

Nottinghamshire and Nottingham Waste Local Plan

Consultation on Issues and Options

27th February 2020 to the 9th April 2020

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Preface

Significant changes have taken place in the way people regard and manage the things that are no longer needed. Today waste is no longer something which is buried in the ground. It is a resource to be re-used, recycled and then recovered. The way products are made is being addressed to encourage re-use and repair and minimise the use of single use plastics. Increasingly waste is seen as a resource within a “circular” economy with re-use and recovery at its heart.



Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council are preparing a new joint Waste Local Plan to provide the planning policy framework against which all proposals for new waste development will be assessed.

We need to plan to ensure that there are sufficient sites to meet future demand for waste and resource recovery over the next 15-20 years, a period which will see significant housing and economic growth across the plan area.

We need to gather views from all sections of the Nottinghamshire and Nottingham communities on these issues. There is likely to be a wide range of views about the shape of future waste management in the County and City and we need to find a consensus of opinion and deliverable solutions. It is therefore vital you let us know what you think so we can take your views into account before any decisions are made about what should go into the new Waste Local Plan.

This document will be open for comments between the **27th February to the 9th April 2020**. To help you make comments we have included some specific questions throughout this document but feel free to raise anything else you think is relevant.

We would encourage you to respond online to this consultation at **www.nottinghamshire.gov.uk/waste** **[TBC]** or you can email/write to us at the addresses shown on page **[TBC]**. Please note all comments that you make will be made public.

	
Councillor Rostance Vice Chairman, Communities and Place Committee Nottinghamshire County Council	Councillor Woodings Portfolio Holder for Planning, Housing and Heritage Nottingham City Council

Useful Information

To help you use this document we have included a short explanation of the main types of waste and the different organisations involved at the end of the document.

1. Introduction

Scope of the new Waste Local Plan

- 1.1. Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council are preparing a new joint Waste Local Plan to provide the planning policy framework against which all proposals for new waste development will be assessed.
- 1.2. All local plans have to cover a period of at least 15 years but can look further ahead. The new Waste Local Plan is likely to cover the period until 2038, but we are seeking your views on the exact length of the plan period. The plan's over-arching theme will be the promotion of sustainable waste management and the provision of facilities to support the highest rates of recycling and recovery where possible. This means balancing the economic benefits and need for waste management against the social and environmental impacts of such development, to help achieve a sustainable way of dealing with waste in the Plan area.
- 1.3. In order to achieve this, the Plan needs to consider the key issues and options we will face during the Plan period. This will include looking at the need for different types of waste facilities, given the projected growth in households and the economy over the period, along with a range of development management policies that set out environmental and other standards that all new waste management proposals should comply with.
- 1.4. A useful information section is contained at the end of the document setting out the different types and waste and who deals with it.

We need your views to help shape the development of the Waste Local Plan.

What happens next?

- 1.5. At the end of this consultation exercise we will consider all comments received and decide which options should go forward into the new Plan. You will then be able to comment on a draft Waste Local Plan and tell us what you think before decisions are made about what will go into the final Plan. A summary of the main stages of plan preparation before it can be adopted is set out below.

Want more information?

- 1.6. This Issues and Options consultation paper is supported by background papers which set out in more detail our understanding of current trends and provision for waste management (Waste Monitoring Report 2019) and an assessment of requirements for future provision (Preliminary Waste Needs Assessment 2019). These will be updated throughout the plan process, as needed.

Contact us

Nottinghamshire County Council is administering the preparation of the Plan on behalf of both Councils.

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**Please ensure that we receive your comments by 5pm on Thursday
9th April 2020.**

Alternative formats

This information can be made available in alternative formats or languages on request.

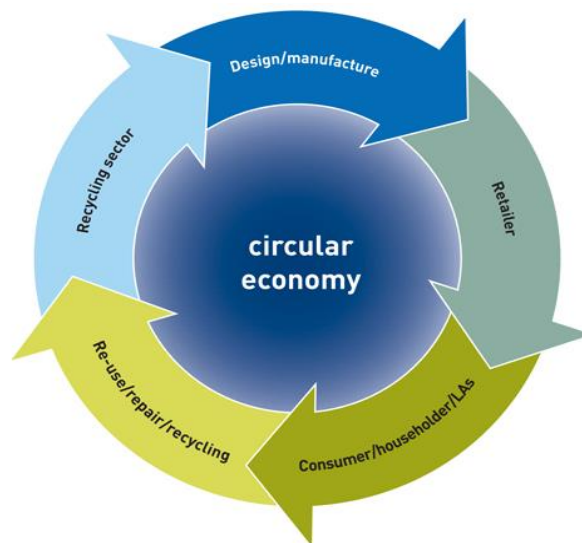
2. The Wider Context

- 2.1. Together Nottinghamshire County Council and Nottingham City Council are developing a joint waste local plan. This will include policies to guide the future development and management of waste. The Plan needs to reflect other guidance and legislation that sets out waste policy at the international, and national level and which establishes the general principles of how we should manage our waste more sustainably.
- 2.2. There are two key principles that underpin waste planning which aim to promote the concept of waste as a resource, these are the Circular Economy and the Waste Hierarchy.

The Circular Economy

- 2.3. A circular economy is an alternative to a traditional linear economy (make, use, dispose) in which we keep resources in use for as long as possible, extract the maximum value from them whilst in use, then recover and regenerate products and materials at the end of their useful life.

Figure 1 – The Circular Economy



Source: wrap.org.uk

- 2.4. As well as creating new opportunities for growth, a more circular economy will:
 - reduce waste
 - drive greater resource productivity

- deliver a more competitive UK economy
- position the UK to better address emerging resource security/scarcity issues in the future
- help reduce the environmental impacts of our production and consumption in both the UK and abroad.

The Waste Hierarchy

2.5. A series of European Union (EU) directives set out the general principles for waste management. The Waste Framework Directive (2008), establishes the 'waste hierarchy' which prioritises the most beneficial ways of dealing with our waste. The concept aims to push waste management up the waste hierarchy by trying to prevent waste in the first instance and then examining the way we re-use the waste that is produced. Currently, most of the UK's environmental laws and policies are based on European laws. This is because, as a member of the European Union (EU), the UK is bound to apply EU environmental laws. Although the UK left the EU in January 2020, the Government has stated that there are unlikely to be any immediate changes to UK waste policy and targets, but this will be kept under review¹.

