

Local Members' Interest	
Mr. D. S. Smith	Lichfield - Rural South
Mr. C. Greatorex	Lichfield - City South

PLANNING COMMITTEE: 2 November 2017

WASTE COUNTY MATTER

District: Application No. Lichfield: [L.16/04/823 W](#)

Date Received: 1 December 2016

Date Revised/Further Details Received: 9 January 2017, 12 January 2017 and 13 January 2017

Greener Composting, Watling Street, Wall, Lichfield application to construct a biomass boiler facility to replace the permitted in-vessel composting facility at Manor Farm, Birmingham Road, Wall

Purpose of the report

1. This report has been prepared to recommend that the decision of the Planning Committee to modify the recommendation to add a condition to the planning permission should not be made.

Background

2. The [5 October 2017 Planning Committee](#) considered a report on this application. Following a discussion regarding the potential sources of fuel for the biomass boiler facility the following modification to the recommended conditions was made:

'should further wood fuel be required, it should only be wood fuel sourced locally in accordance with Policy SC2 of the Lichfield Local Plan.'

Observations

3. The planning application is for a biomass boiler fuelled by waste wood arising from the adjacent composting facility. This is stated in the report. For example:

a) Paragraph 17 explains that:

'The applicant has indicated that the proposal would ensure that waste wood and woodchip which is produced as a by-product of the composting operations could be effectively managed in situ; and would provide a "logical minor diversification" of the existing operations, which would ensure that energy is recovered from waste material and would help to create a more comprehensive waste management facility.'

b) Paragraph 116 explains that:

'The applicant has not proposed to amend the amount of chipped wood

exported and therefore the amount of chipped wood 'exported' to the biomass boiler facility would continue to be restricted to 35% of the total amount of waste brought to the site for composting (20,000 tonnes per annum), which equates to 7,000 tonnes per annum being processed to produce wood chip to fuel the boilers.'

c) The heads of terms of the planning conditions include:

5. To define waste types - green waste or organic waste;

4. Furthermore, the applicant has agreed to the following draft condition:

'No fuel other than waste wood arising from the adjacent open windrow composting facility (ref. condition 7 of permission [L.17/02/823 W](#)) shall be used as the feedstock for the biomass boilers.'

Conclusion

5. For the reasons explained above, and having regard to [the 6 tests in the National Planning Policy Framework \(paragraph 206\)](#), it is reasonable to conclude that the modification to the recommendation is not necessary or relevant to the development to be permitted as the applicant has applied specifically to use waste wood arising from the adjacent composting facility to fuel the biomass boilers and the planning permission would include a condition to that effect.

RECOMMENDATION

That the amendment to the recommendation made by the Planning Committee on 5 October 2017, namely to add a condition to the planning permission that:

'should further wood fuel be required, it should only be wood fuel sourced locally in accordance with Policy SC2 of the Lichfield Local Plan.'

should not be made as it is not necessary or relevant to the development to be permitted.

Background documents

[Planning Committee report and minutes of the meeting - 5 October 2017 \(item 5 \(b\)\)](#)

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A list of background papers for this report is available on request and for public inspection at the offices of Staffordshire County Council, 1 Staffordshire Place, Stafford during normal office hours Monday to Thursday (8.30 am – 5.00 pm); Friday (8.30 am – 4.30 pm).