

District Councillor Barbara Jones-Williams Report July

Please see my report for this evenings meeting, obviously I won't read it all out as it's lengthy, if you can share please with the other members..

It is very disappointing and surprising regarding the formal designation notice S62A from MHCLG.. if you recall, I have been bantering on about what may happen for some time now, if you remember I mentioned the NPPF review, also I mentioned that whether we have an up to date SWDP or five year land supply it won't make any difference, however I asked Vic our Chief Executive the question below:

"What is considered as Major Developments, what is the minimum number before being considered as Major, also are our villages at risk of further development outside of the settlement boundary, regardless of having a five year land supply and an adopted up to date plan in place, without local members and residents alike having little say in the matter? Or am I missing the point"

This is my understanding;

What type of application can be made?

Only applications for the type of development for which the local planning authority has been designated can be made to the Secretary of State through these provisions.

Major (district) development is:

- for housing, development where 10 or more homes will be provided, or the site has an area of 0.5 hectares or more
- the provision of a building or buildings where the floor space to be created by the development is 1,000 square metres or more; or
- development carried out on a site having an area of 1 hectare or more.

Non-major development is development that does not meet/exceed any of the thresholds above..

I find the above very disturbing, I have been a District Councillor for over 31 years and considered democracy to be high on my agenda, as most of us do.. but the government are taking all this away from local councils and residents alike.. we are, as you know

having our District Councils taken away from us, also local decision making, I worry about the future..

Free meal plan service to all residents

We have partnered with awardwinning meal planning platform FiveDinners, to help residents plan meals more easily, reduce food waste and manage household costs.

Through the initiative, residents can access a free premium year-long membership to FiveDinners.com (normally £86 per year). The platform provides personalised weekly meal plans, tailored to individual needs and preferences, including options for families, lowcalorie diets and other dietary requirements.

Residents who sign up will join more than 30,000 existing members using the service, with access to a wide range of meal plans designed to suit different lifestyles and cooking experience.

With a weekly household food waste collection service being rolled out across the Malvern Hills district from October 2026, we are encouraging residents to take simple steps to reduce waste at home.

Using FiveDinners, households can plan ahead, shop more efficiently and make better use of the food they buy.

Residents can sign up at: **[www.FiveDinners.com/MyCommunity](https://www.fivedinners.com/MyCommunity)** by selecting Malvern Hills District Council and entering their postcode.

New tool to help residents fight fly-tipping

A new tool designed to make it easier for residents to avoid rogue waste carriers and help tackle fly-tipping has been launched by Malvern Hills and Wychavon District Councils.

WasteGuard is a free online service that allows residents to obtain quotes from waste carriers who have been checked for a valid licence and responsible waste disposal practices at the time of listing.

By choosing a provider from WasteGuard, residents can be confident they have met their legal obligation under the Household Waste Duty of Care to ensure their rubbish is disposed of responsibly. People are free to use

waste carriers not signed up to the scheme but are encouraged to follow the SCRAP code.

The code advises residents to:

- ☐ ☐ Suspect all waste carriers
- ☐ ☐ Check they are authorised and have a waste carrier's licence
- ☐ ☐ Refuse unexpected offers
- ☐ ☐ Ask where the waste is going
- ☐ ☐ Paperwork – obtain proof like a receipt or waste transfer note.

Anyone who doesn't follow SCRAP and whose waste is later found to have been illegally dumped could be issued with a £600 Fixed Penalty Notice or prosecution and a court fine of up to £5,000.

Three companies have already signed up to WasteGuard, but it is hoped more will join in the future. The new service is part of both councils' wider "Who's taking your waste out?" campaign.

Featuring a series of eye-catching adverts showing people on unusual dates with commonly fly-tipped items such as sofas, used tyres and bags of rubbish, the campaign highlights that everyone is responsible for knowing who is taking their waste and where it is ending up.

Hilton Clearance, based in Kempsey and launched in 2024, was the first waste carrier company to sign up to the WasteGuard service.

Visit **www.malvernhills.gov.uk/waste-and-recycling/wasteguard** or **www.wychavon.gov.uk/environmental-crime/wasteguard** to find out more

See you later..

Best regards,

Barbara