

Annual Monitoring Report 2018/19



Background Report



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Behind the Headlines

Welcome to the second part of our newly reformatted Annual Monitoring Report. This document provides the story behind the headlines in our Headline Report. It attempts to explain 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 are 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, was adopted in 2013, and we have recently carried out a 5-year [review](#), publishing a report in December 2018. [The Minerals Local Plan for Staffordshire \(2015-2030\)](#), known as the Minerals Local Plan, was adopted in February 2017, so we carried out a simpler review of this Plan when the National Planning Policy Framework was revised, publishing details of the review in December 2018, as an appendix to our [Annual Monitoring Report for 2017-18](#).

As much of the information required for such reviews is collected for the Annual Monitoring Report anyway, we have decided to incorporate reviews of both the Minerals Local Plan and the Waste Local Plan into this and future Annual Monitoring Reports, rather than producing separate reviews at 5-year intervals.

The guidance also says that, where the periodic reviews of Local Plans show that complete or partial revisions are needed, we must publish a programme for the work in a Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS). At this stage, we have not found that any revisions are required, so we do not intend to publish a new MWDS at this stage.

Minerals

M 1. Does the Plan make sufficient provision for Sand and Gravel?
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YES

Underlying Questions:

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

YES. Ten-year sales average in 2018 (covering period 2009 – 2018) was 4.836 million tonnes per annum. This is assumed to be limited by demand, rather than available resource. The figure is less than the provision for sand and gravel in the MLP (i.e. 5 million tonnes per annum), so permitted and

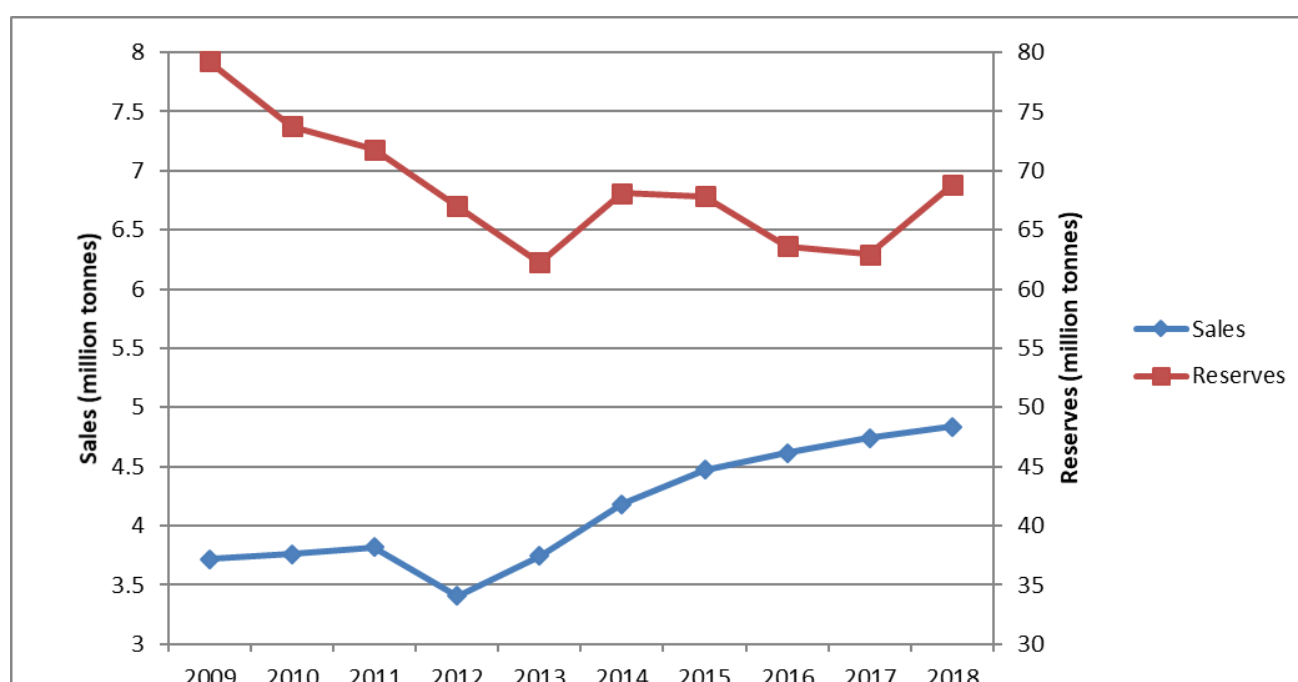
allocated resources would be sufficient to continue to supply at this level for at least the remainder of the plan period.

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

YES. The landbank of permitted reserves as of 1 January 2019 was 16 years based on the 10-year sales average for 2009 - 2018. Alternatively, the landbank would be 13.8 years based on the level of provision of 5 million tonnes per annum used in the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan.

