

Planning Statement

This planning statement has been prepared to support of the proposal to remove the existing restriction that prevents operational activity on Bank Holidays. The site will accommodate the repair and maintenance of the Council's food waste fleet, which plays a critical role in delivering statutory waste collection services to the community. The current restriction is not aligned with the operational needs of the service.

The food waste fleet operates on Bank Holidays in order to maintain service continuity, uphold safety standards, and ensure statutory waste obligations are met. Retaining the restriction would prevent the fleet from functioning on these days, which could result in:

- Service disruption, compromising collection rounds and delaying essential waste processes.
- Operational and safety risks.
- Reduced service reliability, negatively impacting residents and the wider community.

Removing the Bank Holiday working restriction would therefore enable business-as-usual operations and ensure the fleet can continue to provide an essential public service without interruption.

The proposal does not constitute an intensification of use but rather an operational adjustment necessary for service resilience

Supporting essential public services by ensuring operational facilities can function effectively and safely.

Promoting sustainable waste management, in line with national waste and environmental policies, through maintaining reliable collection services.

Ensuring efficient use of existing infrastructure, aligning with local plan policies that encourage the protection and effective operation of service depots and municipal facilities.

Minimising adverse impacts on the community, as the proposal seeks only to extend operational days in a way that maintains, rather than intensifies, the overall character of activities at the site.

Conclusion

The removal of the Bank Holiday working restriction is essential to ensure the continued safe and reliable operation of the Council's food waste fleet. The proposal supports core public service delivery, aligns with relevant planning policy objectives, and has been informed by early engagement with key stakeholders.

In light of the above, the proposed amendment is considered to be justified, proportionate, and compliant with planning policy, and therefore merits approval.