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| PART A: | MATTERS DEALT WITH UNDER DELEGATED POWERS |
| REPORT TO: | PLANNING COMMITTEE |
| DATE: | 19 JANUARY 2016 |
| REPORT OF THE: | HEAD OF PLANNING AND HOUSING GARY HOUSDEN |
| TITLE OF REPORT: | MINERALS AND WASTE JOINT PLAN PREFERRED 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 to 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 Preferred Options consultation which is being undertaken to inform the development of the 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 three 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 three minerals planning 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 influence the direction of the policies and sites chosen for minerals and waste in the emerging Minerals and Waste

Joint Plan which could have adverse social, economic and environmental impacts on the District.

5.0 POLICY CONTEXT AND CONSULTATION

Background

5.1 In 2013, 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. This was undertaken through "Duty to Co-operate" which was 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.

5.2 Previously, in 2011 before the decision to prepare a joint plan was made, NYCC commenced preparation of separate Minerals and Waste Plans for the NYCC area. 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.

Context

5.3 The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) provides guidance on minerals extraction stating the importance of maintaining a supply of minerals to support economic growth, that great weight should be given to the economic benefits of minerals extraction, and that minerals should be locally used where possible.

5.4 The Waste Framework Directive (2008) together with the Municipal Waste Management Strategy "Let's Talk Less Rubbish Waste Strategy" (2006) informs waste planning policy in North Yorkshire, which aims to reduce the amount of waste produced and promote the value of waste as a resource. The emphasis is on moving waste up the waste hierarchy to deliver greater levels of re-use, recycling and recovery so that only residual waste is disposed. The links between minerals and waste including the re-use of spoil as an alternative to further primary extraction and the re-use of old quarries for landfill waste disposal are also emphasised.

5.5 Ryedale Council is responsible for the collection of household waste (Local Authority Collected Waste), whilst NYCC has the responsibility to ensure that facilities are in place to manage the waste collected. The two primary sites for landfill across the Joint Plan area are Allerton Park, near Knaresborough (due to be operational in 2017), and Harewood Whin to the west of York.

Consultation

5.6 There have been two previous consultations on the emerging Joint Plan. Officers provided comments to the first consultation in 2013, whilst the much larger and detailed Issues and Options Consultation in 2014 was considered by Members at Planning Committee on 8 April 2014 (minute ref: 206). A summary of these earlier consultations is set out in Appendix 2 of this report.

6.0 REPORT - PREFERRED OPTIONS CONSULTATION DOCUMENT (2015)

6.1 The Preferred Options consultation is the third main step on the way to preparing the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan. Although not a formal statutory stage in preparing

the new Joint Plan, the purpose of this stage is to provide an indication of the proposed new policies which the three Authorities wish to adopt. The Preferred Options consultation document presents the draft planning policies for minerals and waste, and identifies the new sites for minerals and waste development considered to be suitable. It also provides an important opportunity for interested parties to influence the content of the Plan before a final Draft 'Publication' Plan is prepared for the examination in public.

- 6.2 The Preferred Options consultation document is comprehensive and detailed. It includes:
- a revised draft vision with 12 related objectives,
 - the preferred policies for minerals and waste,
 - the preferred and discounted minerals and waste sites for allocation,
 - The minerals and waste transport and other supporting infrastructure
 - the minerals and waste safeguarding areas,
 - the safeguarded waste sites,
 - Consultation Areas,
 - Key Diagrams and Policies Map,
 - Development Management policies for the consideration of minerals and waste planning applications,
 - a set of monitoring indicators,
 - the list of saved policies to be replaced by preferred options policies,
 - a sustainability appraisal of both the policies and sites,
 - an Assessment under the Habitats Regulations, and
 - a draft Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (Level 1).
- 6.3 As this consultation is so vast, this report focuses on the issues which are of particular relevance and significance to Ryedale. These are the site specific land allocations identified within the minerals and waste policies, the minerals safeguarding areas, the consultation areas, and the policies for the development of shale gas.

Proposed Minerals and Waste Site Allocations

Minerals Sites

- 6.4 The Joint Plan considers each mineral type in turn. Where possible it identifies the level of need for each mineral resource and how this is to be met in broad spatial terms with specific policies related to the extraction of each mineral. The main mineral resources within Ryedale include:
- sand and gravel within the Vale of Pickering and along the majority of river valleys,
 - resin coated (silica) sand at Burythorpe,
 - Jurassic Limestone on the fringes of the Vale of Pickering and the Wolds,
 - crushed rock in the Howardian Hills AONB and the Wolds area,
 - brick clay in the Vale of York,
 - gas reserves in the Vale of Pickering,
 - potash and salt in the east of the District,
 - deep coal in the south and eastern parts of the District,
 - shale gas below the majority of the District (also shown on the Policies Map the on-shore PEDL (Petroleum Exploration and Development Licence) licenced areas).
- 6.5 The broad geographical focus for new mineral extraction is set out in the Joint Plan to

be from outside of the NYMNP and the Howardian Hills AONB. It should be emphasised that despite the wide range and scale of minerals identified within Ryedale, not all of these minerals are needed to be extracted from within the District. A range of sites are identified across the Joint Plan area as proposed allocations. These are sites which have been submitted to the Authorities for consideration for allocation during the preparation of the Joint Plan. Proposed site allocations have been considered suitable in principle for the forms of development proposed following the application of the site selection process including the sustainability appraisal and panel review. In all cases, planning permission would need to be granted before any development of the site for the proposed use could take place. Also included in the Joint Plan is information on those sites submitted for consideration but for which it is proposed they should be discounted (i.e. not allocated in the Joint Plan). A summary of the reasons for selecting or discounting sites alongside the size and lifespan of the sites are set out in the table in Appendix 1 attached to this report. Differences between the estimated minerals reserve / annual output as set out in the site information presented as part of the assessment of the site and the estimated reserves as set out in the policy / policy justification are highlighted in this table.

