

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN UPDATE: COUNCIL RESPONSE TO INSPECTOR'S MATTERS AND ISSUES

MATTER 4 - Policy changes required for soundness?

Issue 1

Is the Plan effective in terms of being able to control any potential impacts from future minerals and waste sites?

Within its remit, the Plan is effective in terms of being able to control any potential impacts from future minerals and waste sites.

Development criteria policies (Policies 3, 8, 9, 12, 15, 16 & 17) along with policies addressing local considerations (Policies 18 to 25) and other relevant Local Plan policies address the control and management of potentially adverse impacts and implementation of necessary measures. These policies, and the definition of potentially adverse impacts, are compliant with the NPPF and associated guidance. Only those matters requiring a local steer need to be captured by the Local Plan, for other matters the NPPF and associated guidance applies.

Where appropriate, the site profiles within the plan (Appendix 1 and 3) also identify development requirements to address site-specific issues.

Together, these instruments provide adequate control of potentially adverse impacts. It should also be noted that there has been little or no change to the above listed policies, found sound, contained in the Local Plan adopted in 2014 (as noted below). The exception being Policy 23 which was amended to capture fire risk, included in the scope of the Local Plan Update. No other elements of Policy 23 were changed.

- No change
 - Policies 3, 9, 15, 16, 17, 18, 20, 21, 22 and 25.
- Minor amendment (no impact on intent)
 - Policy 8 - Clarification, no change to intent.
 - Policy 12 - Clarification with respect to implementation and minor amendment / clarification regarding distribution of facilities and cumulative impacts (previously captured under other Local Plan policy). No change to intent.
 - Policy 19 - Clarification, no change to intent.
 - Policy 24 – Clarification, no change to intent.

Issue 2

Should the site allocations include detailed mitigation measures to ensure compliance with national policy?

Appendices 1 and 3 are appendices to the plan to assist clarification. The development requirements are intentionally not included in policy as circumstances or methods may change, resulting in the stated measures no longer being applicable or best practice. This approach strikes a balance between recognising site-specific issues and allowing for flexibility. It is not felt that this level of detail is required for all sites or to address all potentially adverse impacts; this is the role of the planning application process. On the basis of the above there is therefore no issue in relation to compliance with national policy.