Figure 2 – The Waste Hierarchy



Source: Defra.gov.uk

2.6. A key principle underpinning how we should manage waste – whether as a waste producer, the waste management industry, or as the Waste Planning Authority, is to follow the Waste Hierarchy shown above. This prioritises prevention as the most sustainable option, then encouraging re-use of existing products. Once products have become waste the next priority is to recycle them so that the raw materials can be re-processed into new

¹ <http://www.environmentlaw.org.uk/brexit>

products. Where this is not technically, or economically possible materials can still be recovered in some way e.g. anaerobic digestion of organic waste or incineration with energy recovery such as the Eastcroft facility in Nottingham which sustainably heats and powers homes and businesses. The least sustainable solution is disposal such as burning waste without capturing heat or energy or taking waste to landfill. However, both the hierarchy and national policy recognise that disposal still has a necessary role to play for residual waste that cannot be further recycled or recovered.

2.7. It is important to note that the Waste Local Plan can only deal with the facilities for preparing for re-use/recycling, recovery and disposal - prevention is more about manufacturing processes and consumer behaviour, such as choosing more sustainable options such as designing products so that they will last longer or can be repaired more easily or with less packaging etc. The new waste local plan deals with waste that has already been produced and there are many factors that influence waste production that is outside the remit of the waste local plan.

2.8. In addition to considering the context identified in the spatial portrait, the Plan must take account of existing national and local policy as summarised below.

National Policy

2.9. The Waste Local Plan will need to accord with current planning policy and guidance on waste. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) was published in 2012 and revised in 2019 with the accompanying National Planning Practice Guidance launched in 2014 as a live document, updated as necessary by the Government. The Waste Management Plan for England was published in 2013, followed by the National Planning Policy for Waste which was published in 2014. The Government published the Resources and Waste Strategy for England in December 2018. The Strategy sets out how the country will preserve material resources by minimising waste, promoting resource efficiency and moving towards a circular economy. The strategy has two overarching objectives:

- To maximise the value of resource use
- To minimise waste and its impact on the environment.

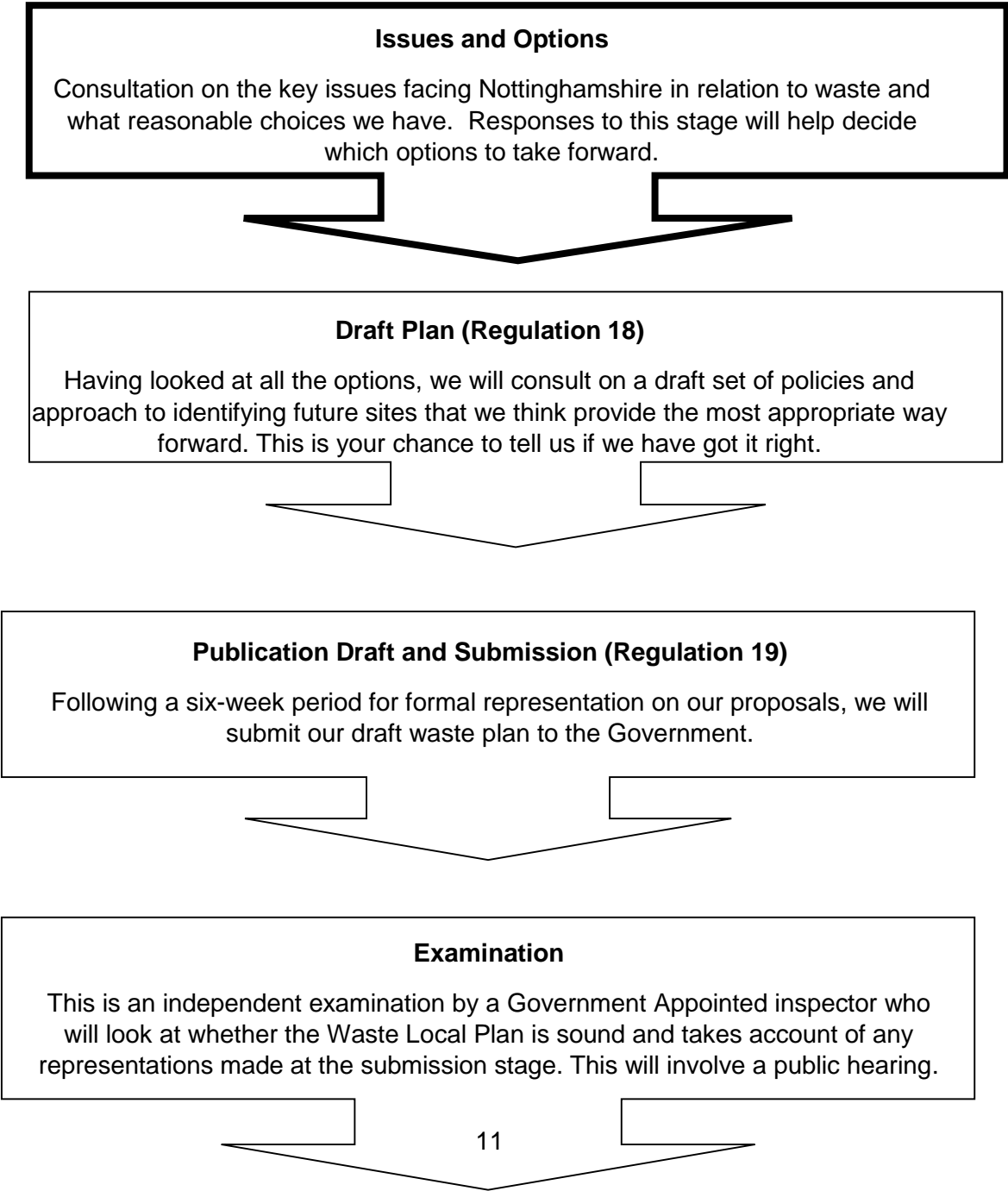
2.10. These objectives complement wider environmental goals within the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan which aims to improve the UK environment within a generation. The Government has stated that the UK will be the first major economy to pass laws to end its contribution to global warming. The goal is to become net zero for all greenhouse gas emissions by 2050. Nottingham City Council is also aiming to be the first carbon

neutral city in the country by 2028. Nottinghamshire County Council is currently developing its Corporate Environment Strategy to address these issues.

Local Policy

2.11. The current Waste Core Strategy was adopted in December 2013 and is now due for replacement. There are several stages in local plan preparation, as set out in Figure 3 below.

Figure 3 - Key stages in preparing the new Waste Local Plan – highlighting the early stage we are at.



Adoption

This is the final stage of the Waste Local Plan, if the Plan is found sound. The County and City Councils will adopt the final Plan and this will then become adopted policy.

2.12. This Issues and Options is the first stage of consultation on the Waste Local Plan. It has been prepared to:

- present the evidence gained so far and identify future evidence sources
- identify the issues to be addressed within the Plan
- set out the options that can be considered to address those issues
- outline some principles for the Waste Local Plan
- consult on the matters discussed, seeking feedback from interested parties across the Plan Area.

