



PART A: MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS

REPORT TO: PLANNING COMMITTEE

DATE: 8 APRIL 2014

**REPORT OF THE: HEAD OF PLANNING AND HOUSING
GARY HOUSDEN**

**TITLE OF REPORT: MINERALS AND WASTE JOINT PLAN - ISSUES AND
OPTIONS CONSULTATION**

WARDS AFFECTED: ALL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

1.0 PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority are preparing a joint Minerals and Waste Plan help guide decisions about minerals (including gas) and waste development up to 2030.
- 1.2 This report is for Members to consider and agree this Council's formal response to the Issues and Options consultation which is being undertaken to inform the development of Minerals and Waste Joint Plan.

2.0 RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 2.1 That Members:
- (1) Agree the District Council's response to the consultation as set out in each of the RDC Response sections of this report.

3.0 REASON FOR RECOMMENDATION(S)

- 3.1 There is a statutory duty on the Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities to prepare and have in place an up to date Minerals and Waste Plan for their area. It is appropriate that this Council provides comments on the plan as it will be the Minerals and Waste Development Plan covering Ryedale District. Planning applications for minerals and waste development will be decided in accordance with the plan when it is eventually adopted by the 3 authorities.

4.0 SIGNIFICANT RISKS

- 4.1 There are no significant risks associated with this report. However, failure to engage in this consultation will limit this Council's ability to help determine the direction of the policies in the emerging Minerals and Waste Joint Plan.

5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

Background

- 5.1 In 2013, under the "Duty to Co-operate" introduced through the Localism Act 2011, and with the recognition that minerals and waste planning issues often affect larger than local areas and can best be tackled at a wider than local level, North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC), the City of York Council (CoY) and the North York Moors National Park Authority (NYMNP) decided to work together to prepare a Minerals and Waste Joint Plan (the Joint Plan). The Joint Plan will contain the spatial framework for future minerals and waste development across the three authorities and present land use policies and allocations for future minerals and waste development up to 2030.
- 5.2 Previously, before the decision to prepare a joint plan was made, North Yorkshire County Council commenced preparation of separate Minerals and Waste Plans for the North Yorkshire County Council area in 2011. This early preparation work where relevant, including evidence work undertaken and the appropriate parts of the site selection methodology developed, has been carried forward into the Joint Plan.

Consultation

First Consultation (2013)

- 5.3 A Minerals and Waste Joint Plan 'First Consultation' ran for a period of 6 weeks from the 17th May 2013 until 28th June 2013. This provided the first formal step in the preparation of the new Plan and gave stakeholders the opportunity to identify key issues they thought the Joint Plan should deal with. Nearly five thousand consultees including Local Authorities, Environmental Amenity Groups, local communities, local businesses, minerals and waste representatives, Statutory Consultees, Parish Councils and other interested parties were informed of the start of the new Joint Plan. The First Consultation generated 256 representations from 89 interested parties.
- 5.4 Alongside the First Consultation, a "Call for Sites" was issued providing the opportunity for mineral and waste operators, developers, landowners and other interested parties to provide initial details of sites they wished to see identified as suitable in principle for the development of minerals and waste operations. A total of 69 sites (44 mineral, 3 infrastructure and 22 waste management) have been submitted to date. No decisions have been made on whether these sites will be included in the Joint Plan.
- 5.5 Officers of this Council provided comments on these earlier consultations in 2013 and to an accompanying Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and Site Identification and Assessment Methodology, also published for comment in May 2013. The Joint Authorities response to the comments generated by the First Consultation is available on the NYCC website.

5.6 In summary, the comments made by Officers of this Council to the first consultation were that the Plan should include/ensure:

- A section regarding shale gas extraction or the “fracking process” and for the Joint Plan to set out the agreed policy position regarding “fracking” in the Plan area.
- The reflection of the key priorities of the NPPF, especially section 13.
- The delivery options and funding for the Allerton Park Waste scheme. It was considered important to also ascertain if there would be an expectation that the Districts will need to use CIL contributions to fund this strategic infrastructure project.
- That the area’s heritage and the protected landscapes and their settings are not compromised by mineral and waste development;
- That appropriate building stone is available to be used for the conservation of the area’s heritage, by the protection of small scale local extraction quarries for stone for building repair and alteration;
- That large-scale mineral extraction is aligned to the existing transport routes to ensure the sustainable transport of goods as set out in the NPPF para 35 (and SA Objective 3)

5.7 Officers provided minor comments on the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and the proposed Site Identification and Assessment Methodology which included correcting factual errors and information, the identification of local designations and constraints applicable to the various sites, consistency with this Council’s Sustainability Appraisal, the inclusion of any HRA / Appropriate Assessment work undertaken to support this Council’s Development Plan preparation and the consideration of representatives from each of the District Councils within North Yorkshire to be part of the panel considering the sites.

Current Consultation

5.8 The current Issues and Options consultation is the next step in the preparation of the Joint Plan. It is a critical stage in the Joint Plan preparation. The responses received at this stage will help to shape the future minerals and waste policies which will guide decisions on applications for minerals and waste in the Joint Plan Area which includes Ryedale District. This consultation is this Council’s opportunity to help shape and influence the policy direction of the Joint Plan.

5.9 The following documents have been prepared for the current consultation:

- Issues and Options document
- Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment
- Site Identification and Assessment Methodology

The consultation covers an 8 week period and runs until 11 April 2014 and also includes a final “Call for Sites”. Involvement of interested parties in this latest consultation has included drop-in sessions at local libraries (Malton and Helmsley within Ryedale) as well as the documents being available at the main Council Offices, including Ryedale House.

- 5.10 The documentation which constitutes the consultation is vast and runs to over 1,000 pages in total. Full paper copies of the consultation material are available to view in the Members Room.

6.0 REPORT

Issues and Options Document

- 6.1 The Issues and Options document is comprehensive and detailed. It includes a draft vision and objectives and identifies 23 key issues and challenges for the Plan. The most substantive element of the document is the identification of a total of 72 matters that require a policy response. These are presented alongside 190 potential policy options to assist and manage responses to the consultation. Details of the 69 sites submitted so far across the plan area following the initial call for sites are also presented for initial comments.
- 6.2 As the scope of the consultation is so vast, this report focuses on the issues which are of particular significance to this District.

