

# Annual Monitoring Report 2022/23



## Background Report

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## Behind the Headlines

Welcome to the Background Report – the second part of our Annual Monitoring Report. This document provides the story behind the headlines in our Headline Report. It explains how we set out to assess how effective our Minerals and Waste Local Plans are at achieving their aims, and how well we are doing as we work to implement the plans. It also presents the data and other evidence behind the headline statements.

Since April 2018, we have been required to review our Local Plans at least every 5 years to assess whether they are still up to date and relevant. Government guidance sets out a series of tests that should be carried out. [The Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent Waste Local Plan \(2010-2030\)](#), referred to hereafter as the Waste Local Plan, adopted in 2013 and [reviewed](#) in December 2018. [The Minerals Local Plan for Staffordshire \(2015-2030\)](#), referred to hereafter as the Minerals Local Plan, was adopted in February 2017, and the subject of an interim review in December 2018.

As much of the information required for such reviews is collected for the Annual Monitoring Report anyway, we now regularly incorporate reviews of both the Minerals Local Plan and the Waste Local Plan in our Annual Monitoring Reports, rather than producing separate reviews at 5-year intervals.

The guidance also says that, where the periodic review of Local Plans shows that complete or partial revisions are needed, we must publish a programme for the work in a Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS). We have found that no revisions are required yet, so we do not intend to publish a new MWDS at this stage.

For future Annual Monitoring Reports, we will need to consider the [government's ongoing review of the National Planning Policy Framework](#); the government's new [Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 \(LURA\)](#) which contains new powers related to the plan-making system. In

addition, the [introduction of Bio-diversity Net Gain \(BNG\)](#) in January 2024 will require that we monitor and record all BNG connected with planning applications for which we are the planning authority.

## Minerals

**M 1. Does the Plan make steady and adequate provision for Sand and Gravel?**

**YES**

### Underlying Questions

**Are sales of sand and gravel on target to meet the planned level of provision – Is the 10-year sales average less than planned level of provision i.e., 5 million tonnes per annum?**

**YES.** The 10-year sales mean average (covering the period 2013-2022) was 4.722 million tonnes per annum. This figure is less than the provision for sand and gravel in the Minerals Local Plan (i.e., 5 million tonnes per annum), so permitted and allocated resources should be adequate to continue to supply at this level for at least the remainder of the plan period.

**Are we maintaining at least a 7-year landbank of sand and gravel reserves based on meeting the level of provision?**

**YES.** The landbank of permitted reserves as of 1 January 2023 was 13.0 years based on the 10-year sales average for 2013-22. Alternatively, the landbank would be 12.3 years based on the level of provision of 5 million tonnes per annum used in the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan.

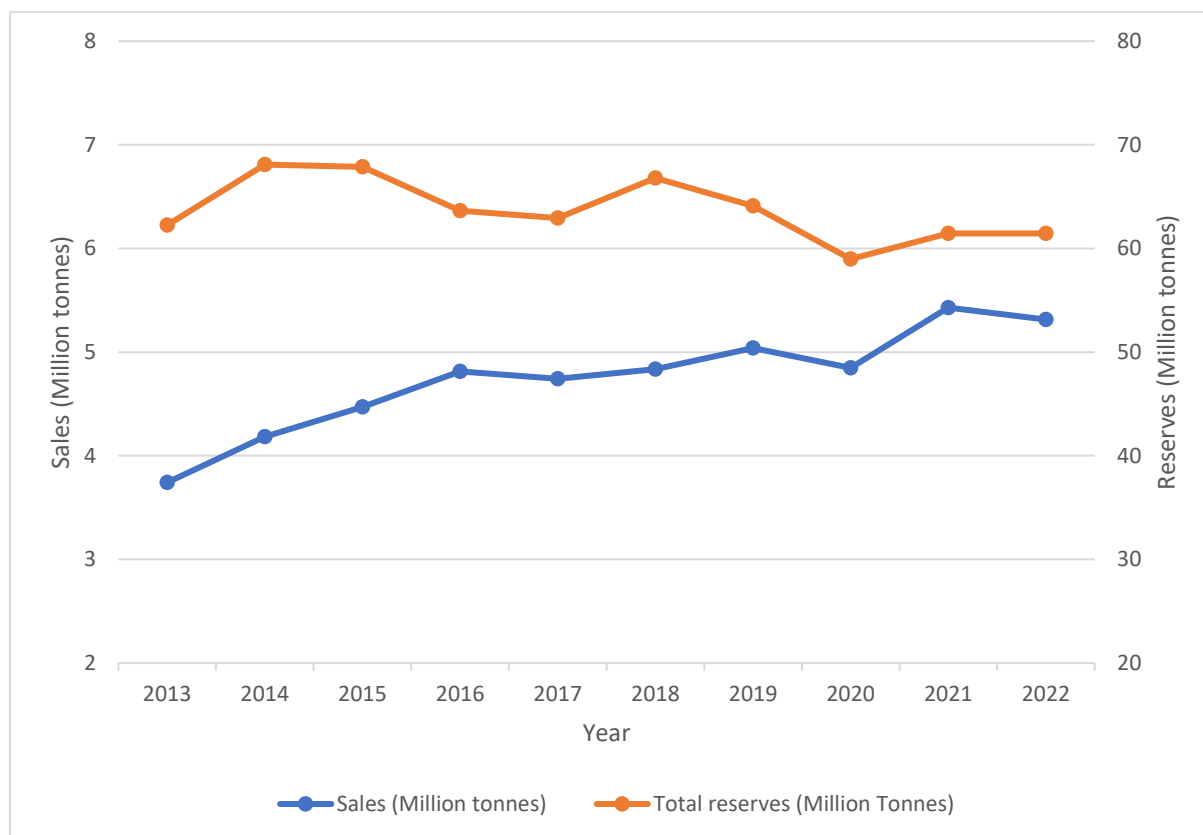
Data Source: Staffordshire Local Aggregate Assessment

**Data Table: Staffordshire Sand and Gravel Sales and Reserves 2013-2022**

<b>Year</b>	<b>2013</b>	<b>2014</b>	<b>2015</b>	<b>2016</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>	<b>2019</b>	<b>2020</b>	<b>2021</b>	<b>2022</b>	<b>10 Year Mean</b>
Sales (Million Tonnes)	3.742	4.184	4.47	4.6	4.743	4.836	5.039	4.848	5.429	5.315	4.722
Total reserves (Million tonnes)	62.26	68.09	67.86	63.63	62.94	66.785	64.114	58.978	61.454	61.447	
Number of operational sites	17	18	18	17	16	16	16	14	15	15	

Source: WMAWP Surveys

### Graph: Sales and Reserves of Sand and Gravel in Staffordshire 2013-2022



**Discussion:** The 10-year mean average sales of sand and gravel from Staffordshire quarries is 4.722 million tonnes. This is less than the level of provision made under Policy 1 of the Minerals Local Plan (MLP) i.e., 5 million tonnes of sand and gravel per annum, used to assess the allocation of additional sand and gravel resources to meet needs up to the end of 2030. Using the MLP level of provision of 5 million tonnes per annum would mean the landbank of permitted reserves as of 1 January 2023 would last for 12.3 years. This exceeds the target of maintaining a 7-year landbank.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that the Minerals Local Plan does make steady and adequate provision for sand and gravel.

