Minerals and Waste Joint Plan

First Consultation

May - June 2013

Carried out in accordance with Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012
This leaflet provides information about the intention of North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC), City of York Council (CYC) and the North York Moors National Park Authority (NYMNPA) to work together to prepare a Joint Minerals and Waste Plan. Each has responsibility for preparing a long term plan containing land use planning policies to help take decisions about matters such as where, when and how minerals and waste developments should be planned and managed up to 2030.

It provides the first formal step in the preparation of a new Minerals and Waste Joint Plan (Joint Plan). Where relevant, work on the Joint Plan will take forward recent work on minerals and waste planning issues and evidence undertaken by the three authorities.

Why are we preparing a Joint Plan?

There is a recognition that minerals and waste planning issues often affect larger than local areas and can best be tackled at a wider than local level, and it will be more efficient to work jointly to fulfil our legal responsibilities in these matters.

However, the three authority areas involved in the Joint Plan are very different – the NYCC area is mainly rural containing only a small number of large settlements, the CYC area is largely urban and the National Park is a sparsely populated protected landscape. The character and wider policy context for each of these areas will inform strategic minerals and waste policy in the Joint Plan area.

About this Consultation

This first consultation provides an introduction to some of the key information relating to minerals and waste matters in these areas and marks the launch of the preparation of a Joint Plan. Within this consultation we are asking what you think the Joint Plan should contain?

For more information about the consultation or to receive the information in an alternative format, please contact us using the details on the back of this leaflet or visit www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan
Minerals are essential raw materials for a wide range of industries and are very important to both society and the economy. The Joint Plan area, particularly the NYCC area, is rich in minerals resources. Mineral working has been taking place over very many years with currently over 50 active sites and gas fields within the Joint Plan area. In some areas mineral working forms an important part of the local economy.

The NYCC area hosts the majority of mineral extraction taking place in the Joint Plan area, although there is extraction of building stone and potash in the National Park, as well as interest in onshore gas development. There is no minerals extraction in the CYC area, although there has been recent exploration for coal bed methane.

Substantial amounts of minerals are expected to be required over the period up to 2030, which may require the opening up of new or extended quarries. The Joint Plan has a key role to play in maintaining the supply of minerals, identifying potential locations for new minerals sites and setting out how these should be controlled to protect our environment, and quality of life.

**Minerals within the Joint Plan area:**

- **Crushed rock**  
  (Carboniferous, Magnesian and Jurassic limestone)
- **Sand & Gravel**  
  (concreting sand and building sand)
- **Coal**  
  (deep mined)
- **Clay**  
  (for block, brick and tile manufacture)
- **Silica sand**  
  (used in the foundry and chemical industries)
- **Potash**  
  (used as a fertiliser)
- **Salt**  
  (used as grit for roads)
- **Building stone**  
  (sandstone and limestone)
- **Gas**  
  (conventional gas and coal mine and coal bed methane)
- **Secondary aggregates**  
  (mainly colliery spoil and power station ash)
- **Recycled minerals**  
  (such as crushed concrete and brick rubble)
We need to think about how to protect potentially important minerals resources from other development and how minerals sites should be designed, operated and ultimately restored back to a suitable use after quarrying has finished. Where possible we need to think about how such developments can make a positive contribution to wider objectives, such as flood water management or recreation.

For more information visit www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan

Summary of the Key Minerals matters we expect to consider

- What are the expected future extraction requirements for mineral resources from within the Joint Plan area?
- How can we help maintain continuity of supply of minerals?
- What areas or locations are likely to be most suitable in principle for new or extended mineral working?
- How can we safeguard important minerals resources and infrastructure?
- What policies should we have to help ensure that protected landscapes, the environment and quality of life are protected and enhanced?
- Is any new provision for managing mining/minerals waste needed?
- How can we support the sustainable use of minerals and encourage the use of alternative sources of supply i.e. secondary/recycled aggregates?
- To what extent should the area be seeking to maintain its important role in the supply of aggregate minerals into adjacent areas?
- How will important issues outside the Joint Plan area, which may have implications for the Joint Plan, be identified and addressed?
Waste - Key Information

Waste is generated by a wide range of activities and comprises a variety of forms. Some waste types, such as household waste, are familiar but others may be less so. We need to plan for them all. Approximately 2.6 million tonnes of waste is managed in the Joint Plan area (based on 2011 data) at a wide range of waste management facilities including recycling centres, composting facilities, waste transfer stations (where waste is bulked up for onward transport), treatment facilities and disposal facilities, such as landfill sites. There are around 110 waste management facilities within the Joint Plan area.