Draft Vision and Objectives, Issues and Challenges

- 6.3 The 23 Issues and Challenges identified and a summary of the draft Vision and Objectives are set out for information in Appendices 1 and 2 of this report respectively.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.4 It is considered that the scope of the Issues and Challenges are appropriate and relevant for the plan and that the draft Vision and Objectives are an appropriate basis for the Plan. Support is given in particular to:
- Objective 1 and the management of waste further up the waste hierarchy by the efficient use of materials in the design and construction of development, the support for reductions in waste generated, the encouragement of recycling and composting and the diversion of waste from landfill so that landfill or incineration without energy recovery is only as a last resort.
 - Objective 4 which prioritises the long-term conservation of minerals through the facilitation of sustainable alternatives to primary land won minerals extraction.
 - Objective 5 which provides for adequate supply of minerals needed to contribute to local and wider economic growth amongst others.
 - Objective 6 which provides for the identification and allocation of appropriate sites or areas for future minerals extraction.
 - Objective 7 which seeks a good match between locations for waste management and the places where waste arises, as well as mineral working, infrastructure and the places where minerals are needed to minimise the overall need for transport.
 - Objective 8 which promotes the use of alternatives to road transport and ensuring that new development is served by suitable transport networks.
 - Objective 9 which seeks to protect the natural and historic environment, landscapes and tranquil areas of the Joint Plan area. Especially the inclusion of the protection of the use of local building stone the help maintain and improve the quality of the built environment and local distinctiveness.

- Objective 10 which seeks to protect local communities, businesses and visitors from the impacts of mineral and waste development.
- Objective 12 which seeks benefits to biodiversity and recreational opportunities and climate change adaptations through reclamation of minerals workings.

Minerals

- 6.5 The consultation (Chapter 5 of the Issues and Options Document) deals systematically with the range of mineral types relevant to the Joint Plan area, including aggregates; sand and gravel; limestone; potash and salt, and coal and gas. Various policy issues are presented which range the broad geographical approach for the supply of aggregates, to the locations for new sources of the various mineral supplies (including the safeguarding of areas and sites as well as landbanks. Secondary and recycled aggregates as well as emerging new technologies including shale gas are also considered.
- 6.6 It is important that in considering this consultation, Members are aware of the mineral resources within Ryedale. These include, resources of sand and gravel (significant resources within the Vale of Pickering and resin coated sand at Burythorpe), Jurassic Limestone (on the fringes of the Vale of Pickering), substantial resources and reserves of crushed rock in the Howardian Hills AONB, gas reserves in the Vale of Pickering, potash and salt, and very deep coal in the eastern parts of the District and shale gas below the majority of the District.

Broad Geographical Approach to Aggregates Supply and Key Markets

- 6.7 The limited geographical distribution for the supply and distribution of aggregates (mainly within the NYCC area) is recognised as a fundamental controlling factor in terms of the policy options available. Each of the policy options presented for the supply of new aggregates reflect the presumption in national planning policy (The National Planning Policy Framework – NPPF) against working minerals in protected landscapes areas, with a choice presented as to whether extraction (of sand and gravel) should take place from within the City of York area in reflection of a lack of developer interest.
- 6.8 The key markets for aggregate supply with respect to construction demands are seen as being either local within the Joint Plan area (self sufficient), for use in the adjacent large urban areas, or for one off projects such as road construction. The policy options presented are for the location of future aggregate supply in relation to future major markets, proximity to the A1 for the transportation of the minerals, and for supply to be considered over the whole area.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.9 The Council recognises that mineral reserves can only be worked where they are found. Where there is a proven need for additional supplies of minerals, a balance must be made between the economic benefits to be gained from the extraction, with any negative environmental, economic or social impacts on the local communities.

In line with previous responses to earlier minerals consultations, it is this Council's view that future minerals extractions within Ryedale should be focussed at existing facilities rather than creating new workings. However, it is also recognised that in some instances, new supplies will be necessary. Therefore, in line with national guidance, it is considered that the overall geographical approach for new aggregate supplies is that they are to be met generally from outside of the protected landscapes (National Park and AONB). The Plan covers a long time horizon during which commercial interest may change. The principle of supply arising from the City of York area should not be ruled out in appropriate locations subject to the application of national Green Belt policy. (Option 2 id01 is considered to be the most appropriate option). Within this overall geographical approach, it is considered that the Plan should establish the principle that new sources of supply of aggregates are provided as close as possible to the main external and internal markets. (Option1 id02)

Primary Aggregates

- 6.10 The Joint Plan area is particularly important for the supply of high quality concreting aggregate to neighbouring areas, with 60% of sand and gravel exported to locations outside of North Yorkshire. The area is also major producer of crushed rock (limestone and chalk). Policy Options are presented for the calculations for maintaining the supply of sand and gravel provision and crushed rock; the provision of distribution ratios of the supply with respect to the markets; use of landbanks for the supply and the safeguarding of resources including Minerals Consultation Areas to prevent sterilisation of the resources by proximal non-minerals development.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.11 It is clear from the consultation material that there is a significant amount of uncertainty over future requirements and external sources of supply for sand and gravel. This Council is not best placed to comment on the detailed technical assumptions on which the options are based, but does consider that it is important that the Plan has sufficient in built flexibility to deal with changing circumstances. (Option 1 id03 could be appropriate with a commitment to monitoring or Option 4 id03 providing that the Option 4 review trigger is capable of taking into account supply which may arise from external sources.
- 6.12 In terms of the overall sand and gravel distribution, it is considered that a continuation of the current pattern of distribution presents the most appropriate option as it reflects current market demand (Option 1 id04) and that the principle of time extensions of existing sand and gravel quarries to allow full extraction of permitted reserves, is appropriate (Option 3 id05). Additionally, it would seem prudent to safeguard all known sand and gravel resources with a 250m buffer zone reflecting the British Geological Survey Safeguarding reports (Option 1 id06).
- 6.13 In terms of the supply of crushed rock, the Council notes that in quantitative terms there is no shortage of supply of crushed rock within the plan area, taking account of existing reserves. It is acknowledged however, that when looking across rock types, there is a shortfall of magnesian limestone. In reflection of the fact that potential exists for secondary and recycled materials to act as an alternative to magnesian limestone, the Council consider that this should be reflected in the policy approach adopted. This will help to maintain reserves and ensure better use of the resource. (Option 3 id07).

- 6.14 The Council supports the maintenance of landbanks for crushed rock outside protected landscapes and to reflect different types of limestone. This would be in line with national policy and would provide flexibility to respond to changes in demand over the plan period. (Options 2 and 3 id08).
- 6.15 It is considered that the safeguarding of crushed rock should operate within a 500m buffer zone in line with BGS safety reports. (Option 1 id 09).
- 6.16 In terms of ensuring deliverability of the primary aggregate supply, it is considered that the Plan should identify sites so far as is possible in order to provide certainty. (Option 1 id 11; Option 1 id12)
- 6.17 In terms of extensions to existing aggregate quarries, it is considered appropriate to support in principle, the release of unallocated extensions to existing quarries where the reserves are necessary to maintain a landbank of the reserve above the minimum required by national and local policy. (Option2 id 13).