Aggregates Supply

- 6.6 The Local Aggregate Assessment identifies the need for aggregates and that demand is likely to continue and could increase. The Joint Plan considers that it is appropriate to support sources of aggregates close to areas of potential development whilst also acknowledging that there is a need to export aggregates outside the Joint Plan area to the Tees Valley and the wider Yorkshire area.

Concreting Sand and Gravel

- 6.7 It is recognised that based on current provision there is a shortfall of 19.7mt of concreting sand and gravel provision over the Joint Plan period. This will be met through existing permissions and allocations outside of the Ryedale area, mainly along the A1 corridor.

Building Sand

- 6.8 The building sand requirements will be met through existing permissions and the granting of planning permission on sites allocated in the Joint Plan for working. The allocation of land at West Heslerton Quarry (MJP30) is expected to contribute 0.05mt (0.035mt in site information) towards meeting the identified 1.3mt shortfall of building sand. Sands Wood (MJP50) has been discounted. The issues of Keld Head Spring within the site is not fully stated in the site assessment, but the discounting of the site from allocation is welcomed.

Crushed Rock

- 6.9 A shortfall of 5.3mt of Magnesium Limestone crushed rock is identified and this will be met by existing permissions and allocations outside of Ryedale. Although not specifically required to meet the identified shortfall of Magnesium Limestone, two Jurassic Limestone quarries, Settrington Quarry (MJP08) and Whitewall Quarry (MJP12) are identified as allocations to help contribute to the supply of crushed rock by jointly producing a total of 5.3mt (3.7mt in site information) and by providing greater flexibility of supply by ensuring continuity at existing sites together with their associated economic benefits. Previously, as a result of potentially continuing extraction at Whitewall Quarry (MJP12), Members expressed concerns regarding potential negative impacts on the local community with additional traffic movements, impacts on the designated Air Quality Management Area in Malton and negative economic impacts on the horse racing industry. These concerns are considered in the site assessment.

Silica Sand

- 6.10 Of particular relevance to Ryedale is the silica sand quarry at Burythorpe and the maintenance of continuity of this scarce national resource. The consultation material provides support in principle for the continuing extraction of silica sand at this quarry to 2030 to maintain reserves, as well as for lateral extensions or deepening, where necessary to maintain a minimum 10 year landbank for the site. Burythorpe Quarry is the only active quarry in the Joint Plan area and the current permission is valid to 2042. Constraints to future development of this quarry are highlighted and include a Roman villa in close proximity. It is recognised in the policy justification that any potential impacts would need to be addressed before any extension is brought forward and that compliance with the relevant development management policies will need to be demonstrated.

Clay

- 6.11 Reserves of brick clay are identified in the southern parts of Ryedale in the Vale of York. Sufficient reserves are available at existing brickworks outside of Ryedale to meet the identified supply. Therefore, no allocations are necessary or are proposed in the Ryedale for this plan period for the extraction of clay.

Building Stone

- 6.12 The Joint Plan recognises the importance of the need to source appropriate local building stone for the upkeep of traditional buildings and historic assets to ensure that new development reflects the local character of the surroundings. The colour and appearance of stone varies greatly depending upon where it is located. The criteria based policy sets out the support for:

- the extension of time at permitted sites,
- the lateral extension and / or deepening of workings,
- re-opening of former quarries in appropriate locations including new sites adjacent to historic buildings or structures where the stone is specifically for their repair and
- for the incidental production of building stone in association with crushed rock working.

- 6.13 To help maintain a supply of building stone, Brows Quarry, Malton (MJP63) is identified as an allocation for building stone as an additional reserve to the existing quarries in the Joint Plan area. This is a preliminary allocation as the three authorities are awaiting a full site assessment due to the site being submitted in response to the supplementary sites consultation in 2014.

- 6.14 Cropton Quarry (MJP64) has been discounted as an allocated minerals site for the extraction of building stone due to the potential for significant risk of contamination of a groundwater source protection areas, as well as potential adverse impacts on the local community due to the scale and nature of traffic associated with the development.

Hydrocarbons (Oil and Gas)

- 6.15 National Planning Guidance states that both conventional and unconventional hydrocarbons (oil and gas) are minerals of national and local importance. Minerals plans need to include policies for their extraction. Conventional hydrocarbons are oil and gas that has accumulated in a reservoir of porous rock and which can be extracted by conventional drilling. There is no known oil resource in the Joint Plan area, but gas is present in the eastern part of the Joint Plan area and has been exploited over a substantial period of time. The safeguarding of the infrastructure related to the current licences is identified (see paras 6.44 - 6.52). Development

Licences (PEDL) are granted by the Government and some of those for conventional gas exploration, appraisal and development have been granted in blocks in the east of the District in the Vale of Pickering and in the AONB. It should be noted that the licensing system operates separately from the planning system.

- 6.16 Interest is now developing in the use of unconventional hydrocarbons as a source of energy. This includes shale gas. (Shale Gas is considered in paragraphs 6.35 - 6.42 below).
- 6.17 Ryedale and Scarborough are also identified as potentially suitable for carbon capture and storage (CCS). This is a means of capturing carbon dioxide either before or after burning and permanently storing it deep underground in suitable geological formations. The Government believes CCS has the potential to be an important technology in climate change mitigation. The Joint Plan states that it is not expected that proposals for storage in the Joint Plan area are likely within the plan period. However, national policy requires the encouragement of underground gas and carbon storage and associated infrastructure if local geology indicates it is feasible. Therefore, a policy is proposed that would allow proposals for carbon and gas storage where the local geological circumstances are suitable subject to satisfying criteria with respect to water resources, public health and safety and local amenity.

Coal

- 6.18 The British Geological Survey identifies areas in Ryedale with deep coal reserves: more than 1200m deep from the south east of Malton to the Wolds and 50-1200m deep in an area extending westwards from Malton to the York and Selby areas. These significant resources of coal in the south of the Joint Plan area were mined at Kellingley Colliery until its closure at the end of 2015. The Joint Plan notes that it is unlikely that proposals for further working of coal resources from Kellingley Colliery will come forward. However, reactivation can not be ruled out. There is no history of interest in mining the coal reserves in other parts of the Joint Plan area and as such no other allocations for coal are made.

