



# **Minerals & Waste Development Scheme 2009**

**August 2009**

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## **1. Introduction**

- 1.1 This Scheme sets out which Local Development Documents the County Council intends to produce and the remaining programme for their preparation. It is not intended to produce any Supplementary Planning Documents at present.
- 1.2 This is the fourth version of the Minerals & Waste Development Scheme. It updates the approved scheme to reflect the intention not to produce a Waste Specific Site Allocations Development Plan Document. It also indicates the progress that has been made so far i.e. the Minerals Core Strategy reaching adoption, the receipt of the Inspector's Report into the Minerals Specific Site Allocations document and the Waste Core Strategy reaching final consultation stage.
- 1.3 It is intended to produce a further revision of the Minerals & Waste Development Scheme following the adoption of the Waste Core Strategy that will set out the timescale for the review of the adopted documents.
- 1.4 A Glossary of terms is set out in Table 1.

## **2. The Plans the County Council Proposes to Produce**

- 2.1 Suffolk County Council will produce the following Local Development Documents. With the exception of the Statement of Community Involvement these are all Development Plan Documents. All will apply to the whole of Suffolk. The Minerals Core Strategy and Minerals Specific Site Allocation Development Plan Documents will cover the period up to 2021. The Waste Core Strategy will cover the period to 2026.
  - a) Minerals Core Strategy Development Plan Document (Adopted September 2008);
  - b) Minerals Specific Site Allocations Development Plan Document (Inspector's Report received April 2009 and due to be adopted in September 2009);
  - c) Minerals & Waste Proposals Map Development Plan Document (adopted September 2008 and to be updated again September 2009);
  - d) Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document (Final Consultation commenced July 2009); and,
  - e) Suffolk County Council Statement of Community Involvement (Adopted in May 2006).

The inter-relationship between the documents and other Development Plan Documents is set out graphically in Figure 1.

## **3. Timetable for Producing Local Development Documents**

- 3.1 The timetable for Production of the Waste Core Strategy is set out in the attached Figure 2 in the form of a Gantt chart.

## **4. Waste Core Strategy**

- 4.1 Tables 2, 3 and 4 provide further information in respect of the outline, planning and milestones of the Waste Core Strategy.

## **5. Supplementary Planning Documents**

- 5.1 It is not proposed to produce any Supplementary Planning Documents or to produce any Local Development Documents jointly with District Councils, although the County Council would expect to be involved in the preparation of a number of Supplementary Planning Documents being produced by the Suffolk District Councils (for example, the review of the Suffolk Design Guide for Residential Areas).

## **6. Saved Policies during the Transition Between Existing and New Plan Making Process**

- 6.1 Those remaining existing policies that will be saved pending the production of the Development Plan Documents referred to above are set out in Table 5 of this Minerals & Waste Development Scheme.

## **7. Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment**

- 7.1 All Local Development Documents must be prepared with a view to contributing to the achievement of sustainable development. At the heart of sustainable development is the concept of ensuring a better quality of life for everyone, now and for future generations.
- 7.2 Local Planning Authorities must carry out a formal strategic environmental assessment (SEA) of certain plans and programmes which are likely to have significant effects on the environment. SEA is incorporated into the Sustainability Appraisal carried out as part of the production of the Local Development Documents contained within this Scheme.
- 7.3 Sustainability appraisal is a systematic and iterative appraisal process. Its purpose is to appraise the social, environmental and economic effects of the strategies and policies in a Local Development Document, from the outset of the preparation process. This will ensure that decisions are made that accord with the principles of sustainable development.
- 7.4 Work on sustainability appraisal will continue through all stages of the production of Local Development Documents culminating in the submission of a final sustainability report when submitting the Waste Core Strategy to the Secretary of State for independent examination.

## **8. Resources to be devoted to Producing the Minerals & Waste Development Framework**

- 8.1 The resources to be devoted to the production of these Documents are set out in Table 6. It is likely that the additional resources required to meet the Programme will consist of additional permanent or temporary staff and the utilisation of existing in-house expertise, especially in areas such as community engagement, Strategic Environmental Assessment and Appropriate Assessment.

