

Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan

# Minerals and Waste Monitoring Report 2019

March 2021

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# 1. INTRODUCTION

## Minerals and Waste Monitoring Report: requirements and purpose

- 1.1. As the minerals and waste planning authority for Northamptonshire the County Council is responsible for planning minerals and waste development, including setting land use policies and determining planning applications for such development.
- 1.2. Monitoring represents a crucial feedback loop within the process of plan making. Monitoring can assist in understanding issues and identifying drivers of change, key challenges and opportunities, as well as the need to review and adjust spatial planning policies.
- 1.3. A Minerals and Waste Monitoring Report (MWMR) is prepared annually by the Council and covers the period 1 January to 31 December of the reporting year.

## The Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan

- 1.4. The Northamptonshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (MWLP) forms the development plan for Northamptonshire in relation to minerals and waste development throughout the county. The MWLP was adopted in July 2017, updating the previous MWLP that was adopted in 1 October 2014.
- 1.5. The Local Plan identifies what minerals and waste related development should go where, why it should go there, and how by doing so, it can make other land use and infrastructure systems function better. It considers the impact and design of new minerals and waste development, and focuses on how this development can best relate to the surrounding land use and link with the wider community.
- 1.6. The adopted Local Plan provides the basis for determining planning applications for, or covering, minerals and waste related development in Northamptonshire. It sets out:
  - the broad strategy for minerals and waste related development in the county and the amount of provision we will need to make for such development,
  - the long-term vision for minerals and waste related development in Northamptonshire to 2031,
  - the plans objectives, required to realise the vision,
  - policies addressing the control and management of development such as development criteria and locally specific issues (such as co-location of waste management facilities with new development, sustainable use of resources, addressing potentially adverse effects, Mineral Safeguarding Areas, preventing land use conflict, design and layout, and restoration),
  - site specific allocations for minerals-related development, and
  - site specific allocations (and locations) for waste-related development.
- 1.7. The Local Plan also contains a separate Policies Map which identifies the sites and policies (where possible) on a detailed OS map of the county.
- 1.8. The Development and Implementation Principles Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) provides practical guidance on matters such as: waste minimisation and management, preventing land use conflict, catchment areas, addressing potentially adverse effects, design, and restoration. This document is proposed to be updated but there is presently no commencement date for this.

## Monitoring of the MWLP

- 1.9. This MWMR is based upon the MWLP Monitoring Framework (see Appendix 1). This covers the various different themes and objectives which are included within the MWLP and enables their indicators to be measured and the implementation of policy to be assessed.
- 1.10. This monitoring framework consists of objectives, indicators and targets based on policies from the MWLP, its Sustainability Appraisal (SA) along with the broader policy context.
- 1.11. The baseline data can be used to appraise objectives and policy options in order to identify specific sustainability issues and ascertain the extent to which issues are being addressed. Indicators should be able to monitor the movement towards the objectives. However it is widely recognised that gaining accurate and up-to-date data in relation to minerals and waste

movements is difficult. The monitoring framework in the MWMR has been developed to include current information that reflects the progression and any associated issues arising from the implementation of MWLP policy.

### Standardised monitoring

- 1.12. Implementing standardised monitoring of the SA and MWLP policies enables possible trends and issues to be highlighted which can then be used to identify any existing or potential issues. A combined monitoring approach for the SA and the MWLP also enables all potential significant (negative and positive) effects and various indicators to be monitored and compared simultaneously. The results are then used to develop a baseline with any potential effects being measured over time.
- 1.13. Combining the monitoring framework for the SA and the MWLP allows for the use of the same indicators, strengthening the linkage between the two documents. This enables the plans implementation to be monitored effectively and for any issues to be identified quickly, this is especially important when considering potential negative effects. The indicators for each monitoring topic (potential significant sustainability effect) form the measuring tools. It is the results of these measurements that provides the baseline information which is published annually in the MWMR and assists in highlighting any possible mitigation requirements.

## 2. MAINTAINING AN UP TO DATE MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN

### Progression and implementation

- 2.1. One of the main functions of the MWMR is to review MWLP progress, where it is under preparation, compared with the targets and milestones for document preparation as set out in its programming document, the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS).
- 2.2. The Council commenced the MWLP Update immediately after the adoption of the MWLP on 1 October 2014 and as a result a new MWDS was adopted in October 2014. The MWLP Update particularly focussed on the review of the site allocations, but during the Issues and Options consultation we explored other potential changes that are required to keep the plan up-to-date with national guidance. The update was adopted in July 2017.

### The MWLP Update

- 2.3. The MWLP Update addressed the following:
  - the minerals and waste allocations and designations and the approach taken to these, particularly regarding waste sites, and
  - the plans coverage of fire safety for waste development.