Data Source: [Local Aggregate Assessment \(based on 2018 data\)](#)

Data Table: Staffordshire Sand and Gravel Sales and Reserves 2009-2018



Year	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
Sales (Million tonnes)	3.72	3.76	3.82	3.406	3.742	4.184	4.47	4.614	4.743	4.836
Total reserves (Million Tonnes)	79.22	73.77	71.79	66.98	62.26	68.09	67.86	63.63	62.94	68.785
Number of operational sites	20	17	16	17	17	18	18	17	16	16

Source: WMAWP surveys

Graph: Sales and Reserves of Sand and Gravel in Staffordshire 2009 – 2018

Discussion: The 10-year average sales of sand and gravel from Staffordshire sites is 4.836 million tonnes. This is less than the level of provision used as part of Policy 1 of the Minerals Local Plan (MLP) i.e. 5 million tonnes of sand and gravel per

annum, to assess the allocation of additional sand and gravel resources to meet needs up to the end of 2030. Using the latest 10 year sales average would also mean the landbank of permitted reserves as of 1 January 2019 would last for 16 years. This comfortably exceeds the target of maintaining a 7-year landbank.

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

M 2. Does the Plan make sufficient provision for Cement Minerals

YES

Underlying Questions:

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

- Limestone at Cauldon Works

Yes

- Shale at Cauldon Works

No (but an extension is allocated in the MLP)

- Gypsum and anhydrite at Fauld Mine

Yes

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

N/A. None of the planning applications determined between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019 related to new sites for cement minerals, so it is not possible to assess whether they were located in line with Policy 2.

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

N/A. None of the planning applications determined between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019 related to extensions to cement mineral sites, so it is not possible to assess whether they were conditioned to only be worked following cessation of working within existing site as required by Policy 2.4.

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

Discussion: Permitted reserves of limestone at Cauldon, and of gypsum and anhydrite at Fauld exceed 15 years supply as required by Policy 2 of the MLP. Permitted reserves of shale at Cauldon do not, but an extension to the shale quarry

at Cauldon has been allocated in the MLP which would support maintaining an adequate level of supply.

During the monitoring period, no new planning permissions have been granted for new cement mineral sites, or within the allocated extensions. It is, therefore, not relevant to assess whether they were in line with Policy 2 or conditioned to only be worked once working has ceased within the currently permitted sites.

Conclusion: It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that the Minerals Local Plan does make sufficient provision for industrial Minerals

M 3. Does the Plan make sufficient 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 Source: Confidential Survey of Industrial Minerals, carried out by Staffordshire County Council

Data Table: Status of clay stocks at Staffordshire quarries supplying works within the Plan area. Note: detailed data are considered to be commercially confidential, and are not available for publication

Works	25 year stock?
Parkhouse, Newcastle	No
Chesterton, Newcastle	No
Keele Works, Newcastle	No
Wilnecote, Tamworth	No
Lodge Lane, Cannock	Yes

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 the quarries have sufficient permitted reserves for 25 years of supply for each works in Staffordshire. For the purposes of the Minerals Local Plan, data are collected in a periodic, confidential survey, but the data cannot be made public as they are commercially sensitive.

A survey carried out this year found that the Lodge Lane Works in Cannock did have at least 25 years' supply of clay. Wilnecote in Tamworth does not have 25 years' supply but a permission granted in April 2019 (ref: [T.16/02/905 MW](#)) allowed for the extraction of an additional 10 years supply of clay and the Works also receives clays not locally derived (refer to permission T.18/01/905 MW granted March 2019). Supply of clay 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 important, it is not a current requirement of the MLP for Staffordshire to monitor the landbanks for clay product works outside the county and is not considered in this assessment.

Conclusion: It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that the Plan makes sufficient 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. 3 applications for new mineral development were approved between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019. All were extensions to existing sites and were compliant with allocated sites/ areas or policy 1 of [The Minerals Local Plan for Staffordshire \(2015-2030\)](#)

Data Source: Planning Application records

Data Table: Planning application for new mineral development, approved between 1 April 2017 and 31 March 2018 – Compliance with Policy 1

App. No.	Location	Description	Date granted	Compliant with Policy 1
SS.17/10/602 MW	Saredon Hill Quarry, Great Saredon Road, Little Saredon	Application to vary conditions 1, 12, 13, 14, 24, 46 and 47 of planning permission SS.16/10/602 MW to deepen parts of the permitted extraction area and to confirm the working scheme details	3 July 2018	Yes. Policy 1 not applicable to deepening.

L.16/05/809 MW	Shire Oak Quarry , Chester Road, Shire Oak	Planning application for an eastern extension (inclusive of additional sand and gravel mineral working, subsequent infilling with inert material, landscaping works and all ancillary works) and to consolidate existing permissions with a composite revised restoration scheme	16 June 2018	Yes. Justified under Policy 1.6 (b) – ensuring comprehensive recovery of resource.
L.15/04/805-808 MW	Hints Quarry , Watling Street, Hints, Tamworth	Proposed North West extension to Hints Quarry; continued use of existing processing plant and site access onto Watling Street; comprehensive phased quarrying and restoration scheme for existing quarry and North West extension area as consolidation application	22 Oct 2018	Yes. Listed in Policy 1.1

Discussion: All three permissions which added sand and gravel reserves during 2018-19 were considered to be consistent with the locational policies set out in Policy 1 of the MLP, but in different ways:

The north-western extension at Hints Quarry had been allocated in the MLP; the eastern extension at Shire Oak Quarry had not been allocated, but could be justified under Policy 1.6 (b); and the deepening of Saredon Quarry was justified as it enabled the comprehensive recovery of a resource that would otherwise be sterilised by the restoration of the quarry.

Conclusion: It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that the location policies for mineral sites are working

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 or mitigated.

Do all new approvals have appropriate restoration plans?