Potash, Polyhalite and Salt

- 6.19 The Joint Plan identifies reserves of potash and salt in the east of the district, east of Malton and Pickering and polyhalite to the north east of Pickering, mainly in the NYMNP. To meet the national and local need of this valuable resource, the new potash mine at Doves Nest Farm, Sneaton was granted planning permission in October 2015. Therefore, the Joint Plan includes a criteria based policy for any additional applications including for the renewal or extension of the mines at Boulby and Doves Nest Farm. No further allocations are made although an underground safeguarding buffer of 2km is proposed (see para 6.32 - 6.34).

Waste Sites

- 6.20 The Joint Plan assesses future waste management needs in the area for the plan period, including assessing the capacity of individual types of waste (eg: agricultural waste, waste water and sewage sludge, commercial and industrial waste, construction, demolition and excavation waste, low-level non-nuclear radioactive waste). The Joint Plan presents a number of policies in relation to moving waste up the waste hierarchy in accordance with national policy to reduce, re-use and recycle these waste streams, thus minimising both the amount of waste produced and the amount going to landfill.
- 6.21 The role of the new Allerton Waste Recovery Park (AWRP) is highlighted with

respect to achieving the overall targets for waste management in the Joint Plan area. It is expected that the facility will be operational in 2017. The Joint Plan confirms that production at this facility together with the Harewood Whin facilities near York and the Common Lane Burn site near Selby will meet the delivery of the national and the local targets set out in the Municipal Waste Management Strategy. It is also noted that the AWRP facility has been designed to accommodate the expected growth in Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW). As such there is no change to the approach for LACW.

- 6.22 The Joint Plan considers the estimated surplus gaps and attempts to identify any shortfalls in specific types of waste. Although there is no overall gap in the transfer capacity for construction, demolition and excavation waste, additional sites may be necessary to provide a more suitable geographical network. However, despite evidence suggesting that current recycling rates for construction, demolition and excavation waste are relatively high, there is a predicted shortfall in capacity of 288,000 tonnes per annum by 2030.
- 6.23 Hazardous construction and demolition waste (asbestos and asbestos related waste) will continue to be exported out of the plan area for the plan period at a rate of 6000tonnes per annum.
- 6.24 From 2021 there is a potential capacity gap for landfill of non-hazardous construction and demolition waste of 18000tonnes per annum. This could be reduced slightly if the maximum recycling rates are achieved, or if construction and demolition waste is used as a resource in engineering projects.
- 6.25 Along with other new sites in the Joint Plan area, Land at Whitewall Quarry (MJP13) is identified for the recycling of construction, demolition and excavation waste. This is a continuation and extension of a process that is already in operation on the site. No other sites are identified as new allocations in Ryedale, although Seamer Carr in Scarborough District is identified as an allocation for the retention and extension of existing facilities (recycling, composting, energy from waste) as well as a new inert waste facility beyond the current planning permission which is limited to 2020.
- 6.26 It should be noted that within the District there is a network of farms that are permitted by the Environment Agency to take garden / composting waste. This is a local waste facility that is not mentioned in the Joint Plan, but contributes to the management of waste by re-using the garden waste instead of it going to landfill.

Mitigation Measures Proposed for the Allocated Sites

- 6.27 Previous comments and concerns raised by Ryedale District Council in 2014 on the various sites have been considered in the site assessment process. Any mitigation measures necessary to address any key issues or sensitivities identified in the Sustainability Appraisal include the following (dependent on site, location etc):
- Design to mitigate impact on ecological issues
 - Design to mitigate impact on best and most versatile agricultural land
 - Design to include landscaping to mitigate impact on heritage assets (Scheduled Monuments, other potential archaeological remains, Listed Buildings and Conservation Area) and their settings and local landscape features
 - Design to include suitable flood risk assessment, attenuation and surface water drainage, protection of the aquifer
 - Design to include suitable arrangements for other rights of way including associated mitigation, as appropriate

- Improvements to access, including improvements to existing quarry access and traffic mitigation measures to limit impact on amenity, local roads and the local economy
- Appropriate arrangements for control of and mitigation of the effects of noise and dust, blasting etc.
- Appropriate restoration scheme using opportunities for habitat creation

Proposed RDC Response - Proposed Minerals and Waste Site Allocations

6.28 Generally, it is considered that the information presented in the sites assessment accurately reflects the information available to make adequate assessments regarding the suitability of a site for allocation.

i) The District Council considers that Policies M08 and M09 are an appropriate policy approach for meeting the building sand and crushed rock requirements. This is subject to resolving the discrepancies shown in Appendix 1 of this report between the estimated minerals reserves for sites MJP08, MJP12, MJP30 as set out in the site details shown in Appendix 1 of the Joint Plan and the information presented in the relevant Policy / Policy justification (M08, M09).

ii) The Council supports the allocation of the identified preferred mineral sites in principle, subject to Development Management issues being satisfactorily addressed at the subsequent planning application stage to meet mitigation measures identified as a result of potential negative impacts set out in the site assessment:

- Settrington Quarry (MJP08)
- West Heselton Quarry (MJP30)
- Whitewall Quarry near Norton (MJP12)
 - Subject to landscape and setting considerations being taken on board with respect to the southern extent of the quarry. It is suggested that the potential extension to the area quarried does not extend below the ridgeline of Sutton Wold. This will help to minimise visual and noise impacts to Whelham Wold Farm and other dwellings and uses to the south. The extent of the extension to the quarry down-slope of Sutton Wold to the south of the current quarry operation, could also potentially open up views into the quarry from the south.
 - The District Council welcomes acknowledgement that previous comments have been taken on board and identified as matters to be addressed through appropriate mitigation.

iii) The Council supports the conclusions of the Joint Minerals and Waste Authorities that the following sites are not acceptable to be minerals extraction sites, ie they are discounted:

