



3. Presumption in favour of Sustainable Development

3.1 The *National Planning Policy Framework* includes a presumption in favour of sustainable development but does not contain specific waste policies, since national waste planning policy will be published as part of the National Waste Management Plan for England. Local authorities preparing waste plans and taking decisions on waste applications should have regard to policies in the *National Planning Policy Framework* so far as it is relevant. The Waste Core Strategy accords with the policies in the *National Planning Policy Framework* and **Policy WCS 1** sets out how the presumption in favour of sustainable development will be applied locally.

Objectives WO1, WO2, WO3, WO4, WO5, WO6, WO7

Policy WCS 1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development

a) When considering development proposals the Council will take a positive approach that reflects the presumption in favour of sustainable development contained in the *National Planning Policy Framework*. It will always work proactively with applicants jointly to find solutions which mean that proposals can be approved wherever possible, and to secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the county.

b) Planning applications that accord with the policies in the Development Plan (and, where relevant, with policies in neighbourhood plans) will be approved without delay, unless material considerations indicate otherwise.

c) Where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision then the Council will grant permission unless material considerations indicate otherwise – taking into account whether:

- i. any adverse impacts of granting permission would significantly and demonstrably outweigh the benefits, when assessed against the policies in the *National Planning Policy Framework* and national waste planning policy⁶¹ taken as a whole; or
- ii. specific policies in the *National Planning Policy Framework* or national waste planning policy indicate that development should be restricted.

61 Currently *Planning Policy Statement 10: Planning for Sustainable Waste Management*



Explanatory text

- 3.2 The *National Planning Policy Framework* sets out the Government's view of what sustainable development in England means in practice for the planning system. The policies in the *Waste Core Strategy* guide how the presumption in favour of sustainable development will be applied locally.
- 3.3 The Council will work proactively with developers throughout the process to enable the delivery of proposals which secure development that improves the economic, social and environmental conditions in the county. The Council offers a pre-application advice service to assist with this at an early stage and developers are encouraged to use this service.
- 3.4 Pre-application advice can:
- help issues to be resolved at an early stage through the provision of advice in a timely manner,
 - avoid unnecessary delays and costs by making sure that the right information is provided, particularly where there is a need for formal assessments such as an Environmental Impact Assessment, Habitats Regulations Assessment or Flood Risk Assessment, and
 - provide the Council with the opportunity to highlight other consents which may be required and statutory consultees which developers should liaise with at an early stage.

