Policy WM8: Waste Prevention and Resource Management
SWMP / Waste Audit Checklist

Policy WM8 Waste Prevention and Resource Management is set out on pages 61-63 of the Joint Merseyside and Halton Waste Local Plan. This policy requires use of waste audits or site waste management plans (SWMP) to plan for and monitor waste minimisation, recycling, management and disposal. Evidence demonstrating how this will be achieved must be submitted by the developer, and this applies to waste and non-waste projects.

From 1st December 2013, the legislation surrounding SWMPs in England has been repealed. Whilst no longer a statutory requirement, SWMPs (and waste audits) are still widely acknowledged to be good practice for waste prevention, resource management and delivery of significant financial savings, and many of the larger building companies have said they will continue to use them.

The checklist over the page provides a guide to what an acceptable SWMP or waste audits (WA) should contain and is based upon:

- best practice guidance[1,2];
- the Joint Merseyside and Halton Waste Local Plan Monitoring Framework;
- Professional judgement[3] regarding what can reasonably be expected from developers based on experience of SWMP/WA submissions.

Information shown in the checklist may be submitted through a variety of formats such as Construction Environment Management Plans, Sustainability Statements or using a SWMP/WA template[4] all of which are acceptable.

Acceptability of a SWMP/WA is measured by performance against the items shown in the checklist. This is in relation to the provision of information and where feasible, moving waste up the waste hierarchy. Items which are '*Essential*' requirements (see checklist) provide a basis for efficient resource management on site, are fundamental to monitoring Policy WM8 and are not considered burdensome. For larger scale projects more information is essential - this is because larger developments typically generate greater quantities of construction, demolition and excavation waste. Items considered to be '*Desirable*' requirements are non-essential because they may not be known (when the SWMP/WA is submitted) and/or to minimise unnecessary burden on developers, particularly for smaller-scale projects where information may not be applicable e.g. 1-2 residential properties.

SWMP/WAs are typically submitted at discharge of conditions stage prior to construction. This means that forecast waste tonnages and actions are usually shown (Project Stages 1 and 2 in checklist) but actual waste arisings and actions (Stage 3) are not since they are unknown at this stage. In order to capture this valuable data we request that developers, particularly of large scale projects, be encouraged to resubmit their SWMP/WA once construction is complete. This would allow actual waste arisings data to be gathered which is more useful for monitoring

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[1]WRAP (2014) *Site Waste Management Plans* http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/site-waste-management-plans-1 Accessed: 09/04/14
[2] Defra (2008) *Non-statutory guidance for site waste management plans*
http://webarchive.nationalarchives.gov.uk/20130123162956/http://archive.defra.gov.uk/environment/waste/topics/construction/pdf/swmp-guidance.pdf
[3]Merseyside EAS Waste Local Plan team
[4] WRAP (2014) *SWMP Template* http://www.wrap.org.uk/content/site-waste-management-plans-1 Accessed: 30/04/14

purposes and updating the Waste Local Plan. A standard planning condition has been prepared to help secure the submission of the SWMP/WA in the first instance.

District Planning Ref:		Date checked:		By Whom:	
Project Stage	**Item**	**Small Project* (<0.5 hectares)** e.g. 1-2 residential properties, small retail or office development		**Larger Projects* (>0.5 hectares)** e.g. warehouse, all waste facilities, school, depot; or larger residential, office or retail development	
		Requirement	*Included (Y/N)*	*Requirement*	*Included (Y/N)*
1 Preparation and design	Details of persons responsible for the SWMP/WA (i.e. the developer and principal contractor)	Essential		Essential	
	Process for update of plan/audit as project develops through pre-construction and construction phases	Desirable		Essential	
	Process to ensure staff and sub-contractors are aware of SWMP/WA requirements (e.g. toolbox talks)	Desirable		Essential	
	Waste prevention actions (including designing out waste)	Essential		Essential	
	Waste reduction actions (e.g. safe storage of materials)	Essential		Essential	
	Waste recycling actions (on and off site)	Essential		Essential	
2 Pre-construction	Forecast waste types (European Waste Codes desirable)	Essential		Essential	
	Forecast waste arisings (tonnages)	Essential		Essential	
	Planned waste carriers and facilities	Desirable		Desirable	
	Planned waste fate(s) (recycling/recovery/disposal) and forecast tonnages	Desirable		Desirable	
3 Construction/ completion	Actual waste types (European Waste Codes desirable)	Desirable		Essential	
	Actual waste arisings	Desirable		Essential	
	Actual waste carriers and facilities	Desirable		Essential	
	Actual tonnages by waste fate(s) (recycling/recovery/ disposal)	Desirable		Essential	

*Size thresholds for small and larger projects are based on mean average footprints of existing developments. Examples of project types are given to help categorise the project in question. In some cases it may be uncertain whether a project falls within the small or large category. In such instances the Local Planning Authority case officer should use their own professional judgement regarding what information is acceptable to the scale of the project and/or contact Merseyside EAS Waste team for advice: waste.dpd@sefton.gov.uk