and deposited in the existing containers used for household waste (no additional ones would be required). It is anticipated the additional waste would be accommodated into the existing permitted annual throughput of 6000 tonnes, and it would not compromise the primary function of the site as an HWRC.
- 6.3 In addition, the County Council also wishes to sell additional non-recycled items such as those listed above to complement the sale of compost or soil improver which is already permitted. The additional items for sale would be stored in or within the curtilage of the re-use centre (which already sells recycled household products). This is located within the site to the east, within two metal walk-in containers where facilities are in place for cash handling and card payments. The items would be associated with the life-cycle of products accepted at the recycling centre; for example Christmas trees purchased can be brought back for disposal and logs sold would be recycled timber.
- The aim of the changes is to promote the recycling service and generate a small income in order to offset the cost of running the service.

#### **Site**

- The HWRC site occupies 0.36 hectares and is located off Pump Lane near the Caister bypass (A149). The site is in an industrial estate bordering a sewage treatment plant, a recycling centre, and a highways depot, with access marked and signed on the highway.
- The site itself operates a one way system with in/out access point facilitating parking around the site alongside refuse points. Parking areas are highlighted in red with yellow indicating general movement around the site. The site handles up to 6000 tonnes of household waste and recycling a year generated by local residents.

## Principle of development

6.7 A basic principle when assessing planning applications is outlined in Section 38(6) of the Town and Country Planning Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 which states:

"If regard is to be had to the development plan for the purpose of any determination to be made under the Planning Acts, the determination must be made in accordance with the plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise".

- In terms of the development plan, the County Planning Authority considers the relevant documents in relation to this application are the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies Development Plan Document 2010-2016 (the "NMWDF Core Strategy") and the Great Yarmouth Local Plan (2015). Whilst not part of the development plan, policies within both the National Planning Policy Framework and the National Planning Policy for Waste are also further material considerations of significant weight.
- 6.9 The HWRC is located within the Great Yarmouth Local Plan (2015). The operation of the HWRC was also considered acceptable here in 2011. Therefore this site was considered appropriate in the context of NMWDF policy CS6: General waste management considerations when consent was granted for the HWRC. It is consistent also with the recently adopted National Planning Policy for Waste (2014) which gives priority to the re-use of previously developed land for waste development.
- 6.10 With regards to the acceptance of trade waste in addition to household waste, the principle of that use of land here is therefore acceptable and compliant with these policies. In terms of the sale of non-recycled products from the site, this is not a waste use (which is itself a Sui Generis use) and accordingly permission has been sought for a mixed use development. However, the sale of goods is being proposed to offset the cost of running the service and would be small scale and ancillary to the principal use that would remain as a Recycling Centre.
- 6.11 Great Yarmouth Policy CS7: Strengthening our centres states they aim to improve the vitality and viability of our town and district centres by Safeguarding the retail function and character of each centre. In this instance retail would be low key/small scale and secondary to the main use of the site as a Recycling Centre. The retail element would not impact on the vitality and viability of the nearest Town (Great Yarmouth) or District centre (Caister-on-Sea) and the proposal would comply with this Development Plan policy.

#### **Amenity**

- 6.12 The site has operated to date without complaint and is also the subject of an Environmental Permit issued by the Environment Agency to control issues such as noise, dust, and odour etc. The changes proposed are not likely to give rise to any additional adverse impacts on amenity, particularly given the site's location on industrial land and away from residential property.
- 6.13 It is considered that the proposal complies with NMWDF Policies CS14: Environmental Protection and DM12: Amenity, which seek to ensure there are no unacceptable adverse amenity impacts created.

#### Landscape / Design etc.

6.14 NMWDF Policies CS14: Environmental Protection and DM8: Design, local landscape and townscape character both seek to only permit development that

- does not have unacceptable impacts on the character and quality of the landscape or townscape.
- 6.15 There would be no change to the physical infrastructure at the site in order to accommodate the changes, trade waste would be deposited in existing segregated skips/containers where household waste is deposited.
- 6.16 The additional items to be sold would be located within or in the cartilage of the existing re-use shelter where reclaimed household waste products are sold along with bagged compost.
- 6.17 It is considered that there are no landscaping or design issues with the proposals, and accordingly the application does not undermine NMWDF policies CS14 or DM8.