2.13. As well as consulting on the content of the new plan a series of detailed technical assessments will also be carried out. These will cover issues such as social, economic and environmental impacts, transport and flood risk.

3. Setting the overall context for the Plan

3.1. To plan effectively for future waste management, we need to have a good understanding of the current situation and what is likely to change. We need to decide the most appropriate timescale for the plan and what it should cover.

Q1: We envisage the plan period covering up to 2038, do you think this is appropriate? If not, what other plan period should be used and why?

Overview of the Plan Area

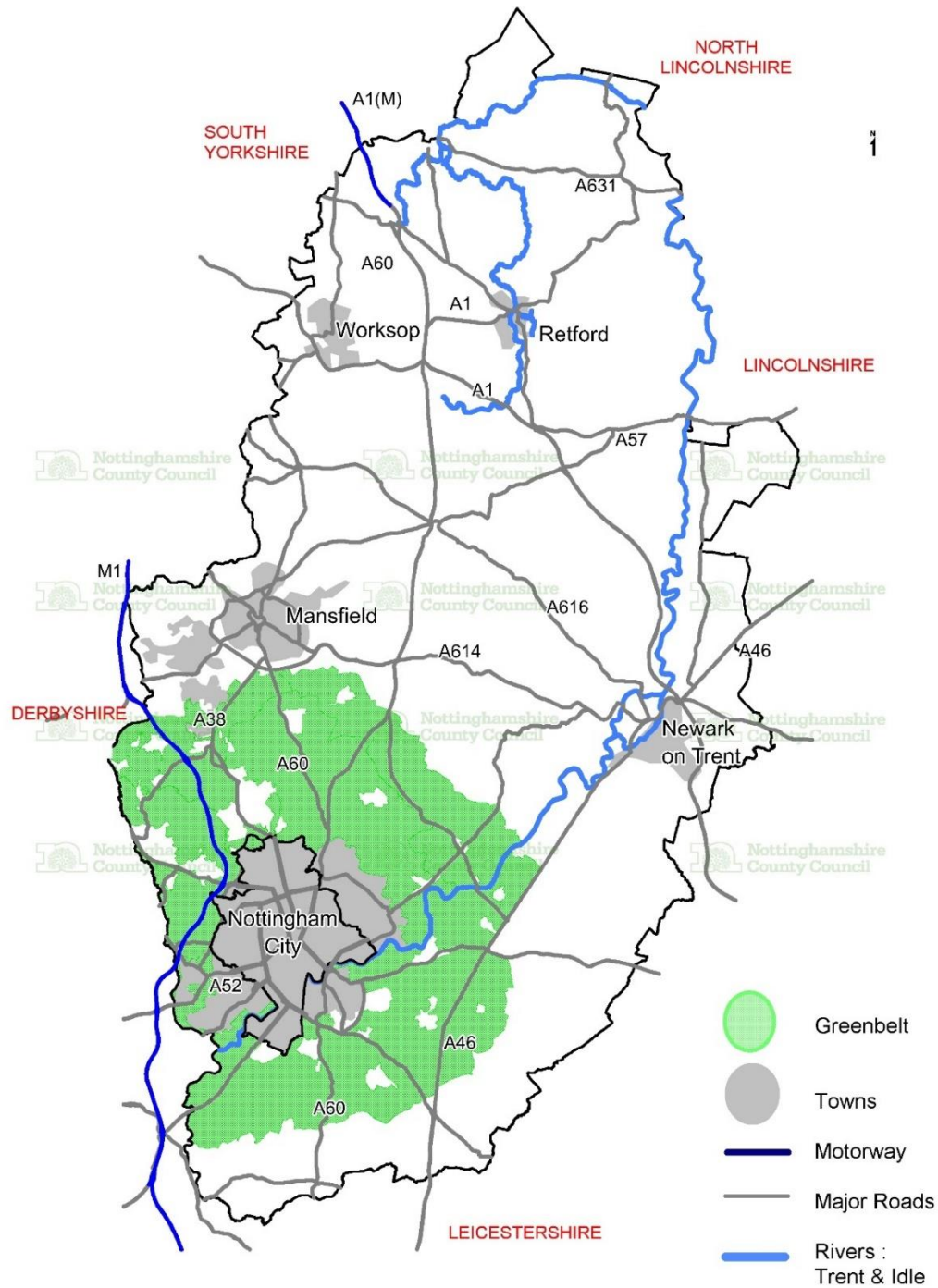
3.2. To help inform the plan process we are developing a 'spatial portrait' of Nottinghamshire and Nottingham, setting out the key environmental, geological, geographic, social and economic influences found in the Plan Area.

- 3.3. The Plan area is part of the East Midlands and shares a boundary with South Yorkshire. Northern parts of Nottinghamshire therefore have significant employment, housing and business links with Sheffield and the metropolitan areas of Barnsley, Rotherham and Doncaster. The more urbanised west of the County is closely linked to neighbouring Derbyshire, with more rural eastern parts of the County having a similar character to neighbouring parts of Lincolnshire. In the south, Nottingham is the major regional centre with links to the neighbouring cities of Derby and Leicester. Consequently, there is a significant overlap of housing areas, business and employment between these three cities (see Plan1 below).
- 3.4. Nottingham City is a designated Core City of national importance and consists of a very compact and a high-density urban area. The City has a very tight urban boundary and is surrounded by several borough and district councils and their connecting urban areas.
- 3.5. There are around 823,000 people living in Nottinghamshire County and 330,000 in Nottingham City. Around two thirds of the overall population live in, or around, Nottingham which is a major centre for employment and retail. The remainder live in, or close to, the other main towns of Mansfield, Kirkby in Ashfield, Sutton in Ashfield, Hucknall, Worksop, Newark and Retford. Outside these urban areas, the rest of the County is largely rural with scattered small villages, farmland, woodland and commercial forestry.
- 3.6. The County's landscape is characterised by rich rolling farmlands to the south, with a central belt of mixed woodland and farmland, giving way to heathland in the north and open, flat agricultural landscapes dominated by the River Trent to the east. Nottinghamshire also supports a wide network of important sites for nature conservation, the most important focused within Sherwood Forest, to the north of Mansfield. This includes a Special Area of Conservation and possible future Special Protection Area, both of which hold international status.
- 3.7. Road and rail links to the rest of the UK are generally good. The area is connected to the M1 and the national motorway network via the A453 to junction 24, the A52 to junction 25 and the A610 to junction 26 and the A38 to Junction 28. The A52 provides a trunk road connection from Derby to Nottingham including to the A46 which runs between the M1 north of Leicester to the A1 at Newark. Orbital movements in Nottingham are less well accommodated with there being only a partial ring road (A52 and A6514). To the north of the County the A614 links Nottingham to the A1 and A60 with wider links to Mansfield, which is also linked via the A617 Newark.
- 3.8. Nottinghamshire's economy generally compares well to the rest of the UK, and some of our urban areas are expected to be the focus of significant

housing and commercial development in the future. However, there are wide inequalities in the rates of employment and income across the plan area, most notably in the former mining areas to the north and west and within parts of Nottingham. These areas can also experience inequalities in health, education and skills.