Secondary and Recycled Aggregates

- 6.18 Secondary and recycled aggregates are products of other processes or as a result of construction, demolition or excavation that can be substituted for primary aggregates. Policy Options are proposed which seek to encourage the maximum use of either or both secondary or recycled aggregates. The use of secondary aggregates would involve the re-working of secondary aggregate materials already deposited in current or former disposal sites. For recycled aggregates, the approach would be to maximise the recovery of materials during demolition and the separation of materials as part of the waste management process.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.19 The Council supports the use of secondary and recycled aggregates in principle (Options 1 and 2 id 14, subject to development management issues)

Silica Sand

- 6.20 Silica sand is a relatively scarce industrial mineral of national importance for which the Burythorpe Quarry provides a large proportion of the UK market share of resin coated sand. The current permission for extraction at the Burythorpe Quarry is valid until 2042. For Member's information, a silica sand quarry at Blubberhouses (mothballed since 1991) within the Nidderdale AONB lies immediately adjacent to an internationally important nature conservation site and is considered alongside the Burythorpe Quarry in the policy options presented.
- 6.21 Policy options for supply of this scarce mineral range from a commitment in principle to the use and extension of both sites, the use of Burythorpe only or rely on a criteria based policy only to provide greater flexibility given the environmental sensitivities associated with the Blubberhouses site. Policy options in respect of safeguarding the mineral are also presented.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.22 Given that the Burythorpe Quarry has sufficient reserves and planning permission beyond 2030 and that there are specific environmental sensitivities relating to the Blubberhouses site, it is considered appropriate that the policy approach should support in principle, continued production at the Burythorpe site. (Option 2 id15). Given that Silica Sand is a scarce mineral, it is considered that in principle, all known sources should be safeguarded together although this Council is not best qualified to comment on the technical need for a buffer zone to protect this particular resource.

Building Stone

- 6.23 Local building stone is recognised to be important for the upkeep of traditional buildings and historic assets, and for ensuring that new buildings reflect the traditional character of an area. Policy options considered for the supply of building stone include support in principle for the continued production (including extensions to workings) of existing sites; support for new sites (including former quarries and extensions to these), or to not support either of these options in principle but to identify a range of criteria in addition to the Development Management policies to be applied to proposals.
- 6.24 In addition, options for the use of the stone are considered and these include the extraction of local stone from within the National Park and AONB only if the stone extracted was to be used within that designated area (or for structures elsewhere which rely on that particular stone) or, alternatively to have no restrictions on the use of the stone extracted or to restrict use to within the Joint Plan area.
- 6.25 Policy options covering the safeguarding of building stone range from the safeguarding of all known resources, to the safeguarding of scarcer resources only, or for the safeguarding of known active and important former building stone quarries only.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.26 The Council considers that it is appropriate that the policy approach should, in principle, cover options to continue production from existing quarries and to support production from new sites subject to a range of criteria to assess new proposals. (Option 3 id 20). The Council considers that the options presented for the use of building stone to be too limited, and a combination of those presented is this Council's favoured approach. The Council supports in principle the use of the stone extracted from within the Joint Plan area to be for use solely within the Joint Plan area (unless it is for structures elsewhere which rely on that particular stone). In terms of protected landscapes, extraction should be supported where it is to be used within the designated area that it is extracted from unless it is required for the repair of historic assets elsewhere.
- 6.27 It is also considered appropriate that all known active and important former building stone quarries are safeguarded to meet potential local building stone needs (Options 1 and 3 id22).

Gas

- 6.28 Active conventional gas well sites are identified in the Vale of Pickering with the gas being transported by pipeline to a generating station at Knapton for processing to electricity which is fed into the National Grid. The extraction well and associated processing facility at Thornton-le-Dale is identified as having planning permission but as yet has not been developed, whilst the existing well site at Ebberston (within the North York Moors National Park) which will supply Knapton via a new pipeline has recently been granted planning permission and is also identified.
- 6.29 Options for gas developments include for the broad spatial choices which direct gas development to outside of the protected landscapes or through supporting in principle, gas developments across the whole of the Joint Plan area (subject to the application of high standards of mitigation, siting and design). Only one option is presented for gas exploration given that this can only take place where gas is located.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.30 The Council supports an approach which does not restrict, in principle, development across the plan area, provide impacts are mitigated. However, the setting and townscape of the City of York should not take precedence over the setting of other historic towns and villages in the Plan area. If this is designed to relate to the York Green Belt, the Green Belt development management policy should be sufficient to address issues relating to the setting of the City.
- 6.31 The extent to which processing or generating facilities are located within protected landscapes should be addressed through the major development test applied to applications in protected landscapes. It is not appropriate that this is established as a matter of principle.

Shale Gas

- 6.32 Shale gas (extracted by the fracking process) is identified as an emerging technology in the UK and is of particular relevance within Ryedale where reserves have been identified along with adjacent areas including Scarborough, York, Selby and the NYMNP. Potential policy options presented in the consultation include the support for shale gas development using a precautionary approach (which would be subject to robust assessment of and the prevention of potential negative impacts including the integrity of geological or hydrological resources, and where the transfer of gas will be expected to be via pipeline); or of not supporting the process in principle. Under this option, the authorities would consider proposals as they come forward on a case by case basis, against other policies in the Plan and national policy. The consultation includes a further option of expanding the precautionary approach by the application of additional criteria relating to the avoidance of sensitive locations / designations.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.33 The use of a policy which embeds the use of a precautionary approach is, on the face of it, not an unreasonable option. However, this Council is very concerned that such an approach relies on the basis that the impacts of the process can be accurately identified. It is considered that until such time as the effects of the process are more readily understood and evidenced, the Joint Plan should not support the process in principle. (Option 2 id28).

Potash and Salt

- 6.34 Potash and salt are presented together as salt is extracted through the same processes and in association with potash. The consultation recognises that the UK's single potash mine currently in operation is at Boulby and makes the point that there is no requirement in national policy to maintain reserves of potash. With the advanced stage in planning terms of the progress of the proposed new polyhalite potash mine to the south of Sneaton village near Whitby, the allocation of land for potash extraction is not included in the consultation.
- 6.35 Policy options for the supply of potash include extraction from single or multiple locations. Specific options also relate to the National Park and views are sought on whether further additional extraction should only take place outside of the National Park or whether extraction under the Park should be supported providing surface infrastructure is sited elsewhere.
- 6.36 A potential potash safeguarding area has been identified based on the recommendations of a report by the British Geological Survey. Options for the extent of this safeguarding area are: for safeguarding land above the area permitted for potash extraction only, or for the safeguarding of all land above the potash resource.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.37 The Council consider that in view of economic benefits, the principle of further extraction from a further mine should be supported in principle, provided environmental effects can be satisfactorily addressed. Providing it is feasible and viable, it is considered that surface infrastructure should be located outside of the National Park. The application of the major development test for development in protected landscapes is the appropriate way in which to establish the need for surface development to be located within the Park.
- 6.38 It is considered appropriate for the safeguarding of all land above the potash resource in line with BGS Minerals Safeguarding Area work. (Option 2 id35)