YES. 3 applications were approved which allowed the extraction of additional mineral reserves (all sand and gravel). In each case, the applications were accompanied by clear and specific restoration plans which were approved.

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

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

Data Source: Planning Application Records

Data Tables:

App. No.	Location	Date granted	In line with environmental criteria	Restoration plan?	Hydrocarbon extraction?
SS.17/10/602 MW	Saredon Hill Quarry , Great Saredon Road, Little Saredon	3 July 2018	Yes – confirmed in Committee Report	Yes	No
L.16/05/809 MW	Shire Oak Quarry , Chester Road, Shire Oak	16 June 2018	Yes – confirmed in Committee Report	Yes	No
L.15/04/805-808 MW	Hints Quarry , Watling Street, Hints, Tamworth	22 Oct 2018	Yes – confirmed in Committee Report.	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. The new permission granted for sand and gravel extraction at Hints accords with the development considerations (environmental criteria) set out in the Minerals Local Plan.

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 70 applications where mineral sterilisation could have been an issue. All were carefully assessed, and only 2 objections were made. One related to a proposal which might have compromised a restoration plan, and one related to the construction of a large pond and involved mineral extraction within a MSA. The first has been refused by the LPA, and the second has been redirected to us, the MPA, for determination.

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 70 applications referred to us by the LPAs, none were considered to directly affect, or threaten the continued operation of, any mineral infrastructure sites.

Data Source: Planning Application Data

**Data Table: MSA Applications determined 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019
(From Applications Register)**

Summary
Total MSA Applications: 70
No Objection: 68 (of which 1 was a no comment reply).
Objections: 2
1 for reinstatement of farm to be demolished to make way for sand and gravel extraction. Objected due to conflict with restoration plan.
1 for creation of large pond involving sale of extracted gravel. Objected as it should have been a County application.

Discussion:

During 2018/19, we were consulted by District/ Borough Councils on 70 planning applications for non-mineral development which fell within Mineral Safeguarding Areas and were not exempt from consideration. In all but 2 cases, we were able to decide that the proposals would be unlikely to lead to the sterilisation of significant mineral resources and did not conflict with the requirements of Policy 3 of the MLP.

In the two remaining cases, we objected. One of the objections (ref: [ES.2018/00443 MSA](#)) was resolved by the submission a planning application for mineral development associated with construction of a pond and the other objection (ref: [ES.2018/01077 MSA](#)) was similarly resolved by the submission of a mineral planning application as the proposed building development would affect an approved quarry restoration plan.

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 of the meetings.

Data Source: Minutes of AWP meetings

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

Date	SCC Represented?
8 October 2019	Yes
9 July 2019	Yes
13 July 2018	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 aggregates and to support local planning on the provision of aggregates. We have been represented at all of 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 applications 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 37 quarry sites.

Data Table: Details relating to the restoration of aggregate mineral sites

Quarry	Operator	Grid Ref	Cessation Date for Mineral Working <small>Red if next 2 years, amber if next 5]</small>	Restoration Guarantee - Bond/Fund	MPA/ BAA Member	Is there an approved restoration 'concept'?	Is there an approved detailed restoration/ aftercare scheme?	Is there a restoration/ aftercare review requirement?	Is there an approved reviewed restoration/ aftercare scheme?	Date of latest/next 'review' of the restoration/ aftercare scheme	AMR Assessment: Is the site subject to a restoration strategy / plan?
Operational sand and gravel quarries											
Newbold Quarry (Tucklesholme)	Aggregate Industries	SK 205 195	2029	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	15/08/19	YES
Leasowes Farm, Uttoxeter	Aggregate Industries	SK 097 351	2016 [Extension to 2023 approved]	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	N/a	N/a	YES
Barton	Hanson Aggregates	SK 195 155	2030	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	23/04/19	YES
Freehay/ Mobberley	Hanson Aggregates	SK 015 411	2025	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No	n/a	YES
Pottal Pool	Hanson Aggregates	SJ 973 147	2034	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	n/a	n/a	YES
Alrewas	Tarmac Limited	SK 175 125	2027	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	17/5/22	YES
Rugeley	Cemex	SK 010 181	2031	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	n/a	YES

Quarry	Operator	Grid Ref	Cessation Date for Mineral Working [Red if next 2 years, amber if next 5]	Restoration Guarantee - Bond/ Fund	MPA/ BAA Member	Is there an approved restoration 'concept'?	Is there an approved detailed restoration/ aftercare scheme?	Is there a restoration/ aftercare review requirement?	Is there an approved reviewed restoration/ aftercare scheme?	Date of latest/next 'review' of the restoration/ aftercare scheme	AMR Assessment: Is the site subject to a restoration strategy / plan?
Weeford	H.D.Ricketts	SK 133 026	2042	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	n/a	YES
Hints	Tarmac Limited / Cemex	SK 163 462	2025	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	20/10/19	YES
Croxden	Tarmac Limited	SK 033 417	2023	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	n/a	YES
Seisdon	JPE Holdings	SO 700 950	2019	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	n/a	YES
Cranebrook	WCL	SK 070 064	2033	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	n/a	YES
Captains Barn Farm	C.E. & J.M. Dale	SK 950 455	2026	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	16/6/23	YES
Shire Oak	JPE Holdings	SK 063 042	2025	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	31/3/25	YES
Saredon Quarry	NRS Waste Care/ Breedon	SJ 944 80	2028	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No	16/12/25	YES
Four Ashes	Salop Sand & Gravel Co.	SJ 927 97	2021	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	n/a	Yes

