

Nick Timothy, Member of Parliament for West Suffolk



HOUSE OF COMMONS
LONDON, SW1A 0AA

Re: Planning Application SCC/0188/25SE Proposed materials recycling facility, Stour Business Park, Little Wratting

Submission from Nick Timothy MP, Member of Parliament for West Suffolk

I write as the Member of Parliament for West Suffolk to object to this application and to urge Suffolk County Council to refuse it.

A Procedural Failure

Essex Waste Ltd has reportedly already brought this site into production without the necessary planning permission. The facility is operating – generating noise complaints from residents – under a permission that covers only storage and distribution.

That is a breach of planning control, and I ask the council to take enforcement action now. It also raises a straightforward question: if the operator cannot respect the planning process before permission is granted, what confidence can residents have that conditions will be respected afterwards?

Highway Safety

This is the most pressing concern. The roads around **Kedington, Calford Green, Great and Little Thurlow, Great and Little Wratting, Great and Little Bradley and Sturmer** are narrow, constrained and already under pressure. The junction where the B1061 meets the A143 has serious visibility limitations.

No independent transport assessment has been submitted using current traffic counts, junction modelling or swept-path analysis. Without that evidence, the council cannot lawfully conclude that impacts will not be severe.

Noise, Dust and Emissions

No independent noise assessment has been submitted. That alone should prevent determination. The crushing, screening, loading and reversing operations proposed here would introduce continuous industrial noise into a quiet rural setting.

The Dust and Emissions Plan is based on a Standard Rules Permit, despite the applicant simultaneously seeking a wider Bespoke Permit from the Environment Agency.

The plan contains contradictory waste codes, machinery with unknown emission ratings, and no assessment of odour risks or contaminated water from the wash plant. This is not a minor technical gap – it fundamentally undermines the reliability of the environmental case.

Waste Permit Ambiguity

The Bespoke Permit under discussion with the Environment Agency could allow hazardous waste on site. No management plan exists for contaminated soils or asbestos-containing materials. Residents in nearby villages deserve to know exactly what will be handled on this site and how. That information is not in this application.

Biodiversity

Ecological surveys were carried out only after the applicant had cleared the site and begun operations. There is a real and legitimate concern that the Biodiversity Net Gain baseline has been artificially reduced as a result. The council should require clear confirmation that this is not the case before a determination is made.

Rural Character

Kedington, Little Wratting and **Great Wratting** are rural villages. That is not a sentimental observation – it is a planning fact.

The introduction of a large-scale industrial recycling operation into this landscape would cause lasting harm to the character and tranquillity of communities that planning policy is specifically designed to protect.

Conclusion

This application is built on missing assessments, internal contradictions and a significant procedural failure.

Its cumulative impacts on highway safety, residential amenity, air quality and rural character are unacceptable.

I urge the council to refuse it.