## **9. Monitoring of the Scheme and Implementation of the Framework**

- 9.1 The County Council is required to produce a Minerals and Waste Annual Monitoring Report. This monitors progress towards producing the documents set out in this Scheme and the implementation of policies. The Annual Monitoring Report also assesses whether changes are required to any Local Development Documents.
- 9.2 Monitoring takes place through quarterly meetings of the Minerals and Waste Panel. In addition, progress on meeting the timetables and progress on implementing the policies and proposals contained in the Framework will be reported to Cabinet annually. The County Council also surveys on an annual basis the following:
- a) Mineral production, amount of secondary or recycled aggregates produced, the number and scale of new planning permissions granted for mineral extraction, progress on restoration of sites and the size of the minerals landbank, and
  - b) The amount of waste arisings, the number, type and scale of planning permissions granted for waste management facilities and the amounts of waste recycled, composted or landfilled.
- 9.3 This information feeds in to the Minerals and Waste Development Framework Annual Monitoring Report.

9.4 Annual monitoring of indicators linked to the Minerals and Waste Development Framework are reported “Suffolk’s Environment”, the Suffolk Local Planning Authorities’ document which reviews statistical data on the state of the environment.

## **10. Risks and Contingencies**

10.1 Keeping to the timetable will depend, to some degree, on the number, nature and complexity of issues raised during plan preparation. For example, a particularly contentious site or proposal may lead to a significant number of objections.

## Table 1. Glossary of Terms

(terms in italics are explained elsewhere in the Glossary)

**Annual Monitoring Report:** part of the *Minerals & Waste Development Framework*, the annual monitoring report will assess the implementation of the Minerals & Waste Development Scheme and the extent to which policies in *Local Development Documents* are being successfully implemented.

**Core Strategy:** sets out the long-term spatial vision for the local planning authority area, the spatial objectives and strategic policies to deliver that vision. Strategic sites may also be identified. The Core Strategy will have the status of a *Development Plan Document*

**Development Plan:** an authority's development plan consists of the relevant *Regional Spatial Strategy* and the *Development Plan Documents* contained within its Local Development Framework.

**Development Plan Documents:** Spatial planning documents that are subject to independent examination, and together with the relevant *Regional Spatial Strategy*, will form the *development plan* for a local planning authority area for the purposes of the Act.

**Local Development Documents:** the collective term for *Development Plan Documents*, *Supplementary Planning Documents* and the *Statement of Community Involvement*.

**Local Development Framework:** the name for the portfolio of *Local Development Documents*. It consists of *Development Plan Documents*, *Supplementary Planning Documents*, a *Statement of Community Involvement*, the *Local Development Scheme* and *Annual Monitoring Reports*. Together these documents will provide the framework for delivering the spatial planning strategy for a local authority area.....

**Local Development Scheme:** sets out the programme for preparing *Local Development Documents*.

**Minerals & Waste Development Framework:** in counties such as Suffolk the County Council will be responsible for producing Minerals & Waste Development Frameworks and Schemes. The latter will be the equivalent of the *Local Development Scheme*.

**Proposals Map:** the adopted proposals map illustrates on a base map plan proposals and safeguarded areas referred to in the *Development Plan Documents*. It must be revised as each new *Development Plan Document* is adopted and it should always reflect the up-to-date planning strategy for the area. Proposals for changes to the adopted proposals map must accompany submitted *Development Plan Documents* in the form of a submission proposals map.

**Regional Spatial Strategy:** sets out the region's policies in relation to the development and use of land and forms part of the *development plan* for local planning authorities.

**Saved policies or plans:** existing adopted development plans were saved for three years from the date of commencement of the Act. Policies in old style development plans adopted after the commencement of the Act will become saved for three years from their adoption or approval. After this time a further extension maybe be agreed with the Local Government Office. The *Local Development Scheme* explains the authority's approach to saved policies

**Site specific allocations:** allocations of sites for specific or mixed uses or development to be contained in *Development Plan Documents*. Policies will identify any specific requirements for individual proposals. However strategic sites may be identified in a Core Strategy.