Table 1: Key milestones – MWLP Update

Stage in the Local Plan development process	Target date
Call for sites	November – December 2014
Pre-production and Issues and Alternative Options Phase (Issues and Options Consultation)	January - June 2015 (April – May 2015)
Consultation on Draft Plan	October – December 2015
Consideration of Representations / Preparation of Final Draft (Pre-Submission) Document	Dec 2015 – April 2016
Public consultation on Pre-Submission Document	April – June 2016
Submission to Secretary of State	June 2016
Pre-Hearing Meeting	October 2016
Examination Public Hearings	November 2016
Receipt of Inspectors Report	February 2017
Adoption and Publication	March 2017

2.4. In relation to key dates, the call for sites consultation started early with the letters being sent out in October rather than November 2014 but the Issues and Options Consultation started a month late in May 2015 as the consultation was delayed due to the General Election being underway. Consequently the period for consultation on the Draft Plan was behind schedule with consultation starting in December 2015 (rather than October). The knock on effects continued with the Submission to Secretary of State being 2 months later than programmed. Despite the delays throughout the plan preparation, time was made up during the examination phase and the Public Hearings took place as planned in November 2016. The one month delay in receiving the Inspectors Report meant that the Local Plan could not be taken to Cabinet before the Council went in to purdah for the General Election. This meant that the earliest that the Local Plan could be taken was July 2017 and it was adopted later that month.

Table 2: Progress of the plan-making process for the MWLP Update

Stage in the Local Plan development process	Target date	Timeline (Actual)	Target met?
Call for sites	November – December 2014	October – November 2014	✓
Pre-production and Issues and Alternative Options Phase (Issues and Options Consultation)	January - June 2015 (April – May 2015)	January – June 2015 (May – June 2015)	✓
Consultation on Draft Plan	October – December 2015	December 2015 – February 2016	X
Consideration of Representations / Preparation of Final Draft (Pre-Submission) Document	Dec 2015 – April 2016	Mar – June 2016	X
Public consultation on Pre-Submission Document	April – June 2016	June – July 2016	X
Submission to Secretary of State	June 2016	August 2016	X
Pre-Hearing Meeting	October 2016	N/A	N/A
Examination Public Hearings	November 2016	November 2016	✓
Receipt of Inspectors Report	February 2017	March 2017	X
Adoption and Publication	March 2017	July 2017	X

2.5. The Development and Implementation Principles SPD was originally due for review after the MWLP was adopted in 2014 but it was decided there was no compelling need to do and therefore, there is no currently programmed date to undertake the SPD review.

## 3. MINERALS DEVELOPMENT

### The Local Aggregate Assessment

- 3.1. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and the National Planning Practice Guidance (NPPG), which includes national planning guidance for mineral extraction, requires each MPA to prepare an annual Local Aggregates Assessment (LAA) to assess the demand for and supply of aggregates in the MPA's area.
- 3.2. The LAA details the current and future situation in Northamptonshire in terms of aggregate supply and demand including sales and reserves data, imports and exports and aggregate provision rates to 2031 based on a rolling average of ten years sales data. It compares provision rates based on average ten year and three year rolling aggregate sales with the adopted MWLP provision rate and considers how local circumstances may impact on future aggregate supply and demand. The LAA is submitted annually to the Aggregates Working Party for approval; however the 2020 LAA (reporting on 2019 data) was delayed due to the Coronavirus Pandemic, it is expected that the 2020 LAA will now be approved alongside the 2021 LAA.

### Mineral extraction provision targets for Northamptonshire

- 3.3. Northamptonshire's aggregate provision rate in the adopted Local Plan is for an average annual figure of 0.89 million tonnes (Mt) of aggregates to be provided. This comprises of 0.50 Mt per annum (Mtpa) of sand and gravel and 0.39 Mtpa of crushed rock.