## M 2. Does the Plan make steady and adequate provision for Cement Minerals

**YES**

### Underlying Questions:

#### Are we maintaining at least 15 years stock of permitted reserves for cement minerals?

- Limestone at Cauldon Low

**Yes**

- Shale at Cauldon Low

**No** (Permitted reserves are anticipated to last for 7 years.)

- Gypsum and Anhydrite at Fauld Mine

**Yes**

#### Are all sites located in line with location criteria set out in Policy 2?

**Yes**

#### Are all extension areas conditioned to only be worked following cessation of working within existing site?

**No**

Data Source: Periodic Confidential Survey of Industrial Minerals, carried out by Staffordshire County Council

**Discussion:** This indicator relies on data collected every 3 years. The last survey was carried out in 2023.

Permitted reserves of limestone at Cauldon, and of Gypsum and Anhydrite at Fauld can be reasonably expected to still exceed 15 years supply as required by Policy 2 of the Minerals Local Plan. However, permitted reserves of shale at Cauldon do not, but an extension to the shale quarry at Cauldon is allocated in the MLP and an application has been now received in relation to the allocation. If permitted, this would increase shale reserves which based on current consumption at the cement works



would provide a stock of shale reserves amounting to 31 years. The same application includes proposals for developing Cauldon Limestone Quarry serving the cement works together with the adjacent Cauldon Low Quarry, and if permitted, the proposals would secure a stock of limestone reserves of 67 years for the Cauldon Cement Works ([SCC/22/0136/FULL-ES](#)).

In relation to permitted reserves at Fauld Mine, a permission was issued in January 2023 for the extension and consolidation of a permission at Fauld Mine. The proposed extension involves 3 million tonnes of gypsum and anhydrite which at current rates of output amount to a 10-year stock of reserves ([ES.19/02/504 M](#)). These reserves combined with permitted reserves within other parts of the mine, result in a stock of reserves exceeding the minimum requirement of Policy 2 of MLP.

Proposals for the extension to Fauld Mine were considered to satisfactorily address the development considerations for the allocated extension to the mine. The reserves in the southern extension area of Fauld Mine are to be extracted in conjunction with permitted reserves in another part of the mine to achieve a blend of cement rock which meets the required cement rock specification and thereby, reduces the need to import gypsum from other mines for blending purposes.

Note that clay extracted from Keele and Kingsley Quarries in Staffordshire continues to be used to supply Tunstead Cement works in Derbyshire.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that the Minerals Local Plan does make steady and adequate provision for industrial minerals used for cement manufacture.

### M 3. Does the Plan make steady and adequate provision for brick clay?

**Mixed response**

#### Underlying Questions:

**Are we maintaining at least 25 years stock of permitted reserves for clay product works listed in appendix 5?**

#### Data Table: Status of clay stocks at Staffordshire quarries supplying works within the Plan area\*

Works	25-year stock of permitted reserves?
Parkhouse, Newcastle	No (reserves sufficient for 5 to 15 years)
Chesterton, Newcastle	No (reserves sufficient for 5 to 15 years)
Keele Works, Newcastle	No (reserves sufficient for 5 to 15 years)
Wilnecote, Tamworth	No (reserves sufficient for 5 to 15 years)
Lodge Lane, Cannock	Yes

Data Source: Periodic Confidential Survey of Industrial minerals, carried out by Staffordshire County Council

\* Note: Detailed data is commercially confidential and is not available for publication.

**Discussion:** National planning policy requires that there is a steady and adequate supply of brick clay to support the continued operation of brick and tile works and this means ensuring that each clay product works is supported with a stock of permitted reserves for 25 years of supply. For the purposes of the Minerals Local Plan, data is collected in a periodic, confidential survey, but the data cannot be made public as they are commercially sensitive.

The most recent survey carried out in 2023, found that the Lodge Lane Works in Cannock was the only works in the county to have at least 25 years' supply of clay. The works at Wilnecote in Tamworth does not have a 25 years' stock but a permission was granted on 30 April 2019 (ref: T.16/02/905 MW) that allowed for the extraction of an additional 10 years' supply of clay. The Works also receives clays not locally derived (refer to permission T.18/01/905 MW granted March 2019). Supply of clay to the three works in the north of the county (i.e., Parkhouse, Chesterton and Keele) is based on supply from Knutton Quarry in Newcastle-under-Lyme. The stock of reserves is less than 25 years to maintain supply to all three works.

Note that clay extracted in Staffordshire is also used to support brick and tile manufacturing at works outside the county, some of which do not have associated clay quarries to provide their main supply. Whilst maintaining such supplies to works outside the county is supported by national policy, it is not a current requirement of the MLP for Staffordshire to monitor the landbanks for clay product works outside the county.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that the Plan makes steady and adequate provision for brick clay at some, but not all works.

#### **M 4. Are the location policies for sand and gravel sites working?**

**YES**

#### **Underlying Questions:**

**Are all sites to be located in line with location criteria set out in Policy 1 unless meeting the criteria of Policy 1.6?**

**YES.**

**Data Table: Planning applications for the winning and working of sand and gravel, permitted between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023 – Compliance with Policy 1**

<b>App. No.</b>	<b>Location</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Date Granted</b>	<b>Compliant with Policy 1</b>
<a href="#">SM.20/02/110 M</a>	Croxden Quarry,	Application to allow for the additional release of 1.5 million tonnes of Sand and Gravel and a revised restoration masterplan, compiled to allow a new consolidated planning permission.	25 April 2022	<b>Yes</b>

**Discussion:** An application was granted permission to allow for the additional release for the working of 1.5 million tonnes of sand and gravel at Croxden Quarry. The permission granted at Croxden Quarry did not relate to the allocated land at Croxden but was justified in terms of the requirements of policy 1.6 of the Minerals Local Plan.

**Conclusion:** There were no proposals for additional sand and gravel reserves determined in accordance with the location criteria under policy 1 but a single proposal was approved based on the requirements of policy 1.6 of the Minerals Local Plan.

### **M 5. Are we doing all we can to reduce the impacts of mineral developments on the environment?**

**Yes**

#### **Underlying Questions:**

**Are all applications in line with environmental criteria except where the material planning benefits of the proposals outweigh the material planning objections?**

**YES.** Potential environmental impacts were identified and discussed in the reports presented to Planning Committee, as each application was determined. In each case, the conclusion was that adverse impacts could be avoided and mitigated.

