

Meeting:	JOINT COMMITTEE ON STRATEGIC PLANNING AND TRANSPORT
Date:	15th December 2023
From:	Joint Officer Steering Group

UPDATE ON MINERAL AND WASTE MATTERS

1. **SUMMARY**

- 1.1 This report informs the Committee of the latest position with regard to mineral and waste matters which affect both City and County Councils.

2. **MINERAL PLANNING**

- 2.1 The Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan was adopted in March 2021. A statutory review of the Plan will take place in 2026 to determine if all or part of it requires updating.
- 2.2 Officers have prepared an annual Local Aggregate Assessment to help determine likely future need for sand and gravel based on the annual survey of aggregate sales in the County and City. The 2023 Survey (based on sales in 2022) show a small increase in annual sales compared to 2021 but the rise is not significant. Sales of sand and gravel and Sherwood sandstone in Nottinghamshire were reported as 1.52mt in 2022, compared to reported sales of 1.47mt in 2021.
- 2.3 There is at the time of writing no further news on the potential submission of a planning application for mineral extraction at Barton in Fabis. Requests have been made to both councils to provide scoping opinions under the Environmental Impact Assessment Regulations for a potential application which will cross the administrative boundaries of both Councils and proposes to extract 2.05 MT of sand and gravel within Nottinghamshire and 0.5 MT within the administrative area of Nottingham City. The Nottinghamshire element is an allocated site within the Nottinghamshire Minerals Plan. The scoping exercise provides local planning authorities to set out the details they consider should be included in any environmental statement accompanying a future planning application. The County Council issued its scoping opinion on 22 August, partly informed by technical responses by City Council officers regarding archaeology, flood risk, ecology and heritage. The City Council is expected to issue its own scoping opinion in the near future.

3. **WASTE PLANNING**

- 3.1 The County and City Councils are preparing a single joint Waste Local Plan to replace the Waste Core Strategy adopted by both Councils in December 2013. An initial consultation on the new Local Plan, including a 'Call for Sites' was

completed in May 2020. A Draft Waste Local Plan was approved by Nottinghamshire County and Nottingham City Council in January 2022. The Draft Waste Local Plan was consulted on between the 7th February and 4th April 2022.

- 3.3 A Pre-Submission Draft Plan was published for formal consultation on 30 August with a six-week period to invite representations on the Plan's Soundness (i.e., is the Plan justified, effective, compliant with national planning policy, and meets the requirements of the relevant regulations). This is essentially an online consultation and is a final formal stage, with respondents required to complete specified questions as required under the Local Plan Regulations.
- 3.4 During this period, 172 representations were received from 18 respondents. Of these 52 were in support of the Plan and 120 representations formed objections. The most commented policy was Policy SP4: Managing residual waste, followed by Policy SP2: Future waste management provision and Policy DM6: Historic environment. Many representations related not to specific policies but Chapter 5, mainly around the choice of recycling scenarios and the capacity gap analysis, with many indicating we were not being ambitious enough on recycling and overplanning for Energy from Waste capacity.
- 3.5 Officers from both Councils have considered the representations and whilst accepting that some wording of policies and text could be modified if the Inspector considers these necessary for purpose of soundness, the overall Plan is considered generally sound and appropriate to submit to the Secretary of State for examination.
- 3.6 The Pre-Submission Plan is being taken to the County Council on 7 December with the City Council following, to gain approval to submit the plan and representations made to the Planning Inspectorate.
- 3.5 Following this, the Plan will go through independent examination to test the soundness of the Plan. Once the Plan is found to be sound, subject to any modifications, the Plan can be then adopted by both Councils. It is hoped that the Plan will be adopted in the latter half of 2024.

4. OTHER MATTERS

- 4.1 A visit to two waste processing facilities at Colwick was arranged for members of the Joint Committee on Friday December 1st, 2023. A verbal report will be given to the meeting as it is still to happen at the time of preparing this report.

5 RECOMMENDATIONS

- 5.1 That the Joint Committee note the progress on the production of the Waste Local Plan.

6 BACKGROUND PAPERS REFERRED TO IN COMPILING THIS REPORT

6.1 None.

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