Deep Minerals

- 6.39 The safeguarding of deep mineral resources, which for Ryedale includes coal, potash, salt and shale gas are considered by options for developing exclusion zones for areas of existing deep mineral extraction. This is to prevent potential conflict between the different extractions of the minerals, or for the developer to demonstrate that there would not be a significant conflict between the minerals extractions.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.40 The Council supports the principle of safeguarding deep mineral resources, however, it is considered appropriate that the developer should demonstrate that there would not be a significant conflict. (Option 1 id38)

Waste Management Capacity and Infrastructure Issues

- 6.41 The consultation addresses all of the main waste types (domestic - local authority collected; commercial and industrial; power and utilities; construction, demolition and excavation; agricultural; hazardous; low-level radioactive, and waste water) that need to be planned for in the area. It also covers strategic issues such as how waste can be managed more sustainably.

Waste Hierarchy

- 6.42 Dealing with waste through the application of a 'waste hierarchy' (the prevention of waste, followed by re-use, then recycling, recovery and then disposal) is a key element of national policy. The consultation provides options for higher levels of policy support for the movement of waste up the waste hierarchy or for greater flexibility within the waste hierarchy.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.43 The Council supports the use of the waste hierarchy. All options would be appropriate but it is considered that option 2, in line with the Government's Zero Waste policy that would be the most appropriate option. (id42 option 2).

Strategic Role

- 6.44 The strategic role of the Joint Plan in the management of waste is presented. The Plan will need to confirm the extent to which the plan area will seek to be self sufficient in terms of its capacity to manage waste. The evidence suggests that the area is currently reliant or partly reliant on capacity elsewhere especially for the treatment and landfill of hazardous waste, the management of low-level nuclear waste and for recycling (reprocessing) capacity for commercial and industrial waste and local authority collected waste. Policy options presented are for net capacity to be provided within the plan area, or with the recognition that for areas where the export of waste is taking place, existing cross-border export movements continue. An additional option to include a commitment to import of waste from the NYCC area of the Yorkshire Dales National Park (outside of the Joint Plan area) is also included.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.45 The Council considers that the Joint Plan area should aim to meet the identified waste management needs in the area, but that where this is not possible due to the nature of the waste for specialist waste management, or for proximity and cross-border movements due to settlement distribution, it is recognised that there will be some movement of waste in and out of the Joint Plan area. (id43 option1) The Council does not consider itself best placed to comment on whether there is a continued need to take waste from the Yorkshire Dales National Park.

Future Waste Management Needs
Capacity Requirements – Local Authority Collected Waste

- 6.46 In order to meet future waste management needs, assumptions about the scale and capacity available over the plan period are made. Due to a number of factors such as the economy, technological changes, waste management policy and practice changes and data limitations, it is not practicable to plan with absolute precision and so it is important that some flexibility is built into the Plan.
- 6.47 In the consideration of the capacity requirements for Local Authority Collected Waste operations, the policy direction is very much subject to the Allerton Waste Recovery Park (AWRP) scheme being implemented. Policy options are presented for a targeted approach which includes the identification of Allerton Park and Harewood Whin as strategic sites over the Plan period with additional transfer stations being identified. The need for additional transfer capacity in York, Ryedale and Selby is highlighted. Or alternatively, for a less targeted approach which would be achieved by the relevant waste management authority identifying and developing new capacity as necessary.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.48 It is considered that a targeted approach would provide certainty for the future and would ensure capacity requirements are addressed. (id44 option 1) It is not clear from the consultation whether all authorities will be expected to contribute (via CIL for example) to the costs of implementing strategic waste facilities. The Council seeks further clarification on this matter.

Capacity Requirements – Commercial and Industrial Waste

- 6.49 For commercial and Industrial Waste the provision of further transfer stations may be necessary to meet an adequate geographical distribution across the Plan area. However there is a gap in final destination recycling and processing which is currently met by export from the area. A need exists for increased recycling provision for bulk recycle materials such as paper, card, glass, plastic and metals in the plan area. The consultation includes a policy option for the promotion of community responsibility in the management of commercial and industrial waste by increased capacity for recycling and /or reprocessing which would reduce reliance on the export out of the area. A further option presented is for the import of some commercial and industrial waste arising from outside of the area which for the recovery of waste, will represent the nearest located appropriate installation for the waste to be dealt with.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.50 It is considered that the Council will support the promotion of community responsibility in the management of commercial and industrial waste by increased capacity for recycling and/or reprocessing which would reduce reliance on the export out of the area. (id45 option1)

Capacity Requirements – Construction, Demolitions and Excavation Waste

- 6.51 Similarly, for construction, demolition and excavation waste additional provision may be necessary to achieve an adequate geographical coverage. Similar options are presented for meeting capacity issues within the area or for additionally importing some landfill or inert waste from outside of the area subject to meeting mineral site reclamation objectives.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.52 The Council supports the promotion of community responsibility in the management of construction, demolition and excavation waste in line with identified needs and the waste hierarchy. (id46 option 1)

Capacity Requirements –Agricultural Waste

- 6.53 Agricultural waste is generally dealt with on site through direct disposal to land or through composting. However, a need exists for specialist storage, processing and incineration plants for animal by-products. Anaerobic digestion is one method where organic waste can be used to create energy and is encouraged by the Government through its Anaerobic Digestion Strategy. Policy options are presented for the support of self-sufficient capacity management of agricultural waste with or without Anaerobic Digestion facilities and for specific support for including managing waste on-farm near to where it arises, including for more large-scale specialist facilities that may be required the support for infrastructure as necessary to meet the needs in the Plan area.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.54 It is considered that the Council will support the promotion of self-sufficient capacity management of agricultural waste with Anaerobic Digestion facilities to help deliver the national waste strategy objectives. (id47 option 2)

Capacity Requirements – Low-Level (Non-Nuclear) Radioactive Waste

- 6.55 Low-Level (Non-Nuclear) Radioactive waste levels are currently very small within the Plan area. It is expected that with the potential growth in scientific sector in the City of York that there could be a slight increase in levels, but it is still expected to remain low. This waste is currently dealt with outside of the plan area. Options presented are for the capacity management to be continued to be met outside of the Plan area, or should the development of facilities be necessary, support would be provided in principle.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.56 It is considered appropriate to assume that the capacity requirements for low-level (non-nuclear) radioactive waste will remain low and will continue to be met outside of the Plan area at specialist facilities designed to meet wider needs. (id48 option 1)

