

Review of the Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan (adopted 2021)

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The County Council as the Minerals Planning Authority has a statutory duty to prepare a Minerals Local Plan for the area. The Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan provides the strategy for mineral development within the County up to 2036 and is the basis for the determination of mineral planning applications. The current Nottinghamshire Minerals Local Plan (hereafter referred to as the Plan) was adopted on the 25th of March 2021 by the Council.

Under the current regulations ([Section 10A of the Town and Country Planning \(Local Planning\) \(England\) Regulations 2012](#)), Local Planning Authorities are required to assess their Local Plan every five years, from the date of adoption, to see whether the Plan remains effective and up to date ([paragraph 34 of the National Planning Policy Framework, 2024](#)). The assessment would therefore conclude whether a full or partial review of the Plan is needed or whether the Plan remains up to date. With the Plan adopted in March 2021, such an assessment is required by March 2026.

However, in November 2025 the Government announced it would lay new regulations for Plan Making in early 2026, which would provide the process for the new Local Plan system. Once laid, these regulations will supersede the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. To aid the transition in the new year into the new Plan making system, the Government published on the same day a [Plan Making regulations explainer](#). The new Regulations will require that Local Authorities begin formal preparation of a new Local Plan within 5 years of adopting their previous Plan. An assessment as to whether an update is needed will no longer be required.

The [Plan-making regulations explainer](#) also details transitional arrangements for when the new local plan-making system comes into force. For Plans over 5 years old when the new regulations come in, such as the Minerals Local Plan, Local Planning Authorities will have to publish a Notice to Commence Plan Making by the 31st of December 2026 at the latest. As per the new system, the authority will then have to commence preparation of a new Local Plan by publishing a Gateway 1 self-assessment form by the 30th of April 2027, at the latest, after undertaking a scoping consultation and publishing a Local Plan timetable.

The County Council, once these new Plan Making Regulations are laid, will therefore need to begin preparing a new Minerals Local Plan under the new Local Plan system. Considering this, an assessment of the need to review the Minerals Local Plan, as per the 2012 regulations, is now inappropriate given that we expect the new regulations to be confirmed in a matter of months. As the Plan is caught up between the two regulations, the Council has published this statement to address the issue of the

forthcoming 5-year Plan review requirement and to ensure people are kept informed of the work being undertaken by the Council.

Once further information is available and the new Plan- Making regulations laid, the County Council will update this page to clarify the next steps that will be taken and anticipated timeframes for the development of a new Minerals Local Plan.