Quarry	Operator	Grid Ref	Cessation Date for Mineral Working [Red if next 2 years, amber if next 5]	Restoration Guarantee - Bond/ Fund	MPA/ BAA Member	Is there an approved restoration 'concept'?	Is there an approved detailed restoration/ aftercare scheme?	Is there a restoration/ aftercare review requirement?	Is there an approved reviewed restoration/ aftercare scheme?	Date of latest/next 'review' of the restoration/ aftercare scheme	AMR Assessment: Is the site subject to a restoration strategy / plan?
Non-operational sand and gravel quarries											
Poolhouse Road	CWI Trustees	SO 853 927	2042	No	No	No	No	No	No	n/a	No
Hilton Park	Hanson Aggregates	SJ 952 45	2042	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	n/a	No
Manor Park	Hanson Aggregates	SK 144 172	2014	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	n/a	No
Moneymore	Hanson Aggregates	SK133 026	2025/2042	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	N/a	n/a	Yes
Trentham	Hanson Aggregates	SJ 750 380	2042	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	n/a	n/a	Yes
Whittington Hall Lane	Severn Trent Water Ltd	SO 870 820	2042	No	No	No	No	No	No	n/a	No
Weavers Hill	GRS Roadstone	SJ 794 203	2022	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	n/a	No
Operational crushed rock quarry											
Cauldon Low	Aggregate Industries	SK 084 474	2042	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	n/a	No

Quarry	Operator	Grid Ref	Cessation Date for Mineral Working [Red if next 2 years, amber if next 5]	Restoration Guarantee - Bond/ Fund	MPA/ BAA Member	Is there an approved restoration 'concept'?	Is there an approved detailed restoration/ aftercare scheme?	Is there a restoration/ aftercare review requirement?	Is there an approved reviewed restoration/ aftercare scheme?	Date of latest/next 'review' of the restoration/ aftercare scheme	AMR Assessment: Is the site subject to a restoration strategy / plan?
Non-operational crushed rock quarry											
Kevin	Bamford Excavators	SK 086 465	2028	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	10 years after working restarts	Yes
Wardlow / Wredon	Bamford Excavators	SK 087 572	2046	Yes	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	When working restarts	Yes

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 26 the permitted aggregate sites within the Plan area, 6 have no approved restoration strategy or detailed plan and this mainly because the quarries are non-operational and have not been subject to a recent review. No significant improvement to the coverage of restoration requirements has resulted from the applications determined during 2018/19.

During the reporting period, 3 new mineral permissions were granted allowing the extraction of additional mineral. All related to sand and gravel working, and all have restoration strategies to implement as a requirement of the permissions.

Conclusion: It is, therefore, reasonable to conclude that almost all aggregate mineral sites subject to a restoration strategy/ plan that has been considered in the last 10 years.

M 9. Does the Minerals 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 above, we are maintaining supplies and reserves as planned, and none of the trigger points for the review of the MLP been reached.

Have there been any relevant changes to National Planning Policy?

No. There has been a change to NPPF policy for hydrocarbon development, in response to a legal challenge, but the MLP remains consistent.

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 prepared.

Have there been any changes to local circumstances?

No, there have been no major changes yet, though we are aware that the development of HS2 would create a significant demand for aggregate that was not anticipated when the Minerals Local Plan was prepared.

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 they might affect the MLP. 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. We are, however, aware that we need to continue to monitor the provision of aggregates as circumstances of supply are likely to be affected by the additional demands of constructing HS2. Based on the findings of the survey of the supply of clay to clay product works in north Staffordshire, we also need to undertake another survey in 3 years.

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 arisings 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, total waste production has not been repeated.

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

Also, the latest Environment Agency figures show that a total of 4,232,907 tonnes of waste was received into waste management sites within the plan area in 2017 (560,404 in Stoke-on-Trent, and 3,672,503) in the rest of Staffordshire, but the origin of this waste is not recorded.

Both pieces of evidence suggest that total waste arisings have not increased significantly, and will remain within the forecasts used to prepare the Plan.

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

In 2017-18, a total of 399,352 tonnes of municipal solid waste (MSW) was treated in Staffordshire (excluding Stoke-on-Trent). Of this, 91,863 tonnes was recycled; 98,045 tonnes was composted; 201,805 tonnes was burned with heat, power or other energy recovery; and the remaining 7,639 tonnes was landfilled.

The total figure is well below the original Regional Waste Forecast for both 2015/16 and 2020/21 (See Table 20 of the [Appendices to the Waste Local Plan](#), while the landfill diversion percentages are significantly higher than forecast.