**Statement of Community Involvement:** sets out the standards which authorities will achieve with regard to involving local communities in the preparation of *Local Development Documents* and

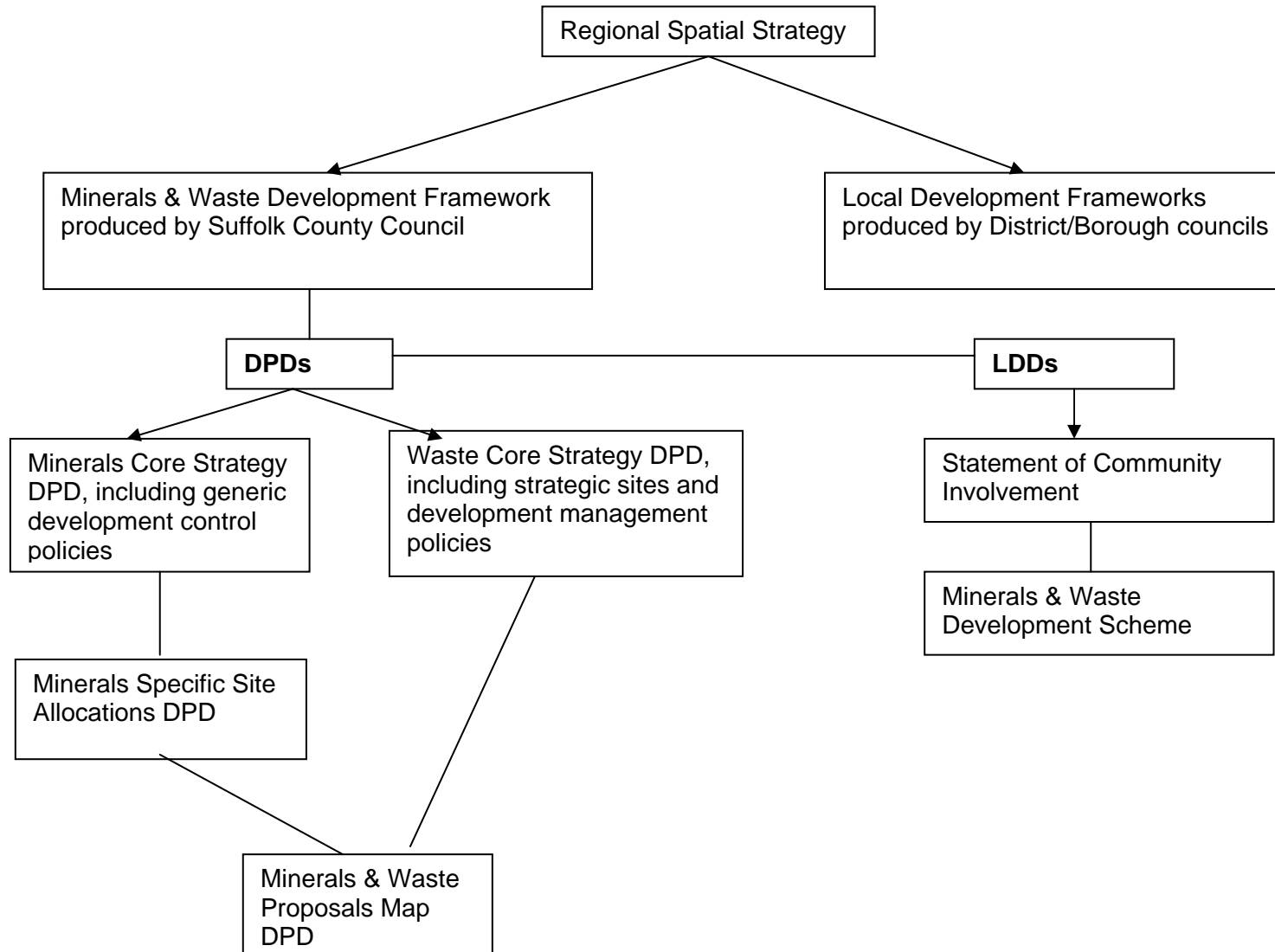
development control decisions. The *Statement of Community Involvement* is not a *Development Plan Document* but is subject to independent examination.

**Strategic Environmental Assessment:** a generic term used to describe environmental assessment as applied to policies, plans & programmes.