**Do all new approvals have appropriate restoration plans?**

**YES.**

**Have there been any new proposals or hydrocarbon extraction? If so, are they in line with plan policies including Policy 4**

**N/A.** There have been no new planning proposals for hydrocarbon extraction.

Data Source: Planning Application Records

**Data Table: Planning Application between 1 April 2022 – 31 March 2023 in compliance with Policy 4 and 6 of Mineral Local Plan.**

App. No.	Location	Date granted	In line with environmental criteria	Restoration plan?	Hydrocarbon extraction?
<a href="#">SM.20/02/110 M</a>	Croxden Quarry, Croxden Common, Freehay, Cheadle	25-April-2022	YES	YES	NO
<a href="#">SS.20/06/602 MW</a>	Saredon Hill Quarry, Saredon Road, Little Saredon, WV10 7LJ	15-March-2023	YES	YES	NO
<a href="#">SCC/22/0066/FULL-MAJ</a>	Campions Wood Quarry, Wolverhampton Road, Cheslyn Hay, WV10 7LY	27-Jan-2023	YES	YES	NO
<a href="#">SCC/22/0145/VOC</a>	Trentbridge Farm, Bond End, Yoxall, DE13 8NJ	12-Jan-2023	YES	YES	NO
<a href="#">SCC/22/0041/EA-SUB</a>	Chatterley Quarry, Chemical Lane, Stoke-on-Trent, ST6 4PB	20-Feb-2023	YES	YES	NO
<a href="#">SCC/21/0055/VOC</a>	Weavers Hill Sand Pit, Guild Lane, Newport, TF10 9DE	03-Aug-2022	YES	YES	NO
<a href="#">SCC/21/0027/VOC</a>	Saredon Hill Quarry, Saredon Road, Little Saredon, WV10 7LJ	31-Jan-2023	YES	YES	NO

**Discussion:** Overall, we are taking available steps to reduce the impact of mineral workings on the environment in accordance with Policies 4 and 6 of the MLP.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that we are doing all we can to reduce the impacts of mineral developments on the environment.

## M 6. Are we doing all we can to safeguard minerals, sites and infrastructure?

**YES**

### Underlying Questions:

#### Have we avoided the sterilisation of mineral resource contrary to the requirements of policy?

**YES.** We were consulted on **24 applications** where mineral sterilisation could have been an issue. All were carefully assessed, but none were considered to warrant any form of objection.

#### Have we avoided any loss of Minerals Infrastructure sites contrary to policy?

**YES.** We are not aware of any loss of mineral infrastructure sites during the reporting period. Of the 24 applications referred to us by the LPAs, only one was considered to directly affect the continued operation of any mineral infrastructure sites. However, further information was submitted, and it was found that the mineral site would not be significantly affected.

Data Source: Planning Application Data

### Data Table: MSA Applications determined 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 (From Application Register)

Summary
<b>Total MSA Applications: 24</b>
<b>No Objection: 24</b>
<b>Objections: None</b>
One consultation response was the subject of a holding objection – see below.

During 2022/23, we were consulted by Staffordshire District/ Borough Councils on 24 applications for non-mineral development which fell within Mineral Safeguarding Areas and were not exempt from consideration or subject to our [Standing Advice](#).

In all cases, we were able to conclude that the proposals would be unlikely to lead to the sterilisation of significant mineral resources and therefore, did not conflict with the requirements of Policy 3 of MLP.

We did record one holding objection in relation to a consultation from East Staffordshire Borough Council in connection with an application for residential development at Chapel Lane, Rangemore, Burton-Upon-Trent. The holding objection was later withdrawn when it was demonstrated that there would be no significant adverse effect on permitted reserves to be extracted at Fauld Mine.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that we are doing all we can to safeguard minerals sites and infrastructure.

### **M 7. Are we co-ordinating our work with other minerals planning authorities across the region?**

**YES**

#### **Underlying Questions:**

#### **Have we attended all AWP meetings?**

**YES.** Staffordshire County Council has been represented at all the meetings.

Data Source: Minutes of AWP Meetings

#### **Data Table: SCC representation at West Midlands Aggregates Working Party AWP meetings**

<b>Date</b>	<b>SCC Represented?</b>
24 <sup>th</sup> November 2022	Yes

**Discussion:** The West Midlands Aggregates Working Party exists to provide a forum to bring Minerals Planning Authorities together to produce “fit-for-purpose” and comprehensive data on construction aggregates, to support local planning on the provision of construction aggregates, and to ensure compliance with the Duty to Cooperate. We continue to be represented at all the meetings.



Note also the findings for headline statement 7 under the waste section below regarding attendance of the RTAB.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that we are co-ordinating our work with other minerals planning authorities across the region.

**M 8. Are all aggregate mineral sites subject to a restoration strategy/ plan that has been considered in the last 10 years?**

**Almost**

**Underlying Questions:**

**Were restoration plans provided when planning application were submitted for each aggregate mineral site?**

**Have restorations strategies/plans been submitted subsequently, or updated as required?**

Data Source: SCC Data obtained from planning permissions relating to 26 quarry sites

**Data Table: Details relating to the restoration of aggregate mineral sites (as of 1 April 2023)**

<b>Quarry</b>	<b>Operator</b>	<b>Grid Ref</b>	<b>Cessation Date for Mineral Working</b>	<b>Is there an approved restoration 'concept'?</b>	<b>Is there an approved detailed restoration/ aftercare scheme?</b>	<b>Is there a restoration/ aftercare review requirement?</b>	<b>AMR Assessment: Is the site subject to a restoration strategy / plan?</b>
<b>Operational sand and gravel/ sand quarries</b>							
<b>Alrewas</b>	Tarmac Limited	SK 175 125	2029	Yes	No	Yes	<b>YES</b>
<b>Barton</b>	Hanson	SK 195 155	2030	Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>YES</b>
<b>Captains Barn Farm</b>	C.E & J.M. Dale	SK 950 455	2030	Yes	No	Yes	<b>YES</b>
<b>Cranebrook</b>	MAC Quarries	SK 070 064	2033	Yes	No	Yes	<b>YES</b>
<b>Croxden</b>	Tarmac Limited	SK 033 417	2023	Yes	No	No	<b>YES</b>
<b>Freehay/ Mobberley</b>	Hanson	SK 015 411	2025	No	Yes	No	<b>YES</b>
<b>Hints/ Hopwas</b>	Tarmac Limited/ Cemex	SK 163 462	2025	Yes	No	Yes	<b>YES</b>

<b>Quarry</b>	<b>Operator</b>	<b>Grid Ref</b>	<b>Cessation Date for Mineral Working</b>	<b>Is there an approved restoration 'concept'?</b>	<b>Is there an approved detailed restoration/aftercare scheme?</b>	<b>Is there a restoration/aftercare review requirement?</b>	<b>AMR Assessment: Is the site subject to a restoration strategy/plan?</b>
<b>Moneymore (Weeford)</b>	Hanson	SK 133 026	2025/2042	Yes	No	No	<b>YES</b>
<b>Newbold</b>	Aggregate Industries	SK 205 195	2029	Yes	Yes	Yes	<b>YES</b>
<b>Pottal Pool</b>	Hanson	SJ 973 147	2034	Yes	No	No	<b>YES</b>
<b>Rugeley</b>	Cemex	SK 010 181	2031	Yes	Yes	No	<b>YES</b>
<b>Saredon</b>	NRS	SJ 944 80	2030	Yes	No	Yes	<b>YES</b>
<b>Shire Oak</b>	JPE Holdings	SK 063 042	2025	Yes	No	Yes	<b>YES</b>
<b>Uttoxeter</b>	Aggregate Industries	SK 097 351	2023	Yes	No	No	<b>YES</b>
<b>Weeford</b>	H.D. Ricketts	SK 133 026	2042	Yes	No	No	<b>YES</b>