#### **Biodiversity**

#### 6.18 Habitats Regulation Assessment

As stated in section 2.1, the site is within 1 km of the Great Yarmouth North Denes Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) and 1.3km of the North Denes Special Protected Area. However, in accordance with an assessment under Article 61 of The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010, it is felt that the amended development would be very unlikely to have any adverse impacts on the ecology of the designated area hence an Appropriate Assessment is not required.

6.19 In light of this, the proposal is considered to be compliant with policy CS14: Environmental Protection and also DM1: Nature Conservation of the NMWDF Core Strategy given that it is not felt the amended scheme would harm the SPA or SSSi or any other locally designated nature conservation or geodiversity sites or habitats, species or features identified in UK and Norfolk biodiversity and geodiversity action plans.

#### **Transport**

- 6.20 The proposals to accept trade waste would be accommodated within the existing throughput of the site which is 6000 tonnes, and the applicant expects this would amount to up to 1% of the total annual throughput. At this level of use it would generate an additional 4 vehicles per day (i.e. 8 movements). If the service proved more popular and trade waste represented 5% of total visits it would result in an increase up to 19 additional vehicles accessing the site. It is proposed that trade vehicles accessing the site would be limited to 3.5 tonne vehicles.
- 6.21 With regards to the sale of non-recycled products, this is not expected to bring significant numbers of additional visitors to the site. The sales of Christmas trees is expected to bring the highest concentration of visitors to the site given that this would be seasonal. The applicant has stated that on the basis of 50 trees being sold from the site during December, this would be likely attract 100 visitors (3.6%) over December and some 5 cars (10 movements during the period) on a daily basis.
- 6.22 The Highway Authority raised no objections to the proposals and the sale of the

specified non-recycled products will be limited by condition to the areas outlined in the drawings. It is therefore considered that the proposal complies with NMWDF Policy CS15: *Transport*, which considers proposals acceptable in terms of access where anticipated vehicle movements do not generate unacceptable risks or impacts.

### **Sustainability**

6.23 NMWDF Core Strategy policy CS13: Climate change and renewable energy generation has an aspiration that a minimum of 10% renewable energy is provided for waste developments from decentralized and renewable sources. Given the small-scale nature of the development and that it is not for a new or extended site, the proposal does not undermine this policy.

#### Groundwater/surface water & Flood risk

- The HWRC is located in Flood Zone 3 NMWDF Policy DM3: *Groundwater* and surface water seeks to ensure development does not adversely impact on groundwater quality or resources, and policy DM4: *Flood risk* seeks to ensure flood risk is not increased by new waste development. Additionally Policy CS13 in the Great Yarmouth local plan seeks to Protect areas at risk of flooding or coastal change.
- 6.25 The Environment Agency raised no comments in respect of the application and it is not expected that the proposals would therefore pose any further risk to groundwater resources or flood risk, on or off site. Therefore the application is compliant with these policies.

## Responses to the representations received

6.26 The application was advertised by means of neighbour notification letters, site notices, and an advertisement in the Eastern Daily Press newspaper. No objections or other representations were raised by third parties.

# 7. Resource Implications

- 7.1 **Finance:** The development has no financial implications from the Planning Regulatory perspective.
- 7.2 **Staff:** The development has no staffing implications from the Planning Regulatory perspective.
- 7.3 **Property:** The development has no property implication from the Planning Regulatory perspective.
- 7.4 **IT:** The development has no IT implications from the Planning Regulatory perspective.

## 8. Other Implications

## 8.1 **Human rights**

8.2 The requirements of the Human Rights Act 1998 must be considered. Should permission not be granted Human Rights are not likely to apply on behalf of the applicant.

- 8.3 The human rights of the adjoining residents are engaged under Article 8, the right to respect for private and family life and Article 1 of the First Protocol, the right of enjoyment of property. A grant of planning permission may infringe those rights but they are qualified rights, which is that they can be balanced against the economic interests of the community as a whole and the human rights of other individuals. In making that balance it may also be taken into account that the amenity of local residents could be adequately safeguarded by conditions albeit with the exception of visual amenity. However, in this instance it is not considered that the human rights of adjoining residents would be infringed.
- The human rights of the owners of the application site may be engaged under the First Protocol Article 1 that is the right to make use of their land. An approval of planning permission may infringe that right but the right is a qualified right and may be balanced against the need to protect the environment and the amenity of adjoining residents.