- 3.9. Mansfield, Worksop and Newark are important centres for warehousing and distribution whilst service, technology and research-based industries tend to cluster in around Nottingham. The energy industry also has a role with four power stations along the River Trent, however, coal powered power stations are due to close or be replaced by 2025. Elsewhere, agriculture and forestry are no longer major employers but still make up much of the County's rural landscape.
- 3.1. As a regional economic hub, Nottingham City is the main work destination for the majority of residents living within the city and surrounding areas. Around 226,000 people are employed within Nottingham City. In and around Nottingham there is a strong focus for pharmaceuticals and optical goods, manufacturing, ICT technology and finance and banking.
- 3.2. Flood risk, particularly in the Trent Valley and along its tributaries, presents planning and environmental issues which is a significant constraint to most forms of built development. The expected impact of future climate change could result in higher rainfall and more extreme flood events. The whole of Nottingham City is covered by an Air Quality Management Area.

Plan 1 – Plan Area



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Q2: Do you think any further information should be included in the overview of the Plan area and the implications for the management of waste?

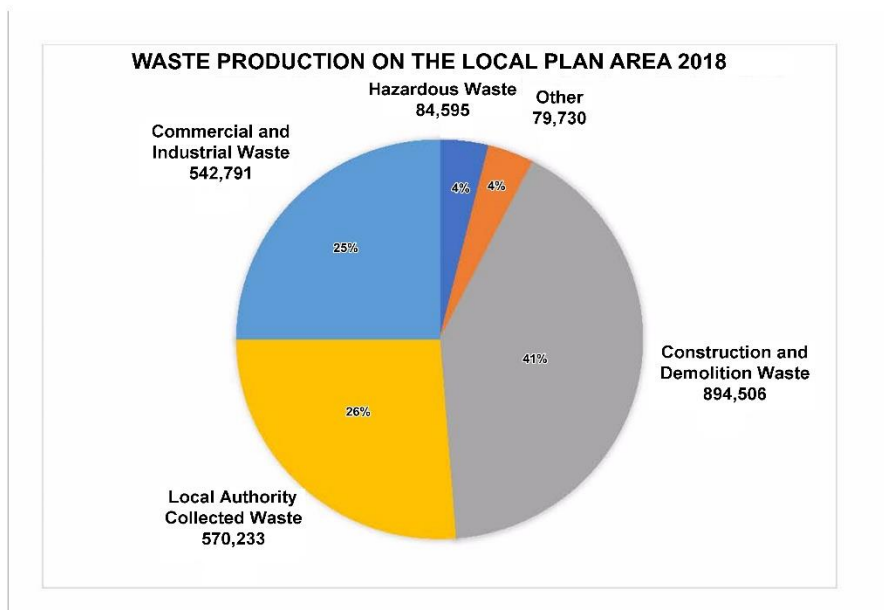
4. Waste Management in the Plan Area

- 4.1. One of the biggest problems in planning for waste are the many uncertainties over how much waste is produced, how and where it is managed, and what might happen in the future. We have reliable data for municipal waste but, local data for other waste is often out of date and based on regional or national estimates.
- 4.2. The Councils have prepared a preliminary Waste Needs Assessment (WNA) document to accompany this consultation. This sets out current waste arisings, forecasts of future waste arisings, existing waste management capacity and estimates of any potential shortfalls in future waste management capacity. We also welcome any comments on this.

Current waste production

- 4.3. The most recent estimates suggest that around 2.5 million tonnes of waste are produced across the plan area each year. This comes from a variety of sources including Local Authority Collected (Municipal) Waste from households and schools; commercial and industrial waste from shops, offices and factories; and construction, demolition and excavation wastes such as rubble and soils. Other sources of waste include wastewater and sewage, agricultural waste, and mining wastes. In the past, large quantities of ash were also produced from coal-fired power stations, but these are due to be phased out.

Figure 4 –Waste produced in the Plan Area 2018



Source: Defra and Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator 2018

Q3: Do you agree with the current waste estimate? Do you have any other information which may lead to a different waste estimate?

What happens to our waste?

- 4.4. In order to assess future waste management options, we first need to understand how and where our waste is currently managed.

Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW)

- 4.5. Since the publication of the Waste Core Strategy recycling rates have slowed and, in some cases, fallen. In 2017/18 recycling rates within the City were at 30% and within Nottinghamshire 45%. Across the Plan area, the average is 41%.
- 4.6. More of our waste is now recovered for energy with approximately 60% of Nottingham's waste, and 50% of Nottinghamshire's waste sent for energy recovery. This equates to 52% across the Plan area.
- 4.7. Very little of our waste is now sent to landfill with less than 10% of waste disposed of to landfill each year. Most of this waste is residual waste that cannot be recovered or recycled.

Commercial and Industrial Waste (C & D)

- 4.8. Less information is available for commercial and industrial waste, but national estimates suggest that at least 52% of this waste is recycled.

Construction, Demolition and Excavation (C, D & E)

- 4.9. Information on construction, demolition and excavation waste is also very limited. A large proportion is re-used on site, and is therefore not recorded, meaning there is very little information about how and where it is managed. National and regional estimates suggest that up to 90% of this waste is recycled or reused in engineering, landscaping and restoration projects, but there are no local estimates available.

Other wastes

- 4.10. Waste water and sewage from households and manufacturing processes is managed through a network of treatment facilities operated by Severn Trent. The Councils will work with Severn Trent to identify whether additional treatment capacity may be required to cope with the planned increases in housing and other development. Other specific sources of waste, including agricultural waste and mining waste, are considered in more detail within the accompanying Waste Needs Assessment. These wastes tend to arise in relatively small quantities and are capable of being managed at existing facilities. They are not therefore expected to raise any significant issues for the new Waste Local Plan.