Capacity Requirements – Waste Water

- 6.57 Consultation with the water utility companies in the Plan area highlight that there is no requirement for further capacity for waste water (sewage sludge) treatment. It is expected that if it is necessary to increase capacity this would be undertaken by expansion at existing facilities. Policy options are presented for the expansion of existing facilities only or for the additional development of a new facility at the required location.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.58 Preference for the expansion of existing facilities is considered appropriate. However, it is also recognised that due to the limited estimates for such provision by 5 year cycles of asset management plans, a new facility may be required before the end of the Plan period. Therefore support is given for option 2. (id49 option 2)

New Waste Management Facilities and Capacity

- 6.59 The overall approach to the provision of new waste management capacity is set out and considered in relation to a number of factors:
- The overall nature and distribution of waste arisings in the area.
 - The nature and distribution of the existing network of facilities.
 - Other important characteristics of the area, such as the distribution of settlements, major environmental designations and transport networks.
 - National policy requirements relevant to locating waste facilities.
- 6.60 The existing network of waste facilities is widely distributed and well associated with the settlements and transport routes. Access is noted to be good in north-south directions, whilst being poor in east-west directions. Principles for the provision of new waste facilities are presented as a choice of locational options:
- Making the best use of existing facilities and supporting in principle, the provision of new sites elsewhere
 - As above, but with strategic facilities directed to locations where transport impacts can be minimized with smaller facilities serving local areas; or, by giving priority to sites in close proximity to the local road network.
- 6.61 Views are also sought on whether such facilities should be located outside of the nationally protected landscapes unless it is of a scale that meets the needs arising from that area and can be provided without harm.
- 6.62 Alongside the options for overall locational principles for waste management, the specific types of sites suitable for waste management need to be considered. Ranging from industrial estates, previously developed land and existing and former quarries each is suitable for different waste types depending upon the nature of the waste, the scale of the facility and the processes involved. Two options are proposed: to either rely on the criteria set out in national waste policy or to set out a range of locally based principles in addition to the national policy.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.63 It is the Council's preferred choice for any waste facilities to be well located in relation to settlements and especially for recycling facilities to be on existing industrial estates. It is considered that appropriate to make the best use of existing facilities and to support the provision of any new facilities so that transportation impacts are minimized. It is also considered appropriate that the inclusion of facilities within protected landscapes is not ruled out in principle. (id51 options 2+4). Regarding waste site identification principles, it is considered appropriate to rely on the criteria set out in the national waste policy. The Council recognises that appropriate waste facilities need to be provided. (id52 option 1)

Waste Management Facility Safeguarding

- 6.64 Waste management facility safeguarding is necessary to ensure that the impact of proposed, non-waste related development on waste management facilities, sites and areas is acceptable and does not prejudice the implementation of the waste hierarchy. Because some waste management facilities are not subject to planning permission (they may operate under established rights or permitted uses) data is not fully available for facility provisions. Two policy options are presented: A reliance on national policy, or to identify a limited number of strategically significant sites for specific safeguarding.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.65 Regarding waste management facility safeguarding, it is considered appropriate to rely on the criteria set out in the national policy. (id53 option 2)

Transport and Other Infrastructure

- 6.66 The consultation considers issues relating to some of the other types of development that may be needed to help with the supply of minerals and the transport of minerals and waste.

Minerals and waste transport infrastructure

- 6.67 Policy options relating to transport infrastructure include encouraging the use of existing and provision of additional rail, water and transport infrastructure with or without taking account of the carbon implications. Options are also presented for the safeguarding of transport infrastructure.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.68 The Council recognises that minerals and waste transport infrastructure is necessary. Where possible the use of alternative sustainable modes of transport should be encouraged. The requirement for carbon implications being included (by potentially the applicant including a carbon assessment with a planning application) is considered appropriate. (id54 option 2). The Council recognises that the use of the existing railway networks is limited and that use and access could be restricted by current operators. However, it is considered appropriate to safeguard transport infrastructure with potential of being used in the future (id55 option3).

Minerals ancillary infrastructure

- 6.69 Minerals ancillary infrastructure (such as ready mixed concrete plant, roadstone coating plant and block making facilities). Policy options are for the location of ancillary minerals infrastructure to be located at active extraction sites or away from these (subject to criteria). An option not to support such development in protected landscapes is also included. A range of policy options to safeguard existing facilities are also outlined.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.70 The Council consider that minerals ancillary infrastructure would be more suitably located in proximity to the primary mineral resource, ideally at the point of extraction. This would reduce transportation costs and add value for the operator before the product leaves the site. (id56 option 1) It is also considered appropriate that the policy approach for the safeguarding of such facilities should be in line with national guidance. (id57 option1)

Development Management Issues

- 6.71 The consultation also covers a wide range of issues concerned with the protection of the environment and local communities from the effects of minerals and waste development. The NPPF indicates that Local Plans should contain a limited set of Development Management policies and set out the criteria to ensure that operations do not have an adverse impact on matters such as the natural and historic environment or local amenity and human health. The Development Management section of the consultation document considers 12 key issue areas to be considered when dealing with planning applications. These range from local amenity and cumulative impacts, transport and associated traffic impacts, the protection of nationally designated areas (the National Park, the Howardian Hills AONB, the York Green Belt), landscapes and biodiversity and geo-diversity, the historic environment and the water environment to reclamation and after-use, sustainable design, construction and operation of development, and other key local criteria, this section sets out in detail various policy options.

Sustainable Development

- 6.72 The Joint Plan will need to reflect the presumption in favour of sustainable minerals and waste development and a range of options with varying degrees of changes to the NPPF 'model' policy are presented.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.73 It is considered that the Plan should closely reflect the NPPF model policy. (id58 options 1)

Local Amenity

- 6.74 The Plan recognises that there could be significant impacts on local communities (including residents, visitors and businesses) from minerals and waste development and that it is important that a robust policy protection for local amenity is in place to ensure that any potential impacts are minimised. The option choice is for a policy which sets out that proposals will be expected to prevent adverse impacts including noise, dust, vibration, odour, emissions to air, vermin and litter, visual impacts, and impacts on the Public Rights of Way network and open space or for the policy to operate with the addition of early and meaningful consultation with the local community in line with the Statement of Community Involvement and for the outcome to reflect those discussions.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.75 It is considered that a criteria based policy including a requirement for consultation is appropriate. (id59 options 1+2)

Transport

- 6.76 National Policy encourages alternative sources of transport. However, due to the dispersed nature of minerals and waste management in the Plan area and the reliance on roads, the potential impacts associated with the transport of minerals and waste are recognised and seen as an important issue with respect to the plan area. Policy options include priority towards modal shift (towards non road transport) or by requiring all proposals to be well located to arisings/markets and suitable roads.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.77 The option to prioritise modal shift is supported in principle as this also recognises that where this cannot be achieved the suitability of the road network to accommodate development will be an important factor. This provides the necessary flexibility given the nature of the area. The Council considers that it is important that the policy includes additional criteria designed to mitigate transport impact. (id 60 options 1 and 3)