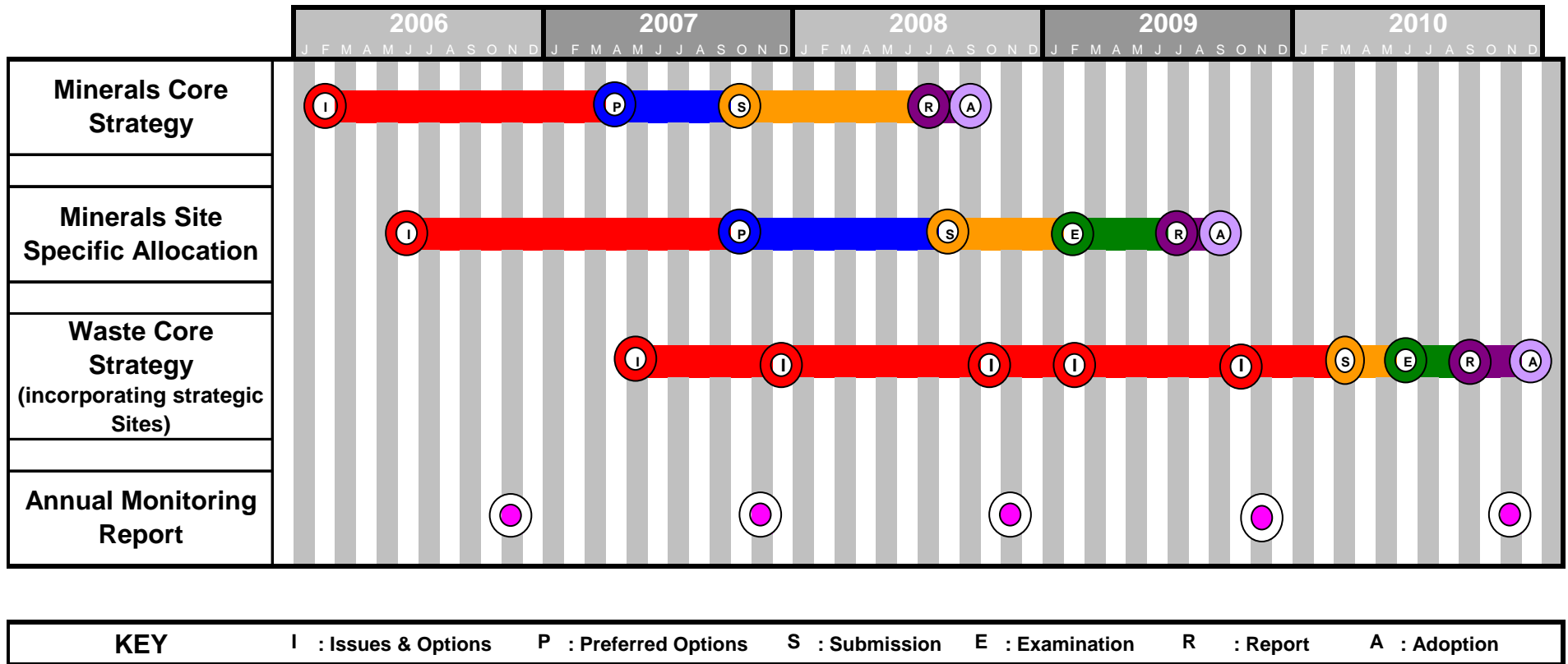
**Supplementary Planning Documents:** provide supplementary information in respect of the policies in *Development Plan Documents*. They do not form part of the *Development Plan* and are not subject to independent examination.

**Sustainability Appraisal:** tool for appraising policies to ensure they reflect sustainable development objectives (i.e. social, environmental and economic factors) and required in the Act to be undertaken for all *Local Development Documents*.

**Figure 1 Minerals and Waste Development Framework and Inter-relationship with other Development Plan Documents**



**Figure 2 Minerals and Waste Development Scheme**



Non-strategic waste sites to be addressed through criteria based policies in Waste Core Strategy and will include references to the use of industrial/commercial B2/B8 land, agricultural land and brownfield sites as appropriate.

