

NORFOLK COUNTY COUNCIL MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN CONSULTATION DOCUMENT TO REPLACE THE EXISTING MINERALS AND WASTE CORE STRATEGY AND SUPPORTING DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS (DPDs).

Summary: This report provides information regarding the Norfolk County Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan Preferred Options consultation. The report reviews the proposals within the Plan and advises that there are no known conflicts with the emerging North Norfolk Local Plan.

Recommendations: **Members note the Preferred Options consultation of the emerging Norfolk County Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan and delegate to Officers to provide an Officer Level response on the consultation documents.**

Cabinet Members(s)	Ward(s) Affected
All Members	All Wards
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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Norfolk County Council are the responsible body for Minerals and Waste and are in the process of producing a new single Minerals and Waste Local Plan (M&W Local Plan) to replace the Norfolk Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies Development Plan (DPD) (2011), the Norfolk minerals Site Specific Allocation DPD (2013 and amended by the adoption of the Single Issue Silica Sand Review in December 2017), and the Norfolk Waste Site Specific Allocations DPD (2013).
- 1.2 The current consultation is open until the 30 October 2019 and is seeking views on the Preferred Options version of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan. The proposed M & W Local Plan runs to 2036 and contains a number of 'General Policies' on Development Management criteria, climate change, the Brecks protected species and habitats and agricultural soils. There are also 17 Waste Management Specific Policies and 12 Mineral Specific Policies. The plan also contains a number of mineral extraction allocations across the County.
- 1.3 Within the consultation period it is not possible for North Norfolk District Council to undertake external consultation and respond within the required period. In any event it is the responsibility of the County Council to publicise and consult on their emerging Plan. Consequently this report is confined to considering if the proposals made in the Plan are likely to conflict with, or raise any concerns, in relation to our own emerging draft Plan.

- 1.4 The consultation documents are available here <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/minerals-and-waste-planning-policies/norfolk-minerals-and-waste-local-plan-review>

2. Potential Implications for North Norfolk and the Emerging North Norfolk Local Plan

Proposed Policies within the M&W Local Plan

- 2.1 The proposed General Policies within the M&W Local Plan focus on Development Management criteria, Transport, Climate change, the Brecks and agricultural soils and encompass all of the issues that minerals and waste applications should consider. Officers consider there would be no issues regarding these policies in relation to NNDC, but Members may wish to emphasise that North Norfolk District Council has declared a climate emergency and that the supporting text to the policies needs to emphasise this.
- 2.2 The proposed Waste Management Policies cover strategic waste management targets, spatial distribution and potential waste management facilities. The section also includes policies on excavation, recycling centres, landfill etc. Policy WP17 seeks to safeguard waste management facilities. The Plan does not proposed to make specific allocations of land for future waste management facilities instead it relies on a criteria based policy approach aimed at ensuring that such facilities are appropriately located and any impacts are fully mitigated. These policies are not considered to have an impact upon North Norfolk or the emerging North Norfolk Local Plan.
- 2.3 The proposed Mineral Specific policies cover the amount of minerals that are to be extracted throughout the plan period and the policies to ensure this can be achieved. Policy MP 10 seeks to safeguard port and rail facilities and facilities for the manufacture of concrete, asphalt and recycled materials and Policy MP11 seeks to safeguard mineral extraction sites. These two policies were both previously contained within Policy CS 16 of the currently adopted Norfolk Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies Development Plan (DPD). These policies are not considered to have an impact upon North Norfolk or the emerging North Norfolk Local Plan.

Proposed Allocations within the M&W Local Plan

- 2.4 The Preferred Options Minerals and Waste Local Plan puts forward five sites within North Norfolk, four of which are proposed for allocation through the plan. All four are existing mineral extraction sites which are included in the existing adopted Plan. An existing allocation at Holt (Min71 below) is not proposed to be carried forward into the new Plan. These sites are as follows:
- **Min 69: Land north of Holt Road, Aylmerton** (Allocate for 1,800,000t in plan period): Previously allocated as a mineral extraction site through the Site

Specific Allocation DPD. No known reasons to objection the site in being in the emerging M&W Local Plan.