- Sands Wood, land to east of Sandy Lane, Wintringham (MJP50)
 - The issues of Keld Head Spring within the site is not fully stated in the site assessment, but the discounting of the site from allocation is welcomed. Should the site be reconsidered for allocation, the Council would reiterate previous comments regarding the potential for jeopardising the water supply for East and West Knapton.
- Cropton Quarry (MJP64)

iv) The Council considers that Policy M15 is an appropriate policy approach for the continuity of supply of local building stone to meet local needs.

v) The District Council is concerned about the identification of Browns Quarry Malton (MJP63) as an allocation in policy M15 as a minerals extraction site. Concerns are

particularly in relation to the proximity of existing dwellings and the need for technical hydrology work not yet undertaken to determine that there are no significant impacts on the River Derwent SAC. The nature of the minerals operation will need to be carefully controlled through conditions.

vi) The Council considers that Policy W05 is an appropriate policy approach for meeting the requirements of recycling of construction, demolition and excavation waste.

vii) The Council is of the view that Whitewall Quarry near Norton (recycling)(MJP13) is acceptable as an allocated recycling site for the recycling of construction, demolition and excavation waste in principle subject to Development Management issues being satisfactorily addressed at the subsequent planning application stage to meet mitigation measures identified as a result of potential negative impacts set out in the site assessment. The District Council welcomes acknowledgement that previous comments have been taken on board and identified as matters to be addressed through appropriate mitigation.

viii) The Council agrees that Whitewall Quarry near Norton (materials recycling facility) (WJP09) is not acceptable as a household waste recycling facility and that it is discounted from the process.

ix) The Council considers that Policy M12 is an appropriate policy for the support and maintenance of the silica sand quarry at Burythorpe as a valuable national resource subject to compliance with the relevant development management policies in the Joint Plan.

Safeguarding of Resources and Consultation Areas

6.29 The safeguarding of individual minerals and waste resources is an important aspect of national policy. The approach is designed to help ensure the long term sustainability of the area and to ensure that the minerals and waste resources, as well as any minerals and waste infrastructure, is taken into account when other development proposals are under consideration. This is particularly important for Ryedale as the Local Planning Authority with responsibility for the majority of development decisions. The minerals and waste safeguarding areas include the minerals or waste resource as identified on the Proposals Map together with a buffer as set out below :

Safeguarding Areas for Minerals

6.30 The safeguarding areas for surface minerals are as follows:

- All crushed rock and silica sand resources with an additional 500m buffer;
- All sand and gravel, clay and shallow coal resources with an additional 250m buffer;
- Building stone resources and active and former building stone quarries with an additional 250m buffer.

6.31 The safeguarding policy is in line with the advice in the British Geological Survey (BGS) Reports available for the various surface minerals. The 500m buffer for crushed rock is to take on board the need for blasting in such quarries, whilst the silica sand 500m buffer is to ensure an effective safeguarding of this scarce resource from other potential development nearby. The BGS recommends that active quarries lying outside the safeguarding areas are also safeguarded with a 250m buffer. Policy justifications for the different minerals are set out in the document.

- 6.32 There are no specific requirements in national policy for the safeguarding of deep underground minerals although surface developments of certain large structures or those with sensitive processes may be susceptible to subsidence damage. Therefore the Joint Plan proposes to only safeguard the areas of deep minerals with planning permission for working, or those resources identified with a high confidence of working in the future. This includes the reserves of potash, polyhalite and salt. Therefore the reserves of the Boulby Potash mine and the York Potash project at Doves Nest Farm have been identified for safeguarding. This will help to ensure that for certain types of surface development in the licensed areas, that consultation with NYCC will take place.
- 6.33 It is noted that for these minerals the approach is not to prevent surface development, but to ensure that the resources are not sterilised. A surface safeguarding buffer has not been identified for these minerals. However, as potash and polyhalite are considered to be of national importance, being the only potential workings in the country, the potential extraction of gas in the proximity of underground mining operations could give rise to particular concerns including gas migration and accumulation in tunnels. This could be a particular issue with respect to hydraulic fracturing (fracking).
- 6.34 Following discussion with the Boulby Potash Mine operator, an underground buffer zone of 2km is proposed in the Joint Plan for these scarce mineral resources. This 2km buffer will also be applicable to the underground storage of gas or carbon in order to protect this resource for the future.

Safeguarded Waste Sites

- 6.35 National waste planning policy requires planning authorities to ensure that the impact of proposed non-waste related development does not impact on existing waste management facilities, sites and areas allocated for waste. Waste facilities can be relatively specialised or of a strategic nature, but they all contribute greatly to the waste network and to moving waste up the waste hierarchy thus reducing the amount of waste ending in landfill. Not all waste operations are subject to planning permission by the waste planning authority (eg they operate under licence, established use rights or permitted uses), but it is important to ensure that certain important existing and proposed facilities are considered suitable for safeguarding.
- 6.36 The introduction of other forms of development (such as residential, commercial or certain community uses) in close proximity to proposed or existing waste facilities can cause conflict by potential impacts on local amenity or other important factors. The identification of a 250m buffer zone reflects the potential for significant impacts arising from some waste uses and provides the opportunity to ensure that the potential for such impacts can be taken into account.
- 6.37 The safeguarded sites identified in Ryedale are:
- Tofts Road, Kirby Misperton (transfer station non-hazardous),
 - Knapton Quarry (composting),
 - Malton and Norton HWRC at Pasture Lane,
 - Caulklands HWRC in Thornton-le-Dale and
 - Wombledon HWRC.
- 6.38 The HWRC on Showfield Lane, Malton is not identified for safeguarding. In addition, Knapton Quarry is currently also used as a landfill site for Ryedale's waste. It is understood that the Showfield Lane site and Knapton Quarry will close on the

opening of the Tofts Road transfer station. Members will also be aware that the household waste in the more eastern parts of the District is taken to Seamer Carr in Scarborough District. This site is also listed for safeguarding in the Joint Plan.