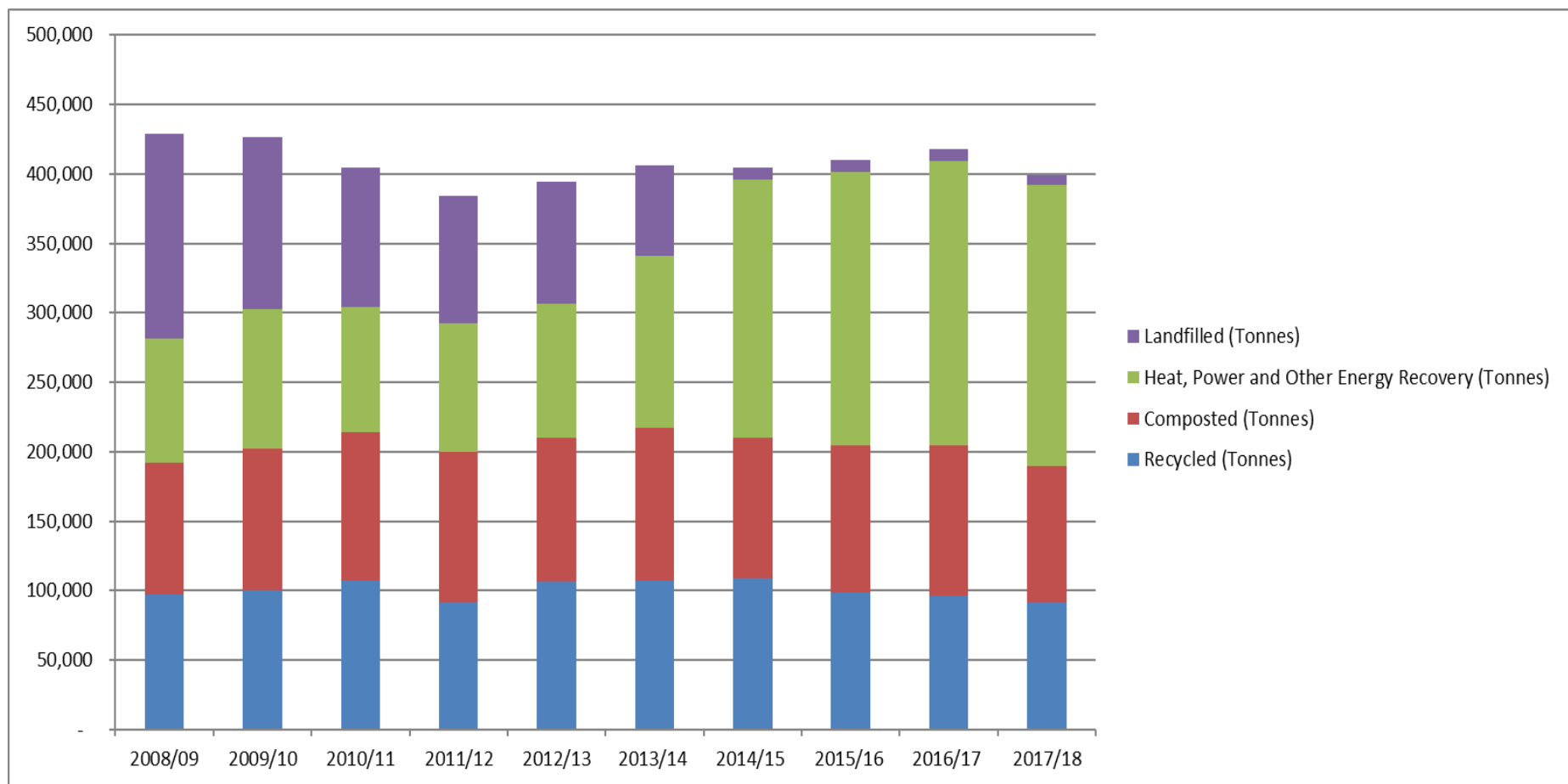
Targets for minimum tonnage diverted from landfill have not been met as the total tonnage of waste arising has been much lower than forecast.

Data Sources:

- [Review of the Waste Local Plan](#) (published December 2018);
- [Environment Agency's 2017 Waste Data Interrogator](#) (published 10 Sept 2018);
- Staffordshire County Council municipal waste management data;
- [Appendices to the Waste Local Plan](#).

Data Table: Municipal Waste Management Routes in Staffordshire (excluding Stoke-on-Trent) 2008 - 18

Waste Management Routes	2008/09	2009/10	2010/11	2011/12	2012/13	2013/14	2014/15	2015/16	2016/17	2017/18
Recycled (Tonnes)	97,169	100,067	106,986	91,890	106,184	107,227	109,164	98,318	96,026	91,863
Composted (Tonnes)	94,742	102,301	107,280	108,123	103,568	110,203	101,078	106,510	108,552	98,045
Heat, Power and Other Energy Recovery (Tonnes)	89,621	100,145	89,622	92,418	96,557	123,415	185,983	196,635	204,579	201,805
Landfilled (Tonnes)	147,062	123,860	100,789	91,988	88,380	65,302	8,087	8,193	8,350	7,639
Total (Tonnes)	428,594	426,373	404,677	384,419	394,689	406,147	404,312	409,656	417,507	399,352



Data Table: Regional waste forecasts (tonnes) and regional targets for landfill diversion (% and tonnes) for Municipal (MSW) and Commercial & Industrial (C&I) waste streams for the Staffordshire and Stoke-on-Trent sub-region. (1)

	2015/16 Forecast		2020/21 Forecast		2017/18 Actual	
MSW Regional waste forecast (tonnes)	744,000 tonnes		771,000 tonnes		399,352 tonnes Below predicted level	
MSW Minimum diversion %rate / Maximum landfill % rate	75% Min. diversion from landfill	25% Max. landfill	80% Min. diversion from landfill	20% Max. landfill	98% diversion from landfill Above target	1.9% landfilled Below target
MSW Minimum diversion tonnes / Maximum landfill tonnes	559,000 tonnes min. diversion from landfill	185,000 tonnes max. landfill	613,000 tonnes min. diversion from landfill	158,000tonnes max. landfill	391,713 tonnes diverted from landfill Below target¹	7,639 tonnes landfilled Below target

¹ Note that target for minimum tonnage of MSW diverted from landfill was based on total arisings of 744,000 tonnes for 2015/16, and 771,000 tonnes for 2020/21. Actual arisings were 399,352 for 2017/18, so tonnage diversion targets 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 has not been repeated. However, other methods suggest that waste production has not grown significantly over the plan period, so actual arisings may be lower than predicted.