Hazardous Waste

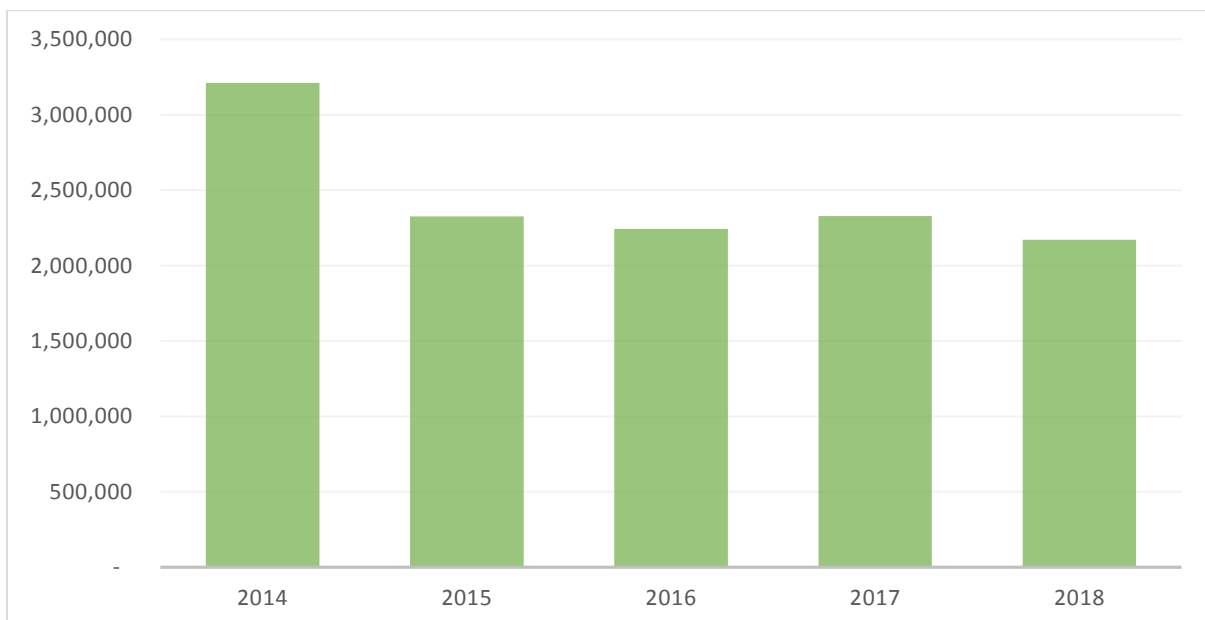
- 4.11. Hazardous waste can come from any of these sources but needs to be treated separately because of the extra risks it can pose to health or the wider environment. Most of this waste is sent for treatment and recovery, often outside of the Plan area due to the specialist nature of the facilities required.

Q4: Do you have any other information about how these waste streams are managed? Are there other issues the Plan should consider?

What will happen to our waste in the future?

- 4.12. To ensure we have enough waste management capacity available over the plan period we also need to understand how much waste is likely to be produced in future. Past trends can provide a guide to future waste arisings, but the total amount of waste produced can fluctuate over time, particularly in line with economic circumstances. Over the last five years, the total amount of waste peaked at over 3 million tonnes but has since remained fairly stable at around 2.5 million tonnes per annum.

Figure 5 – Waste Production 2014 to 2018



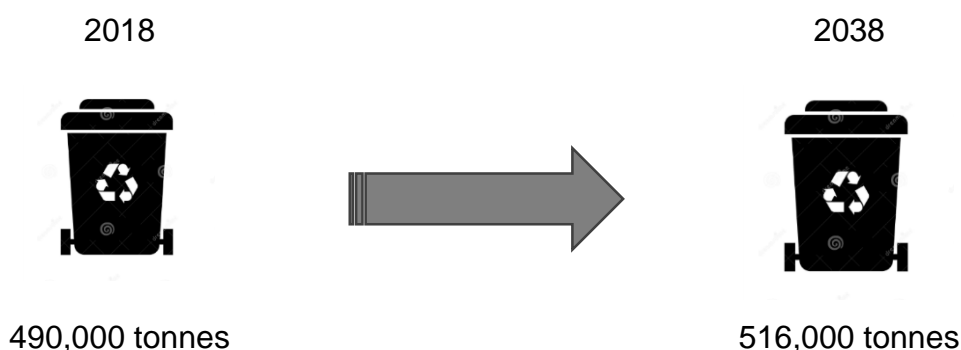
Source: EA and Defra

- 4.13. Over the next 20 years there is expected to be significant growth in our economy, population and housing. Alongside planned new shops and offices, more than 80,000 new homes will be built. The second phase of HS2 is also planned during the latter part of the plan period with services scheduled to begin in 2033. This planned growth and development has the potential to increase the total amount of waste produced.
- 4.14. To try and anticipate future needs, we have modelled a range of different scenarios for each waste stream based on current Government advice. These are set out below.

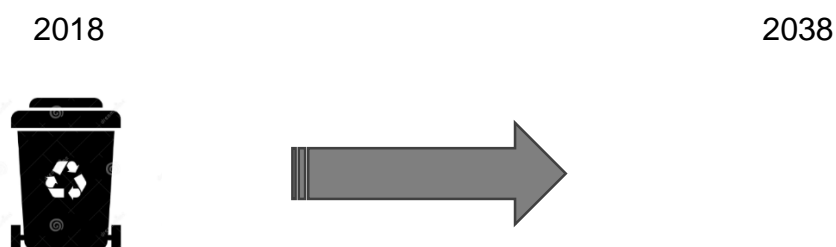
Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW)

4.15. To estimate how much local authority waste from households is likely to be produced in future the Councils have prepared a 'growth profile' which looks at both the expected number of new households and the average amount of waste produced per household over the last five years. Different scenarios have been modelled to consider different possible rates of growth or decline in the amount of waste produced per household as follows:

- A) **Declining growth** – this option assumes an ongoing (i.e. year on year) **0.5% reduction** in the amount of waste produced per household. This reflects greater social awareness of waste issues and the impacts of ongoing waste minimisation measures set out in the Government's 25 Year Environment Plan and Waste and Resources Strategy. Under this scenario the total amount of household waste produced would increase to around 516,000 tonnes per year by the end of the plan period. Although the amount of waste produced by each household would reduce, the total tonnage of waste produced would still increase due to the overall increase in the number of households.



- B) **No change** – this option assumes that the amount of waste produced by each household will remain stable over the life of the plan i.e. **0% growth**. This scenario therefore only takes account of the increased number of households and does not make any allowance for changes in consumer behaviour and/or waste minimisation. The total amount of household waste produced would increase to 566,000 tonnes per year by 2038.



