

The Mayor of London
City Hall
The Queen's Walk
London
SE1 2AA

25th November 2011

Dear Mayor of London,

Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance Consultation

Thank you for consulting the North London Waste Authority (NLWA) on the Olympic Legacy Supplementary Planning Guidance (OLSPG). The area covered by the document includes the Gateway Road Household Waste Recycling Centre (HWRC) which provides a service to local residents allowing them to bring items for reuse, recycling or disposal. This facility is managed by Bywaters under contract to LB Waltham Forest, and the NLWA is responsible for the transport and disposal of waste from the centre.

HWRCs are important facilities allowing the public to access a wider range of recycling facilities than possible with kerbside collection service, and they deal with bulky items. They also have a vital role to play in meeting London's self sufficiency target.

The OLSPG identifies the Gateway Road HWRC as providing opportunities for the following:

- An area of change (Figure 2.1.1)
- An area particularly suitable for mixed use (Figure 2.B.2)
- Locally significant industrial site with potential for managed transition (Figure 2.B.3)
- Residential Use (Figure 3.6.2)

The Gateway Road HWRC site is identified as an existing Waste Management Facility in Figure 2.E.3 of the OLSPG. Such facilities are "safeguarded" by the London Plan and North London Waste Plan; therefore, as the OLSPG recognises, a compensatory site will be required for any waste management site lost to a non-waste use (page 47).

The NLWA is supportive of the Mayor's aspiration to regenerate the area surrounding the Olympic Park in order to maximise the benefits of the London 2012 Games, however should the Gateway Road HWRC site be redeveloped, compensatory provision will be required. This will need to be of a sufficient size for the range and quantity of materials likely to be received and be capable of meeting the maximum throughput that the lost site could have achieved. It will also need to be located in a suitable place to meet the needs of the population it serves.

We would also recommend that consideration is given in developing any replacement facilities to supporting the needs of local businesses, in particular local small-to-medium enterprises. The government in its Review of Waste Policy in England 2011, highlights that it wants to encourage local authorities to consider whether HWRCs and other bring bank facilities could be adapted to accept business waste and recycling at an affordable cost to the business user (in addition to serving householders). The introduction of such services in other authorities has shown that this can be a successful model which maximises the benefit of HWRCs to a local area. The Authority would be keen to explore such opportunities if a replacement facility was being considered.

Furthermore the document envisages almost 30,000 new homes in the area which in themselves will generate a considerable additional demand for HWRC facilities. Any future development of this area must ensure that adequate provision is made for HWRCs to accommodate new demand, whether this be in the form of an enlarged compensatory site for Gateway Road or an additional site. Furthermore, we believe that finding such a site, securing appropriate planning permission and making it ready for use should be the responsibility of the promoter of change, liaising throughout with the local waste collection and disposal authorities.

Please do not hesitate to contact me should you require any further information.

Yours sincerely



David Beadle
Managing Director