### Landbanks

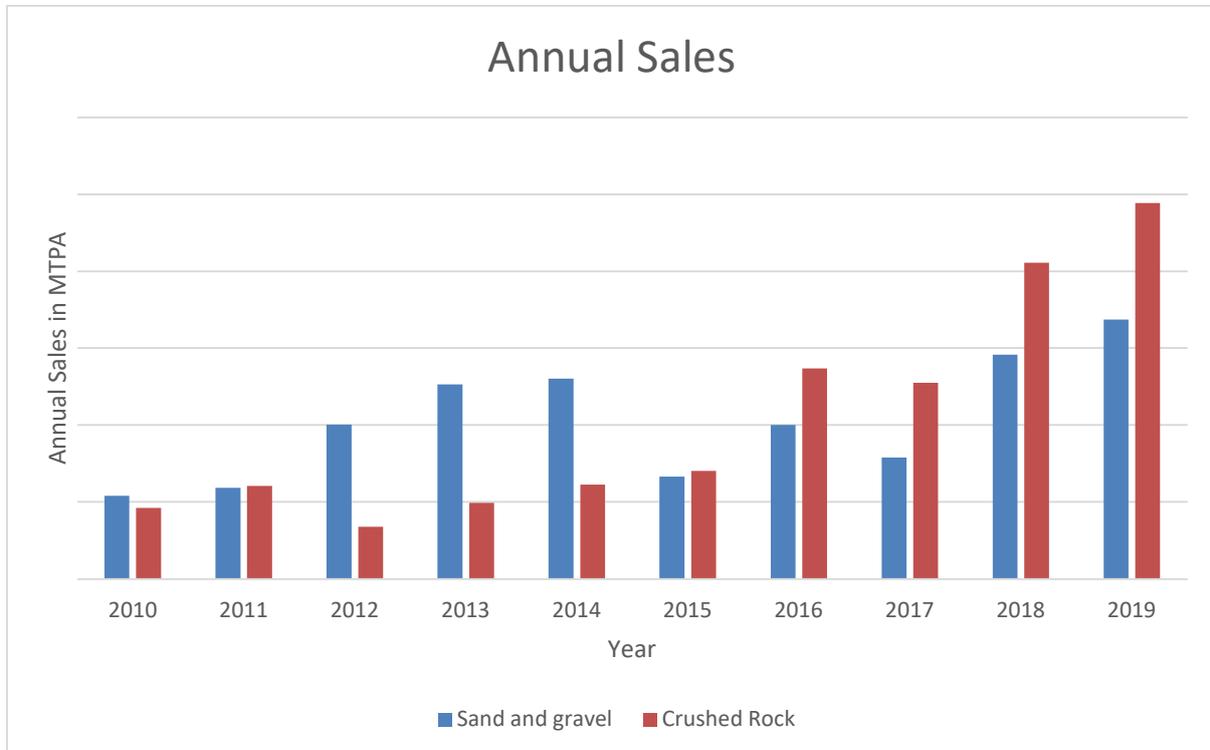
- 3.4. Landbanks for sand and gravel and crushed rock should be at least seven and ten years (respectively). The landbank is calculated by dividing the permitted reserves by the provision figure.
- 3.5. There was a long period in Northamptonshire where the landbank for sand and gravel was below the recommended seven year landbank despite the council having adopted relevant plans that allocate sites in 1997, 2006 and 2011.
- 3.6. At the end of 2019 the landbanks for Northamptonshire, based on the MWLP provision figures, were 9 years for sand and gravel and 34 years for crushed rock. This means there are sufficient permitted reserves to maintain the government required landbanks. The adoption of the MWLP in 2014, which reduced the provision rate to 0.50 Mtpa, was a key factor in meeting the landbank for sand and gravel for a number of years.

### Minerals sales in Northamptonshire

- 3.7. Aggregate sales in Northamptonshire increased in 2019. Of the total sales, sand and gravel increased in 2019 to 0.674 Mt, whilst crushed rock increased and now accounts for 0.977 Mt.
- 3.8. Sand and gravel sales decreased year on year between 2006 and 2009. Since 2010 sales have increased steadily from 0.216 Mt to 0.521 Mt in 2014 (an increase of 59%). However sales fell by 49% from 0.521 Mt in 2014 to 0.265 Mt in 2015. Sales picked up again in 2016 increasing to 0.400 Mt (an increase of 51%) before falling back slightly in 2017, 2018 saw a large increase to 0.583 Mt, before another increase in 2019 to 0.674 Mt the highest total it has been in the last 10 years. Despite the recent increases, the 10 year sales average sits at 0.41 Mt, below the 0.50 Mtpa adopted provision figure.
- 3.9. Crushed rock sales peaked in 2007 and were on a downward trend until 2012 with the exception of 2010 and 2011. Since 2013 sales have grown year on year. The most recent figures show an increase of 49% between 2015 and 2016 to a figure close to what was last seen in 2003 when sales were 0.461 Mt. This significant growth in sales can be attributed to Ringstead Grange Quarry producing over three times as much crushed rock in 2016 than it did in 2015 (the first year of production). Sales fell back slightly in 2017 to 0.510 Mt (a decrease of 6%) but increased again to 0.822 Mt in 2018 (an increase of 61%) which is predominantly due to increased production levels at Wakerley. Wakerley caused another increase in sales in 2019 to 0.977 Mt. The pattern of sales largely reflects fluctuations in the economic cycle, with a period of relatively high production between 2004 and 2007 before the economic down turn and subsequent period of low growth between 2008 and 2013, when the requirement for aggregate

for development purposes significantly reduced. Sites have increased in recent years as the economy has recovered and more sites come on stream, however the decrease in sales of sand and gravel in 2015 was due to sites not operating at full capacity, in 2016 these sites returned to normal operating capacity and sales levels began to return to the levels of 2014. The 2017 fall was due to sites being implemented but not commencing sales from the site.

Figure 1: Annual sales of sand and gravel and crushed rock (for aggregate purposes) in Northamptonshire 2010 to 2019 (million tonnes)



### Allocated sites for minerals development

- 3.10. Six sites for sand and gravel extraction were allocated through the 2017 MWLP, these sites are at different stages of progression in terms of being brought forward for extraction.
- Milton Malsor – This site has not yet progressed to application stage.
  - Bozeat Extension – This site has not yet progressed to application stage.
  - Heyford – Work has been completed on the A45 Daventry Development Link road that will address access issues to this site which could lead to its implementation.
  - Earls Barton West Extension – This site was permitted during the previous monitoring period but remains unimplemented in this monitoring period.
  - Passenham Extension South - This site has not yet progressed to application stage.
  - Elton Extension - This site was submitted during the monitoring period, but a decision was outstanding at the end of the monitoring period.
- 3.11. The adopted MWLP allocates two sites for limestone (crushed rock) extraction.
- Pury End - This site has not yet progressed to application stage.
  - Harlestone - This site has not yet progressed to application stage.

