

**Pinkham Way Alliance**  
**October 11 2011**  
**Press Release - for immediate release**

**Has Haringey Council broken its promise to put the Pinkham Way planning application on hold?**

The Pinkham Way Alliance is confronting Haringey Council in the strongest possible terms (see attached letter) about behind the scenes moves to consider validating a planning application that it has expressly said will not be considered until next spring.

The planning application, by the North London Waste Authority and Barnet Council, is for a waste treatment plant and vehicle depot on the site of Pinkham Wood, a piece of land currently protected because of its conservation status.

Pinkham Way Alliance chair Bidesh Sarkar said:

'It is very important that the people of Haringey understand what is going on. We have written to the council's cabinet members, to the rest of Haringey's councillors and to other local politicians, to explain what is going on.

'This is a matter of trust. The council said in July that it would put the planning application on hold and we believed what they said. Local councilors took the council at its word and made public announcements on that basis. Any further moves behind the scenes would risk the council losing the faith of the people who elected it.

'We are calling for the council to state publicly that it will send the planning application back and not consider it until the North London Waste Plan has been properly examined in public by the planning inspector, as agreed.'

**Ends**

**Notes for editors**

Seven north London boroughs are planning to spend £100 million building the waste treatment plant, and then pay for a 30-year, multi-billion pound contract to run it. We believe it would be much cheaper and better all round if money were put into increased efforts on recycling and re-use.

The plans for a mechanical and biological waste treatment factory on the site of Pinkham Wood include a building that will be 150m long and 23m (75ft) high (plus chimney), and located just 85m from the nearest dwellings. We have many major concerns about these plans, including massive traffic congestion from 1,200 vehicle movements a day (most of which will be trucks) on one of the busiest stretches of the North Circular Road, increased pollution, and the loss of an important green space. There are at least 11,000 homes within a 1km radius of the site and many schools, the nearest of which is only 300m away.

We contend that the North London Waste Plan is deeply flawed, especially in the way the criteria used to select the Pinkham Way site were applied. The North London Waste Authority (NLWA)

put its planning application before Haringey Council in June but it has been put 'on hold' until the planning inspector has completed his inspection of the council's Core Strategy, probably in the spring of 2012. Consultation on the North London Waste Plan closed on July 8 but it is not due to be examined fully until a public meeting in January 2012. See our website [www.pinkhamwayalliance.org](http://www.pinkhamwayalliance.org) for more information.

Pinkham Wood has been untouched since the 1960s and has become a refuge for bats and rare plants. Haringey council has designated it as a grade 1 site for nature conservation.

The waste plant would be one of the biggest of its kind in the UK - similar plants in Europe are built far away from towns and cities where they can cause less disruption to people's lives.