490,000 tonnes



566,000 tonnes

- C) **Low growth** – this option assumes an annual **0.5% increase** in the amount of waste produced per household to reflect an increase in both the amount of waste produced and in the total number of households. This is intended to reflect the possible effects of economic growth and increased household consumption. Waste minimisation and environmental awareness would help to limit the amount of growth but would not offset the effects of greater consumption. This scenario would see an increase to 630,000 tonnes of household per year by 2038.

2018



490,000 tonnes



2038



630,000 tonnes

- D) **High growth** – this option assumes an annual **1.0% increase** in the amount of waste produced per household. This is intended to reflect higher rates of household consumption with waste minimisation measures having less impact. This scenario would see an increase to 695,000 tonnes of household waste per year by 2038.

2018



490,000 tonnes



2038



695,000 tonnes

N.B. although some local councils also collect trade waste from shops and businesses, this is a relatively small tonnage and is unlikely to be affected by

changes in the rate of household waste growth. Trade waste is not therefore included within these estimates and the Councils will seek views separately on how to take account of likely future trade waste arisings.

Q5: Do you agree with the scenarios set out for Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW)? Which scenario do you consider to be the most suitable on which to base the Plan? Do you have any evidence to support any other scenarios?

Commercial and Industrial (C & I)

- 4.16. Following Government advice, it is assumed that there will be some growth in the amount commercial and industrial waste produced over the life of the plan – even allowing for the waste minimisation measures outlined in the Government’s national Waste and Resources Strategy. Three different scenarios have therefore been modelled to take account of different levels of economic growth.

Low growth – this option assumes a **1.0% annual increase** in the amount of waste produced. This reflects a lower level of economic growth across the plan area and/or the successful implementation of wider waste minimisation measures such as manufacturer and retailer ‘take-back’ schemes for end of life products such as those already in place for waste electrical items. This would see an increase in the total amount of waste produced to just under 740,000 tonnes per year by 2038.

Medium growth – this option assumes a **2.0% annual increase** in the amount of waste produced. This reflects a higher rate of economic growth across the plan area. This would see an increase in the total amount of waste produced to 900,000 tonnes per year by 2038.

High growth – this option assumes a **3.4% annual increase** in the amount of waste produced. This reflects the current rate of growth in GVA (Gross Value Added - which is the measure of value of goods and services produced in an area, industry or sector of the economy) across the East Midlands². This would see an increase in the amount of waste produced to almost 1.2 million tonnes per year.

² The Local Economic Partnership (D2N2) is currently preparing a Local Industrial Strategy which may include different targets. This will be kept under review.

Q6: Do you agree with the scenarios set out for Commercial and Industrial (C & I) Which scenario do you consider to be most suitable on which to base the Plan? Do you have any evidence to support any other scenarios?

Construction, Demolition and Excavation (C, D & E)

- 4.17. Government advice is to assume that there will be no growth in the amount of construction wastes unless there are major infrastructure, engineering or redevelopment proposals expected within the plan area. For this reason, we have modelled three different scenarios reflecting different rates of construction activity over the life of the plan.

No change – this is the default option which assumes there will be **0% growth** in the amount of waste produced each year due to existing high levels of prevention and re-use and no significant change in the rate of construction and development. This would see the amount of waste remain stable at just over 1.3 million tonnes per year throughout the life of the plan.

Low growth – this option assumes that there will be a continued **1.0% growth** in the amount of waste produced each year. This is intended to reflect additional construction activity as a result of HS2 and planned redevelopment in Nottingham City Centre. This would see the amount of waste increase to just under 1.6 million tonnes each year by 2038.

Medium/High growth – this option assumes that there will be a continued **2.0% growth** in the amount of waste produced each year. This reflects a higher rate of economic growth as well as existing planned development. This would see the amount of waste produced increase to around 1.9 million tonnes each year by 2038.

Q7: Do you agree with the scenarios set out for Construction, Demolition and Excavation Waste (CDE)? Which scenario do you consider to be most suitable on which to base the Plan? Do you have any evidence to support any other scenarios?

Hazardous Waste

- 4.18. Government advice is to plan for future hazardous waste arisings on the basis of a simple timeline projection. As there has been significant fluctuation in hazardous waste arisings over time, the Councils have used the last ten years as the basis from which to project forwards. This gives a figure of just under 95,000 tonnes of hazardous waste each year by 2038.

Q8: Do you agree with the estimate set out for Hazardous Waste? Do you have any evidence to support any other scenarios?

What assumptions should we make about how waste will be managed in future?

- 4.19. In order to estimate/understand the amounts and types of waste management facilities that might be needed we also have to look at the likely changes in how waste will be managed in future.
- 4.20. It is important to remember that the Waste Local Plan is a land-use document that is focussed on the facilities needed to process, treat and ultimately dispose of waste, once it has been produced. The Plan itself cannot influence wider waste prevention measures but is meant to ensure that there are suitable facilities to recycle, recover and finally dispose of waste once all other options have been exhausted.

Recycling

- 4.21. Recycling rates for local authority collected waste (LACW) are expected to increase as all authorities are likely to be required to collect food waste. However, the introduction of a national-deposit return scheme for plastic and glass drinks bottles and aluminium cans could divert materials from local authority collection schemes into commercial recycling schemes. Recycling rates for commercial and industrial waste should also increase as further manufacturer take back schemes are introduced, and companies are encouraged to refurbish/repair rather than throw away. Possible barriers to higher recycling rates will include the amount of local authority funding/private sector investment available and the willingness of residents, manufactures and retailers to participate in recycling schemes. As there are already very high levels of re-use and recycling for construction wastes, it is assumed that this will continue.

- 4.22. Future recycling rates are therefore difficult to quantify but it is assumed that rates for both LACW and commercial and industrial wastes will increase by at least 10% above current levels by 2038. The current rate of recycling across the plan area is 41%.

Question 9: Do you consider these assumptions about future recycling rates are an appropriate basis for the Waste Local Plan. Do you have any evidence to suggest that different assumptions should be made?

Recovery

- 4.23. Where waste cannot be recycled, using it as a source of energy can provide benefits in terms of generating heat and power. This is more sustainable than simply disposing of the waste and can help to offset fossil fuel use. However, this can raise concerns over the appropriate size of facilities to ensure that they do not 'compete' with recycling facilities by locking waste in to long-term contracts. Currently the UK exports large quantities of residual waste as Refuse Derived Fuel (RDF) to countries in mainland Europe where it is burned for energy. With the UK leaving the EU, the waste industry expects there to be more demand to process and manage this waste as a resource within the UK. Nottinghamshire and Nottingham currently has 750,000 tonnes of permitted annual energy recovery capacity but only 185,000 of this is operational.

Q10: What role do you think recovery should play? Should the plan provide for higher levels of energy recovery in future?

