

East London Joint Waste Plan

London Borough of Tower Hamlets: Suggested modifications to Draft Policy JWP2 and ELJWP Chapter 4

15 June 2026

Policy JWP2: Safeguarding and Provision of Waste Capacity

Overarching need for new capacity

- C. Proposals for the management of HIC waste (LACW and C&I waste) which would result in waste management capacity exceeding that required to meet the London Plan apportionment for East London, the transfer of apportioned waste from London Borough of Tower Hamlets to East London Joint Waste Planning Group [or appropriate term]¹, ~~and alongside~~ any proposals for the management of other waste streams beyond those needed to meet Plan targets, will not be permitted unless they would:
1. Provide appropriate compensation for the loss of existing capacity which is needed for London to be net self-sufficient in waste management capacity overall; or
 2. result in waste being dealt with further up the hierarchy (unless a life cycle assessment demonstrates that the method of management proposed is appropriate); and,
 3. subject to criterion C2 above, increase the throughput of an existing waste management facility; or
 4. consolidate waste management activities taking place at more than one site in East London at a single location (subject to cumulative impacts being acceptable and compliance with other policies in the Development Plan).

¹ 192,370 tpa of HIC waste, and 56,953tpa of C&D waste (including the capacity formerly managed at the Hepscott Road site within the Tower Hamlets area of the former LLDC area), subject to variation in a Statement of Common Ground agreed between LBTH and the ELJWPG (see paragraph [4.12] above)

Chapter 4: Future Requirements for Waste Management Capacity (page 56)

Providing for Unmet Needs for Waste Capacity from Elsewhere within London

4.11. The London Plan⁴¹ expects Boroughs with existing waste management capacity which exceeds their management needs (as prescribed by the London Plan), to offer to share the surplus with other London Boroughs that may be facing a shortfall when planning to meet the waste management needs of their Plan areas, before considering release of sites from waste use. In light of the identified surplus in C, D & E waste and apportioned HIC waste management capacity, the Boroughs invited other London boroughs to consider whether the surplus in East London might offer an opportunity for their unmet needs to be met. It should be noted that the most recent dataset for 2023 shows significant tonnages of waste that arise from outside the ELJWP area are managed at facilities located within the ELJWP area (hence the existence of the identified capacity surplus).

4.12. LB Tower Hamlets has requested a transfer of 192,370 tonnes per annum (tpa) of Household, Industrial and Commercial (HIC) qualifying waste management capacity and 56,953tpa of Construction and Demolition (C&D) waste management capacity. This includes the transfer of 26,353tpa of HIC waste capacity formerly managed at the Hepscott Road site located in LB Tower Hamlets, which was granted planning permission for a redevelopment and de-designation as a waste site in February 2018 by the London Legacy Development Corporation. This plan makes provision within policy JWP2 to accommodate this shortfall.

4.11.4.13. Any agreements on sharing capacity will be formalised in a Statement of Common Ground (or similar) to which all the East London Boroughs party to the ELJWP, and the Borough (or other Plan making entity) seeking to share East London capacity will be signatories. Such agreements would cover a specified period (which may be less than the period of this Plan) and be subject to review and renegotiation, including as part of future reviews of the ELJWP. Such agreements will be reported in the East London Boroughs' Authority Monitoring Reports.