### Development control / implementation

- 3.12. In Northamptonshire there are four sand and gravel sites with planning permission: Earls Barton Spinney, Earls Barton West, Passenham and Land East of Great Billing WRC (also known as MWLP M4 allocation site Earls Barton West Extension). All sites were active in 2019 except Land East of Great Billing WRC whose permission has yet to be implemented.
- 3.13. In 2019 limestone extraction continued at Ringstead and Collyweston Quarry, with smaller contributions from Harley Way (Oundle), Rushton and Pury End. Sandstone extraction for

aggregate and building stone purposes continued at Harlestone. The large Review of Old Mineral Permissions (ROMP) site at Wakerley Quarry that has substantial limestone reserves at over 11 Mt continued sales in 2019. One further site is permitted for small scale extraction for non-aggregate purposes at Collyweston State Mine (active). Four further sites, Cowthick, Boughton/Pitsford, Park Lodge and Weekley Hall Wood, were inactive during the 2019 monitoring period.

- 3.14. There were two minerals applications decided in 2019 all of which were submitted during the 2019 reporting period. Of the two decided, both were for a variation of the conditions attached to the previously granted permissions. There were also three further applications for Non-Material Amendments agreed in 2019.

### Minerals Safeguarding Areas (MSAs)

- 3.15. As per government guidance Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSAs) in Northamptonshire include sand and gravel and limestone as these resources are of economic importance. To ensure these mineral resources are safeguarded Minerals Consultation Areas (MCAs) are also designated; these are co-terminous with the MSAs. MSAs and MCAs are indicated on the MWLP Policies Map.
- 3.16. During the monitoring period there were five applications submitted to the relevant Borough/District planning authorities proposing major development within the MSAs. These applications were responded to in relation to ensuring that applicants were aware that the sites are located within a designated MSA, and that this requires further investigation and possible prior extraction.

## 4. WASTE DEVELOPMENT

### Local Assessment of Waste Management Needs

- 4.1. As set out in the NPPF, each local authority should ensure that the local plan is based on an adequate, up-to-date and relevant evidence base; this should also be proportionate. For waste this means assessing the quantity and capacity of the Northamptonshire's waste management network.
- 4.2. The purpose of the Local Assessment of Waste Management Needs document is to inform the plan-making process in relation to the current situation and future waste planning requirements. This includes capacity requirements and provision of waste management facilities for the MWLP with its plan period of 2011 to 2031. This document is available to view on our website.

### Waste Planning Policy

#### Waste arisings and capacity requirements for Northamptonshire

- 4.3. Data for the 2019 monitoring period indicates MSW arisings of 0.385Mt, the forecast amount for this period was approximately 0.405Mt. This is a variance of 5% between the forecast and actual arisings.
- 4.4. Data for total arisings for other waste streams (i.e. C&I and CD&E) is not available for other waste streams, however estimates of waste arisings 'as managed' can be extracted from the EA Waste Data Interrogator (WDI) and Hazardous Waste Data Interrogator (HWDI). Estimates of waste arisings as managed from this source indicates that in 2019, 0.85Mt of household, commercial and industrial (HIC), 1.116Mt of CD&E and 0.035Mt of hazardous waste was produced from within Northamptonshire.

#### MWLP waste targets and development

- 4.5. MWLP Policies 10 and 14 identify indicative waste management and disposal capacities / requirements during the plan period, as set out in the table below.

#### Table 3: Indicative capacity requirements

Hierarchy level	Management method	Indicative capacity requirement (million tonnes per annum)	
		2021	2031
Preparing for re-use and recycling	Recycling (non-inert)	0.26	0.28
	Composting and anaerobic digestion	0.17	0.19
	Inert recycling	0.74	0.74
	Hazardous recycling	0.02	0.02
Other recovery	Advanced treatment	0.86	0.92
	Hazardous treatment	0.01	0.01
	Inert fill or recovery	0.16	0.16
Disposal	Non-inert/non-hazardous landfill	0.82	0.85
	Inert fill or recovery	0.16	0.16
	Hazardous landfill	0.02	0.02

4.6. The MWLP also identifies indicative capacity gaps, progress in relation to these is set out in the tables below.

### Permitted capacity

4.7. By taking account of new permitted capacity it is possible to estimate certain key figures for permitted waste treatment, disposal and renewable energy generation.

4.8. During the 2019 monitoring period the estimated permitted capacity increased by 0.053 Mtpa to a total of 1.31 mtpa for waste management.