<b>Quarry</b>	<b>Operator</b>	<b>Grid Ref</b>	<b>Cessation Date for Mineral Working</b>	<b>Is there an approved restoration 'concept'?</b>	<b>Is there an approved detailed restoration/aftercare scheme?</b>	<b>Is there a restoration/aftercare review requirement?</b>	<b>AMR Assessment: Is the site subject to a restoration strategy/plan?</b>
Non-operational sand and gravel quarries							
<b>Hilton Park</b>	Hanson	SJ 952 45	2042	No	No	No	<b>NO</b>
<b>Poolhouse Road</b>	N/A	SO 853 927	2042	No	No	No	<b>NO</b>
<b>Pyford Brook</b>	Cemex	SK 149 151	2027	Yes	No	Yes	<b>YES</b>
<b>Trentham</b>	Hanson	SJ 750 380	2040	No	Yes	No	<b>YES</b>
<b>Weavers Hill</b>	GRS Roadstone	SJ 794 203	2024	Yes	No	No	<b>YES</b>
<b>Whittington Hall Lane</b>	N/A	SO 870	2042	No	No	No	<b>NO</b>

Quarry	Operator	Grid Ref	Cessation Date for Mineral Working	Is there an approved restoration 'concept'?	Is there an approved detailed restoration/aftercare scheme?	Is there a restoration/aftercare review requirement?	AMR Assessment: Is the site subject to a restoration strategy/plan?
<b>Operational Crushed Rock Quarry</b>							
<b>Cauldon Low</b>	Aggregate Industries	SK 084 474	2042	No	No	No	<b>NO</b>
<b>Non-operational crushed rock quarry</b>							
<b>Kevin</b>	JCB	SK 086 465	2028	Yes	No	Yes	<b>YES</b>
<b>Wardlow /Wredon</b>	JCB	SK 087 572	2046	Yes	No	Yes	<b>YES</b>

**Discussion:** Restoration plans are important to ensure that quarries are reinstated at the earliest opportunity and that works are carried out to high environmental standards.

Of the 24 permitted aggregate sites; (21 are Sand and Gravel and 3 are Crushed Rock sites) within the Plan area, four have no approved restoration strategy or detailed scheme. This is mainly because the quarries are non-operational and have not been subject to a recent review.

**Conclusion:** Almost all but one of the operational aggregate mineral sites are subject to a restoration strategy/ scheme.

### M 9. Does the Minerals Local Plan need to be revised?

**NO**

#### Underlying Questions:

##### Are the policies working as we intended?

**YES.** Analysis of applicants during the reporting period has not raised any concerns that policies are failing to work as intended.

##### How is the plan performing against targets?

**Fine,** as reported above, we are maintaining steady and adequate provision of minerals as planned, and none of the trigger points for the review of the MLP have been met.

##### Have there been any relevant changes to National Planning Policy?

**NO.** There have been no changes to national minerals policy in the NPPF and the MLP remains consistent. At the time of writing, changes to the planning system have been introduced through the [Levelling up and Regeneration Act 2023](#) (LURA), but we await regulations and guidance on how they may impact on planning for minerals.

##### Have there been any changes to our Strategic Priorities?

**NO.** There have been no changes to our Strategic Priorities since the Minerals Local Plan was adopted.

### Have there been any changes to local circumstances?

**NO.** There have been no major changes, though we continue to monitor impacts of the construction of the HS2 railway on the demand for construction aggregates and the depletion of permitted reserves (having regard to the recent government announcement of its intention to cancel HS2 Phase 2a).

Data source: Interim review of the Minerals Local Plan

**Discussion:** An [interim review of the Minerals Local Plan](#) was published as an appendix to the Annual Monitoring Report in December 2018, concluding that there was no need for a revision.

Since then, there have been no significant changes to national policy as might affect the MLP. At the time of writing, changes to the planning system have been introduced through the [Levelling Up and Regeneration Act 2023 \(LURA\)](#), but we await regulations and guidance on how they may impact on planning for minerals. The Plan policies are working as intended. Plan targets are being met, and there have been no significant changes to strategic priorities, or local circumstances.

As before, we are aware of the continuing need to monitor the provision of aggregates in the light of anticipated demands resulting from the construction of the HS2 railway (having regard to the recent government announcement of its intention to cancel HS2 Phase 2a).

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that the Minerals Local Plan does not need to be revised at present.

## Waste

**W 1. Is the rate of growth of waste production within the range that we have planned for?**

**YES**

### Underlying Questions:

**Are the latest survey data for waste arisings consistent with forecasts used when preparing the Waste Local Plan?**

**Probably.** Assessing waste arising is not straightforward. Original estimates as the plan was being prepared suggested that Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent produced around 4.2 million tonnes of waste each year, but surveys of total waste production have not been repeated.

The [5-year review of the Waste Local Plan](#) (adopted in 2013), published in December 2018, concluded that waste arisings might be expected to correlate with population, and this is rising at a lower rate than was assumed in the preparation of the Plan.

Figures from the latest [Environment Agency 2021 Waste Data Interrogator](#) (last updated June 2023) show that a total 3,739,525 million tonnes of waste originated from the Plan Area (3,218,217 million tonnes (86.1%) from Staffordshire, and 521,308 (13.94%) from Stoke on Trent).

Overall, it is safe to conclude that total waste arisings have not increased significantly and remain within the forecasts used to prepare the plan.

**Are the latest survey data from waste management types consistent with MWMS targets?**

In 2022-23, a total of 375,827 tonnes of municipal solid waste (MSW) was treated in Staffordshire (excluding Stoke-on-Trent). Of this, 84,544 tonnes was recycled; 76,694 tonnes was composted; 211,917 tonnes was burned with heat, power or other energy recovery; and the remaining 2,672 tonnes was landfilled.



In 2022-23, a total of 95,765 tonnes of municipal solid waste (MSW) was treated in Stoke on Trent. Of this, 21,929 tonnes was recycled; 11,742 tonnes was composted; 60,557 tonnes was burned with heat, power or other energy recovery; and the remaining 1,537 was landfilled.

This means that the combined MSW treated for Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent was 471,592 tonnes. 467,383 (99.1%) tonnes of MSW in total was diverted from landfill meaning that only 4,209 was sent to landfill (0.9%).

The total combined figure (471,592 tonnes) is well below the original Regional Waste Forecast for both 2015/16 of 744,000 tonnes and 2020/21 of 771,000 tonnes (see Table 20 of the [Appendices to the Waste Local Plan](#)) whilst the landfill diversion percentages are significantly higher than the regional forecast (99.1% compared to 80%). The revised local targets for landfill diversion for Municipal Waste are however based on a target of 100% diversion from landfill and 0% primary landfill (See Table 23 of the Appendices to [the Waste Local Plan](#)). Whilst 0.9% of Municipal Waste is going to landfill and therefore is below target, this equates only to 4,209 tonnes. Even 100% diversion would not have been sufficient to meet the forecast tonnage as actual waste arising has been much lower than forecast.