- **Min 71: Land west of Norwich Road, Holt** (Not allocated in the plan): Previously allocated through the Site Specific Allocation DPD as a Mineral Extraction Site. Not proposed to be allocated through the emerging Minerals and Waste Local Plan due to the potential impact upon the natural environment. Agree with reasons not to allocate in the M&W Local Plan.
- **Min 115: Land at Lord Anson's Wood, near North Walsham** (Allocate for 1,080,000t in plan period): Previously allocated as a mineral extraction site through the Site Specific Allocation DPD. No known reasons to objection the site in being in the emerging M&W Local Plan.
- **Min 207: Land at Pinkney Field, Briston** (allocated): Extension to an Existing Mineral Extraction Site. No known reasons to objection the site in being in the emerging M&W Local Plan.
- **Min 208: Land south of Holt Road, East Beckham** (Allocate for 600,000t in plan period): Adjacent to an area designated as an Existing Mineral Extraction Site. No known reasons to objection the site in being in the emerging M&W Local Plan.

- 2.5 It is not considered that these sites would have an impact upon the emerging North Norfolk Local Plan as many of these sites are currently already allocated for extraction.

Potential impact of the proposed changes on the comments made by Norfolk County Council on sites within the emerging North Norfolk Local Plan.

- 2.6 Norfolk County Council Minerals and Waste made representation on the North Norfolk Local Plan setting out that a number of sites are, to a greater or lesser degree, underlain by safeguarded mineral resources, namely sand and gravel. In line with Policy CS 16 of the Norfolk Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Policies Development Plan Document. Where sites are underlain wording within the specific key development considerations for each site, this was dependent upon the size of the site. For sites over 2 ha (both resi-mixed and employment) the following wording was required:

"The site is underlain by a defined Mineral Safeguarding Area for sand and gravel. Any future development on this site will need to address the requirements of Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Policy CS16 - 'safeguarding' (or any successor policy) in relation to mineral resources, to the satisfaction of the Mineral Planning Authority."

- 2.7 For sites below 2ha (resi-mixed and employment) the following wording was required:

"The site is underlain by a defined Mineral Safeguarding Area for sand and gravel. As the site is under 2 hectares it is exempt from the requirements of Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Policy CS16 – 'safeguarding', in relation to mineral resources. If the site area is amended in the future to make the area over 2 hectares CS16 (or any successor policy) will apply."

- 2.8 Sites falling within the consultation zone for Waste Recycling Centre sites the following wording was required:

“The site is within the consultation area for a safeguarded mineral or waste site or adopted allocation, defined by the adopted Norfolk Mineral and Waste safeguarding policy. Any future development on this site will need to address the requirements of Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy Policy CS16 - ‘safeguarding’ (or any successor policy) in relation to the safeguarding of such sites, to the satisfaction of the Mineral Planning Authority.”

- 2.9 Policy CS 16 is now proposed to be replaced by three policies:

- **MP10** (safeguarding of port and rail facilities, and facilities for the manufacture of concrete asphalt and recycled materials);
- **MP11** (Minerals safeguarding Areas and Minerals Consultation Areas); and
- **WP17** (Safeguarding Waste Management Facilities).

- 2.10 Policy **WP17** as drafted does not alter policy CS 16 in regard to consultation distances for safeguarded waste management facilities, water recycling centres, and pumping stations.

- 2.11 Policy **MP11** tightens up on Policy CS 16. CS 16 previously stated that the County Council will “safeguard existing, permitted and allocated mineral extraction and associated development and waste management facilities”. Policy MP11 sets out that the County Council will “safeguard Norfolk’s Silica Sand, Carstone and Sand and Gravel mineral resources, within the Minerals Safeguarding Areas identified on the policies map, from inappropriate development proposals.” The consultation area does not appear to have been altered in regard to these sites, remaining at 250m.

- 2.12 The tightening up on the policy wording is not considered to have an impact upon the level of comments that Norfolk County Council may make on proposed North Norfolk Local Plan sites following the adoption of the M&W Local Plan

3. Summary

The proposed M&W Local Plan would not have a significant impact upon North Norfolk or the emerging North Norfolk Local Plan. Members may wish to emphasise that North Norfolk District Council has declared a climate change emergency. All other comments would be supportive of the policies within the M&W Local Plan as there is no known conflicts with the emerging North Norfolk Local Plan.

4. Recommendation:

Members note the Preferred Options consultation of the emerging Norfolk County Council Minerals and Waste Local Plan and delegate to Officers to provide an Officer Level response on the consultation documents.