Safeguarded Minerals Ancillary Infrastructure Sites

6.39 Minerals ancillary infrastructure can be located at the site where the minerals they wholly or partly depend upon are produced. In these circumstances they are protected from replacement by alternative forms of development by the associated minerals extraction permission and so specific safeguarding is not required. However, in other cases, minerals ancillary infrastructure is located on freestanding sites which do not receive any protection. These are typically on industrial estates where they are at a greater risk of encroachment and competition from other forms of development. In order to protect safeguarded facilities from encroachment by non-compatible development individual minerals ancillary infrastructure sites are safeguarded with an additional 100m buffer zone.

6.40 The identified safeguarded minerals ancillary infrastructure in Ryedale are:

- the concrete manufacturing plant on Showfield Lane Malton;
- Knapton Power Station, East Knapton for gas processing, and
- Hurrell Lane Processing Plant at Thornton-le-Dale also for gas processing.

6.41 Not identified in the Joint Plan for safeguarding are Whitewall Quarry which currently operates an aggregate recycling plant as well as a concrete batching plant alongside the current quarry operation.

Consultation Process for the Consultation Areas

6.42 Consultation with NYCC as the Minerals and Waste Authority will be necessary where development is proposed in safeguarded areas. The Consultation Areas proposed are the safeguarding areas and buffer zones as set out above for minerals, waste and minerals infrastructure. A list of development exempt from the consultation mainly consists of minor development such as householder applications and the infilling of towns and villages. Therefore in safeguarded areas, the Minerals and Waste Authorities will be consulted on proposals for major developments to ensure that it does not prevent future extraction, mineral sterilisation or lead to subsidence.

Proposed RDC Response - Safeguarding of Resources and Consultation Areas

6.43 x) The Council considers that the safeguarding areas and additional buffers for the surface minerals, waste and minerals ancillary infrastructure sites are appropriate.

xi) The 2km buffer for the deep underground minerals of potash and polyhalite resources as well as for the underground storage of gas or carbon could mean the sterilisation of the extraction of other minerals in these areas. However, the need to ensure that these valuable resources are protected for future extraction and against potential gas migration or the accumulation of gas from other processes and that surface subsidence does not occur is welcomed. It is considered that a 2km underground buffer may be considered the minimum distance suitable until the consideration of the geological structures, including faulting information, is available.

xii) The Council agrees that the safeguarded waste sites:

- Tofts Road, Kirby Misperton (transfer station non-hazardous),
 - This site meets the requirements for LACW and the Council supports the identification of this site for safeguarding.
- Knapton Quarry (composting),

- Malton and Norton HWRC at Pasture Lane,
- Caulklands HWRC in Thornton-le-Dale,
- Wombledon HWRC and
- Seamer Carr (in Scarborough District) for HWRC, composting and (transfer station non-hazardous) and the following minerals infrastructure sites:
 - Showfield Lane, Malton (concrete batching)
 - Knapton Power Station (gas processing)
 - Hurrell Lane Processing Plant (gas processing)
 are acceptable subject to Development Management issues being satisfactorily addressed at the subsequent planning application stage and any mitigation measures necessary being undertaken. However, the following points need to be considered:
 -
 - Knapton Quarry - This waste site currently takes the household waste from Ryedale as landfill. It is not just for composting. NYCC may want to consider checking the licences / permits on this site. The site could benefit from screening to minimise landscape impact.
 - Whitewall Quarry - Within this site there is an aggregate recycling plant which operates alongside the quarry operation as well as a concrete batching plant. If these operations are not covered by the existing permissions for protection, they also need to be identified for safeguarding.
 - To protect the Council's waste operation, should the opening of Tofts Road be delayed, the HWRC site at Showfield Lane and Knapton Quarry (amended site details to include for landfill) should be safeguarded.

xiii) The Consultation Areas are considered appropriate although clarification is needed for some of the exempt development listed eg: the size and scale of development or the use of development thresholds may be more appropriate and helpful when determining what development constitutes the infilling of towns and villages. Does infilling mean within existing development limits, small extensions to the settlement beyond development limits for dwellings to meet local needs etc or applications on site allocations identified in the Development Plan?

Other Relevant Issues

Shale Gas

- 6.44 The Joint Plan covers the issue of hydraulic fracturing or "fracking" as a means of extracting shale gas. It is discussed alongside other emerging technologies associated with deep coal and gas extraction. The British Geological Society (BGS) has identified areas of deep shale rocks within Ryedale, Scarborough, York, Selby and the NYMNP. Reference is made to the proposals for shale gas exploration and appraisal in the Vale of Pickering submitted in July 2015. However, the Joint Plan acknowledges that it remains unclear as to whether the resource is commercially viable, whilst also recognising that the Government is actively encouraging exploration of this form of gas extraction and tapping its potential as a new source of energy for the country.
- 6.45 The Joint Plan sets out each of the three distinct phases of the "fracking" process which all require separate permission or licences. Policies are set out for these different stages, which in summary are:
- exploration, which seeks to acquire geological data to establish whether hydrocarbons are present,
 - appraisal, which is needed to establish the extent and viability of the resource, and