**Table 2. Outline of the Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document**

<b>Title of Plan</b>	<b>Proposed status</b>	<b>Role &amp; content</b>	<b>Area of coverage</b>	<b>Chain of conformity</b>	<b>Proposed start date</b>	<b>Dates for options consultation</b>	<b>Date for pre-submission consultation</b>	<b>Date for submission to Secretary of State</b>	<b>Target adoption date</b>
Waste Core Strategy	Development Plan Document	Sets out the spatial vision, objectives and strategy. Identifies sites for strategic residual waste treatment facilities and non-hazardous landfill. Includes development management policies.	Suffolk	Consistent with national planning policy and general conformity with RSS	January 2006	October 2007 until October 2009	January 2009	End of February 2010	December 2010

**Table 3. Gantt Chart for the Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document**

	Jul-09	Aug-09	Sep-09	Oct-09	Nov-09	Dec-09	Jan-10	Feb-10	Mar-10	Apr-10	May-10	Jun-10	Jul-10	Aug-10	Sep-10	Oct-10	Nov-10	Dec-10	
Waste Core Strategy Final Consultation	█	█	█	█															
County Council approval of Waste Core Strategy Submission						█													
Pre-submission consultation							█	█											
Submit Submission document for Examination									█										
Pre-examination meeting											█								
Commencement of the Examination in Public												█							
Receipt of Inspector's Report																█			
County Council Adopt Document																			█
Revision of Proposals Map																			█

**Table 4. Key Milestones for the Waste Core Strategy Development Plan Document**

<b>Key milestones</b>	<b>Timetable</b>	<b>Arrangements for production</b>	<b>Post production</b>
Waste Issues Report Consultation	October – December 2007	The County Council will produce the plan	An Annual Monitoring Report will be prepared based on regular surveys. This will be reported to Cabinet
Waste Issues and Options Consultation	August – October 2008	Stakeholders will be engaged in the production in accordance with the County Council's Statement of Community Involvement	
Waste Core Strategy Issues & Options (Part II) Strategic Sites Consultation	December 2008 – February 2009		
Waste Core Strategy Final Consultation	July – October 2009		
County Council approval of Waste Core Strategy Submission	December 2009		
Pre-submission Consultation	January – February 2010		
Submit Submission document for Examination	February 2010		
Pre-examination Meeting	April 2010		
Commencement of the Examination in Public	June 2010		
Receipt of Inspector's Report	October 2010		
County Council Adopt Document	December 2010		
Revision of Proposals Map	December 2010		
		Consultation responses and proposed amendments to the DPD will be considered by the Cabinet. Full Council will agree to submit the DPD for examination and ultimately adopt it	

n.b. Consultation includes Sustainability Appraisal and other supporting documents.

**Table 5. Transitional Arrangements**

<b>Current Plans forming part of the Development Plan</b>	<b>Groups of policies saved during transitional period</b>	<b>Whether policies will be replaced, deleted or merged</b>	<b>Which Local Plan or DPD (if any) will supersede or replace existing policies</b>	<b>Timescale for replacement, deletion or merger</b>	<b>Policies to be saved beyond the automatic three year period</b>
Suffolk Waste Local Plan	All policies until February 2009	Deleted/replaced	Suffolk Waste Core Strategy	WLP 1 not saved beyond February 2009. Other policies to be replaced following adoption of the Suffolk Waste Core Strategy DPD scheduled for December 2010	WLP 2 to 26 inclusive

**Table 6. Resources to be devoted to production of Development Plan Documents**

<b>Staff Resources</b>	<b>No of Full Time Equivalents</b>
Development Manager	0.5
Minerals & Waste Policy Manager	1
Minerals & Waste Policy Officer	1
Strategic Environmental Assessment Officer	1
Minerals & Waste Planning Manager	0.1
Planning Officers (x2)	0.1 (each)
<b>Additional in-house staff</b>	<b>No of Full Time Equivalents</b>
Specialist advisers (highways, ecology, landscape and archaeology)	0.5
<b>Possible use of external consultants</b>	<b>Estimate of cost</b>
Consultants to assist with Waste DPD	£100 –150K
<b>Additional resources</b>	<b>Estimate of cost</b>
Community Engagement (excluding that above)	£15K per suite of Minerals and Waste DPDs