



GOVERNMENT OFFICE  
FOR THE SOUTH EAST

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Dear Sir or Madam

REVISED CHAPTERS 10 (part), WASTE & 11, MINERALS OF REGIONAL PLANNING  
GUIDANCE FOR THE SOUTH EAST (RPG9)

I am pleased to advise that the Secretary of State has completed her careful consideration of all representations made on the Proposed Changes to RPG9 in relation to Waste & Minerals, issued in August 2005. She has now published the final version of the revised chapters. On behalf of the Secretary of State, I have pleasure in enclosing a copy for your attention. The document along with a statement of reasons for any further changes is available at <http://www.gose.gov.uk/gose/planning/regionalPlanning>

Copies of the final document have been sent to members of the Panel, participants at the Examination in Public and to all Local Authorities. Copies are available for inspection at the Government Office for the South East, and at Local Authority offices.

Further copies of the final document can be obtained, for a fee, from TSO (The Stationery Office) at PO Box 29, Norwich, NR3 1GN. Tel: 0870 600 5522.

In accordance with section 113(3) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, any person aggrieved by the revisions to the Regional Spatial Strategy for the South East may make an application to the High Court not later than the end of the period of six weeks from the date of publication on the ground that:

- a) Revisions to RSS are not within the power of Part 1 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act
- b) A procedural requirement has not been complied with.

This document amends some of the policies and text in Chapter 10 and all of Chapter 11 of the Regional Planning Guidance for the South East (RPG9), March 2001. It should be read in conjunction with the remainder of RPG9 and any alterations made since 2001, in particular the replacement of Chapter 9 the Regional Transport Strategy, Chapter 12 in relation to Ashford and Milton Keynes; Chapters 10 in relation to Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy and the new Chapter 14 on Tourism and Related Sports and Recreation. These can all be found at the website listed above.

Following commencement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 these documents now form a statutory Regional Spatial Strategy (RSS).

The First Secretary of State, the Deputy Prime Minister invited comments on the Proposed Changes, during a public consultation period, which officially ended on 11 November 2005. The outcome of that consultation as follows;

## **Sources of representations**

A total of 90 responses were received during this public consultation. The majority (over half) of responses were from Parish & Town Councils. Other responses were received from District & County Councils, the Minerals & Waste industry, Environment and Rural Action Groups and Statutory Bodies.

## **Summary of views expressed**

### **Waste**

Respondents were broadly supportive of the Proposed Changes. Many of the comments received could not be incorporated because they required fundamental changes to policy which are not appropriate at this stage of consultation. In addition to editing to update and improve references and clarify text, there are two significant changes compared to those published for consultation.

The first involves new figures for waste to be managed. The amendments to the figures in policies W5, W6 and W13 for the region as a whole are minimal but the amendments to Table 3 in Policy W7 where figures are given for each waste planning sub region are, in some of the sub regions, significant.

The insertion of new waste figures is the result of an update of research by the Regional Assembly and the Regional Technical Advisory Body (SERTAB) following recommendation of the Examination Panel. The figures used in the proposed changes were taken from research originally undertaken by the Assembly and included as Annex 1 in the draft strategy 2004. Despite several refinements, anomalies remained which were raised at the EiP and persisted in the final version of the research published in February 2005. The Assembly and SERTAB therefore commissioned a further update, using base information agreed and supplied by the waste planning authorities. This final update was published in September 2005, too late to be included in the proposed changes.

The Regional Assembly and many of the waste planning authorities who responded to the consultation recommended that the figures from the latest updated research be included in the final revision.

The update figures do not alter the wording of the policies affected, or the thrust of the strategy, but change the indicative targets to be managed. Inclusion of figures for the tonnages of waste to be managed for each sub region is a key element of regional spatial strategy now required by PPS10.

The second significant policy amendment is to Policy W17 and its supporting text to clarify policy on the subject of development in the Green Belt, AONB or National Park. These changes are required for consistency with PPG2.

### **Minerals**

The Changes were generally supported. The main change is an amendment to policy M2, which clarifies policy on facilities in the Green Belt.

Yours faithfully

*R. Lemon*

Richard Lemon