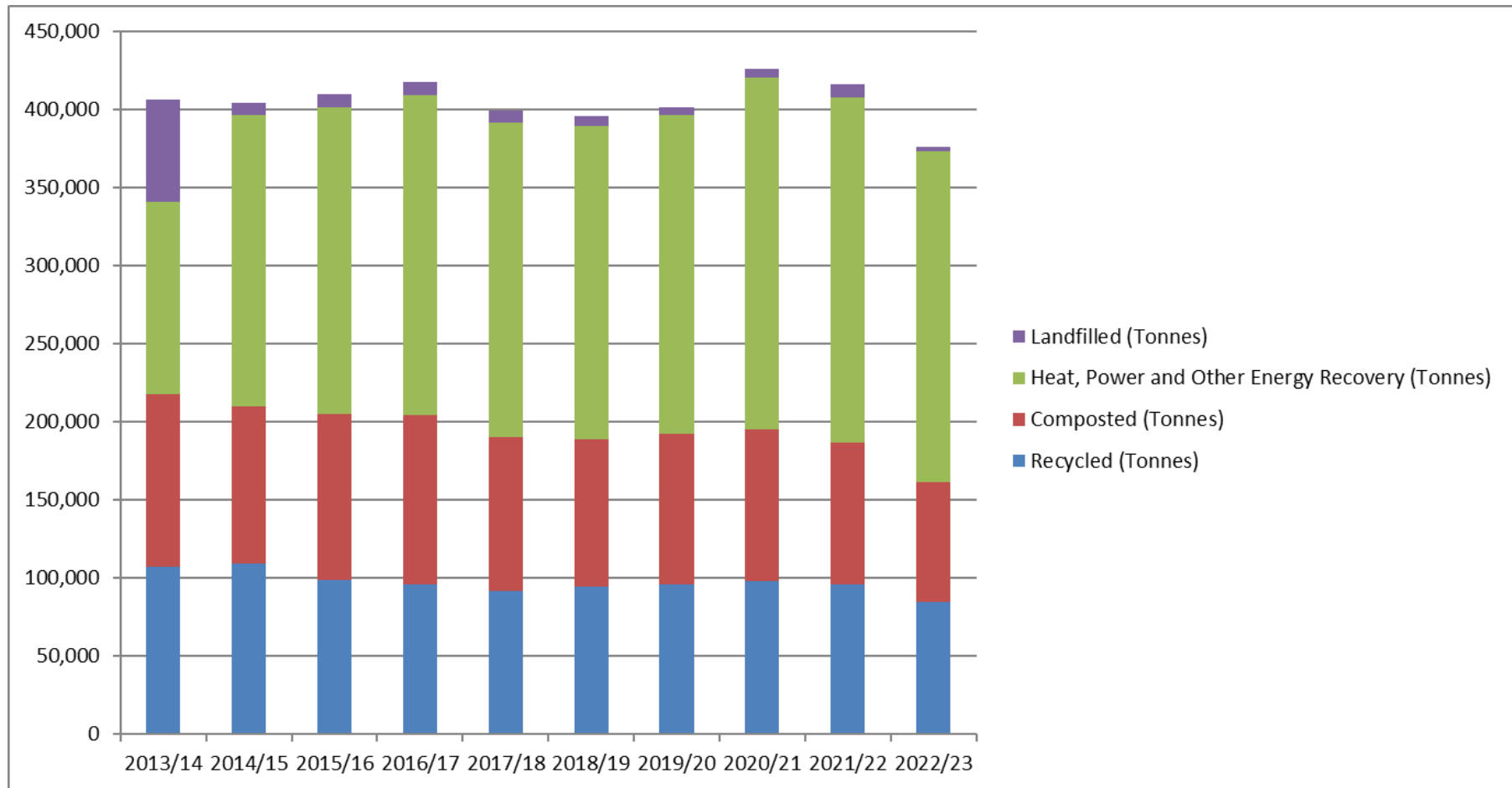
Data Sources:

- [Review of the Waste Local Plan](#) (published December 2018)
- [Environment Agency's 2021 Waste Data Interrogator](#) (Last Updated June 2023)
- Staffordshire County Council and Stoke on Trent City Council municipal waste management data;
- Appendices to the Waste Local Plan

**Data Table: Municipal Waste Management Routes in Staffordshire (excluding Stoke on Trent) 2013 – 2023**

<b>Waste Management Routes</b>	<b>2013/14</b>	<b>2014/15</b>	<b>2015/16</b>	<b>2016/17</b>	<b>2017/18</b>	<b>2018/19</b>	<b>2019/20</b>	<b>2020/21</b>	<b>2021/22</b>	<b>2022/23</b>
<b>Recycled (Tonnes)</b>	107,227	109,164	98,318	96,026	91,863	94,523	95,608	98,053	95,937	84,544
<b>Composted (Tonnes)</b>	110,203	101,078	106,510	108,552	98,045	94,123	97,011	97,274	90,793	76,694
<b>Heat, Power and Other Energy Recovery (Tonnes)</b>	123,415	185,983	196,635	204,579	201,805	200,558	203,872	224,839	220,737	211,917
<b>Landfilled (Tonnes)</b>	65,302	8,087	8,193	8,350	7,639	6,352	5,235	5,948	8,899	2,672
<b>Total (Tonnes)</b>	<b>406,147</b>	<b>404,312</b>	<b>409,656</b>	<b>417,507</b>	<b>399,352</b>	<b>395,556</b>	<b>401,726</b>	<b>426,114</b>	<b>416,366</b>	<b>375,827</b>

**Household Waste Management Table; Waste Management Route Graph (below) shows the route household waste was disposed of in Staffordshire County Council 2013-2023 (excluding Stoke on Trent Data)**



**Data Table: Revised local targets for Landfill diversion (% and tonnes) for Municipal (MSW) and Commercial and Industrial (C&I) Waste streams for Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent sub-region**

	2015/16 Forecast		2020/21 Forecast		2022/23 Actual (Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent)	
MSW Regional waste forecast (tonnes)	744,000 tonnes		771,000 tonnes		471,592 tonnes <b>Below predicted level</b>	
MSW Minimum diversion % rate / Maximum landfill % rate	75% Min. diversion from landfill	25% Max. landfill	100% Diversion from Landfill	0% Primary Landfill	99.1% diversion from landfill <b>Below target</b>	0.9 % landfilled <b>Below target</b>
MSW Minimum diversion tonnes / Maximum landfill tonnes	559,000 tonnes min. diversion from landfill	185,000 tonnes max. landfill	771,000 tonnes min. diversion from landfill	0 tonnes max. landfill	467,383 tonnes diverted from landfill <b>Below target<sup>1</sup></b>	4,209 tonnes landfilled <b>Below target</b>

<sup>1</sup> Note that target for tonnage of MSW diverted from landfill was based on regional waste forecast of 771,000 tonnes for 2020/21. Actual arisings were however lower than forecast, 519,722 for 2020/21, and 471,592 for 2022/23 so 100% tonnage diversion target of 771,000 at 2020/21 could not be met.

Assessing the total waste arising is not straightforward, and the original estimate 4.2 million tonnes per annum at the beginning of the plan period has not been repeated. However, other methods, including the Environment Agency's Waste Data Interrogator, suggest that waste production has not grown significantly over the plan period, so actual arising may be lower than predicted.