Table 4: Permitted waste management capacity within Northamptonshire 2018 to 2019 (Mt)

Waste management method	2017 estimated existing capacity	2018 estimated existing capacity	2019 estimated existing capacity	Increase / decrease	Indicative capacity gap (+ over / - under)	
					2021	2031
Materials recycling facility*	0.257	0.259	0.267	+0.007	+0.182	+0.163
WEEE recycling	0.012	0.011	0.017	-0.006		
Metal recovery (includes ELVs)	0.075	0.077	0.085	+0.008		
Inert recycling	0.114	0.259	0.287	+0.028	+0.295	+0.078
Soil treatment	0.090	0.153	0.154	+0.001	+0.007	-0.005
Biological treatment -						
Composting	0.106	0.109	0.115	+0.006		
Anaerobic digestion	0.099	0.145	0.135	-0.010	-0.111	+0.043
Treatment and other forms of recovery	0.041	0.080	0.086	+0.006		
Hazardous recovery and treatment	0.167	0.167	0.166	-0.001	+0.164	-0.020

\* Includes intermediate facilities contributing recycling capacity at 25% reported throughput.

Note: Of the permitted capacity for facilities identified through the EA WDI as transfer/treatment (i.e. carrying out some form of preparation for reuse and recycling), around 25% is thought to contribute towards the available capacity for preparing for re-use and recycling. This proportion has been included in the recycling capacity used to calculate the indicative capacity gap. Facilities that operate as intermediate facilities (i.e. transfer) only have been separated out.

4.9. In previous years the permitted operations throughput was reported through the AMR. Improvements in data capture and management (at both local and national levels) has provided a more consistent base to work from year-on-year. This has allowed for WPAs to make a shift in monitoring and reporting, from reporting permitted capacity to reporting the existing or available capacity. The distinction being that the permitted capacity is that set out in the planning permission or EA permit and forms the maximum allowable annual throughput, and the existing or available capacity is an estimate of the actual operational throughput derived from either an average or the highest reported throughput (collated from individual site operator returns) over a three to five year period. For the purpose of this, and future, AMRs the estimated existing capacity is taken to be the highest capacity over the previous five-year period, for example for 2018 the existing capacity is based on highest capacity over the five-year period 2014 to 2018, and for 2019 the period 2015 to 2019. This does mean that there may be differences in the capacity reported for previous years. For the purpose of comparison and to enable transparency in the transition of reporting methods the above table includes the

estimated existing capacity in for both 2018 and 2019. The capacity gaps identified in this AMR are based on the indicative capacity needs identified in the adopted MWLP.

- 4.10. The capacity estimates only capture the capacity of existing sites with extant planning permission that are operational. Capacity for sites that are not operational has not been included. In addition capacity for sites that do not have planning permission has not been included, nor has capacity of exempt sites.
- 4.11. Information regarding planned closures has been incorporated in order to inform the capacity over the reporting period and identification of future needs (i.e. fluctuations in capacity gaps), where no information on planned closures was available the planning permission end date has been applied
- 4.12. The estimated capacity fluctuates over the reporting period in response to planned closures and, for inert and non-hazardous (including SNRHW) landfill, infill rates for engineering and restoration purposes relating to CD&E wastes.
- 4.13. An update of the Waste Needs Assessment was published in December 2020 in order to account for recent data releases, it also applies the above method for estimating existing waste management capacity

Table 5: Estimated waste disposal capacity within Northamptonshire 2018 to 2019 (Mt)

Waste disposal	2018	2019	Remaining capacity (up to 2031)	Indicative capacity gap
Inert landfill and recovery	1.086	1.137	5.391Mt	There is sufficient capacity up to 2025
Non-hazardous landfill (Includes inert materials for engineering and restoration purposes)	0.485 (+ inerts 0.390)	0.215 (+inerts 0.088)	0.199Mt (+ inerts 1.20Mt)	Non-hazardous landfill voidspace is available up to 2021; thereafter the available void space is assumed to be required for inert materials (engineering and restoration purposes).
Hazardous landfill	0.121	0.211	0.669Mt	There is sufficient capacity up to 2026

Note:

Non-hazardous and hazardous landfill capacity figures for 2018 and 2019 are derived from the EA WDI database (waste received to site).

Remaining capacity figures estimated from information derived from planning permissions, EA WDI database and personal communications with industry/operator.

Capacity gap figures for non-hazardous landfill does not include residues from waste management processes.