National Park and Howardian Hills AONB

- 6.78 Most minerals and waste development proposals affecting nationally protected landscapes will be considered using what is known as the Major Development Test (included in national policy). The consultation seeks views on whether the Plan should rely on this test alone or whether any policy relating to the nationally protected landscapes should also refer to criteria (linked to the special qualities of these areas) to help assess all proposals.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.79 The Council supports the use of a policy approach which uses the Major Development Test together with 'special qualities' criteria, providing that the resulting policy approach does not seek to amend or expand the principles on which the Major Development Test is based, away from national policy. The Council agrees that any policy would need to ensure that regard is had to the impact of proposals on the settings of nationally protected landscapes. (id 61 Option 2 and3)

York Green Belt

- 6.80 Nationally, minerals extraction within the Green Belt is not considered to be inappropriate development, providing it does not conflict with the purposes of the Green Belt. The Government's emerging position is that waste development is considered to be inappropriate development in the Green Belt, except in special circumstances. Policy options for a specific Green Belt policy range from a policy which is reliant on the national NPPF position for both minerals and waste, or for a more flexible position in relation to the location of waste facilities in the Green Belts where this can be justified.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.81 It is considered that the Plan should contain a policy approach which reflects national policy for minerals but provides for continued development of existing waste management facilities in the Green Belt. (id 62 Option 1 and 3)

Landscape

- 6.82 The landscape, including landscape setting, is seen as an important consideration in the siting of minerals and waste development. The Plan recognises the varied landscapes of the area and the various Landscape Character Assessments that apply including historic landscape assessments. Policy options for landscape include reliance on national policy and other policies in the Development Plan or through the use of a Plan-specific policy designed to minimise unacceptable landscape impact.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.83 Local Plan policies relating to landscape are locally specific and detailed. It is considered that the approach in the Joint Plan should be to use these in conjunction with national policy as a basis for the consideration of proposals. This will enhance the 'fit' with other parts of the Development Plan. (id 63 option 2)

Natural Environment

- 6.84 A large proportion of the natural environment in the Plan area is protected under European, national or local level habitat and/or species designations, with many protected species also being found outside of the habitat designations in non-designated areas that provide ecological networks to green corridors. In recognition of both protected and non-designated areas, options are presented for biodiversity and geo-diversity that would rely on NPPF policy together with any other relevant development plan policies, or for a policy based on providing, in addition, appropriate protection to local priority habitats. In addition, biodiversity offsetting options are proposed.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.85 The Council supports the use of a policy which would address local habitat protection in addition to the statutory protections as well as for any offsetting to be contained within the local authority area where the impacts will occur. (id64 options 2+3)

Heritage Assets

- 6.86 The consultation recognises that the Plan area contains thousands of heritage assets from Listed Buildings and Scheduled Monuments to Registered Parks and Gardens and Conservation Areas. The options presented for the historic environment include relying on the NPPF policies together with any other relevant policies in the development plan; setting out a policy in line with the requirements of the NPPF, but with the additional encouragement of proposals delivering enhancements to the setting and / or securing improved access to the asset and understanding of the asset for the longer term, and a final option for the inclusion of an additional protection for the setting of the City of York.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.87 The Council supports a policy position whereby heritage assets will be conserved in line with NPPF policy but with the additional encouragement of proposals delivering enhancements to the setting and / or securing improved access to the asset and understanding of the asset for the longer term. It is also considered appropriate that the option regarding setting be expanded to include the historic settings of those historic settlements and assets within the plan area. The issue of setting should not be specific to the City of York alone. Indeed, as a purpose of the Green Belt, the issues of the setting of the City will also be addressed in the application of the Green Belt policy (id65 options 2+3 with amendments)

Water Environment

- 6.88 Both minerals and waste developments have the potential to impact on water resources and quality, as well as contributing to, or being at risk, of flooding themselves. Waste developments have the potential to cause pollution from the processes involved or the wastes produced, whilst minerals developments, through screening bunds or other alterations to landforms, may alter the flow of water in flood events. The policy options presented are to rely on the NPPF policy or to set out a locally based criteria policy for developers to demonstrate amongst others that unacceptable adverse effects can be avoided or have been appropriately mitigated, and that the development would provide enhancements to the locality. This option also refers to the need to consider impacts on, and from, flooding.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.89 The Council supports the use of a locally based criteria based policy. The approach would not be inconsistent with national policy and would help to ensure that proposals both protect and enhance the environment and local communities as well as considering flood issues. (id66 option 2)

Environmental Information Requirements for Planning Applications

- 6.90 Specific information requirements for the validation of planning applications and other applications submitted under the Town and Country Planning Acts is currently set out in the various validation lists for each of the Local Planning Authorities. The Managing Landscape Change Project contained good practice advice for the preparation of planning applications. The consultation seeks views on whether or not this advice should be supported in the preparation of planning applications.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.91 The Council supports the inclusion of the good practice advice for the preparation of planning applications contained within the Managing Landscape Change Project.

Reclamation and Afteruse of Minerals and Waste Sites

- 6.92 The options for the strategic approach to reclamation and afteruse of minerals and waste sites are considered in terms of afteruse proposals either meeting a number of general criteria and carried out to a high standard across the Plan area in line with national policy and key recommendations of the Managing Landscape Change project, or with the addition of a more targeted approach aiming to deliver reclamation developments towards particular objectives which will help to deliver maximum benefits to the environment. Both options are likely to lead to positive environmental and social effects with respect to biodiversity, air and water quality, soils and agriculture, landscaping and mitigation and adaptation towards climate change. However the latter option is more likely to have a more positive effect.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.93 The Council supports the use of the more targeted approach. (id 67 option 2)

Sustainable Design, Construction and Operation of Development

- 6.94 Delivering a high standard of design, construction and operation is important for the role the development can play in contributing to factors of a high quality environment, minimising adverse impacts of development, making efficient use of resources and reducing, minimising and where necessary mitigating against the causes and effects of climate change. The policy options presented are for an approach which includes criteria in accordance with national policy or for one which seeks to apply additional criteria to further objectives of the waste hierarchy.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.95 The Council supports the use of a policy which seeks to incorporate the additional criteria, which appears to be a more sustainable approach. (id 68 option 2)

Minerals Safeguarding Areas

- 6.96 The NPPF requires the identification of Minerals Safeguarding Areas which are defined extents for identified mineral resources which could be safeguarded for each mineral type and whether buffer zones are considered. Various policy options are presented which include a criteria based policy to determine applications for non minerals development within these areas or for the policy to include a list of exempt development and further options are provided in the case of deep minerals.