**Discussion:** Reliable estimates of total waste arisings have been difficult to produce, though the Environment Agency's recently modified Waste Data Interrogator has proved useful. A 5-year [review of the Waste Local Plan](#) (published in December 2018) relied on population as a proxy. This suggested that arisings were unlikely to exceed forecasts within the plan period. This appears to be consistent with Environment Agency data for the total amount of waste treated in the Plan area, though the origin of this waste is not recorded.

More reliable figures are available for Municipal Solid Waste, which makes up less than 10% of total arisings. The total figure is well below the original Regional Waste Forecast for both 2015/16 and 2020/21, while the landfill diversion percentages are significantly higher than the regional forecast.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that the rate of growth of waste production is within the range that we have planned for.

## W 2. Is waste treatment capacity keeping pace with production?

YES

### Underlying Questions:

#### Have interim targets been met as set out in Policy 2.2?

**Largely** Despite application records for 2022/23 showing that there has been no new waste treatment capacity permitted within Staffordshire, previous Annual Monitoring Reports show targets for residual treatment and organic treatment have been met. There is however a small shortfall in achieving the recycling capacity targets. The figures however do not

take account of any new waste permissions and subsequent new capacity in Stoke-on-Trent.

The Waste Local Plan sets a series of targets for additional capacity for Recycling, Organic Treatment, and Residential Treatment required to support a movement of waste up the treatment hierarchy.

The latest waste management capacity figures have been produced by adding newly permitted treatment capacity (in Staffordshire only) to the previous totals. The original figures come from work carried out during the review of the Waste Local Plan, in which the Environment Agency returns were matched against planning permissions. They include all losses from May 2012 to March 2018.

From previous Annual Monitoring Reports, adding any new capacity from the applications reported in those reports to the existing total, we can see from the Table below that with the exception of recycling, the targets to 2020/21 and 2025/26 for Organic and Residual Treatment have been met. [The Government Announcement of reforms to household and business waste collections](#) including weekly collections of food waste introduced for most households across England by 2026 may however have implications. There may be a need for additional waste management facilities /capacity to transfer, sort and process waste (e.g., to turn waste food into energy at anaerobic digestion facilities). However, at this stage, in the absence of an updated Municipal Waste Management Strategy produced by the Staffordshire districts /boroughs (the waste collection authorities) and the County Council (the waste disposal authority), there is no immediate need to plan for new facilities/capacity. Besides, the Waste Local Plan is working well using criteria-based policies for such applications, to ensure that they are developed in the right place and there is no reason to suggest an immediate need to change this approach. Nonetheless, any future review of the Plan will need to examine the capacity and number and type of waste management facilities required

over the plan period to achieve net self-sufficiency; and the need for updated criteria for new facilities/technology.

**Have we avoided any net loss of waste management capacity, particularly towards the upper part of the hierarchy?**

Data for losses in waste treatment capacity are less reliable as the planning authority may not be informed when a site reduces capacity or ceases to operate. The planning authority is not aware of the permanent cessation of an existing waste management facility.

Consideration should be given to future movements of waste for disposal and the availability of landfill capacity in Staffordshire and/or the use of waste management facilities located at landfill or mineral sites in Staffordshire whose permission is tied to an end date.

[The Appendices](#) to the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent Joint Waste Local Plan lists the operational landfill Sites in Staffordshire and Stoke on Trent (Table 13). Similarly, the [appendices](#) to the Minerals Local Plan (Appendix 4) lists quarries requiring backfill with waste.

The West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body (WMRTAB) has produced a report '[Landfill in the West Midlands report 2019](#)'.

Staffordshire is the largest recipient of waste for landfill in the West Midlands. Whilst the data suggests landfill capacity will deplete in the 2030s within the West Midlands region, it is likely additional capacity will emerge when mineral sites within Staffordshire have been fully extracted. In respect of remaining capacity, it should be noted that EA 2019 data was used and this EA data only accounts for capacity that has received an environmental permit from the Agency. It therefore does not account for our Planning obligated landfill sites i.e. void to be created as a result of mineral extraction / mineral permissions which haven't yet obtained an EA licence for the backfill of waste to restore the site.

Data source: Application Register

### Data Table: New Waste Treatment Capacity (tpa) added during 2022-23

Application Ref	Recycling	Organic Treatment	Residual Treatment	Transfer Station	Aggregate Recycling	Landfill
Totals	0	0	0	0	0	0

**Total Overall: 0**

### Data Table: Progress against targets for additional waste treatment capacity (updated with 2022-23 figures)

	Recycling (tonnes per annum)	Organic Treatment	Residual Treatment	Transfer Station	Aggregate Recycling
Staffordshire	1,204,709	540,000	609,000	909,000	882,000
Stoke-on-Trent	399,561	40,000	335,566	336,367	536,599
<b>Total</b>	1,604,270	580,000	944,566	1,245,750	1,418,599
<b>Interim Target (Target year 2010/11)</b>	952,620 <b>Achieved</b>	272,970 <b>Achieved</b>	451,410 <b>Achieved</b>		
<b>Interim Target (Target year 2015/16)</b>	1,370,913 <b>Achieved</b>	382,977 <b>Achieved</b>	620,160 <b>Achieved</b>		
<b>Interim Target (Target year 2020/21)</b>	1,792,659 Not Achieved	478,641 <b>Achieved</b>	744,700 <b>Achieved</b>		
<b>Interim Target (Target year 2025/26)</b>	1,800,919	484,381 <b>Achieved</b>	758,700 <b>Achieved</b>		



### Data Table: Changes in overall waste management capacity since adoption of the Waste Local Plan

	Recycling	Organic Treatment	Residual Treatment	Transfer Stations	Aggregate Recycling	Total
<b>Staffordshire</b>						
<b>May 2012</b>	62	13	11	74	22	<b>182</b>
	888,970	522,595	544,843	1,332,730	708,401	<b>3,997,539</b>
<b>March 2022</b>	46	14	4	50	27	<b>141</b>
	1,204,709	540,000	609,000	909,383	882,000	<b>4,118,592</b>
<b>Change (No.)</b>	-16	1	-7	-24	5	<b>-41</b>
<b>Capacity (T)</b>	315,739	-9,095	64,157	-423,347	173,599	<b>121,053</b>

<b>Stoke-on-Trent</b>						
<b>May 2012</b>	24	1	4	28	5	<b>62</b>
	523,193	39,784	335,952	429,761	312,039	<b>1,640,729</b>
<b>March 2022</b>	17	1	3	22	9	<b>52</b>
	399,561	40,000	335,566	336,367	536,599	<b>1,648,093</b>
<b>Change (No.)</b>	-7	0	-1	-6	4	<b>-10</b>
<b>Capacity (T)</b>	-123,632	216	-386	-93,394	224,560	<b>7,364</b>

<b>Combined</b>						
<b>May 2012</b>	86	14	15	102	27	<b>244</b>
	1,412,163	562,379	880,795	1,762,491	1,020,440	<b>5,638,268</b>
<b>March 2022</b>	63	15	7	72	36	<b>193</b>
	1,604,270	580,000	944,566	1,245,750	1,418,599	<b>5,766,685</b>
<b>Change (No.)</b>	-23	1	-9	-30	9	<b>-52</b>

<b>Capacity (T)</b>	192,107	-8,879	63,771	-516,741	398,159	<b>128,417</b>
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**Discussion:** The number of waste related planning applications during the reporting period was small and whilst they related to existing waste treatment facilities, none lead to an increase in treatment capacity or an increase in the number of operational sites. The planning authority is also not aware of the permanent cessation of any existing waste management facility.