Discussion: Reliable estimates of total waste arisings are difficult to find at present, though a new methodology is being prepared by the Regional Technical Advisory Body on Waste (RTAB). 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 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?

Yes. During 2018-19, our application records show that 171,500 tpa of additional waste treatment capacity was permitted within Staffordshire. The table below shows how this capacity is broken down by category and by site.

Note that the total includes 75,000 tpa of aggregate recycling at a site where a temporary planning permission was made permanent, but does not include 10,400 tonnes of inert landfill permitted as a one-off agricultural improvement.

The Waste Local Plan set a series of targets for additional capacity for Recycling, Organic Treatment, and Residual Treatment required to support a movement of waste up the treatment hierarchy. Adding the new capacity to the existing totals, we can see that all of the targets for 2010/11, and 2015/16 have been met, as have the 2020/21, and 2025/26 targets for Organic and Residual Treatment.

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 latest figures come from work carried out during the [review of the Waste Local Plan](#), in which Environment Agency returns were matched against planning permissions. They include all losses from May 2012 to March 2018.

While there appears to have been an overall reduction in treatment capacity of over 100,000 tpa for the 5-year period, this has not been shared equally across treatment categories. The losses have been greatest for waste transfer stations and residual treatment, while recycling, and particularly aggregate recycling sites have seen smaller losses or expansion of capacity. This may suggest a gradual movement towards treatment higher up the waste hierarchy.

Data Source: Applications Register;

Data Table: New waste treatment capacity added during 2018 – 19

Application Ref.	Recycling	Aggregate recycling	Organic treatment,	Residual treatment,	Waste transfer	Landfill
CH.18/05/782 W	10,000 tpa					
S.18/04/4124 W						10,400 tonnes total. Small scale, limited farm project
S.18/09/4126 W			57,000 tpa			
N.18/02/212 W					5,000 tpa	
S.17/12/403 W		34,000 tpa increase				
CH.17/03/780 W		75,000 tpa (Making temporary permission permanent.)				
S.17/01/4120 W	Very small scale. 500 tpa					
Totals:	500 tpa	109,000 tpa	57,000 tpa		5,000 tpa	10,400 t (total)

Data Table: Progress against targets for additional waste treatment capacity

	Recycling (tonnes per annum)	Organic Treatment	Residual Treatment	Transfer Station	Aggregate Recycling
Staffordshire	1,181,483	513,500	505,000	887,583	882,000

Stoke-on-Trent	393,321	40,000	335,566	336,367	461,599
Total	1,574,804	553,500	840,566	1,223,950	1,343,599
Interim Target (Target year 2010/11)	952,620 Achieved	272,970 Achieved	451,410 Achieved		
Interim Target (Target year 2015/16)	1,370,913 Achieved	382,977 Achieved	620,160 Achieved		
Interim Target (Target year 2020/21)	1,792,659	478,641 Achieved	744,700 Achieved		
Interim Target (Target year 2025/26)	1,800,919	484,381 Achieved	758,700 Achieved		

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
Staffordshire						
May 2012	62	13	11	74	22	182
	888,970	522,595	544,843	1,332,730	708,401	3,997,539
March 2018	46	14	3	50	27	140
	1,178,983	513,500	505,000	887,583	882,000	3,967,066
Change (No.)	-16	+1	-8	-24	+5	-42
Capacity (T)	+290,013	-9,095	-39,843	-445,147	+173,599	-30,473
Stoke-on-Trent						
May 2012	24	1	4	28	5	62
	523,193	39,784	335,952	429,761	312,039	1,640,729
March 2018	17	1	3	22	8	51
	393,321	40,000	335,566	336,367	461,599	1,566,853
Change (No.)	-7	0	-1	-6	+3	-11
Capacity (T)	-129,872	+216	-386	-93,394	+149,560	-73,876
Combined						
May 2012	86	14	15	102	27	244
	1,412,163	562,379	880,795	1,762,491	1,020,440	5,638,268
March 2018	63	15	6	72	35	191

	1,572,304	553,500	840,566	1,223,950	1,343,599	5,533,919
Change (No.)	-23	+1	-9	-30	+8	-53
Capacity (T)	+160,141	-8,879	-40,229	-538,541	+323,159	-104,349

Discussion: Not all planning applications relating to waste treatment facilities lead to an increase in treatment capacity, but data from planning applications does show that capacity is being added within the plan area at a steady rate.

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 been met on time or ahead of time, with only the 2020/21, and 2025/26 targets for recycling capacity 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?

