



Natalie Bramhall  
Cabinet Member for Environment & Climate Change

(Sent via email)

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27-May-20

Dear Councillor Selleck and Councillor Marshall,

Thank you for letter regarding the Surrey Waste Local Plan which has been forwarded to me, I do appreciate your concerns. This is a difficult site and we as a County Council certainly do not wish to ignore local views and concerns.

I am sure we elected Councillors and our Officers can continue to work constructively together on this subject. The continuation of the status quo is clearly in no one's benefit. The landowner may well have an economic interest in continuing the present arrangements and without enough additional value then any plans will come to nothing. We should bear this in mind and work with them if at all possible.

Can I reassure you that there is no hidden agenda here, the County Council as waste disposal authority has no plans for this site and we are not aware that the landowner has any current plans either. If we adopt the new Waste Plan then this will set out strict and clear parameters for any waste development, but this should be seen as an opportunity for environmental improvements and not as a threat for the local community. There is nothing in the Waste Plan that requires the whole site to be developed for waste.

One of the key objectives of the Plan is to work closely with our partners such as our borough councils, I am keen to put this into practice to see what solutions might be practicable. Development options could, and should, include waste uses - but as you prepare your own Local Plan perhaps other development mixes might be considered. We do of course need to address the concerns you set out and ensure potential traffic generation is carefully considered with potential impacts on local roads mitigated and controlled as far as possible.

If we get to the stage of receiving a planning application for waste development then we will consult you as is required and is normal. But I hope we will not get to that stage before we have already engaged on this. If the landowner or a developer come to us for pre application advice we will of course refer to our new Policy 16 which encourages local community engagement prior to submitting a planning application. This would inevitably involve borough councillors and again is something we could facilitate should this situation arise.

Cont/d.,

Councillors Selleck and Marshall

In the meantime, I am more than happy for our officers to discuss a way forward on this and share options with us. As I say, I appreciate this is not an easy site and our planning Inspector came to the same conclusion. But I share her view that some form of acceptable development can be achieved. So I'm happy for us to try and do this – within the clear parameters set out in our respective Plans and taking full account the concerns of the local community.

Yours sincerely

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Natalie J. Bramhall". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, looped initial 'N'.

Natalie Bramhall  
**Cabinet Member Environment & Climate Change**