

8.5 Disposal of non-inert waste to land

- 8.5.1 The SWLP aims to divert non-inert waste away from landfill by providing other types of facilities for the management of waste. Disposal of waste is therefore the least preferred option for waste management in the waste hierarchy, however it is an option Surrey County Council still need to plan for. There is a long history of non-inert landfill in Surrey at Patteson Court and this site has planning permission until 2030.
- 8.5.2 Sites for the disposal of non-inert waste to land are becoming more specialised. Waste sent to landfill should be the residue following other types of treatment such as recycling and recovery that cannot be dealt with in any other way and this means it will contain far less putrescible material and there will be less of it in total.
- 8.5.3 As these facilities become more specialised, the rate at which waste is received may reduce and so the overall restoration of the site may take longer. However, the type and quantity of waste that these sites receive may mean that the potential for amenity issues such as vehicle movements, odour and dust will reduce.
- 8.5.4 There are no allocated sites for new landfill in the SWLP, however proposals for extensions or alterations of existing landfill sites may come forward and so a policy is required to address such proposals. This policy would also be used to assess proposals to extend the end date for the completion of a permitted operations. Such proposals may not be supported if there has been a material change since planning permission was originally granted which means that landfilling at the site is no longer acceptable.
- 8.5.5 Biodegradable waste disposed of in landfill degrades to produce landfill gas, much of which is a combustible compound known as methane. Any application for landfill must provide details of how the site will be restored and any measures needed to manage landfill gas. The utilisation of landfill gas to produce energy provides significant benefit by helping reduce reliance on fossil fuels. This benefit is expected to be gained wherever possible. However, in the longer term, with a significant reduction in the amount of biodegradable waste disposed of to landfill, there is likely to be less gas to recover.
- 8.5.6 To ensure that the potential benefits of disposal through non-inert landfill are realised, proposals must include consideration of final use of the land, including proposals for a high quality of restoration and long term management plans for the restored site.

Policy 6 – Disposal of Non-Inert Waste to Land

Planning permission for development involving disposal of waste to land operations will be granted where:

- i) The waste to be disposed of is the residue of a treatment process and cannot practicably and reasonably be re-used, recycled or recovered; and
- ii) Best practice measures are included to ensure maximum practicable recovery of energy from landfill gas; and
- iii) The resulting final landform, landscaping and after-uses are sympathetically designed and enhance the natural and historic environment.

Table 1 Monitoring for Policy 6 – Disposal of Non-Inert Waste to Land

Measure/Indicator	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Amount of non-inert waste by waste stream diverted from Landfill (tonnes, %)
Data Source(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator• Other sources of data as indicated in the Annual Monitoring Report
Key Organisation(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Waste Planning Authority• Environment Agency
Target(s)	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• 3% of waste from households sent for disposal to landfill by 2025• 0% of waste from households sent for disposal to landfill by 2033• 10% or less of C & I waste sent for disposal to landfill by 2025• 5% or less of C & I waste sent for disposal to landfill by 2033
Trigger	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Evidence of insufficient capacity for non-inert material.