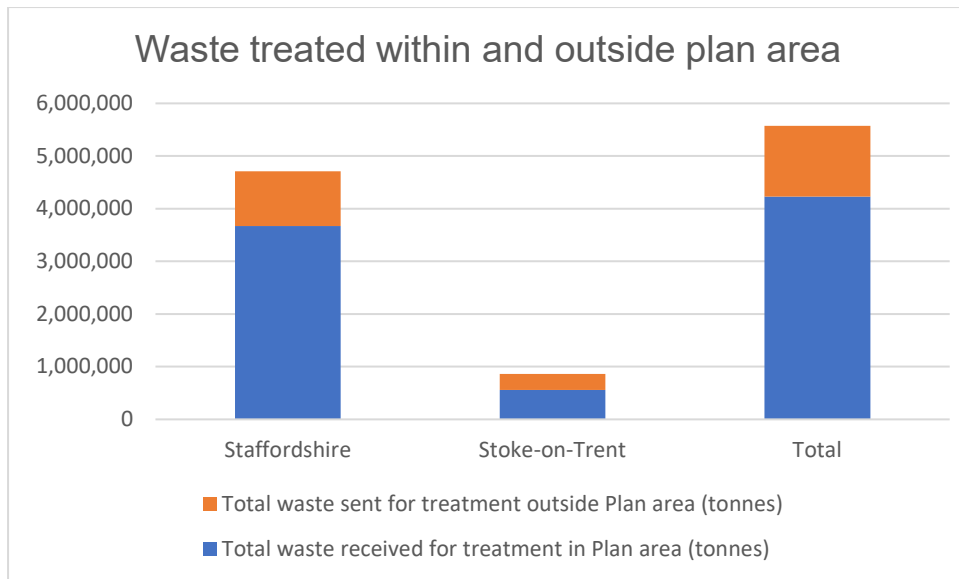
As discussed earlier, total waste arisings data are difficult to obtain. The latest Environment Agency figures show that 4,232,907 tonnes of waste was received into a waste management sites within the plan area in 2017, but the origin is not recorded.

In the same period the amount of waste exported from waste management sites within the plan area to other facilities or processing beyond the plan area was 1,340,070 tonnes.

Data Source: Environment Agency data

Data Table: Total waste treated within or exported outside Plan area

	Staffordshire	Stoke-on-Trent	Total
Total waste received for treatment in Plan area (tonnes)	3,672,503	560,404	4,232,907
Total waste sent for treatment outside Plan area (tonnes)	1,035,046	305,024	1,340,070



Discussion: While we do not have reliable data for total waste arisings within the Plan area, the data that we do have clearly show that the amount of waste treated within the Plan area is significantly greater than the amount of waste exported for treatment elsewhere.

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?

Yes. Planning applications data show that 6 of the 7 approvals that added new waste treatment capacity during the reporting period were in line with the locational criteria set out in Policy 2, while the remaining approval was for a site which was exempt from this requirement.

How many new approvals were granted under exceptions criteria?

1 application not in line with locational criteria, but acceptable under exemption criteria.

Data Source: Application Register and application details

**Data Table: Waste County Matter applications determined between 1 April 2018
and 31 March 2019**

Total matches for search:50. Of those, 7 had the potential to add new treatment capacity (taken as a broad interpretation of “new waste sites”). 6 of these were in line with locational criteria, while the remaining 1 was acceptable under exemption criteria.

App. No.	Location	Description	Date granted	In line with locational criteria?	Additional capacity added
CH.18/05/782 W	Unit 4 Power Station Road, Rugeley	Retrospective application for a tyre recycling facility (Waste Transfer Station)	13 March 2019	Industrial unit	10,000 tpa
S.18/04/4124 W	Cotes Hall Farm, Cotes Lane, Swynnerton, Stone	Agricultural Land Improvement Works involving the importation of 6144 cubic metres / 10,400 tonnes of clean uncontaminated soil (inert waste)	14 February 2019	Exempt. (Small scale infilling for agricultural improvement)	Small scale, limited project
S.18/09/4126 W	Land adjacent to the Severn Trent Water Sewage Treatment Works, Lichfield Road, Rugeley	Application not to comply with (to vary) conditions 2 and 15 of Stafford Borough Council planning permission 18/27801/FUL to facilitate the processing of commercial food waste and farm yard manure in addition to the permitted unprocessed agricultural crop as feedstock for the approved AD facility	06 February 2019	Existing AD site (District permission)	57,000 tpa
N.18/02/212 W	AP Skip Hire, Peel Street, Longbridge Hayes, Estate, Stoke-on-Trent	Operation of a waste transfer station for the sorting and recycling of mixed waste	20 December 2018	Existing waste site	5,000 tpa
S.17/12/403 W	Biffa Waste Services Ltd., Meece Landfill/SRF Site, Cold Meece	Variation of conditions 10 and 18 of planning permission S.16/09/403 W to maximise the treatment capacity of the aggregate treatment and recycling facility and increase of HGV movements	21 May 2018	Existing waste site	34,000 tpa increase

CH.17/03/780 W	163 Walford Works, Longford Road, Cannock	Application for the removal/ variation of conditions 5, 6, 10, 12, 15, 17, 19, 25, 28, 29, 36 and 37 of planning permission CH.15/14/780 W	06 April 2018	Existing (temp) waste site, industrial site	Making temporary permission permanent.
S.17/01/4120 W	Blythe View Farm, Grindley Lane, Grindley, Stafford	Wood waste processing to produce animal bedding, extension to the existing yard and the erection of a building for the storage of processed waste and used for various purposes on the farm holding.	23 August 2018	Farm specific	Very small scale. 500 tpa

Discussion: Of the 7 new planning permissions, 6 were on or adjacent to existing waste management sites or industrial sites, in line with locational criteria (Policy 3.1 of the [Waste Local Plan](#)).

