

Statement of Common Ground

Between: Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) and Kent County Council Resource Management and Circular Economy (KCC RMCE).

Relating to: Waste management infrastructure to support the Sevenoaks District Local Plan and supporting Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

1. Purpose of this Statement

- 1.1 This Statement of Common Ground records the shared understanding between Sevenoaks District Council (SDC) and Kent County Council Resource Management and Circular Economy (KCC RMCE) regarding the role of waste management infrastructure in supporting the level and distribution of growth proposed in the Sevenoaks District Local Plan. It provides evidence of ongoing engagement and collaboration and supports the Infrastructure Delivery Plan by confirming areas of agreement and identifying any matters where further work may be required.

2. Roles and Responsibilities

- 2.1 SDC is responsible for preparing the Local Plan and Infrastructure Delivery Plan, identifying infrastructure needs arising from growth, and securing delivery through planning policy and developer contributions.
- 2.2 KCC Resource Management and Circular Economy (KCC RMCE) is the service within Kent County Council responsible for discharging the Council's functions as the Waste Disposal Authority, including the disposal and treatment of household waste collected by district and borough councils. The service is also responsible for the provision and management of Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) across Kent. KCC RMCE has an important role in planning for the infrastructure and capacity required to support growth, helping to ensure that waste arising from new development can be managed in a sustainable and efficient manner. The service contributes to plan-making and infrastructure planning through the identification of waste management considerations relevant to proposed growth.

3. Evidence Considered

- 3.1 Both parties have considered the following evidence in forming this Statement:
 - The scale and distribution of growth set out in the Sevenoaks District Local Plan;
 - The Infrastructure Delivery Plan 2026;
 - Kent Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2026 – 2031;
 - Kent Waste Disposal Strategy 2017-2035 (updated in 2025 / 26);
 - Kent Minerals and Waste Local Plan 2024 to 2039 (adopted in 2025);

- National and local policy and guidance, including the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), and Planning Practice Guidance (PPG); and
- Information relating to existing waste management infrastructure and the implications of growth for waste management capacity.

4. Areas of Agreement

4.1 SDC and KCC RMCE agree that:

1. Proportionate engagement has taken place between SDC and KCC RMCE in the preparation of the Sevenoaks District Local Plan, including consideration of the implications of planned growth for waste management infrastructure and capacity.
2. Both parties recognise the importance of ensuring that adequate waste management infrastructure and services are available to support the level and distribution of growth proposed in the Sevenoaks District Local Plan.
3. The preparation of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan has been informed by relevant evidence and strategic guidance relating to waste management and resource planning.
4. The identification and development of waste management requirements within the Infrastructure Delivery Plan have been informed by available evidence, datasets, and relevant technical guidance.
5. The Infrastructure Delivery Plan correctly identifies where additional waste management infrastructure capacity and improvements may be required, including:
 - Measures to maintain the efficient operation and capacity of Household Waste Recycling Centres, including addressing existing operational pressures associated with site access and vehicle movements.
 - Measures to enhance waste and recycling infrastructure capacity and performance, supporting the sustainable management of waste and increased reuse and recycling.
6. The projects identified are deliverable in principle, subject to further development and refinement, funding and any necessary approvals.
7. Developer contributions may be required, where necessary, to mitigate the impacts of development on waste management infrastructure and

to support necessary improvements to capacity and facility provision.

8. Both authorities are committed to ongoing engagement throughout the plan period, including regular review and updating of the Infrastructure Delivery Plan to ensure it remains accurate, up to date and reflective of emerging evidence.
9. SDC and KCC RMCE will continue to work collaboratively on planning applications to secure appropriate developer contributions and support the delivery of waste management infrastructure enhancements and improvements.

5. Areas of Ongoing Work / Matters Not Yet Agreed

5.1 The following matters require further work or clarification:

1. The ongoing refinement of waste management infrastructure projects identified within the Infrastructure Delivery Plan, including their scope, timing, funding and delivery mechanisms.
2. The continued assessment of waste management infrastructure requirements arising from planned growth and any consequent updates to the Infrastructure Delivery Plan.

5.2 Both parties are committed to resolving these matters through continued engagement.

6. Delivery and Phasing

6.1 SDC and KCC RMCE acknowledge that the delivery of improvements to the waste management infrastructure will depend on:

- The timing and phasing of development;
- The ongoing assessment and refinement of infrastructure requirements as further evidence becomes available; and
- The availability of funding, including developer contributions where applicable.

6.2 Indicative delivery timescales are set out in the Infrastructure Delivery Plan and will be refined as further information becomes available.

7. Signatures

Signed on behalf of Sevenoaks District Council	
Name:	

Role:	
Date:	

Signed on behalf of Kent County Council Resource Management and Circular Economy	
Name:	
Role:	
Date:	