Disposal

- 4.24. Waste disposal, through either landfill or incineration without energy recovery, is at the very bottom of the waste hierarchy. However, there is always likely to be some waste that cannot be further recycled or recovered and that will need to be disposed of safely. This is only expected to be a relatively small amount of remaining waste from other treatment processes, but the Plan will still need to consider how to manage this waste. Disposal rates for local authority collected waste and commercial and industrial waste have fallen significantly over the last 10 years but there is now only one suitable landfill site within the Plan area which is due to close within a year. After this, waste for disposal will have to be sent to sites outside the plan area unless a new local site can be found.

- 4.25. Disposal rates for inert (mostly construction and demolition) waste are expected to remain at similar levels given the existing high levels of re-use and recycling. Although existing disposal capacity is higher for this type of waste, this is largely concentrated within a single large site. Additional capacity may therefore be needed to provide more local sites and reduce the impacts of transporting this waste.
- 4.26. It is therefore assumed that the plan will need to maintain at least some landfill disposal capacity for all waste types.

Q11: Do you agree with the need to provide additional disposal capacity within the Plan Area?

5. Our Vision and Strategic Objectives

- 5.1. Building on the issues identified, the Plan must set out a vision and strategic objectives to deliver sustainable waste management over the Plan period. Building on the existing waste core strategy vision we have developed the draft vision below.
- 5.2. The draft vision sets out how waste should be managed in Nottinghamshire and Nottingham throughout the plan period. The vision should demonstrate a positive approach to planning and as such should be both ambitious and deliverable.

Our vision is for the Plan area to be sustainable in waste management, by encouraging businesses and communities to see the value of waste as a resource and take responsibility for their own waste by managing waste locally wherever possible.

To promote a modern and effective waste management industry, protect Nottinghamshire's and Nottingham's environment, wildlife and heritage and minimise the effects of climate change.

To protect the quality of life of those living, visiting and working in the area and to avoid any risks to human health. Stress the importance of the waste hierarchy and the circular economy to prevent and re-use waste as a resource wherever possible and meet, and preferably exceed recycling rates for Nottinghamshire and Nottingham.

Q12: Do you agree with the draft vision? Are there other things we should include?

How will we deliver the vision?

- 5.3. For the Waste Local Plan to work it must be deliverable. We need to have clear goals for what we want to achieve and be able to measure the effectiveness of our future policies. To do this we have developed the following objectives that build on the elements of the draft Vision above.

Objective 1: Climate change - encourage the efficient use of natural resources by promoting waste as a resource, limit further impacts by avoiding damage to air quality, water or soil, reduce the need to transport waste and accept that some change is inevitable and manage this by making sure that all new waste facilities are designed and located to withstand the likely impacts of flooding, higher temperatures and more frequent storms.

Objective 2: Strengthen our economy – promote a diverse local economy that treats waste as a resource, minimising waste production and maximising the re-use, recycling and recovery of waste by making the most of the opportunities for businesses, communities and local authorities to work together. Encourage investment in new and innovative waste management technologies and learn from best practice.

Objective 3: The environment – to ensure any new waste facilities protect the countryside, wildlife and valuable habitats, by protecting water, soil and air quality across the plan area and to care for the built and natural heritage of the area.

Objective 4: Community, Health and Wellbeing –to ensure any new waste facilities do not adversely impact on local amenities and quality of life from impacts such as dust, traffic, noise, odour and visual impact and address local health concerns.

Objective 5: Meet our future needs –ensuring that there is a mix of site types, sizes and locations to help us manage waste sustainably wherever possible. Meet current and future targets for recycling our waste. Safeguarding existing and/or potential future sites where appropriate. Locate new waste facilities to support new residential, commercial and industrial development across the plan area.

Objective 6: High quality design and operation – ensure that all facilities are designed and operated to the highest standards. Improve the understanding, acceptance and appearance of waste management facilities which are an essential part of our infrastructure.

Objective 7: Sustainable Transport – encourage alternatives to road such as water and rail where practical, locate sites close to sources of waste and/or end-markets to reduce transport distances and make use of exiting transport links to minimise the impacts of new development.

Q13: Are the above objectives appropriate? Are there others we should consider?

6. Providing for New Waste Management Capacity

Broad locations for waste management facilities

- 6.1. We want to promote a sustainable pattern of appropriately sized waste facilities in the areas where they are most needed. This approach will help to develop a modern, safe and efficient network of waste facilities that can manage waste close to where it is produced. The current approach within the Waste Core Strategy focuses the development of new waste facilities in or close to the main urban areas where most people live and work and where the majority of our waste is produced. Larger facilities are seen as being most suitable within the Nottingham and Mansfield/Ashfield areas with smaller/medium sized facilities to serve Worskop, Retford and Newark.
- 6.2. This concentration of urban areas and the availability of employment land with suitable transport links suggest that these areas are likely to continue to be the most appropriate broad locations for future waste development.

*Q14: What do you think of our proposals for the broad locations of future waste management facilities across the Plan Area?
Are there other options we should consider?*

Site criteria for waste management facilities

- 6.3. Once we have decided how we are going to manage our waste in the future, the Waste Local Plan will need to consider if any new facilities/sites will be

required. The Waste Local Plan will need to provide a clear guide to the waste industry and the public about where, if any, new development will be acceptable, balancing our need for more capacity with the need to minimise any harmful environmental impacts. At this stage we do not identify specific sites to meet our future waste needs, we are carrying out a Call for Sites, in parallel with the Issues and Options Consultation.

- 6.4. The 'Call for Sites' is an opportunity for agents, landowners and developers to submit land which they believe could be developed to meet future demand for waste management facilities. This will help to ensure that there is sufficient land available to meet our waste needs during the Plan period.
- 6.5. Allocating sites or areas for new waste management capacity the Waste Local Plan could take one or more different approaches to identifying and selecting sites for the provision of new waste management capacity. One approach would be to allocate specific sites where applications for permission for new facilities will be looked on favourably. Another approach could be to identify types of sites or locations within the county which are suitable in principle for waste uses and where applications within these areas will be looked on favourably. A third approach could be to allow proposals for sites to come forward regardless of the area in which they are located and to assess each proposal on its merits. Finally, a combination of two or more of these approaches could be adopted.

Q15: Do you think that a general criteria approach is sufficient to deal with future provision or should the Plan be allocating specific sites? Are there other options we might consider?

