



**Craig Whittaker MP**

**CALDER VALLEY**

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## **Waste Incineration Capacity**

Thank you for contacting me about incinerator capacity.

This is, of course, an issue which causes understandably strong feelings in this constituency. I oppose the plans for incinerators in the Calder Valley because the proposed locations are entirely wrong for such installations.

On the broader question of national policy, I understand your concerns regarding waste incineration and your desire for more and better recycling capacity. While incineration with energy recovery plays a crucial role in diverting waste from landfill, I agree that this must not compete with greater prevention, re-use and recycling of waste.

The Government is developing a renewed strategy on resources and waste that looks ahead at opportunities outside the EU. The aim of the strategy will be to make the UK a world leader in resource efficiency and productivity, as well as to increase competitiveness. It will set out how we will work towards our ambition for the country to generate no avoidable waste by 2050, maximising the value we extract from our resources and minimising the negative environmental impacts associated with their production, use and disposal. The strategy will be published in 2018 and will address waste treatment capacity.

The National Infrastructure Commission is also looking at waste as part of its assessment of the UK's major infrastructure needs for the next 30 years. I have been assured that Ministers will consider the Commission's findings along with any capacity issues associated with waste infrastructure as they develop future policy.

Thank you again for taking the time to contact me.

Kind regards,

Craig Whittaker MP