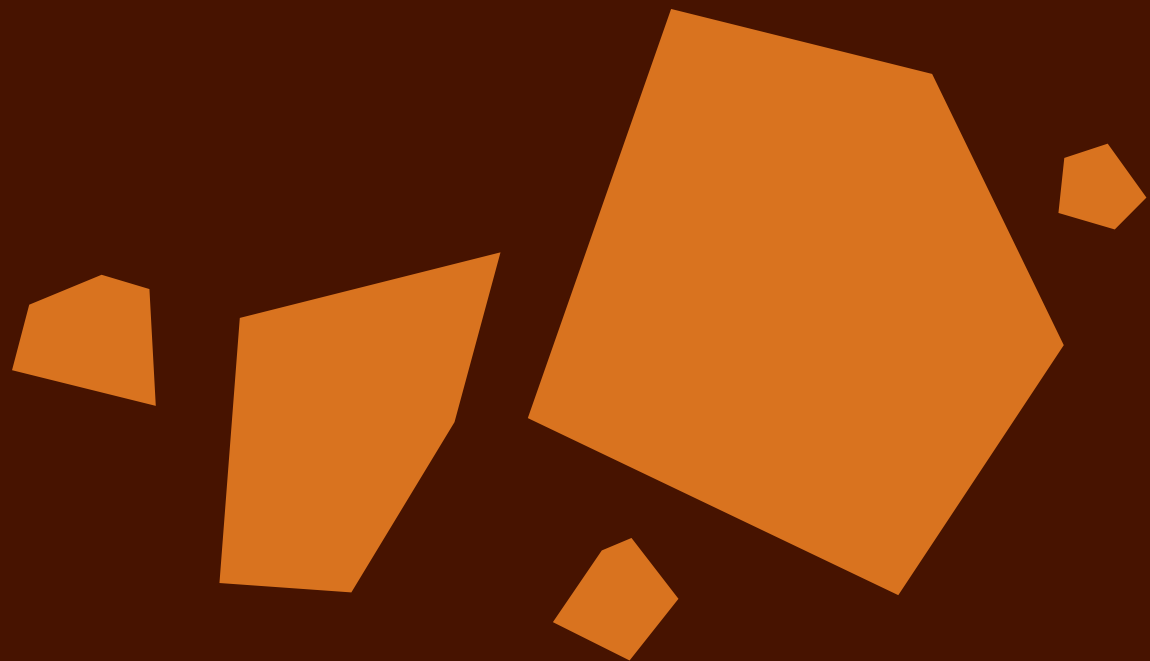




Additional Sites - Health and Equality Impact Assessment



1.0 Background

The Minerals and Waste Site Allocations and Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD) was submitted to the Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in May 2011. A Planning Inspector was appointed by the Secretary of State (SoS) and hearing sessions took place from September to October 2011. The hearing sessions have been adjourned to allow for further consultation on some major changes to the DPD. These changes will be subject to consultation in January 2012.

Under Policy WM2 of the DPD, these major changes have resulted in the removal of Heysham Port and Huncoat/Whinney Hill as Large Scale Built Waste Management Facilities in the Lancaster/Morecambe and East Lancashire catchment areas respectively. Where possible, local sites identified under Policy WM3 are being promoted as large scale sites under Policy WM2. In the Lancaster/Morecambe area, the Lancaster West Business Park is now being considered as the large scale site, and in East Lancashire, Lomeshaye Industrial Estate along with an additional site is being considered. The additional site is Altham Industrial Estate. (The additional site, as with other sites within the DPD, is an existing industrial estate).

The Health and Equality Impact Assessment (HIA) of the Site Allocations and Development Management Development Plan Document (DPD) was submitted to the SoS alongside the DPD in May 2011. The study is concerned with the likely health risks associated with the proposed DPD. It concluded that any potential health issues will be dealt with through the regulatory assessment undertaken at the project level. Where appropriate the study made site and policy specific recommendations and promoted the use of Health Action Plans.

This purpose of this addendum is to reassess the HIA in the light of the major changes outlined above.

2.0 Methodology

Reference is made to the HIA which sets out the methodology adopted in the document (see paragraph 1.9). It is not considered necessary to repeat or reassess the generic parts of the assessment which apply to all sites. The relevant parts of the HIA are therefore considered to be the Site Specific Community Profiles (see Appendix A – Site Specific Health Fact File) and the Health and Equalities Appraisal (see Section 4).