The Waste Local Plan set a series of targets for additional capacity for Recycling, Organic Treatment, and Residual Treatment to support a movement of waste up the treatment hierarchy. All of these have already been met on time or ahead of time, with the exception of the 2020/21, and 2025/26 targets for recycling capacity which are yet to be achieved.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that waste treatment capacity is keeping pace with production.

### **W 3. Are we maintaining net self-sufficiency for waste management?**

**YES**

#### **Underlying Questions:**

#### **What proportion of our waste is treated within the Plan area, and what proportion is exported for treatment elsewhere?**

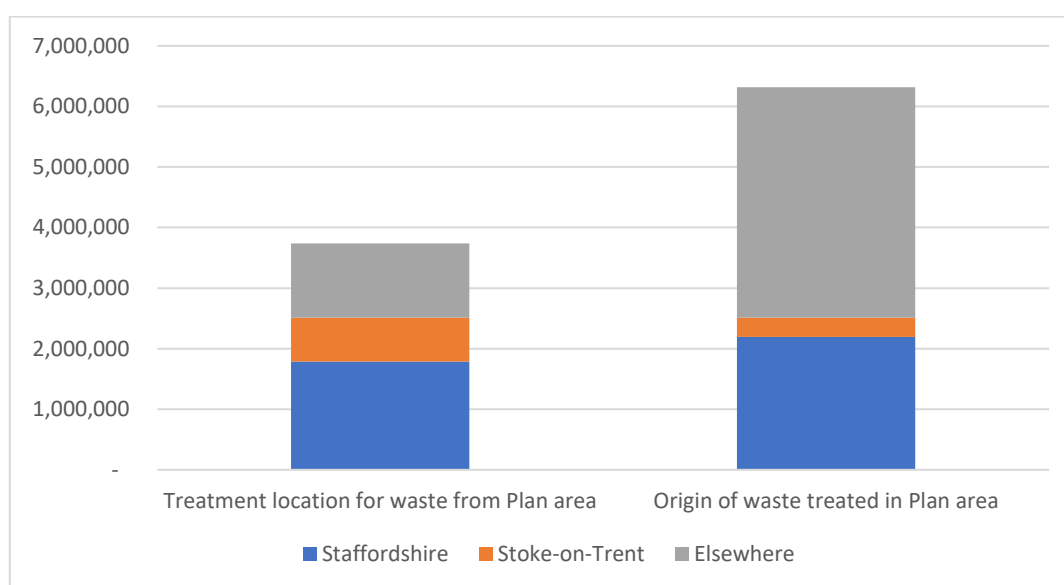
Of the 3,739,525 tonnes of waste which originated within the Plan area (as described in W1), 2,514,055 tonnes (67%) was also treated here (1,787,452 (48%) in Staffordshire, and 726,603 (19%) in Stoke on Trent), with 1,225,470 tonnes (33%) of waste transported beyond the Plan area for treatment or disposal.

Over the same period, 3,803,393 of waste was brought into the Plan area from beyond its boundary, bringing the total treated within the Plan area to 6,317,448 tonnes (4,792,339 tonnes (76%) in Staffordshire and 1,525,108 tonnes (24%) in Stoke on Trent).

Data Source: Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator (2021)

### Data Table: Destination and Origin of waste within the Plan Area

	Staffordshire	Stoke-on-Trent	Elsewhere
Treatment location for waste from Plan area (T)	1,787,452	726,603	1,225,470
Origin of waste treated in Plan area (T)	2,192,878	321,177	3,803,393



**Discussion:** While not all of the waste arising within the Plan area is treated within the Plan area, the amount of waste exported for treatment elsewhere is much smaller than the amount of waste imported for treatment. We are, therefore, treating an amount of waste which is equivalent to 251% of the amount generated in the Plan area.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that we are maintaining net self-sufficiency for waste management within the Plan area

**W 4. Are the location policies for waste sites working?****YES****Underlying Questions:****Are new approvals in line with locational criteria?**

**Largely.** Planning applications data show that eight cases related to sites with existing waste-related permissions and two related to new sites. Of the ten applications during the reporting period only one had the potential to add new waste treatment capacity (100,000 tpa of recycling capacity) but this application was withdrawn (March 2023).

There was a variation of different types of applications. Four related to established wastewater /sewage treatment works with three proposing additional infrastructure (kiosks) and the fourth making amendments to the access. Two cases related to existing landfills with one related to layout changes and replacement office accommodation, and one related to HGVs waiting on internal haul road. One case involved the reconfiguration of car parking at an existing waste site on an industrial estate, and another case related to relocating the existing aggregate recycling facility within the quarry. An application for a skip hire and recycling facility at a new site on an industrial estate was withdrawn and an application for landfill /the importation of engineering materials to remodel a golf course was refused. The refusal has been appealed and the decision by the Secretary of State is still awaited ([SCC/21/0033/FULL](#)).

**How many new approvals were granted under exceptions criteria?**

During this reporting period, no applications were approved under the exemption criteria contained within Policy 3. Overall, no applications added any new treatment capacity.

Data Source: Application Register and Application Details.

### Data Table: Waste applications determined between 1 April 2022 and 31 March 2023

App. No.	Location	Description	Date granted	In line with locational criteria?	Additional capacity added
<a href="#">SCC/21/0074/FULL</a>	<b>Betley Wastewater Treatment Works</b>	Construction of 3 kiosks in association with permitted development works including the use of an alternative access at Betley Court Farm	21 May 2022	Yes	0
<a href="#">SCC/21/0038/FULL</a>	<b>Betley Wastewater Treatment Works</b>	Widening of existing access and construction of passing places along the access track.	16 June 2022	Yes	0
<a href="#">SCC/22/0095/FULL-MAJ</a>	<b>Madeley Wastewater Treatment Works</b>	Installation of 4 No. kiosks required in connection with improvements to the wastewater treatment works	18 October 2022	Yes	0
<a href="#">SCC/21/0033/FULL</a>	<b>Whiston Hall Golf Club</b>	Remodelling of existing golf course. Requiring the importation of engineering materials to regrade and reprofile part of the existing golf course.	Refused and applicant appealed awaiting appeal decision.	Yes	0
<a href="#">SCC/21/0013/FULL</a>	<b>Veolia Environmental services</b>	Application to reconfigure parking areas	4 July 2022	Yes	0
<a href="#">SS.20/06/602 MW</a>	<b>Saredon Quarry</b>	Relocation of existing Aggregate Recycling Facility	15 March 2023	Yes	0
<a href="#">SCC/22/0078/FULL-MAJ</a>	<b>Walleys Quarry Landfill</b>	Application to allow waste carrying	1 Dec 2022	Yes	0

		vehicles to park on the internal haul road			
<a href="#">SCC/22/0045/FULL-MAJ</a>	<b>Poplars Landfill Site</b>	Application to regularise the layout of the municipal collection depot and replacing single storey office with a two-storey accommodation	18 July 2022	Yes	0
<a href="#">SCC/22/0029/FULL-MAJ</a>	<b>Plot D, Howle Close, Rowhurst Industrial Estate</b>	Application for a skip hire and recycling facility including the sorting, processing and storage of 100,000 tonnes of waste per annum	Withdrawn 10 March 2023	Yes	0
<a href="#">SCC/21/0043/FULL</a>	<b>Alton Sewage Treatment Works, Farley Lane, Alton, Stoke on Trent, ST10 4DB</b>	Installation of 1 No. SAS feed pumps kiosk and 1 No. Liquid poly dosing kiosk	4 May 2022	Yes	0