There is a lot of pressure to reduce waste, and deal with it in more environmentally friendly ways. This is likely to require building more facilities. One issue the Joint Plan will need to consider is how and where suitable facilities can be provided for management of all the main waste streams that arise in the area. This is likely to involve taking decisions on the numbers, types and scales of facility we need to plan for over the period up to 2030. The waste policies in the Joint Plan will be separate from, but need to work alongside, the Municipal Waste Management Strategies which cover the Joint Plan area.

Waste Streams within the Joint Plan area:

- **Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW)**
  (also referred to as Municipal waste, includes Household waste and waste from commercial sources collected by Local Authorities)

- **Commercial and Industrial waste (C&I)**
  (can take a very wide variety of forms and some may be similar to LACW)

- **Construction, demolition & excavation waste (CD&E)**
  (e.g. broken concrete, brick rubble and timber)

- **Hazardous waste**
  (requires special management)

- **Agricultural waste**
  (from farming and horticultural activity)

- **Low level (non-nuclear) radioactive waste**
  (arising in small quantities from activities such as healthcare)

- **Waste Water**
  (all premises)
We will also need to consider how the Joint Plan can meet the objectives of national waste planning policy and legislation. Of particular importance is helping to deal with waste more sustainably and moving management methods further up the ‘waste hierarchy’.

This will mean preparing planning policies which support methods other than landfill, the main method upon which the Joint Plan area has traditionally relied.

**Allerton Waste Recovery Park**

One important issue that may influence the context of the Joint Plan is that NYCC has recently granted planning permission for a major new Energy-from-Waste facility, known as the Allerton Waste Recovery Park. This proposed facility would help increase rates of recycling and reduce landfill of ‘residual’ LACW arising in the Joint Plan area. For more information visit [www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan](http://www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan)

### Summary of the Key Waste matters we expect to consider

- How much waste management capacity should we plan for to meet likely needs for all waste streams in the Joint Plan area?
- How can our land use policies support the provision of new waste facilities at the most suitable sites and locations?
- What planning policies should we have to help move management of waste further up the waste hierarchy?
- Should we make any provision in the Plan for the management of waste imported from outside the Joint Plan area?
- What impact might the plans of neighbouring waste planning authorities have for our Joint Plan?
- Is there likely to be a need to plan for any new landfill capacity?
- How can waste facilities be designed, operated and controlled to minimise impacts on protected landscapes, the environment and quality of life?
The Joint Plan will need to identify future requirements for minerals and waste sites and set out where, in principle, these may be acceptable. The Joint Plan will not identify specific sites to meet all identified needs but will identify sites which are of strategic significance (i.e. necessary to the delivery of the strategy).

To help us do this, alongside this consultation, we are issuing a ‘call for sites’. This is intended to provide an opportunity for relevant parties to provide details of sites they would wish to see identified as being suitable in principle for future minerals or waste related development. A Submission Form is available to download from www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwconsult

Relevant parties are advised that any submissions already made in response to two previous call for sites (CYC on 29th August 2012 and NYCC on 31st January 2011) do not need to be re-submitted but will be considered alongside newly submitted sites as the work progresses.

Previous NYCC mineral site submissions can be viewed at: www.northyorks.gov.uk/13289

There is a requirement for the Joint Plan to be subject to Sustainability Appraisal (SA) in order for the likely environmental, social and economic effects of the Plan to be considered from the outset.

The first stage of SA is the production of a Scoping Report which sets out how the SA will be undertaken and the issues it will focus on. It is important that the SA considers issues which are important to local residents, businesses and other organisations, and these issues are likely to vary across the Plan area. Therefore we would like to invite comments on what you think the SA should focus on.

The Scoping Report and a Non-Technical Summary are available at www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan

If you would like further information on SA please visit the website or contact us directly by email on mwsustainability@northyorks.gov.uk

SA Reports will be produced at key stages of the Plan production process and will be available for consultation.
This leaflet has provided an introduction to some of the key issues relating to minerals and waste matters in the Joint Plan area. A background paper with more information is available on our website. **We would now like to know what you think the Joint Plan should contain.**

We are also seeking views on what you think are the important issues the **Sustainability Appraisal** should focus on.

**The consultation will run from 17th May until 28th June 2013.**

You can let us know your views by contacting us using the details below.

**Please note for postal responses you do not need to use a stamp.**

A response form has been produced to help you respond. These are available to download from: www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwconsult

A paper copy can be provided upon request.

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