It should be noted that the Lancaster West Business Park and Lomeshaye Industrial Estate have already been subject to appraisal as sites for local waste facilities within the HIA. Based on the methodology and recommendations set out in the HIA it is not considered necessary to re assess these sites.

3.0 Site Specific Health Fact Files

3.1 Altham Business Park

Site and Location

- Site and Description: Altham Business Park is identified as being suitable for large scale built waste facilities amongst other employment uses.
- Location: It is in close proximity to junction eight of the M65 motorway, within the boundary of Hyndburn Borough Council and in the ward of Altham. To the north of the site is Altham Industrial Estate, a number of farms and residential properties.

Receptors: Altham St James' primary school is adjacent to the business park, alongside an ambulance station on Burnley Road.

Demography

Population Density: In the 2001 census the ward of Altham had a population of 4,686 and a population density of 5.63pph. This is under half the Hyndburn district level of 11.6pph but higher than the regional density of 4.77pph.

Ethnicity: The ward of Altham has less ethnic diversity than the district level. The 2001 census found that 96.9% of the population in the ward have a white ethnic background, compared to the district percentage of 90.1%. Approximately 1.1% is of Asian heritage, and 0.43% of mixed race.

Religion: In the 2001 census 82.4% people in the Altham ward recorded their religion as Christian. Approximately 16.1% were 'no religion' or did not state their religion. Almost 1% stated they were Muslim.

Health Profile

Deprivation and Inequality: Health within the district of Hyndburn is varied and the overall levels of deprivation are high. The ward of Altham does have lower levels of health deprivation than Hyndburn in general and is within the fifth most deprived quintile nationally. Altham is in the second most deprived quintile at a district level.

Health Indicators: The 'all age, all cause' mortality rate in Hyndburn is worse than the national average for both males and females. Early death rates from cancer, heart disease and stroke are all above the national average. Furthermore, the area is significantly worse than the England average for 18 of the 32 health indicators including; smoking levels, smoking related deaths, diagnoses for diabetes and GCSE attainment. In the Altham ward approximately 68.3% of people rate their general health as 'good', which is above the Hyndburn rate of 64.4%.

Lifestyle

Alcohol: In the Hyndburn district the number of alcohol related hospital admissions per 100,000 is significantly worse than the national average (1,582.4) at 2,548.3. Additionally, 22.6% of adults binge drink compared to the national average of 20.1%.

Smoking: The percentage of adults who smoke in Hyndburn is amongst one of the worst levels in England at 33.7% and is significantly worse than the national average of 21.2%. Smoking during pregnancy is also significantly higher in Hyndburn (20.1%) compared to the England average of 14%

Obesity and Physical Activity: The percentage of adults who are obese in Hyndburn (25.1%) is comparable to levels within the region, with no significant difference to the England average of 24.2%. Obesity in children in

Hyndburn is 18.5% in line with the England average of 18.7%. For physical activity levels 10.4% of adults in Hyndburn are active, compared to the England average of 11.5%, although the difference is not significant.

Crime: The crime rate in Hyndburn district is 67.4 incidents per 1,000 of the population; the Lancashire county average is 68.5 incidents per 1,000. Within the Altham ward, the rate is 53.2 incidents per 1,000; an increase of 7.7% on the previous year.

Summary

The Altham ward has lower levels of population density and has lower deprivation levels than Hyndburn district as a whole. However, the district has areas where health inequalities are significantly worse than the national levels.

References

1. Office for National Statistics. Area: Altham ward.
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2. Association of Public Health Profiles (2011) Hyndburn Health Profile.
<http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/view.aspx?RID=50215&SEARCH=hyndburn&SPEAR>
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3. Local Alcohol Profiles for England (LAPE) Hyndburn 2011 Profile
<http://www.lape.org.uk/index.html>
Binge drinking statistics
<http://www.apho.org.uk/resource/item.aspx?RID=97287>
4. Safer Lancashire Crime Data. Area: Altham
<http://www.saferlancashire.co.uk/2011/yourarea/statistics.asp>