In addition, Minerals Consultation Areas are proposed where the safeguarding area of a mineral resource is identified within which Ryedale District Council, as the Local Planning Authority for non-exempt proposals, will be required to consult NYCC as the Mineral Planning Authority.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.97 The Council supports the use of a policy which combines assessment criteria and a list of exempt development. It is also considered appropriate that Minerals Consultation Areas are identified and that for non-exempt proposals within the Minerals Consultation Areas identified, that Ryedale District Council as the Local Planning Authority consult NYCC as the Minerals Planning Authority. (id70 options 1,2,3)(id71 option 1)

Monitoring

- 6.98 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, as amended by the Localism Act 2011, requires the preparation of a Monitoring Report containing information on the extent to which the plan policies are being achieved. A list of suggested monitoring indicators broad topic areas is set out as well as whether there should be a separate Monitoring Report for each of the Minerals Authorities or a single document.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.99 It is considered that the broad topic areas listed are appropriate and that a single monitoring report is produced once the Joint Plan is adopted.

Consideration of the Sites Put Forward (to date)

- 6.100 Of the 69 sites put forward for consideration as allocated Minerals and Waste sites, 6 are within Ryedale: 4 for minerals extraction, and one each for infrastructure and recycling and waste sites. The joint authorities are seeking initial comments on these sites prior to them being put through the Minerals and Waste Site Assessment Methodology. It should be noted that this Council will provide further comments on these sites should they progress through the site selection process.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.101 The Council's initial comments are outlined below:

Minerals Extraction Sites

- MJP08 – Settrington Quarry – Limestone extraction as a proposed extension to the south of the existing closed quarry

RDC Response : Acceptable in principle subject to Development Management issues being satisfactorily addressed.

- MJP12 – Whitewall Quarry, near Norton - Limestone extraction as a proposed extension to the south of the existing quarry
RDC Response: Acceptable in principle. However, there will be transport issues associated with additional traffic movements to/from the quarry through Norton/Malton. This could have a negative impact on the designated air quality management zone in Malton. The Council also has concerns regarding potential negative economic impacts on the local community, including the horse racing industry.
- MJP30 – West Heslerton Quarry – extraction of sand as a proposed extension of existing quarry
RDC Response: Acceptable in principle subject to Development Management issues being satisfactorily addressed.
- MJP50 – Sands Wood Lane, land east of Sandy Lane, Wintringham - extraction of sand – proposed new site
RDC Response: The potential allocation / development of this site for sand extraction will not be supported due to negative effects on biodiversity interests. This site is adjacent to a SINC (ref: SE87-01 West Knapton Road Verge) and contains another SINC (ref: SE87-02 Sandy Lane Field) both which are designated for the unimproved acidic grassland and the species and habitats they support. This potential site is below a secondary conifer plantation (Sands Wood) which will also support biodiversity and is within the Wolds green infrastructure corridor. The site is also immediately adjacent to a Historic Park and Garden (Scampston Hall Grade II*) and the A64 which whilst potentially providing access will also need to be adequately screened.

Infrastructure and Recycling Sites

- MJP13 - Whitewall Quarry, near Norton (recycling) - proposed extension to recycling facility within existing quarry
RDC Response: Whilst the principle of the proposal is acceptable, the Council is concerned that there will be transport issues associated with additional traffic movements to/from the quarry through Norton/Malton. This could have a negative impact on the designated air quality management zone in Malton. The Council also has concerns regarding potential negative impacts on the local community, including the horse racing industry.

Waste Sites

- MJP09 - Whitewall Quarry, near Norton (Materials Recycling Facility) - proposed new recycling facility within existing quarry
RDC Response: Whilst the proposal is acceptable in principle, the Council is concerned that there will be transport issues associated with additional traffic movements to/from the quarry through Norton/Malton. This could have a negative impact on the designated air quality management zone in Malton. The Council also has concerns regarding potential negative impacts on the local community, including the horse racing industry.

Site Identification and Assessment Methodology

- 6.102 The Site Identification and Assessment Methodology (SIAM) is a stepped process of identification and assessment that considers a wide range of planning and sustainability issues.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.103 The Council broadly supports the SIAM. In terms of points of detail, the SIAM should include consideration of potential effects and impacts on the archaeological heritage. It is considered that the English Heritage Vale of Pickering Statement of Significance should be included in the list of documents to be considered for the desk-top study to identify constraints and opportunities as set out in Table 3 on page 11 of the SIAM document. The Council would also like to repeat its' earlier comment that representatives from each of the District Councils within North Yorkshire should be part of the panel considering the sites.

Sustainability Appraisal

- 6.104 A Sustainability Appraisal is presented alongside the Issues and Options document. It contains an assessment of each of the 199 options presented for the various policy directions presented. A summary of the findings of the SA is presented within the Issues and Options document.

Proposed RDC Response

- 6.105 It is considered that the SA presents a comprehensive assessment of policy options.

Habitats Regulations Assessment Likely Significant Effects Report

- 6.106 Under European and UK Legislation, the Joint Plan Authorities are required to produce a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to test the effect of the Joint Plan on the integrity of European Nature Conservation Sites either alone or in-combination with other plans or projects. As necessary and to meet the "Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2010" a screening assessment has been carried out on the Issues and Options consultation document. The Likely Significant Effects Report is presented alongside the Issues and Options document. It must be noted that at this stage, like the SA / SEA report, it is the various policy options presented and assessed in the HRA report and not actual policies. The report describes any avoidance measures or mitigation that could be pursued at an early stage and whether an Appropriate Assessment under the Habitats Regulations is necessary. It is recognised that additional assessments will need to be undertaken as the policies are developed and refined.
- 6.107 The initial HRA Screening Assessment indicates that the majority of options presented for the Joint Plan are likely to have no negative effect or no significant effect on a European Site and are therefore unlikely to require an Appropriate Assessment. Only one option, that for the continuity of supply of silica sand (option 1 of id15) is considered to require an Appropriate Assessment as it would steer development to an area immediately adjacent to a European Site and that it is possible that development could lead to a significant effect.

This site in question is at Blubberhouses and in this policy option is considered together with the Burythorpe Quarry.

Proposed RDC Response

6.108 The Council welcomes the HRA Likely Significant Effects Report and the screening assessment is noted. However, as a matter of fact, within Table 7, the name of the plan for Ryedale is “The Ryedale Plan” and details of the plan status should be amended to read: “Local Plan Strategy (adopted) Local Plan Sites (under preparation)”.

7.0 IMPLICATIONS

7.1 The following implications have been identified:

- a) Financial
There are no new financial implications associated with this report. It should be noted that the Joint Plan and in particular the actions do not commit the Council to providing financial contribution to the production of the Joint Plan. However, there may be additional resource implications once the Plan is adopted regarding the notification of the Joint Authorities for planning applications within Minerals Consultation Areas if this is the policy approach taken.
- b) Legal
There are no legal implications associated with this report.
- c) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental, Crime & Disorder)
No other further implications have been identified.