- production, the stage at which wells would be drilled and the fracturing process would take place.
- 6.46 The Government has provided increased guidance for dealing with the development of "fracking" proposals in a safe, sustainable and timely fashion. The Joint Plan considers how a pragmatic approach when dealing with applications is necessary, whilst also acknowledging the many concerns expressed regarding the emerging techniques and technologies including the risk of earth tremors. The limited role of the planning system is highlighted, explaining that licences are granted by the Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC), the Environment Agency (EA) and the Health and Safety Executive (HSE) in addition to the permission needed from the Minerals Planning Authority (MPA). Planning guidance and case law states that MPAs do not need to carry out their own assessments of potential impacts which are controlled by other regulatory bodies. So when the MPA considers a planning application, the specific issues to be considered include: visual impact, impacts on the landscape, noise, vibration, air pollution and impacts from traffic. The Joint Plan sets out examples of the different permits and licences that would be needed from the other relevant regulatory organisations eg: the "fracking" process requires the use of water, for which the EA would be responsible for issuing a water abstraction licence, but the impact of bringing potentially large quantities of water to the site on the highway network will be considered by the MPA.
- 6.47 The Joint Plan references the latest reports and information regarding this new technology including the recent Infrastructure Act 2015, which states that consents will not be granted for hydraulic fracturing where it takes place within "other protected areas". The descriptions of areas which are "other protected areas" are set out in the draft Statutory Instrument and include land at a depth of less than 1,200 metres beneath National Parks, AONBs and World Heritage Sites. The draft legislation also provides protection to groundwater source areas at a depth of less than 1200 metres below the surface used for domestic or food production purposes.
- 6.48 The preferred overall spatial policy approach, together with the policies for the exploration and appraisal for hydrocarbon resources and the production and processing of hydrocarbon resources are all in line with the latest national policy and advice available.
- 6.49 The overall spatial planning approach reflects national planning guidance that proposals involving hydraulic fracturing will not be supported where they are located within the National Park, AONBs, Heritage Coast, Protected Groundwater Source Areas and World Heritage Sites, Scheduled Monuments, Registered Historic Battlefields, Grade I and II* Registered Parks and Gardens, Special Areas of Conservation, Special Protection Areas, Ramsar sites and Sites of Special Scientific Interest. It goes on to add that where proposals are within or in close proximity to the National Park and AONBs special care must be taken to avoid harming the setting and/or special qualities of these designated areas.
- 6.50 Proposals outside of these areas will be supported where it can be demonstrated that there would be no unacceptable impacts, taking into account proposed mitigation measures, on the environment, local amenity or the setting of heritage assets. Proposals involving the lateral drilling, so that fracturing takes place below the designated areas, but with surface infrastructure located at a sufficient distance, will be considered against set criteria. In this way, proposals need to demonstrate that alternative options have been considered and fully discounted before they can be permitted only in exceptional circumstances.

- 6.51 When determining applications for the testing of unconventional hydrocarbon resources additional details will be required on the geological structure, including faulting information and the potential for seismic events as well as addressing the implications where relevant of a wide range of matters including traffic, noise, dust, ecology, landscape and pollution issues as well as the need for site restoration and aftercare.
- 6.52 Whilst there are a wide range of matters which need to be taken into account in considering proposals, there are a number of specific considerations which may give rise to significant concern to local communities, particularly in relation to the development of unconventional hydrocarbons. These include the potential for pollution to water supplies, for example as a result of contamination from fracking fluids, the potential for earth tremors to be triggered and the protection of public health and safety. Other regulatory frameworks exist in relation to control of these matters. However, it is recognised that wider public interest considerations may exist and that relevant land use planning considerations may arise in relation to them. The MPA will therefore expect applicants for these forms of development to provide a robust assessment of any potential impacts and to include comprehensive proposals for mitigation and control where necessary.

Development Management Policies

- 6.53 The Joint Plan also contains policies that the three authorities will use to deal with a range of issues relevant to the consideration of planning applications for minerals and waste development. In line with the presumption in favour of sustainable minerals and waste development, these policies will help to ensure that minerals and waste development can be managed and controlled to ensure that unacceptable impacts do not arise on amenity, transport, the NYMNP and the AONBs, the Green Belt, landscape, biodiversity and geodiversity, the historic environment, and the water environment. Policies dealing with reclamation and afteruse, sustainable design, construction and operation of development and the protection of agricultural land and soils are also presented.
- 6.54 The minimisation of the impact of minerals and waste developments on the landscape and setting of the National Parks, AONBs and the City of York are identified along with the archaeological resource of the Vale of Pickering and the Yorkshire Wolds. However, it is felt that the Joint Plan does not go far enough with the need to ensure that other landscape and heritage assets of value in the district are not compromised. Historic Parks and Gardens, Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings as well as Conservation Areas are not specifically mentioned in the policies. These contribute significantly to the landscape character and setting of the District. Similarly, the Joint Plan does not recognise that for those settlements that are split between Ryedale and the NYMNP there are landscape sensitivities associated with those parts of the settlement not within the National Park.
- 6.55 The Joint Plan sets out that minerals and waste sites will be permitted where there are no demonstrated unacceptable impacts on biodiversity or geodiversity etc. It is considered that the latest information regarding the designation of potential Local Geological Sites shows a conflict with some of the sites identified in the Joint Plan.

Policies Map

- 6.56 The NPPF requires that Local Plans indicate the broad locations for strategic development on a key diagram and land use policies on a policies map. Key Diagrams are presented for both minerals and waste, as well as a detailed Policies

Map. The Policies Map geographically illustrates the policies in the Joint Plan including the minerals safeguarding areas, safeguarded waste sites, buffer zones and allocated sites. Due to the extensive nature of the minerals resources in Ryedale, there are few areas in the district not identified for the safeguarding of at least one mineral or waste resource.

6.57 **Proposed RDC Response - Other Relevant Issues**

xiv) Ryedale District Council does not support the development of unconventional hydrocarbon development in Ryedale until the full implications of the effects of the processes involved are more readily understood and that there would be no unacceptable impacts, cumulative or otherwise. Notwithstanding this, the District Council recognises that the Joint Plan does need to include a policy framework for this form of development in order for proposals to be considered on their merits that is consistent with national policy and advice available, and as written, this appears to be the case. The District Council would urge the MPA to consider making provision for any revisions to be made to these policies to take on board any emerging new guidance or information regarding process and technology that may assist in the determination of future planning applications.

xv) The Council supports the use of the Development Management policies for the consideration of planning applications for minerals and waste facilities and workings. The Council supports the protection provided to the setting of the National Park and the Howardian Hills AONB, as well as the archaeological resources of the Vale of Pickering and the Yorkshire Wolds. However, it is considered that the setting of the District's other landscape and heritage assets is not fully recognised. The Joint Plan needs to ensure that these special qualities are not compromised by minerals and waste developments. Historic Parks and Gardens, Grade I and Grade II* Listed Buildings as well as Conservation Areas and those settlements split between Ryedale and the NYMNP where there are particular landscape sensitivities are not specifically mentioned in the relevant Development Management policies. These assets contribute significantly to the landscape character and setting of the District and need protection from minerals and waste developments.