## 8.5 Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA)

- 8.6 The Council's planning functions are subject to equality impact assessments, including the process for identifying issues such as building accessibility. None have been identified in this case.
- 8.7 **Legal Implications:** There are no legal implications from the Planning Regulatory perspective.
- 8.8 **Communications:** There are no communication issues from a planning perspective.
- 8.9 **Health and Safety Implications:** There are no health and safety implications from a planning perspective.
- 8.10 **Any other implications:** Officers have considered all the implications which members should be aware of. Apart from those listed in the report (above), there are no other implications to take into account.

#### 9. Section 17 – Crime and Disorder Act

9.1 It is not considered that the implementation of the proposal would generate any issues of crime and disorder, and there have been no such matters raised during the consideration of the application.

# 10. Risk Implications/Assessment

10.1 There are no risk issues from a planning perspective.

# 11. Conclusion and Reasons for Grant of Planning Permission

- 11.1 Planning permission is sought to enable the existing Caistor HWRC to accept trade waste in addition to Household Waste, and to facilitate the small-scale sale of non-recycled products such as compost bins, green waste sacks, Christmas trees and logs in order to promote the recycling service and generate a small income to offset the cost of running the service.
- 11.2 The development would not have unacceptable impacts on amenity, ecology, the landscape, ground or surface water, flood risk, or the highway network.
- 11.3 No objections have been received from statutory or non-statutory consultees, or

from any other third parties.

11.4 The proposed development is considered acceptable, accords with the development plan, and there are no other material considerations why it should not be permitted. Accordingly, full conditional planning permission is recommended.

#### 12. Conditions

- 12.1 Except where amended by relevant applications and by the following documents submitted with this application:
  - i. Application form;
  - ii. Planning Statement; unreferenced; undated;
  - iii. Caistor Recycling Centre- Site Boundary Plan; Caister\_Plan\_2015\_001 rev 1
  - iv. Caistor Recycling Centre- Site Layout Plan; Caister\_Plan\_2015\_002 rev 1

the development shall not take place except in accordance with drawing references and documents approved under permission reference C/6/2011/6011:

- i. a) Site Location and Landowner Plan, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0010, Rev P3, dated 09/11
- b) Site Plan, Proposed, Sheet 1 of 3, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0013, Rev P3, dated 02/12
- iii. c) Site Plan Proposed, Sheet 2 of 3, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0014, Rev P4, dated 02/12
- iv. d) Site Plan Proposed, Sheet 3 of 3, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0039, Rev P2, dated 12/11.
- v. e) Indicative Drainage Plan, Sheet 1 of 3, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0015, Rev P2, dated 12/11
- vi. f) Indicative Drainage Plan, Sheet 2 of 3, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0016, Rev P3, dated 12/11.
- vii. g) Indicative Drainage Plan, Sheet 3 of 3, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0040, Rev P1, dated 12/11.
- viii. h) Welfare Unit, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0017, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- ix. i) Existing Welfare Building, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0018, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- x. j) Meeting Room, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0019, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xi. k) Workshop, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0020, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xii. I) Container A and B, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0021, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xiii. m) Containers C, D, E and J, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0022, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xiv. n) Container F, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0023, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xv. o) Containers G and H, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0024, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xvi. p) Container I and Fuel Tank A, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0025, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xvii. q) Fuel Tank B and Battery Charging Shed, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-

- XX-0026, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xviii. r) Fencing, Gates and Security Measures, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0027, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xix. s) Containers, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0028, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xx. t) Existing and Proposed Site Sections, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0029, Rev P1, dated 09/11.
- xxi. u) Proposed Re-use Shelter, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0030, Rev P1, dated 09/11
- xxii. v) Proposed Welfare Building, MMD-256387-C-DR-PA-01-XX-0031, Rev P2, dated 02/12.
- xxiii. x) Design and Access Statement, dated September 2011
- xxiv. y) Air Quality and Noise Assessment, dated September 2011
- xxv. z) Transport Statement, dated September 2011
- xxvi. aa) Flood Risk Assessment, dated September 2011
- cxvii. bb) Arboricultural Implications Assessment, dated 31 August 2011
- xviii. cc) Environmental Report, dated September 2011
- xxix. dd) Information to Inform Appropriate Assessment, dated September 2011
- xxx. ee) Foul Sewage Assessment, dated September 2011
- xxxi. ff) Landscaping Details, dated September 2011
- cxxii. gg) Lighting Assessment, dated September 2011
- xxiii. hh) Planning Statement, dated September 2011
- xxiv. ii) Statement of Community Involvement, dated September 2011
- (xxv. jj) Contamination Risk Assessment, dated February 2012.
- xxvi. Kk) Caister- on-sea land transfer- recycling centre/ highways Depot Outline site management plan- Dated September 2011, Stamped 08 August 2012

Reason: For the avoidance of doubt and in the interests of proper planning.