4.0 Health and Equalities Appraisal

| Strategic Waste Site: Altham Business Park | | | | | |
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| Altham Business Park has been identified as being suitable for large scale built waste facilities amongst other uses on the site; currently it is of mixed industrial and commercial use, located in Hyndburn district. | | | | | |
| Health Determinant | Health Pathway | Potential Health Outcome | | Sensitive Communities / Groups | Potential Actions to minimise adverse impacts and inequality and enhance opportunities to improve health |
| | | Construction | Operation | | |
| Demography | The proposed use of Altham Business Park for waste will not influence local demography (i.e. no change in population number, age, ethnicity or social groups etc). | 0 | 0 | No particular sensitive group | No additional recommendations. |
| Income and employment | <p>Generation of direct, indirect and induced income and employment opportunities during the construction and operation of the waste facilities contributing towards improved socio-economic, mental and physical health.</p> <p>The provision of a permanent facility will create long term stable employment opportunities.</p> | + | + | Sensitive communities include those subject to relative socio-economic deprivation | It is recommended that developers demonstrate the measures and initiatives in place to support the uptake of local employment opportunities as part of any proposal. |
| Education | There is a primary school adjacent to the proposed site. Depending on the location of the proposed facility there is the potential for disruption during construction and operation | - | - | <p>Students and socio-economically deprived</p> <p>GCSE attainment in Hyndburn is lower than the national average</p> | Relative community sensitivity will be addressed at the planning stage through appropriately scoped regulatory assessments. Where appropriate mitigation will be provided to minimise disruption to sensitive receptors including schools. |
| Housing | The proposed allocation will not influence the number, type, mix or affordability of housing | 0 | 0 | No particular sensitive group | No additional recommendations. |
| Transport | There is the potential for a change in traffic nature and flow rates to the site | - | - | Residential communities in close | Potential local level transport issues and relative community sensitivity will |

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| | including both light and heavy goods vehicles, with potential to influence local air quality and noise. The site is close to the M65, with access to the site via rural single 2-way and urban single 2-way roads. There is an ambulance station on Bumley Road and a primary school where increased traffic may have an adverse affect. | | | proximity to the site | be addressed at the planning stage through appropriately scoped regulatory assessments. Where appropriate a transport assessment will be performed to investigate and mitigate potential community disruption and risk. Such assessments will also include an appropriate section on road network capacity and is recommended to include and assessment of the potential change in risk of collision and injury directly attributed to the proposed development. |
| Crime and Safety | The proposed allocation is unlikely to increase the risk of crime within the ward although there have been high levels of crime on the Business Park. A crime-reduction initiative has been in place on the site since April 2007 | 0 | 0 | Local residents | No additional recommendations |
| Access and Accessibility | The proposed allocation is not anticipated to impact on local access or accessibility | 0 | 0 | Local residents | No additional recommendations |
| Services, amenities and leisure | The proposed allocation is not anticipated to influence the provision of services and amenities | 0 | 0 | No particular sensitive group | No additional recommendations |
| Lifestyle | The proposed allocation is not anticipated to influence lifestyle choices | 0 | 0 | No particular sensitive group | No additional recommendations |
| Health Needs | The proposed allocation is not anticipated to increase demand or change local health care requirements | 0 | 0 | No particular sensitive group | No additional recommendations |
| Environment | Construction activities have the potential to give rise to changes in local air quality (i.e. particulate matter and nuisance dust) and noise with the | - | - | Local residents | Waste management facilities will be designed, assessed and permitted to meet environmental standards set to protect the environment and health. |

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| | <p>potential to cause disruption to the properties in the vicinity.</p> <p>Once operational, potential environmental health pathways will be dependent upon the particular waste management methods employed. (Please see the Health and Waste Management Evidence Base within the appendices for more information regarding the potential health pathways associated with specific waste management and mineral extraction activities).</p> | | | | <p>Potential environmental issues will be addressed at the planning stage through appropriately scoped regulatory assessments, where appropriate mitigation will be developed to reduce community disruption and annoyance. Given the level of community concern associated with waste management facilities, it is recommended to request a Health Impact Assessment (HIA) be submitted as a supporting planning document to address local community health concerns, and to develop a bespoke Health Action Plan.</p> |
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5. Conclusion

The site specific policies relating to the additional site has been appraised in line with the methodology set out in the HIA conducted at the submission stage of the DPD.

The policies generally present an opportunity to improve the socio-economic circumstance and wellbeing of local communities. This includes direct, indirect and induced employment opportunities that can be maximised through improving the viability and success of existing cultural, leisure and retail industries.

Potential health issues largely relate to:

- a potential change in road vehicle movements (increases and decreases), with associated changes in community exposure to noise, emissions and risk of road traffic collision;
- potential environmental disruption during construction and operation, compounding existing burdens of poor health; and
- socio-economic health opportunities associated with direct, indirect and induced income and employment opportunities.

The site specific policies are not anticipated to adversely impact upon any particular sensitive community groups. However, there are a number of sensitive receptors in proximity to sites including schools, nurseries hospitals and resident communities that will be addressed through the regulatory assessment process at the project level.

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