The remaining new permission related to small-scale, farm-based activities which were in line with the exceptions criteria (Policy 3.3 of the [Waste Local Plan](#)).

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 of policy?

Yes. We were consulted by District/Borough Councils on 3 applications which had the potential to impact on existing waste management facilities. All were examined, but none raised safeguarding concerns so no objections were made

Data Source: Applications Register. WCA Applications determined 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019 (From Applications Register)

Discussion:

The County Council was consulted on 3 District / Borough Council applications which might have impacted on waste management facilities. In all cases, it was concluded that there would be no adverse impacts.

It should be noted, however, that the number of waste consultation area (WCA) consultations is much smaller than the number of mineral safeguarding area (MSA) consultations. This may, at least in part, be due to the large geographical extent of the Mineral Safeguarding Areas, but steps may be necessary to confirm that WCA consultations are being carried out in all cases where they are appropriate.

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 permissions require specific environmental improvements to be achieved?

100%. All new waste planning permissions include some form of environmental improvement.

Were any new permissions 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 approved were granted showing phased improvement of existing waste management facilities?

No such approvals were granted

Were all newly permitted facilities enclosed?

No. 4 of 7 approvals were for open-air facilities (57%). This is a lower proportion than would be hoped for, but it partially reflects the type of applications received.

What proportion of new facilities exempted from requirement for enclosure?

1 of 7 approvals were considered to be exempt from enclosure (14%).

How many approvals granted involved temporary Planning permissions?

1 of 7 approvals involved a temporary planning permission (14%). It is worth noting, however, that this reflects the proposal, which was for a small-scale, one-off infilling for agricultural improvement.

This performance measure was more intended to identify cases where temporary permission was granted because it was not clear whether the impacts of a new facility could be acceptably managed.

Data Source: Planning Applications Register and individual applications and permissions.

Data Table: New waste planning permissions granted 1 April 2018 to 31 March 2019.

Waste County Matter applications determined between 1 April 2018 and 31 March 2019 - **Total matches for search:50**

Of those, 7 had the potential to add new treatment capacity.

App. No.	Location	Date granted	Includes environmental improvement?	Adverse impacts anticipated?	Phased improvements needed?	Enclosed?	Exempt from enclosure?	Temporary permission?
CH.18/05/782 W	Unit 4 Power Station Road, Rugeley	13 March 2019	Yes	No	No	Partially	N/A	No
S.18/04/4124 W	Cotes Hall Farm, Cotes Lane, Swynnerton, Stone	14 February 2019	Yes	No	No	No (EXEMPT)	Yes	No
S.18/09/4126 W	Land adjacent to the Severn Trent Water Sewage Treatment Works, Lichfield Road, Rugeley	06 February 2019	Yes	No	No	Yes	N/A	No
N.18/02/212 W	AP Skip Hire, Peel Street, Longbridge Hayes, Estate, Stoke-on-Trent	20 December 2018	Yes	No	No	Yes	N/A	No
S.17/12/403 W	Biffa Waste Services Ltd., Meece Landfill/SRF Site, Cold Meece	21 May 2018	Yes	No	No	No	N/A	No
CH.17/03/780 W	163 Walford Works, Longford Road, Cannock	06 April 2018	Yes	No	No	No	N/A	No
S.17/01/4120 W	Blythe View Farm, Grindley Lane, Grindley, Stafford	23 August 2018	Yes	No	No	No	N/A	Yes

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

There have not been any applications where an existing facility was being extended or enhanced, and a programme of phased improvements was required to bring the whole site up to modern standards.

It has been harder to achieve the level of enclosure of waste management facilities that was hoped for in the plan, but the open-air sites that have been approved have been more difficult to enclose acceptably, and their impacts are being controlled in other ways. The one exemption and one temporary approval can be justified by their specific circumstances and only appear significant in the context of a very small total number of applications.

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 meetings of West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body.

Data Table: *Attendance at WMRTAB Meetings.*

Date of meeting	SCC Represented?
10 Sept 2019	Yes
7 May 2019	Yes
11 May 2018	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 promote co-operation. Though the frequency of meetings has declined in recent years, 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, a revised [National Planning Policy Framework](#) was published in July 2018, and the [Resources and Waste Strategy](#) was published on 18 December 2018.

The former did not introduce any significant changes that might necessitate a revision of the Waste Local Plan, and it is too early to assess the full implications of the latter. Any requirements for additional waste infrastructure to meet new local authority obligations will first need to be addressed through the [Municipal Waste Management Strategy](#) which is currently being prepared by the waste collection and waste disposal authorities.

Have there been any changes to our Strategic Priorities?

No, there have been no changes to our Strategic Priorities since the Waste Local Plan was prepared.

Have there been any changes to local circumstances?

The first 5-year [review of the Waste Local Plan](#) concluded that population growth forecasts have changed little since the Waste Local Plan was prepared, and this does not indicate any significant change to local circumstances.

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.