xvi) Work has been progressing with the Local Geological Panel on the identification of potential Local Geological Sites for designation. The Joint Plan sets out that minerals and waste sites will be permitted where there are no demonstrated unacceptable impacts on biodiversity or geodiversity etc. It is considered that the latest information regarding Local Geological Sites shows a conflict with some of the sites identified in the Joint Plan as follows:

| Joint Plan Site Ref No. | Site Name | Type of Site | Local Geological Site Ref. No. | Local Geological Interest | Geological Status |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------------|-------------------|
| - | Knapton Quarry | Safeguarded Waste Site | EY58 | Cretaceous Ferriby Chalk Faulted | Approved EYRIGS |
| MJP63 | Brows Quarry, Malton | Extraction of Building Stone | - | Birdsall Grit 11m Hambleton Oolite UL | Candidate 1 |
| MJP12 | Whitewall Quarry, Norton | Extraction of Jurassic Limestone | - | Malton Oolite 36m | Candidate 1 |
| MJP08 | Settrington Quarry | Extraction of Jurassic Limestone | - | Coral Rag Malton Oolite | Candidate 1 |

| | | | | | |
|---|-------------------|-------------|---|-------------------|-------------|
| - | Burythorpe Quarry | Silica Sand | - | Osgodby Formation | Candidate 1 |
|---|-------------------|-------------|---|-------------------|-------------|

xvii) The Council supports the use of the Policies Map to identify the locations of the minerals and waste resources, safeguarding areas and buffer zones. However, the following small amendment should be considered:

- "Policy M08" needs to be referenced against Sand and Gravel in the legend for the "Minerals Resource Safeguarding Map - Key and Policy Reference".

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 to 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. However, Ryedale District Council is a statutory consultee on the Joint Plan under the Planning Acts.

c) Other (Equalities, Staffing, Planning, Health & Safety, Environmental, Crime & Disorder)

No other further implications have been identified.

8.0 NEXT STEPS

8.1 The comments received during the Preferred Options stage will be considered by the three authorities before the Publication of a further draft version of the Joint Plan which will be available for comment in June 2016. It will be appropriate that the Council provides comments again at this next stage before Submission in September 2016. An independent examination is currently anticipated to take place from October 2016 to February 2017. It is expected that the Joint Plan will be adopted in March 2017.

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Background Papers:
 Planning Committee 8 April 2014 and minute ref: 206

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan – Preferred Options Consultation November 2015 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan – Preferred Options Consultation Appendices 1-4 November 2015 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan – Preferred Options Consultation Policies Map November 2015 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Preferred Options Consultation Sustainability Appraisal Update Report - Volume 1: Assessment of Preferred Policies November 2015 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Preferred Options Consultation Sustainability Appraisal Update Report - Volume 1 (appendix 2): Full Policy Assessments November 2015 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Preferred Options Consultation Sustainability Appraisal Update Report - Volume 2: Assessment of Sites November 2015 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Preferred Options Consultation Sustainability Appraisal Update Report - Volume 2 (Appendix S6): Assessment of Sites in Ryedale District November 2015 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Preferred Options Habitats Regulations Assessment Likely Significant Effects on European Designated Nature Conservation Sites November 2015 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Preferred Options Draft Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (Level 1) Volume 1: Mineral and Waste Flood Risk: A Data Review Document November 2015 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Preferred Options Draft Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (Level 1) Volume 2: Mineral and Waste Flood Risk: Supporting Document - Sequential Test Results for Submitted Sites November 2015 - North Yorkshire County Council, the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority

RDC Planning Committee 8 April 2014 - Minerals and Waste Joint Plan - Issues and Options Consultation Report (minute ref: 206)

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

The Reasons for Selecting or Discounting Sites for Allocation

(and to show mis-match of site data between the information presented on the sites in Appendix 1 of the Joint Plan and policy / policy justification)

| Ryedale Sites | Ref. No. | Site Name | Type of Site | Size of Site (ha) | Minerals Estimated Reserve (tonnes) | Minerals Annual Output (tonnes) | Estimated Date of Commencement | Estimated Life of Site | Estimated Reserves available set out in policy / justification | Draft Policy Ref. | Preferred or Discounted | Reasons for Selecting or Discounting Site |
|----------------------------------|----------|---|--|-------------------|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|------------------------|--|-------------------|--|---|
| Minerals Extraction Sites | MJP08 | Settrington Quarry | Extraction of Jurassic limestone | 5.6 | 1.7 million | 80,000 - 120,000 | 2018 | 20-25 years | Jointly 5.3 million tonnes | M09 | Preferred | This site could contribute to maintaining the landbank of crushed rock (Policy M06), would not conflict with other strategic policies in the Plan and no overriding constraints have been identified at this stage through the site assessment process. Therefore the site is a Preferred Site . |
| | MJP12 | Whitewall Quarry near Norton | Extraction of Jurassic limestone | 9 | 2.0 million | 250,000 | Prior to 2023 | End 2031 | | M09 | Preferred | This site could contribute to maintaining the landbank of crushed rock (Policy M06), would not conflict with other strategic policies in the Plan and no overriding constraints have been identified at this stage through the site assessment process. Therefore the site is a Preferred Site . |
| | MJP64 | Cropton Quarry Cropton | Extraction of Jurassic limestone for use as building stone and aggregate | 2.4 | 1.8 million | 180,000 - 250,000 | By 2020 | 10 years | - | - | Discounted <i>(although the SA report says it is "still to be decided")</i> | This site could contribute to supply of building stone (Policy M15) and crushed rock over the Plan period (Policy M09). However, it is considered that there would be likely to be a significant potential risk of contamination of a groundwater source protection zone, as well as significant adverse impacts on the amenity of residents in Wrelton due to the scale and nature of traffic associated with the development. Other options are considered more appropriate to meet the requirements for crushed rock. Therefore the site is a Discounted Site . |
| | MJP30 | West Heselton Quarry | Extraction of sand | 0.29 | 30,000 - 50,000 | 35,000 | 2016 | 1 year | 0.05 million tonnes | M08 | Preferred | This site could contribute to meeting requirements for the supply of sand over the Plan period (Policy M08), and would not conflict with other strategic policies in the Plan. No overriding constraints have been identified at this stage through the site assessment process. Therefore the site is a Preferred Site . |
| | MJP50 | Sands Wood land to east of Sandy Lane Wintringham | Extraction of sand | 56 | unknown | 25,000 - 50,000 | Unknown | 20 years | - | - | Discounted | This site could contribute to meeting requirements for the supply of sand over the Plan period (Policy M08), and would not conflict with other strategic policies in the Plan. The site assessment process has identified the potential for significant adverse impacts particularly on the biodiversity and historic |