**Discussion:** Eight cases related to sites with existing waste-related permissions and two related to new sites. Of the ten applications during the reporting period only one was a new site which had the potential to add new waste treatment capacity (100,000 tpa of recycling capacity) but this application was withdrawn (March 2023). The other new site related to landfill /importation of waste to reprofile part of an existing golf course. The application was refused and the decision appealed. The Appeal Decision from the Secretary of State is awaited.

**Conclusion:** Overall, it is reasonable to conclude that the location policies for waste sites are working.

**W 5. Are we doing all we can to safeguard existing waste treatment sites?****YES****Underlying Questions:****Have we avoided the sterilisation of waste treatment sites contrary to the requirements policy?**

**Yes.** We were consulted by District/Borough on 0 applications which had the potential to impact on existing waste management facilities.

Data Source: Applications Register. WCA Applications determined 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023

**Discussion:**

The County Council was consulted on 0 District/ Borough Council applications which might have impacted on waste management facilities.

We continue to receive many fewer waste consultation area (WCA) consultations than mineral safeguarding area (MSA) consultations. As discussed in previous reports, this may reflect the large geographical extent of the Mineral Safeguarding Areas in comparison to the relatively small areas where waste management facilities might be affected, and also the relative difficulty for local planning authorities to identify where WCA consultations would be appropriate.

All LPAs have been provided with GIS layers providing the locations of all waste sites that might require safeguarding.

**Conclusion:** Overall, it is reasonable to conclude that we are doing all we can to safeguard existing waste treatment sites.

**W 6. Are we doing all we can to reduce the impacts of waste treatment facilities on the environment?****YES****Underlying Questions:****What proportion of new permission require specific environmental improvements to be achieved?**

**100%.** Once again, all new waste planning permissions include some form of environmental improvement.

**Were any new permission approved where adverse impacts (as defined in Policy 4.2) were anticipated, but judged to be outweighed by material planning benefits?**

**No.** No such approvals were granted.

**How many approvals were granted requiring phased improvement of existing waste management facilities?**

**None.** No such approvals were granted.

**Were all newly permitted facilities enclosed?**

**No.** No approvals involved new open-air operations, though an existing aggregate recycling facility within an existing quarry was relocated. The permission includes measures to mitigate noise, and dust. Also new office accommodation replaced existing on site facilities.

**What proportion of new facilities were exempted for requirement for enclosure?**

**None.** No such approvals were granted. An existing aggregate recycling facility was relocated.

**How many approvals granted involved temporary planning permissions?**

**None.** No such approvals were granted.



Data source: Planning applications Register and individual applications and permissions.

**Data Table: New waste planning permissions granted 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023.**

App. No.	Location	Date granted	Includes environmental improvement?	Adverse impacts anticipated?	Phased improvements needed?	Enclosed ?	Exempt from enclosure ?	Temporary permission ?
<a href="#">SCC/22/0095/FULL-MAJ</a>	Madeley Wastewater Treatment Works, Lea Lane	18-Oct-22	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No
<a href="#">SCC/21/0043/FULL</a>	Alton Sewage Treatment Works, Farley Lane, Alton, Stoke on Trent, ST10 4BD	4-May-2022	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No
<a href="#">SCC/21/0074/FULL</a>	Betley Wastewater treatment works	21-May-2022	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No
<a href="#">SCC/21/0038/FULL</a>	Betley Wastewater treatment works	16 -June - 2022	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No

<a href="#">SCC/21/00 13/FULL</a>	Veolia Environmental Services	4-July-2022	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
<a href="#">SS.20/06/6 02 MW</a>	Saredon Quarry	1-March-2023	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
<a href="#">SCC/22/00 78/FULL- MAJ</a>	Walley's Quarry Landfill	1-Dec-22	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	No
<a href="#">SCC/22/00 45/FULL- MAJ</a>	Poplars Landfill	18-July-2022	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	No

**Discussion:** The impacts of waste treatment facilities on the environment are being well managed. Potential impacts are being controlled through conditions.

**Conclusion:** Overall, it is reasonable to conclude that we are doing all we can to reduce the impacts of waste treatment facilities on the environment.

### W 7. Are we co-ordinating our work with other waste planning authorities across the region?

YES

#### Underlying Questions:

**Have we continued to co-operate on regional issues with regard to current and future waste management capacity, and on future evidence base preparation.**

**Yes.** The West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body was set up as a forum for discussion between Waste Management Authorities across the region to discuss such issues. Staffordshire County Council has been represented at all meetings of this group.

Data source: Minutes of meeting of West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body

#### Data Table: Attendance at WMRTAB Meetings.

Date of meeting	SCC Represented?
6 December 2022	Yes
15 February 2023	Yes
21 June 2023	Yes

**Discussion:** Meetings of the West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body provide a forum to discuss regional issues relating to waste management provision, and to ensure compliance with the Duty to Cooperate. Though the frequency of meetings has declined in recent years, and they have moved online in response to Covid-19, Staffordshire County Council has been represented at all meetings and has been fully involved in discussions.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that we are co-ordinating our work with other waste planning authorities across the region.

## W 8. Does the Waste Local Plan need to be revised?

**NO**

### Underlying Questions:

#### Are the policies working as we intended?

**Yes,** analysis of applications during the reporting period has not raised any concerns that policies are failing to work as intended.

#### How is the plan performing against targets?

**Fine,** as reported in 2 (above) plan targets are being met as planned, or ahead of schedule.

#### Have there been any relevant changes to National Planning Policy?

**No.** The Environment Act 2021 is expected to have an impact on the design of packaging to facilitate recycling, and also on the approach to collection and recycling of household waste. If these changes require different collection services, then these would need to be addressed through the Municipal Waste Management Strategy which, in turn, would influence any review of the Waste Local Plan.

#### Have there been any changes to the Strategic Priorities?

**No**, there have been no changes to our strategic priorities since the Waste Local Plan was prepared.

### **Have there been any change to local circumstances?**

There is nothing to suggest that local circumstances are significantly different to when the Waste Local Plan was prepared.

Data Source: First Review of the Waste Local Plan, December 2018.

**Discussion:** A 5-year [review of the Waste Local Plan](#) was completed in December 2018 concluding that there was no need for a revision.

Since then, there have been no significant changes. The Plan policies are working as intended, Plan targets are being met on time or ahead of schedule, and there have been no significant changes to National Planning Policy, strategic priorities, or local circumstances.

**Conclusion:** It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that the Waste Local Plan does not need to be revised.

**For more information please contact:**

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