

DECISION-MAKER:	Cabinet
SUBJECT:	Minerals and Waste Plan: Inception and Timetable
DATE OF DECISION:	16 March 2021
REPORT OF:	COUNCILLOR LEGGETT CABINET MEMBER FOR GREEN CITY AND PLACE

<u>CONTACT DETAILS</u>			
Executive Director	Title	Executive Director Place	
	Name:	Kate Martin	Tel: 023 8083 4670
	E-mail	Kate.Martin@southampton.gov.uk	
Author:	Title	Strategic Planning Manager	
	Name:	Graham Tuck	Tel: 023 8083 4602
	E-mail	Graham.Tuck@southampton.gov.uk	

STATEMENT OF CONFIDENTIALITY

Not Applicable

BRIEF SUMMARY

The Minerals and Waste Plan needs to be updated. The content of the Plan will be the subject of future decisions and public consultation. Once adopted the Plan will form part of the development plan against which planning applications are determined. The Plan will assist in delivering the Green City Charter for Southampton.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

	(i)	To approve the need to start an update of the Minerals and Waste Plan based on the review (Members Room Document 1).
	(ii)	To note the timetable for updating the Minerals and Waste Plan as set out at paragraph 16 (and aligned with the Hampshire Local Development Scheme) (Members Room Document 2).

REASONS FOR REPORT RECOMMENDATIONS

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| 1. | The Plan has been kept under review in line with statutory requirements, and the latest review concludes an update of the Plan is needed. |
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ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED AND REJECTED

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| 2. | If the Plan were not updated it would become increasingly out dated and would be less effective in the determination of relevant planning applications. |
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DETAIL (Including consultation carried out)

	<u>Background: Minerals and Waste Issues in Southampton</u>
3.	The minerals and waste planning authorities for the area include Southampton City Council, Hampshire County and Portsmouth City Councils, the New Forest and South Downs National Park Authorities. There is a long-standing partnership between these authorities to prepare a joint minerals and waste plan. This facilitates effective and efficient planning across the overall

	area. Decision making on the plan (and on planning applications) is retained by the individual planning authorities.
4.	The current Minerals and Waste Plan was adopted in 2013. In line with statutory requirements this Plan has been kept under review in 2018 and 2020, and it is now recommended that an update of the Plan is required.
5.	Minerals are required to meet construction needs, so are key to supporting the provision of new homes, economic growth and regeneration in Southampton. Waste planning aims to support re-use, recycling and recovery and minimise landfill, in accordance with environmental aims.
6.	A significant proportion of South Hampshire's overall needs for sand and gravel comes from marine dredged sources landed at Southampton's wharves on the River Itchen. The wharves are therefore important for supplying aggregates to facilitate development, regeneration and economic growth across Southampton and the wider area, and national policy explains that such facilities should be safeguard. The wharves are also situated on city centre waterfront sites creating the potential for 'place shaping' residential / leisure redevelopment. The current plan safeguards the mineral wharves until they can be relocated or are no longer needed, recognising their regeneration potential. It also safeguards for consideration land at the Port's strategic reserve (Dibden Bay) for potential future minerals and waste wharf provision.
7.	The Green City Charter for Southampton sets a goal that we will minimise waste and ensure we repair, reuse and recycle. This will further reduce the waste going to landfill. The Council is a Waste Disposal Authority (WDA) which means that the Council has a statutory duty to collect waste from residential and commercial properties in the city boundary along with litter and waste from public spaces and highways. The city's waste is often managed in the wider area. Facilities for the transfer and management of waste are needed within the city and the wider area, to support recycling or recovery and assist in delivering the Green City Charter. The current plan sets out a general approach for the location of such facilities, which in the city is typically focussed on suitable industrial areas. There are some existing facilities on sites in the city (for example, waste transfer stations).
8.	The current plan also includes policies to ensure minerals and waste facilities protect the local environment and amenity.
	<u>The Need to Update the Plan</u>
9.	Each policy in the current plan has been assessed against national policy, monitoring thresholds and a commentary. This identifies the policies which require updating, and those of significance to Southampton are as follows.
	<i>Existing policies to be updated</i>
10.	Policy 17 - sets a target for 5.56 million tonnes per annum of aggregate supply, including 2 million tonnes from wharves. These targets will be reviewed, which will inform whether there are sufficient sites / capacity. The national requirement for a 7 year land bank of land won aggregates has not

