

**Report of Head of Scrutiny and Member Development**

**Report to Scrutiny Board (Environment and Housing)**

**Date: 26<sup>th</sup> April 2016**

**Subject: Peckfield Landfill Site**

Are specific electoral Wards affected? If relevant, name(s) of Ward(s):	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Are there implications for equality and diversity and cohesion and integration?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Is the decision eligible for Call-In?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No
Does the report contain confidential or exempt information? If relevant, Access to Information Procedure Rule number: Appendix number:	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No

**Summary of main issues**

1. Last year, the former Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board responded to a public request for Scrutiny in relation to the Peckfield landfill site near Micklefield. The Board agreed to undertake an inquiry to consider the ongoing issues linked to the operation of this site and the role of the Council and the Environment Agency in this regard. In conclusion of this inquiry, the Board published its final report in April 2015 setting out its findings and recommendations.
2. It now falls within the remit of the Environment and Housing Scrutiny Board to monitor the implementation of the recommendations arising from this inquiry. During its November and December meetings, the Scrutiny Board tracked progress and 3 of the 9 Scrutiny recommendations were officially signed off. The Board also considered more broadly the respective roles of the Council and the Environment Agency in relation to the general management of landfill sites.
3. The Scrutiny Board agreed to continue monitoring progress and identified 3 particular key areas of interest:
  - Communications with local residents in relation to the management of the site;
  - Restoration and Aftercare planning;
  - Contingency planning in the event of a landfill operator going out of business.
4. The Scrutiny Board also acknowledged the key role of the Peckfield Liaison Committee.

5. At its December meeting, the Scrutiny Board was informed that the Peckfield Liaison Committee was in the process of working with the Council to revise the 'Memorandum on the operation of Liaison Committees for mineral working, waste management and energy sites' in accordance with the recommendation made by the former Safer and Stronger Communities Scrutiny Board. The Scrutiny Board was also informed that the Peckfield Liaison Committee would be given the opportunity to consider in more detail the Restoration and Aftercare scheme relating to the Peckfield Landfill site, which was approved on 27 August 2015, with a view to providing feedback to the Scrutiny Board. The Scrutiny Board therefore agreed to liaise closely with the Liaison Committee as part of its on-going monitoring process.
6. During a meeting of the Peckfield Liaison Committee on 12<sup>th</sup> April 2016, the Committee considered and approved a revised 'Memorandum on the operation of Liaison Committees for mineral working, waste management and energy sites' and this is attached for the Board's information.
7. However, the Liaison Committee is yet to consider the details surrounding the Restoration and Aftercare scheme for the site and provisional arrangements have been made for the Committee to receive the details of this scheme at its next meeting on 12<sup>th</sup> July 2016.
8. As this matter will continue to fall within the remit of the Environment and Housing Scrutiny Board, it is proposed that a more detailed update in relation to the Peckfield Landfill site is scheduled early in the new municipal year to include feedback from the Peckfield Liaison Committee in relation to the site's Restoration and Aftercare scheme.

### **Recommendation**

9. That a more detailed update in relation to the Peckfield Landfill site is scheduled early in the new municipal year to include feedback from the Peckfield Liaison Committee in relation to the site's Restoration and Aftercare scheme.

### **Background documents<sup>1</sup>**

10. None used

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<sup>1</sup> The background documents listed in this section are available to download from the Council's website, unless they contain confidential or exempt information. The list of background documents does not include published works.