

Dear Duncan Crow,

I am sure you work hard as a Councillor but when you think of your legacy will you feel proud to have been known as one of the yes votes to the incinerator? When you see the ugly chimney and realise that we have become the dustbin for the South East will you be glad to tell your grandchildren in the decades to come that you voted Yes to this blight on the landscape and on the lives of the people of West Sussex? Evidence is already mounting about over capacity in the incinerator industry so that can hardly be the time to agree to yet more capacity being created.

You have worked hard and been very successful in encouraging the public to recycle. An incinerator will undermine those advances. Burning is not true recycling, it does not allow for the re use of materials. In areas where there are incinerators, recycling rates fall. Why say yes to an incinerator now when there are real moves afoot to reduce the use of plastic? Why agree to support the dirtiest way to produce electricity, going against Government guidance to local authorities over carbon neutral energy production. Advances in packaging, recycling and energy production are speeding up. Why then restrict ourselves and potential job opportunities by tying us into a dirty way of producing energy and ruining our countryside for decades.

Why vote for a measure which will undermine your own great success which future generations will applaud?

Thousands of people have strongly objected to the incinerator. Please listen to us and not to those officers failed to notice that the figures presented by Britanniacrest for CO₂ and NO₂ are substantially incorrect. The toxic ash will be transported on our roads adding to the cocktail; the site is already not clean site as it has pollutants from the former brickworks, landfill and the biomechanics digester, the incinerator together with cross country movement of waste would be adding to these toxins.

Below are listed some technical aspects which provide sound grounds for rejecting this planning proposal.

This application does not comply with WSCC's own Waste Local Plan as follows:

Strategic Objective 5: *"To make provision for new transfer, recycling and treatment facilities as close as possible to where the waste arises."*

Britanniacrest will be bringing waste from all over the Southern Counties and very likely from far beyond which will cause congestion and pollution. I am aware that they have already been given permission to increase the number of HGV trips but if they don't get permission for the incinerator then they won't need to effect this increase.

Strategic Objective 7: *"To maximise the use of rail and water transport for the movement of waste and to minimise lorry movements and the use of local roads for the movement of waste". (see also Policy W18)*

The applicants intend to rely on HGVs not rail or water transport on what are already very crowded and in some cases dangerous roads because of restricted width and sightlines. The roads are already in a poor state of repair. This situation will deteriorate with increased HGV traffic.

Strategic Objectives 8 and 9: *“To protect and, where possible, enhance the special landscape and townscape character of West Sussex” and “To protect the SDNP and AONBs from unnecessary and inappropriate development”* (see also Policies W11 and W12)

With a 96m stack and vast incinerator building how can this be said to enhance the special landscape of West Sussex. If this incinerator goes ahead Horsham and the Council that took the decision will become a laughing stock amongst neighbouring counties. The historic market town will have been blighted, as will neighbouring villages and the close by areas of outstanding natural beauty. Those who vote yes will in the years to come hang their heads in shame when they see the stack from miles away.

Strategic Objective 10: *“To protect and, where possible, enhance the natural and historic environment and resources of the County”*. (see also Policies W11, W12, W14 and W15)

HDC can rightly be proud of their outstanding work in founding, supporting and indeed currently expanding the resources at Warnham Nature Reserve. What better way to actively show families/voters that the Council cares about the nature of the world in which their children grow up. It is a shining example to other towns and cities of what can be achieved for wildlife in close proximity to people. In contrast pollution and light from a massive incinerator will disrupt wildlife and adversely affect the many listed buildings and scheduled monuments in close proximity as well as areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty.

Strategic Objective 13: *“To protect and, where possible, enhance the health and amenity of residents, businesses, and visitors”*. (see also Policy W19)

At the very least a decision on this incinerator ought to be deferred until Public Health England’s results relating to the potentially harmful effects of emissions from incinerators is published. What we can be sure of is that an incinerator will have no beneficial effects for the health/amenity of the people who live in this and neighbouring areas. This application should be considered in conjunction with the already approved application for nearly 3,000 homes including a school which would be very close to the incinerator and the emissions which will flow over these children and their families.

Policy W21: **“Cumulative Impact.** *Proposals for waste development, including the intensification of use, will be permitted provided that an unreasonable level of disturbance to the environment and/or local communities will not result.....”*

There will be an unreasonable level of disturbance to the environment both due to light pollution every night and the 24/4 noise pollution. The applicant has acknowledged that during operation the background noise levels will be 6db. There is evidence to suggest that anything over 5db has an adverse effect on people.

Please don't make your legacy turning Horsham and surrounding areas into the dustbin of the South East for decades to come. Vote NO to the incinerator.

Yours sincerely,

Alison Farrell
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