- 4.14. There was a small increase in estimated existing capacity for most waste management methods, however WEEE recycling, Hazardous recovery and treatment and Anaerobic Digestion which saw very small reductions. Inert recycling saw the largest increase at 0.028mtpa
- 4.15. The planning applications approved during this monitoring period have contributed towards meeting the capacity gap but there is still a shortfall for some management methods, in particular biological treatment, hazardous recovery and treatment and treatment and other forms of recovery. Although there is a sign oversupply of inert recycling capacity a significant portion of inert waste is reused and recycled onsite or at exempt sites, this unseen capacity still contributes towards waste management capacity, and this is likely to continue. A breakdown of waste applications granted for the monitoring year (1 January 2019 –31 December 2019) is attached as Appendix 2.
- 4.16. With the increase in estimated existing capacity in 2019 Northamptonshire remains currently on track to meet the 2021 capacity targets (for delivering net self-sufficiency )for most management methods however additional capacity is likely to be required as outlined above particularly in relation to treatment and other forms of recovery

### Landfill capacity void

- 4.17. Whilst disposal to landfill should be declining it is still important that Northamptonshire has a net self-sufficiency when it comes to its waste disposal requirements. At the end of 2019 the permitted remaining landfill capacity void over the plan period (i.e. up to 2031) was

approximately: 0.199Mt for non-inert landfill, 5.391Mt for inert landfill/recovery and 0.669Mt for hazardous waste disposal. Figures show that there is adequate capacity for inert landfill/recovery until 2025 and hazardous landfill until 2026, however non-hazardous landfill only has void space until 2021, thereafter the available void space is assumed to be required for inert materials for restoration purposes.

- 4.18. The majority (over 80%) of the remaining voidspace for inert landfill/recovery is associated with the restoration of mineral extraction sites, this does not include future restoration needs of sites allocated for mineral extraction in the MWLP. The MWLP indicative capacity requirements show an annual inert disposal/recovery rate of 0.16Mt, with a total of 2.08Mt over the remaining plan period. Targets for re-use & recycling and 'other recovery' for inert waste are not separated. Previous national surveys indicated a larger proportion of waste directed to recycling facilities as compared to inert recovery (beneficial fill/deposit to land). This was the (widely) accepted position at the time of the preparation of the adopted MWLP; however recent data suggests that there has been a shift with inert recovery taking up the larger proportion, it may also signal the directing of previously unseen re-use capacity/exempt wastes towards inert recovery. Applying a scenario where half of the available inert waste is directed towards inert recovery indicates that the currently permitted voidspace is still sufficient up to the mid 2020's. This is an oversimplified example but does demonstrate that there is sufficient inert landfill/recovery void space currently permitted within the county to accommodate significant shifts in management methods/trends. In addition, currently allocated mineral extraction sites will contribute towards making up the capacity gap in the future as these sites are worked and the void requires restoration. This highlights the importance of ensuring that inert fill is directed to facilitate the restoration of mineral extraction sites in line with the MWLP policy.
- 4.19. Regarding the deficit in non-hazardous landfill (includes non-hazardous SNRHW), the situation on the ground is currently showing a different story. Although figures show that non-hazardous landfill is running out, the site at Weldon which had permission until 2026 has during recent years been mothballed, the site is currently operating again and is expected to operate into early 2020's. As demand for landfill is reducing it is expected that it is unlikely that the full extent of their previously permitted void will be filled. The EA WDI 2019 data indicates that in total 0.142Mt of non-hazardous waste was received at non-hazardous landfills within Northamptonshire with a further 0.160Mt of inert materials received at non-hazardous landfills (assumed to be primarily for engineering and/or restoration purposes). Of the non-hazardous waste received, 0.172Mt was recorded as originating from within the county; the majority of this waste was EWC 191212 (around a third). An additional 0.016Mt of non-hazardous waste was exported from Northamptonshire for disposal to non-hazardous landfill located within other WPAs. This makes the total non-hazardous waste originating from within the county being disposed of at non-hazardous landfills around 0.160Mt. Making a total of around 0.318Mt of waste arising from Northamptonshire disposed of to non-hazardous waste landfill, compared to the MWLP projected arisings requiring disposal of 0.65Mt. The available data indicates a decrease in disposal of municipal and C&I waste to landfill and an increase in recycling and other forms of recovery. Achieving lower landfill rates is consistent with the plans intent of driving waste up the waste management hierarchy and will assist in achieving waste management targets. It should be noted that the rates in the MWLP incorporated relevant targets, however these should be seen as more of a minimum, not a ceiling, with respect to recycling and recovery rates. A decrease in disposal to landfill, reflecting an uptake of more sustainable waste management processes (i.e. recycling and other forms of recovery) will see a reduction in the capacity gap (for non-hazardous landfill).
- 4.20. The waste management industry is currently undergoing considerable change with market drivers, regulatory pressures and other external factors acting to divert waste from disposal to landfill towards more sustainable options, driving waste up the waste management hierarchy and achieving greater rates of resource recovery. This does mean that projecting waste management and disposal rates is difficult in such a fluid environment, particularly as trends are still emerging in response to the various factors influencing waste management.

## Development Control

- 4.21. During the reporting period, (1 January 2019 – 31 December 2019) 12 waste planning applications were submitted. As of 31 December 2019, 12 permissions were granted (six for applications submitted before the monitoring period). Of the 12 permissions granted, seven

applications sought full planning permission for development directly related to waste management or disposal. Of the remaining 5 permissions, 2 were for variations to conditions and three application for a certificate of lawful use, there were also six applications yet to be decided. There were also 6 applications for non-material amendments to existing permissions and 13 for discharges to conditions. There was also one application for full planning permission that was refused. Two applications for Full permission, 1 application for change of use and 1 application for variations of conditions were submitted during the monitoring period but were all withdrawn before a decision was taken. Permissions granted for new waste management capacity totalled 0.065Mtpa, there were one new permissions for inert recovery as a result of sand and gravel extraction, with inert fill totalling 0.47Mt. There were one new sites permitted for energy production during the monitoring year, with an RDF throughput of 260,000tpa.