7. Development Management Policies

- 7.1. Development Management (DM) policies are proposed to be included in the Plan to provide the more detailed criteria against which future planning applications for waste management will be assessed. These policies cover topics such as environmental pollution, traffic, biodiversity, the historic environment and after-use of sites and are especially important in protecting residential and other local amenities. The broad aim is to ensure that the impacts of development proposals are identified, and where appropriate mitigated so that only environmentally acceptable proposals are permitted.
- 7.2. These policies will need to cover the issues shown below but you may feel there are other issues which need to be addressed such as for specific types of waste management facility -energy recovery or sewage treatment for example:
- Highways and transport
 - Air quality
 - Green Belt
 - Landscape protection
 - Woodland protection
 - Nature conservation
 - Archaeology
 - Heritage
 - Pollution
 - Noise
 - Flooding and water resources
 - Health and wellbeing
 - Public rights of way

Q16: What do you think of our proposals for the scope of the development management policies? Are there any others that should be covered such as for specific types of waste management facility?

Q17: Are there any other comments you would like to make to help inform the preparation of the Waste Local Plan?

Useful Information

Waste is not a simple subject. To help you use this document, we have included definitions covering some of the main types of waste, main organisations involved and the different methods of dealing with waste. To help you use this document we have included a short explanation of the main types of waste here and the different organisations involved at the back of this document.

Main Types of Waste

Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) - all waste collected by the local authority. This is a slightly broader concept than LACMW as it would include both this and non-municipal fractions such as construction and demolition waste. LACW is the definition that will be used in statistical publications, which previously referred to municipal waste.

Commercial and Industrial Waste (C&I) - is controlled waste arising from the business sector. Industrial waste is waste generated by factories and industrial plants. Commercial waste is waste arising from the activities of wholesalers, catering establishments, shops and offices.

Construction and Demolition Waste – (C&D) - from building sites, road schemes and landscaping projects. It is mostly made up of stone, concrete, rubble and soils but may include timber, metal and glass.

Who does what?

Collection – Local councils (district, borough and unitary councils) are only responsible for collecting Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW), municipal waste. All other waste is collected and managed by private sector companies. This is agreed and paid for by individual business, shopkeepers, building contractors etc.

Disposal – County and Unitary councils are responsible for the safe disposal of LACW (this includes recycling and composting as well as landfill). This is often done in partnership with private companies who provide the facilities to handle this waste and work to specific targets for recycling and reducing landfill. All other waste of managed commercially by private companies and there are no specific controls over how much is recycled or even whether it is dealt with locally.

Regulation - Most waste management sites require planning permission. County and Unitary councils must therefore prepare waste planning policies setting out when and where waste development will be acceptable and how approved waste development will be controlled. They are also responsible for ensuring that there is no pollution risk from waste sites. The Environment Agency licenses individual sites and carries out regular monitoring.

Recycling

Bring Sites – Banks of containers provided at supermarkets, local shopping centres and schools for example, where households can deposit batteries, glass, paper, card, tins, plastics and textiles for recycling.

Household Waste Recycling Centres (HWRCs) – Larger, purpose built sites where householders can bring bulkier waste (e.g. timber, metal, garden waste, electrical items and old furniture) to be sorted or recycled. They usually have a one-way system for vehicles and large skips to separate the different materials.

Materials Recycling-Recovery Facilities (MRFs) – Large-scale sites where waste that has been collected from households, shops, offices etc, can be taken to be sorted and bulked up for recycling. These operations are usually carried out within a large industrial-type building. Some sites may also take a range of construction and demolition waste to be crushed and screened (see below).

Aggregates/soils recycling – Although most construction and demolition waste such as rubble, hardcore and soil is often recycled or re-used on site, there are also purpose built facilities for crushing and screening of these wastes. These are often open-air sites on industrial estates although there are a number of temporary sites at landfills and quarries.

Metal recycling – Scrap yards are one of the longest established forms of recycling taking scrap vehicles and other metals for crushing and sorting prior to re-use.

Resource Recovery Parks – A concept based on the idea that companies which produce waste could locate alongside companies that are able to re-process that waste in a business park type environment. This could also include companies that research alternative uses for waste products.

Composting

Open air sites – Organic waste is composted in long open-air windrows which are turned regularly until the compost matures. This can take up to 12 weeks and is only suitable for green waste (i.e. plant and vegetable matter). It cannot be used for kitchen and catering waste.

Enclosed sites – The windrows are laid out within a large building which helps to contain dust and odour and the compost can be protected from the weather. This process is again only suitable for green waste.

In-vessel schemes – The waste is composted inside a purpose-built container or silo. This gives greater control over the breakdown of the waste, meaning that it can be used to compost kitchen and catering waste, as well as green waste. This process is also quicker than conventional open-air methods.

Recovery

Anaerobic digestion – Organic waste is broken down in a heated, airless container to produce a bio-gas. Leachate from the process can be used as fertiliser and some of the solid residue may be suitable for use as a soil conditioner. It is used for green waste but can also be used for food waste and sewage sludge. This overlap with composting means that this process can help towards recycling targets in some cases.

Pyrolysis/gasification – Mixed waste is partly combusted at very high temperatures and converted into a gas. Residual waste left from the process is then burned or landfilled.

Incineration – mixed waste of burnt and the heat produced is used to generate electricity. It can also be used to sterilise clinical and other potentially harmful waste. The leftover ash can be recycled, if suitable, or sent to landfill.

Mechanical Biological Treatment – Uses a varying combination of mechanical sorting to remove recyclable materials, alongside biological process such as anaerobic digestion or composting. This can also include energy recovery in the form of incineration, gasification or pyrolysis. Any remaining waste is then turned into refuse derived fuel (RDF) or sent to landfill. Plants can process mixed household waste as well as commercial or industrial wastes.

Waste Transfer

Waste transfer is when waste is taken to be bulked up and then transferred elsewhere for recycling, recovery, or disposal. Although this operation is similar to that of Materials Recycling/Recovery Facilities, waste transfer sites are generally smaller and only carry out a very basic manual sorting and bulking up of waste rather than sophisticated mechanical separation of different materials.

Disposal

Inert – sites only take waste that is physically and chemically stable. Most inert waste comes from construction and demolition projects and tends to be bricks, glass, soils, rubble and similar materials. As this waste does not break down in the ground it will not give off any gas or leachate. Inert sites do not therefore pose any risk to the environment or human health.

Non-hazardous – sites take a much wider range of waste - typically municipal (household), commercial and industrial wastes such as paper, card, plastic, timber, metal and catering wastes. These are wastes that will naturally decompose over time and give off gas and leachate. Disposal of these wastes could potentially be harmful to the environment or human health if sites are not carefully controlled.

Hazardous – sites take wastes that are considered to be more harmful because of their potentially toxic and dangerous nature. Examples include clinical wastes, oils, chemical process wastes, come contaminated soils and asbestos. As these pose a significant risk to the environment and human health, such sites require greater control measures. There are no hazardous landfill sites in Nottinghamshire at present.