

Statement of Common Ground on Westminster's Apportionment Targets

1. Parties involved

- Westminster City Council
- London Borough of Bexley

2. Strategic geography

Westminster City Council

The City of Westminster is in Central London and covers over eight square miles and is home to many of the landmarks synonymous with 'tourist London'. Much of Westminster is within the Central Activities Zone (CAZ) which is a designation set by the Mayor of London to guide planning policies. The City of Westminster has some of the most affluent residential areas in the country, but a diverse demographic means also some of the most deprived. It is a densely populated borough which continues to grow, and space is at a premium.

London Borough of Bexley

Bexley is an outer London Borough located in the east of London on the edge of Kent. Bexley's neighbours are the London boroughs of Barking and Dagenham, Bromley and Havering and the Royal Borough of Greenwich; and, outside of London, the district councils of Dartford and Sevenoaks in Kent and the unitary authority of Thurrock in Essex. Some of the borough's characteristics are shared with one or more of its neighbours, such as its industrial legacy, suburban character, metropolitan green belt and water courses, including the River Thames. Bexley is one of the six South East London authorities who work together to plan for waste in the area.

3. Strategic waste issue

The London Plan apportions an amount of household and business waste to each borough to plan for through their Local Plan. Boroughs are required to allocate sufficient land and identify waste management facilities to provide the capacity to manage their apportioned tonnages of waste. Westminster City Council (WCC) has been given an apportionment target of 200,000 tonnes by 2041, but has no existing waste facilities to manage this amount of waste and no designated industrial land to accommodate new waste facilities.

The London boroughs of Bexley, Bromley, Lewisham, Greenwich and Southwark work collectively to prepare a Joint Waste Technical Paper to demonstrate how waste apportionment targets set by the London Plan will be met. The City of London subsequently joined the group, with Bexley taking responsibility for their apportionment. The Joint Waste Technical Paper (2017) shows that the Southeast London Boroughs have a surplus of capacity within the existing waste facilities after meeting the collective apportioned waste targets.

The Joint Waste Technical Paper (2017) sets out the amount of waste management capacity in the area. Table 1 of the Paper shows that the Southeast London Boroughs have a surplus of capacity within the existing waste facilities after meeting the collective apportioned waste targets. The figures show that there is sufficient surplus capacity within the Southeast Boroughs to accommodate Westminster's apportionment, while still retaining a substantial surplus. This is set out in the table below.

Comparison of WCC apportionment targets and Southeast Borough capacity (tonnes of waste)

	2021	2031	2041
Westminster apportionment targets	188,000	194,000	200,000
Southeast Boroughs' surplus capacity (Dec 2017)	735,182	500,780	
Surplus capacity after accommodating WCC apportionment	547,182	306,780	

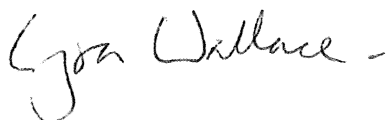
Both parties agree that Bexley will take responsibility for Westminster's apportionment target and use part of the surplus waste management capacity within Bexley to provide the capacity to meet Westminster's apportionment target as set out in the London Plan.

Both parties agree to Westminster joining the Southeast waste planning group to pool apportionment targets and plan for waste collectively, subject to formal agreement from the group.

Both parties agree that Westminster will make a payment of £60,000 to the London Borough of Bexley to help off-set the additional work required to incorporate Westminster into the Southeast waste planning group and to support Bexley in its Local Plan preparation.

4. Signatories

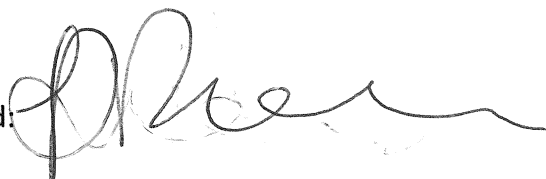
Signed:



Name: Ezra Wallace

Position: Director of Policy & Projects
Westminster City Council

Signed:



Name: Jane Richardson

Position: Assistant Chief Executive Growth
and Regeneration
London Borough of Bexley