8.0 NEXT STEPS

8.1 It is anticipated that the Preferred Options version of the Joint Plan will be available for comment before the end of 2014. This will set out the Joint Authorities preferred policy direction for each of the issues. It will be appropriate that the Council provides comments again at this next stage.

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Background Papers:

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Issues and Options Consultation February 2014 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Sustainability Appraisal Update Report (Volumes 1 and 2) to accompany the Issues and Options Consultation February 2014 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Habitats Regulations Assessment Likely Significant Effects Report to accompany the Issues and Options Consultation February 2014 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Site Identification and Assessment Methodology to accompany the Issues and Options Consultation February 2014 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Regulation 18 launch Document - Consultation summary How Comments are Being Addressed - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan Regulation 18 Launch Document Consultation Summary - How comments are being addressed. (First Consultation Summary of Responses August 2013) - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority February 2014

Consultation Outcomes Report February 2014

For Consultations on the Joint Minerals and Waste Sustainability Appraisal and on the Site Identification and Assessment Methodology - Undertaken Summer 2013 North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - First Consultation May 2013 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - SA Scoping Report May 2013 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Site Identification and Assessment Methodology July 2013 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

**Background Papers are available for inspection at:
Ryedale House and on the North Yorkshire County Council website at:**

<http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/article/23999/Minerals-and-waste-joint-plan-consultation>

Appendix 1

Issues and Challenges Summary

Based upon the evidence presented, the issues and challenges which are considered to be of most significance to the Joint Plan are summarised below.

Minerals

The key issues and challenges for minerals that the Joint Plan will need to address are:

- Ensuring a continuity of supply of minerals, particularly once the economy begins to grow, reflecting the likely levels of growth and future requirements for minerals;
- Maintaining the required land banks for sand and gravel, crushed rock, silica sand and clay, but providing for these outside of the National Park and AONBs;
- Continuing to provide a supply of building stone for repair of traditional buildings and for new build;
- Considering how to address the potential for unconventional oil and gas resources such as shale gas as well as planning for conventional forms of energy minerals;
- Addressing commercial interest for a new potash mine in the National Park
- Encouraging the use of secondary and recycled aggregates over primary minerals extraction;
- Safeguarding important minerals resources and infrastructure from sterilisation by other uses;
- Ensuring there are sufficient safeguards in place to minimise the local impacts of minerals extraction on communities and the environment;
- Providing for a range of enhancements, particularly through reclamation of workings; and
- Developing an appropriate locational strategy for minerals supply, taking account of cross-boundary supply issues where relevant.

Waste

The key issues and challenges for waste that the Joint Plan will need to address are:

- Promoting the management of waste further up the waste hierarchy i.e. reducing the amount going to landfill and providing facilities to enable the re-use, recycling, composting and recovery of waste, as well as supporting an overall reduction in generation of waste;
- Supporting the delivery of the additional waste management capacity expected to be required, in line with any identified needs;
- Incorporating flexibility to reflect uncertainties resulting from waste data limitations, evolving technologies and practise and delivery of the AWRP facility;
- Developing an appropriate locational strategy for new waste management facilities, taking account of cross-boundary movements where relevant;
- Considering opportunities to co-locate waste management facilities with complementary uses;
- Ensuring there are sufficient safeguards in place to minimise the local impacts of waste management on communities and the environment; and
- Safeguarding strategically important waste management infrastructure.

General

The key cross-cutting issues and challenges that the Joint Plan will need to address are:

- The Joint Plan area is diverse, ranging from very sparsely populated rural areas to the urban area of York, alongside market towns and numerous villages, which will have implications for establishing approaches and policies which are appropriate across the Joint Plan area;

- Developing an appropriate approach to the protection and enhancement of the Plan areas' important landscapes, and natural and heritage assets including the North York Moors National Park, AONBs and World Heritage Site, the historic city of York, numerous Conservation Areas, Sites of Special Scientific Importance, Heritage Coast, nature reserves and listed buildings as well as the wide range of non-designated assets which are important for their own intrinsic value
- Whilst unemployment levels are relatively low, there is a drive for economic growth both within the Joint Plan area and nationally, for which minerals supply can play an important supporting role. The drive for economic growth is also relevant when considering the employment opportunities afforded by new minerals and waste developments;
- Reducing carbon emissions, particularly in relation to the transportation of minerals and waste, promoting re-use and recycling of materials and recovery of energy from waste; and providing opportunities to assist in adapting to the effects of climate change, such as reducing flood risk and enhancing habitat connectivity;
- Considering accessibility to major transportation networks and sustainable transport infrastructure, recognising constraints on opportunities for the movement of minerals or waste; and
- Ensuring an element of flexibility is built into the Plan.

Appendix 2

Draft Vision (summary)

Over the period to 2030 a careful balance will be maintained between meeting requirements for minerals and waste development and infrastructure whilst protecting and enhancing the Joint Plan area's environment, supporting its communities and strengthening its economy.

Draft objectives (Summary)

Delivering Sustainable waste management

- 1) Encouraging the more sustainable management of waste
- 2) Planning for the waste management capacity needed to manage waste arising within the area

Achieving the efficient use of minerals resources

- 3) Protecting important minerals resources and minerals infrastructure for the future
- 4) Prioritising the use of sustainable alternatives to land won minerals extraction, by encouraging the re-use and recycling of minerals and the use of secondary and marine aggregates
- 5) Planning for the steady and adequate supply of minerals needed to contribute to local and wider economic growth, development, quality of life, local distinctiveness and energy requirements, within the principles of sustainable development

Optimising the distribution of minerals and waste development

- 6) Identifying suitable locations for the extraction and recycling of minerals, the production of secondary aggregates, key minerals supply and transport infrastructure and for the management of waste
- 7) Seeking a good match between locations for waste management and the places where waste arises, and between locations for mineral working and supply and the places where minerals are used, in order to minimise the overall need for transport
- 8) Promoting the use of alternatives to road transport such as rail and water and ensuring that new development is served by suitable transport networks

Protecting and enhancing the environment, supporting communities and businesses and mitigating and adapting to climate change

- 9) Protecting the natural and historic environment, landscapes and tranquil areas of the Joint plan area
- 10) Protecting local communities, businesses and visitors from the impacts of minerals and waste development, including transport
- 11) Addressing the causes and effects of climate change relating to minerals and waste development activity, including reducing their carbon footprint and using opportunities arising from minerals and waste development and reclamation activity to mitigate and adapt to climate change
- 12) Delivering benefits for biodiversity, recreation opportunities and climate change adaptation through reclamation of quarries