### Allocated and designated sites for waste development

- 4.22. There are two sites allocated through the MWLP for integrated waste management facilities. In addition to these site-specific allocations there are also a number of industrial locations that have been identified as being suitable for waste related development. In this monitoring period no applications were submitted or approved at the intergrated waste management facilites.
- 4.23. During the monitoring year three sites gained planning permission that were within the industrial areas designated within the MWLP for waste use. These sites were on St James/Far Cotton Northampton, North Eastern industrial Estate Corby, and Telford Way Kettering. The three full applications granted permission for a Transfer facility, Energy Recovery Facility and an asbestos skip. There was also a number of non material amendments, variation of conditions and discharge of conditions across the three industrial areas listed above as well as Finedon Road Wellingborough and Daventry Long Marsh.

## 5. DUTY TO CO-OPERATE

- 5.1. Throughout the monitoring period the Council continued to respond to duty to co-operate (DTC) requests from other councils. It also responded to a number of consultations in respect of other council's local plans, particularly in relation to concerns over the treatment and disposal of hazardous waste.
- 5.2. The Council regularly responds to DTC requests from other authorities, providing information on policies within the Local Plan and providing information on sites within the county that are accepting waste from other counties. As most of these facilities are commercial undertakings, and operate under commercial contracts, it is likely that the import of waste will continue.
- 5.3. The Council continued to attend the East Midlands Aggregate Working Party which meets twice annually. It is also a member of the East Midlands Strategic Waste Advisory Group which meets irregularly. The Council has to be a member of an Aggregate Working Party (AWP) and the AWP has to agree its LAA. Both groups allow issues to be raised and discussed with the other authorities within the region. Being members of both groupings can be considered to contribute to co-operation between minerals and waste planning authorities but the Council does not see membership and participation in either body as absolving the Council from DtC engagement regarding strategic matters directly with individual mineral and waste planning authorities where this is relevant.
- 5.4. As part of the MWLP Update the Council published a Statement on the Duty to Co-operate (published in 2014 and placed on its website) on how such matters were intended to be addressed through the MWLP preparation process: [Duty to Co-operate Statement](#)

## 6. SUMMARY

- 6.1. A sufficient supply of minerals has been maintained and continued provision has been made for waste management facilities without significant adverse effects on social, environmental and economic objectives.

## Plan preparation

- 6.2. The Council commenced the Minerals and Waste Local Plan Update in 2014 and as a result a new MWDS was adopted in October 2014. The Update to the Local Plan commenced immediately after the adoption of the MWLP on 1 October 2014. The Update of the Local Plan particularly focused on the review of the site allocations, but during the Issues and Options consultation we explored other potential changes that are required to keep the plan up-to-date with national guidance. The plan progress was slightly behind schedule as the Issues and Options consultation was delayed due to a General Election. The delays continued throughout the monitoring period and submission was 2 months late. Despite the initial delays the hearing took place as planned in November 2016. There was a month delay in receiving the Inspectors Report so due to a purdah period for the General Election in 2017 the Plan could not be taken to Cabinet until the July and it was adopted later that month at full council. The MWLP was formally adopted on 1 July 2017.

## Minerals development

- 6.3. There were two minerals applications decided in 2019, both were for variations of conditions for previously granted permissions. The sales figure for crushed rock (limestone) increased to 0.977 Mt whilst sales figures for sand and gravel increased to 0.647 Mt
- 6.4. At the end of 2019 the landbanks for Northamptonshire, based on the MWLP provision figures, were nine years for sand and gravel and 34 years for crushed rock. There are therefore sufficient permitted reserves of crushed rock to maintain the government.

## Waste development

- 6.5. During the 2019 monitoring period the estimated permitted capacity increased by 0.053 Mtpa to a total of 1.31 mtpa for waste management. There was a small increase in estimated existing capacity for most waste management methods, however WEEE recycling, Hazardous recovery and treatment and Anaerobic Digestion which saw very small reductions. Inert recycling saw the largest increase at 0.028mtpa.
- 6.6. Whilst disposal to landfill should be declining it is still important that Northamptonshire has a net self-sufficiency when it comes to its waste disposal requirements. At the end of 2019 the permitted remaining landfill capacity void over the plan period (i.e. up to 2031) was approximately: 0.199Mt for non-inert landfill, 5.391Mt for inert landfill/recovery and 0.669Mt for hazardous waste disposal. Figures show that there is adequate capacity for inert landfill/recovery until 2025 and hazardous landfill until 2026, however non-hazardous landfill only has void space until 2021, thereafter the available void space is assumed to be required for inert materials for restoration purposes.
- 6.7. The planning applications approved during this monitoring period have contributed towards meeting the capacity gap but there is still a shortfall for some management methods, in particular biological treatment, hazardous recovery and treatment and other forms of recovery. Although there is a sign oversupply of inert recycling capacity a significant portion of inert waste is reused and recycled onsite or at exempt sites, this unseen capacity still contributes towards waste management capacity, and this is likely to continue.