	been maintained, and the need to maintain overall wharf capacity also needs to be explored.
11.	Policy 18 – targets for recycled and secondary aggregate are still currently being met, but supply has been declining, so a review is recommended. (This also relates to policy 30 regarding construction and demolition waste).
	<i>Existing policies: new sites may be needed (The policy supports facilities but there may be a need for further sites)</i>
12.	Policy 19 – Aggregate wharves and rail depots – The overall capacity of wharves across South Hampshire has declined in the last 7 years and so the update of the plan should consider whether there are further site options. (The assessment recognises that existing policy 34 safeguards the Port of Southampton’s strategic land reserve at Dibden Bay and that should this proposal come forward consideration should be given to including a minerals and waste wharf, and that if this was regarded as replacing capacity in Southampton the city’s wharves may become waterside regeneration sites).
13.	Policy 25 / 27 – Sustainable waste management / Capacity for waste management – whilst the capacity for recycling and recovery have expanded, the targets for % waste recycled and diverted from landfill have not been fully met. The update should consider how recycling capacity can further be encouraged, to assist in meeting the goals of the Green City Charter.
14.	Policy 29 – Locations and sites for waste management – the current plan sets out general criteria for the types of location for waste management (in the city, typically appropriate industrial areas). The policy may need some clarification.
15.	The current plan’s Vision, Objectives and Spatial Strategy / Key Diagram would benefit from some updates to reflect declarations of the climate change emergency, the latest national policy, and to improve clarity.
	<u>Timetable for Updating the Plan</u>
16.	The key parts of the timetable for updating the Plan are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • March – September 2021 – call for sites, evidence updates; • October – December 2021 – public consultation on draft plan; • April – June 2022 – public consultation on submission plan; • Winter 2022 – submission to the Secretary of State; • Spring 2023 – examination by independent Planning Inspector; • Autumn 2023 – adopt Plan.
	<u>Conclusion</u>
17.	The review recommends that an update of the current plan is undertaken to ensure compliance with national policy, climate change aims, the delivery of a steady and adequate supply of minerals, and to enable sustainable waste management provision. This will include an assessment of site options to

	ensure any suitable sites for sustainable minerals or waste development are identified in the plan.
RESOURCE IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Revenue</u>	
18.	<p>The revenue cost of preparing the plan is shared amongst the partnership authorities. Southampton's share at 8% is estimated to amount to £65,000 over 3 years and is likely to incorporate significant efficiencies based on the partnership approach. The £22,000 contribution for 2021/22 can be covered within the existing Local Plan budget and subsequent contributions will be reviewed on an annual basis with the intention to be met from existing budget resources.</p> <p>Any financial implications from changes in policy in the plan will be considered as the plan is developed and incorporated into the annual business planning process as required.</p>
<u>Property/Other</u>	
19.	None
LEGAL IMPLICATIONS	
<u>Statutory power to undertake proposals in the report:</u>	
20.	Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, sections 19 and 28
<u>Other Legal Implications:</u>	
21.	The Review will be carried out in accordance with the Council's duties under the Public Sector Equality Duty as set out in the Equalities Act 2010.
RISK MANAGEMENT IMPLICATIONS	
22.	If the plan were not updated it would become increasingly out of date.
POLICY FRAMEWORK IMPLICATIONS	
23.	Once adopted, the Minerals and Waste Plan will, along with the City Vision Local Plan, form the development plan for the city and therefore be part of the Council's policy framework. Both plans will need to be consistent.

KEY DECISION?	Yes
WARDS/COMMUNITIES AFFECTED:	All
<u>SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION</u>	
Appendices	
1.	None.

Documents In Members' Rooms

1.	2020 Review of the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan (2013)
2.	Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan Local Development Scheme (December 2020)

Equality Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require an Equality and Safety Impact Assessment (ESIA) to be carried out.		Yes
Data Protection Impact Assessment		
Do the implications/subject of the report require a Data Protection Impact Assessment (DPIA) to be carried out.		Yes
Other Background Documents		
Other Background documents available for inspection at:		
https://www.southampton.gov.uk/planning/planning-policy/adopted-plans/minerals-waste-plan.aspx		
Title of Background Paper(s)		Relevant Paragraph of the Access to Information Procedure Rules / Schedule 12A allowing document to be Exempt/Confidential (if applicable)
1.	Adopted Minerals and Waste Plan (2013)	
2.		