- 12.2 No operation authorised or required under this permission or permitted under the Town and Country Planning (General Permitted Development) (England) Order 2015 including the movement of vehicles and operation of any plant, shall take place other than during the following periods:
  - 1 October 31 March (Winter Hours)

Sunday to Saturday: 08.00-16.00

1 April - 30 September (Summer Hours)

Sunday - Saturday: 08.00-18.00

#### Reason:

To protect the amenities of residential properties and the surrounding area, in accordance with Policy DM12 of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD 2010-2026.

12.3 No material other than household and trade waste shall be brought onto and Sorted on the site.

Reason: To protect the amenities of neighbouring residential properties, in accordance with Policy DM12 of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD 2010-2026.

12.4 Landscaping should be in scheme with the relevant areas on the landscape layout plans MMD-256387-C-DR-PA01-xx-0126 and MMD-256387-C-DR-PA01-xx-0125 Rev 2 stamped 29<sup>th</sup> June 2012 submitted under planning application C/6/2012/6001. All planting shall be retained for a period of five years after initial planting has been completed and any trees and shrubs which are substantially damaged diseased or die, shall be replaced within twelve months with plants of similar species and size.

Reason: To protect the amenities of the surrounding area, in accordance with Policy DM12 of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD 2010-2026.

- 12.5 Storage and sale of non-recycled products that are the subject of this application shall only take place in the area hatched in blue boxed in black on drawing reference Caistor\_plan\_2015\_002 dated 21.12.15
- 12.6 No plant or machinery shall be used on the site unless it is maintained in a condition whereby it is efficiently silenced.

Reason: To protect the amenities of residential properties and the surrounding area, in accordance with Policy DM12 of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD 2010-2026.

12.7 Any drums and small containers used for oil and other chemicals on the site shall be stored in bunded areas which do not drain to any watercourse, surface water sewer or soakaways, and all oil or chemical storage tanks, ancillary handling facilities and equipment, including pumps and valves, shall be contained within an impervious bunded area of a least 110% of the total stored capacity.

Reason: To safeguard hydrological interests, in accordance with Policy DM3 of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD 2010-2026.

12.8 Vehicles leaving the site shall not be in a condition whereby they would deposit loose material on the public highway.

Reason: In the interests of highway safety, in accordance with Policy DM10 of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD 2010-2026.

12.9 Measures shall be taken where necessary to prevent dust nuisance and sand blow caused by the operations, including spraying of road surfaces and stockpiles.

Reason: To protect the amenities of residential properties and the surrounding area, in accordance with Policy DM12 of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD 2010-2026.

Reason: To protect the amenities of residential properties, in accordance with

Policy DM12 of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD 2010-2026.

12.10 No external lighting shall be installed on the site unless it is maintained such that it will not cause glare beyond the site boundaries.

Reason: To protect the amenities of residential properties, in accordance with Policy DM12 of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy DPD 2010-2026.

#### Recommendation

It is recommended that the Executive Director of Community and Environmental Services be authorised to:

- (i) Grant planning permission subject to the conditions outlined in section 12.
- (ii) Discharge conditions (in discussion with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the committee) where those detailed above require the submission and implementation of a scheme, or further details, either before development commences, or within a specified date of planning permission being granted.
- (iii) Delegate powers to officers (in discussion with the Chairman and Vice Chairman of the committee) to deal with any non-material amendments to the application that may be submitted.

## **Background Papers**

Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Development Framework Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies Development Plan Document 2010-2016 (2011)

http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/view/NCC094912

Great Yarmouth local plan, core strategy (2015)

http://www.great-yarmouth.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=1213&p=0

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) (2012)

http://www.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\_data/file/6077/211 6950.pdf

Planning Practice Guidance (2014)

http://planningguidance.planningportal.gov.uk/

National Planning Policy for Waste:

https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/national-planning-policy-for-waste

Application references: C/6/2011/6011

#### Officer Contact

If you have any questions about matters contained in this paper please get in touch with:

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If you need this report in large print, audio, Braille, alternative format or in a different language please contact 0344 800 8020 and ask for Hannah Northrop or textphone 0344 800 8011 and we will do our best to help.