## Duty to Co-operate

- 6.8. Throughout the monitoring period the Council continued to respond to DTC requests from other councils and also responding to other council's local plans. It continues to attend the East Midlands Aggregates Working Party and is a member of the East Midlands Strategic Waste Advisory Group. The Council published a DTC statement in 2014 outlining how it will meet the DTC requirements in relation to the MWLP that was subsequently adopted in July 2017.

## APPENDIX 1: MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT MONITORING FRAMEWORK INCLUDING BASELINE AND 2017 UPDATE

Potential significant sustainability effect and link to SA objective	Indicator	Comparators and target	Baseline Data 1 Apr 2009 – 31 Mar 2010	Monitoring Period 1 Jan 2018 – 31 Dec 2018	Monitoring Period 1 Jan 2019 – 31 Dec 2019	Trends	Likely significant effects
<p><b>Aggregate extraction</b></p> <p>Steady and adequate supply of aggregates</p> <p>SA objectives: 19, 20</p>	Level of aggregates extracted	To meet S&G and CR annual provision rates: S&G – 0.50 Mt CR – 0.39 Mt Building and roofing stone will be provided for restoration, conservation, and enhancement Capacity for inert fill processing of secondary aggregates will increase	Minerals Sales (2009 data); S&G – 0.17Mt CR – 0.15 Mt A sustainable amount of building and roofing stone was extracted for restoration, conservation and enhancement. The capacity for inert fill was not increased through the granting of permission for mineral extraction during this monitoring period.	Minerals Sales: (2018 data): S&G – 0.583Mt CR – 0.822Mt A sustainable amount of building and roofing stone was extracted for restoration, conservation and enhancement.	Minerals Sales: (2019 data): S&G – 0.674Mt CR – 0.977Mt A sustainable amount of building and roofing stone was extracted for restoration, conservation and enhancement.	Amount of mineral sales increased over monitoring period. There are reserves available to meet the landbank and continue to support growth in the County.	Aggregate extraction levels meet the provision rates  Sufficient aggregates are made available to support growth and development of sustainable communities
<p><b>Landbanks</b></p> <p>Maintain landbanks</p> <p>SA objectives: 11, 12</p>	Landbank for S&G and CR (years)	S&G 7 years CR 10 years	Landbank figures for 2009: S&G – 6.3 years CR – 35 years	Landbank figure for 2018: S&G – 10 years CR – 39 years	Landbank figure for 2019: S&G – 9 years CR – 34 years	Landbanks have reduced but targets are being met.	Maintenance of landbanks

<p><b>Sterilisation</b> Protect economically important resources from sterilisation</p> <p>SA objectives: 7, 11, 12</p>	<p>Number of applications in MSAs satisfying Local Plan requirements</p>	<p>100% of all new development</p>	<p>To the knowledge of NCC all development applications identifying sites within MSAs meet the requirements set out in the MWDF that relate to protecting economically important resources from sterilisations. As a result, no development took place which caused sterilisation to economical viable resources.</p>	<p>To the knowledge of NCC all development applications identifying sites within MSAs meet the requirements set out in the MWLP that relate to protecting economically important resources from sterilisation. As a result, no development took place which caused sterilisation to economically viable resources.</p>	<p>To the knowledge of NCC all development applications identifying sites within MSAs meet the requirements set out in the MWLP that relate to protecting economically important resources from sterilisation. As a result, no development took place which caused sterilisation to economically viable resources.</p>	<p>No change, no permissions have been granted that would in the view of the minerals planning authority result in sterilisation of economically viable resources.</p>	<p>Economically important mineral reserves do not become unnecessarily sterilised</p>
<p><b>Development adversely affecting minerals development</b> Development does not adversely affect committed or allocated minerals development, including the safeguarding of minerals-related uses (such as storage / processing, rail head / links and wharfage facilities) from</p>	<p>Number of applications satisfying Local Plan requirements</p>	<p>100% of all new development</p>	<p>To the knowledge of NCC no development permitted within the monitoring year that would adversely affect committed or allocated locations for mineral development has been allowed. As a result, mineral sites have been safeguarded from other forms of development</p>	<p>To the knowledge of NCC no development permitted within the monitoring year would adversely affect committed or allocated locations for mineral development. Mineral sites have been safeguarded from other forms of development</p>	<p>To the knowledge of NCC no development permitted within the monitoring year would adversely affect committed or allocated locations for mineral development. Mineral sites have been safeguarded from other forms of development</p>	<p>No change, no permissions have been granted that would in the view of the minerals planning authority result in minerals development being adversely affected.</p>	<p>M&amp;W (committed or allocated) development and associated use are not adversely affected by other development</p>

