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|--|-------|---|--|------|--------|------------|---------------|--|------------|-----|------------|--|
| | | | | | | | | | | | | assets of the area. Other options are considered more appropriate to meet the requirements. Therefore the site is a Discounted Site . |
| | MJP63 | Brows Quarry Malton | Extraction of Building Stone | 0.48 | 37,500 | Approx 750 | 2015 | 25 years | Not stated | M15 | Preferred | This site could contribute to supply of building stone over the Plan period (Policy M15), and would not conflict with other strategic policies in the Plan. No overriding constraints have been identified at this stage through the site assessment process and the site has recently been the subject of a planning permission for building stone extraction. Therefore the preliminary conclusion, pending further assessment, is that the site is a Preferred Site . |
| Infrastructure and Recycling Site | MJP13 | Whitewall Quarry near Norton (recycling) | Enlarged area for recycling of inert waste | 2.25 | n/a | n/a | Prior to 2023 | Until 2023 (permitted lifespan of existing quarry) | n/a | W05 | Preferred | This site could contribute to the provision of infrastructure which could help move waste up the waste hierarchy (Policies W01, M11, W10 and W11) and subject to it being linked to the life of Whitewall Quarry it would not conflict with other strategic policies in the Plan. No overriding constraints have been identified at this stage through the site assessment process. Therefore the site is a Preferred Site . |
| Waste Site | WJP09 | Whitewall Quarry Materials Recycling Facility near Norton | Materials recycling facility | 0.87 | n/a | n/a | Prior to 2023 | 2030 | n/a | - | Discounted | The site could contribute to the further provision of infrastructure which could help move waste up the waste hierarchy (Policy W01). However, the Waste Disposal Authority has not indicated any requirement for a facility in this location to deal with household waste and the County Council is already developing a waste transfer station for household waste at Kirby Misperton. The development could add significantly to traffic movements on local roads in combination with existing and proposed development in this location. It is not considered that there is sufficient justification for this form of development in this location. Therefore the site is a Discounted Site . |

APPENDIX 2 - Previous Consultations - Summary

First Consultation (2013)

- the first formal step in the preparation of the new Plan
 - gave stakeholders the opportunity to identify key issues they thought the Joint Plan should deal with
 - also included a “Call for Sites”
 - Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and
 - Site Identification and Assessment Methodology
- comments made by Officers 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)
- minor comments on the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report and the proposed Site Identification and Assessment Methodology 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.

Issues and Options Consultation (2014)

- the second formal and critical stage in the Joint Plan preparation to help shape and influence the policy direction of the Joint Plan. Included:
 - the minerals and waste issues facing the authorities
 - the various choices of numerous policy options for each mineral,
 - waste management capacity and infrastructure,
 - future waste management,
 - transportation infrastructure and
 - development management issues.
 - the various sites put forward to date,
 - the site identification and assessment methodology,
 - the sustainability appraisal and
 - the Habitats Regulations Assessment and Likely Significant Effects report.

Members considered the vast documentation produced at this stage at Planning Committee on 8 April 2014 (minute ref: 206) and provided responses on:

- the Draft Vision, Objectives, Issues and Challenges,
- the range of mineral types relevant to the Ryedale area, including
 - aggregates;
 - sand and gravel;
 - limestone;
 - potash and salt; and
 - deep minerals and gas - that the plan be "future proofed" in terms of gas extraction, should the terminology change over time or if new technological processes are designed to extract gas from unconventional sources,
- various policy issues ranging from
 - the broad geographical approach for the supply of aggregates,
 - 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 and emerging new technologies including shale gas).
- waste management capacity and infrastructure,
- future waste management,
- transportation infrastructure and
- development management issues
 - including that the Plan recognises that for those settlements that are split between Ryedale and the North York Moors National Park there are landscape sensitivities associated with those parts of the settlement not within the National Park.
- the six sites put forward in Ryedale (4 for minerals extraction, and one each for infrastructure and recycling and waste),
 - for those sites in Malton and Norton - transport issues associated with additional traffic movements to/from Whitewall Quarry through Malton and Norton potentially having a negative impact on the designated air quality management zone in Malton, as well as potential negative economic impacts on the local community including the horse racing industry.
 - Cumulative effects on air quality
 - site MJP30 (corrected to MJP50) to include reference to the spring supplying water to East and West Knapton and that objections would be raised if water supply was jeopardised;
- the site identification and assessment methodology,
- the sustainability appraisal and
- the Habitats Regulations Assessment and Likely Significant Effects report.

Two further minor consultations:

- updated Local Aggregates Assessment for the North Yorkshire Sub-region and the "Minerals Infrastructure safeguarding – September 2013" (for which officers provided factual comments in September 2014), and
- a Supplementary Sites Consultation (in January 2015, which did not require any further comments from Ryedale as there were no additional sites or amendments to sites put forward within Ryedale at that time).

Summary information about the responses received to the consultations and how they have helped prepare the Preferred Options consultation are contained in a series of background documents, available via the Joint Plan website at www.northyorks.gov.uk/mw/jointplan.