

**MINERALS SPECIFIC SITE ALLOCATIONS ISSUES
AND OPTIONS PAPER**

MAY 2006

1. How You Can Participate

- 1.1 A new planning system, known as the Minerals and Waste Development Framework, has been introduced to develop planning policies for minerals and waste over the next few years. This will supersede the Suffolk Minerals Local Plan and the Suffolk Waste Local Plan, which are currently the main planning documents that Suffolk County Council are responsible for producing. The County Structure Plan, which also contains planning policies relevant to minerals and waste, will be replaced by The East of England Plan, which is due for adoption in 2007.
- 1.2 These new Development Plan Documents (DPDs) will take into account national and regional policies and guidance. They will review the core objectives for minerals and waste planning in Suffolk and explore issues and options. The process will also look at potential sites for new mineral and waste developments where they are considered to meet the core strategies of the plans.
- 1.3 A key aim of the new planning system is to ensure the active, meaningful and continued involvement of local communities and stakeholders at all stages.
- 1.4 The first stage in producing the new Minerals & Waste Development Framework is to review the current Suffolk Minerals Local Plan. In February 2006, we prepared a paper identifying the proposed aims and objectives of the core strategy and outlining the issues that are considered to be relevant to this strategy. The comments we received are being analysed, and will be taken into account in the next stage of the Core Strategy document, the Preferred Options. This will be issued for public consultation in August/September 2006.
- 1.5 To complement the Minerals Core Strategy DPD, we are also required to prepare a plan allocating specific mineral sites to meet the aims of the Core Strategy document.
- 1.6 ***We are initially seeking views and opinions on the site selection criteria outlined in Appendix 1 to assist in the preparation of the Specific Site Allocation Plan. Your views are important at this early stage as this information will be used to help determine whether or not sites should be included in the Plan***
- 1.7 ***We are also inviting interested parties to submit any additional sites they wish to be considered for inclusion in the Mineral Development Plan. Please note this is the final call for sites.***
- 1.8 ***Responses are welcomed to this first stage Issues and options report by 16th June***

- 1.9 It would be appreciated if you will reply using the questionnaire provided as this makes the recording and analysis simpler for us. However if you prefer to provide a bespoke response, please do so.
- 1.10 The formal consultation stage will follow in July and August when you will have the opportunity to comment on proposals for specific sites. Maps showing details of sites and supporting information supplied by the proposers of the sites will be published together with site assessments based on the revised Site Selection Criteria. A sustainability appraisal of sites will also be included in the Plan. Formal consultation will commence on 1st July and the period has been extended to eight weeks to allow for the summer holiday period.
- 1.11 Please contact us if you wish to discuss the deadlines
- 1.12 Responses can be returned by any of the following means:
- a) by e-mail to: minerals&wasteplanning@et.suffolkcc.gov.uk
 - b) by post to:
Adam Nicholls
Minerals & Waste Policy Manager
Suffolk County Council
Endeavour House
8 Russell Road
Ipswich
Suffolk IP1 2BX
 - c) by fax to: Adam Nicholls Suffolk County Council 01473 216877
 - d) Direct access to the document and questionnaire via the County Council's website (www.suffolk.gov.uk).
- 1.13 The document, available on the Suffolk County Council web site www.suffolk.gov.uk, can also be provided in alternative formats including large print, Braille, CD or a common foreign language on request.

It is intended to use Site Selection Criteria to help determine sites for inclusion in the Preferred Options Plan.

We are seeking your views on the draft criteria outlined below and welcome your comments or suggested additions/ amendments. This will enable us to develop a revised set of criteria to accompany details of all sites submitted to us for inclusion in the Plan. These will feature in a Specific Site Allocations Paper to be circulated during July/August for consultation over an eight week period

The draft Site Selection Criteria are;

- 1. A viable reserve proven by geological evidence**
- 2. Available for extraction within the timescale of the Plan (to assumed date of 2021 at this stage of the process)**
- 3. Sufficient site area for related operations (processing, stockpiles etc)**
- 4. Ability to use existing site infrastructure**
- 5. Extent to which mitigation measures are already in place**
- 6. Proximity to settlements/individual dwellings**
- 7. Potential for buffer strips**
- 8. Not designated for other development**
- 9. International nature conservation designation constraints**
- 10 National nature conservation/geological designation constraints**
- 11 Local nature conservation designation constraints**
- 12 Impact on biodiversity**
- 13 Potential for promoting biodiversity**
- 14 Impact on the water environment**
- 15 Visual impact`**
- 16 Agricultural land quality**
- 17 Restoration and afteruse(s)**
- 18 Potential for public access and enjoyment after restoration**
- 19 Bird strike potential for aircraft**
- 20 Access arrangements**
- 21 Direct/convenient access to the Suffolk Strategic Lorry Route Network**
- 22 Impact on existing road network and road users**
- 23 Impacts on public rights of way**

**RESPONSE TO MINERALS SITE SPECIFIC DPD
SITE SELECTION CRITERIA**

Name of Organisation;

e-mail address;

Telephone number:

Name of respondee;

Date;

1. A viable reserve proven by geological evidence

2. Available for extraction within the timescale of the Plan (to assumed date of 2021 at this stage of the process)

3. Sufficient site area for related operations (processing, stockpiles etc)

4. Ability to use existing site infrastructure

5. Extent to which mitigation measures are already in place

6. Proximity to settlements/individual dwellings

7. Potential for buffer strips

8. Not designated for other development

9. International nature conservation designation constraints

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12. Impact on biodiversity
13. Potential for promoting biodiversity
14. Impact on the water environment
15. Visual impact`
16. Agricultural land quality
17. Restoration and afteruse(s)
18. Potential for public access and enjoyment after restoration
19. Bird strike potential for aircraft

20. Access arrangements

21. Direct/convenient access to the Suffolk Strategic Lorry Route Network

22. Impact on existing road network and road users

23. Impacts on public rights of way

ANY OTHER ADDITIONS/COMMENTS