

Suffolk Waste Annual Monitoring Report

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Sacks | Consulting

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1 Introduction

The Suffolk Minerals & Waste Local Plan was adopted in July 2020. The Plan contains a Vision explaining how the County will meet its statutory obligation for the supply of aggregates and the sustainable management of waste. It contains policies for determining planning application for minerals and waste development and identifies sites for future development for these uses.

It is important to understand whether the policies in the Plan are being delivered as intended and the extent to which the waste arisings and movements that were forecast are correct. Because of the nature of waste data, such forecasts will never be exact, but trends can be identified and broad conclusions reached.

The Plan identifies sites that are suitable for the management of waste and this Monitoring Report will examine whether such sites have been taken forward for this use, or whether the policies should be amended in a future Plan.

The Local Plan contains a Policy Monitoring Framework which identifies the Performance Indicators that will be used to monitor the Plan which are the number of times that the relevant policies are triggered in the decision-making process.

Suffolk County Council also has a Development Management Local Monitoring and Enforcement Plan, adopted in 2016. This sets out how the Council deals with the monitoring of developments as they are delivered including site visits to ensure that planning conditions are being carried out as intended.

This report looks at the effectiveness of the waste policies in delivering the policy outcomes in the Plan. In particular it examines whether Suffolk is net self-sufficient in the management of the waste arising with the Plan Area or whether additional waste management facilities are required to achieve this.

2 Methodology

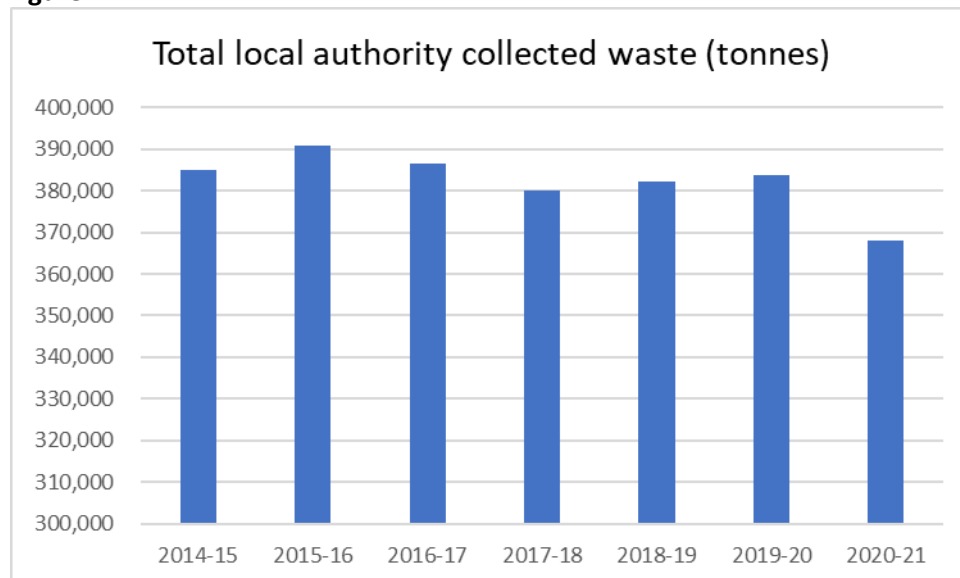
The Waste Data Interrogator that is been produced by the Environment Agency are the primary data source for the report, together with other data published by Defra published as part of the Waste Management Statistics and information from the WasteDataFlow system. The Environment Agency also publish data on landfill use and changes in capacity.

Decisions on waste management facilities made by the County Council have been examined to provide an understanding of the changes in facilities coming forward.

3 Waste Managed in Suffolk

The total amount of Local Authority Collected Waste in Suffolk (LACW) has reduced in the year 2020-21 as shown in the graph below:

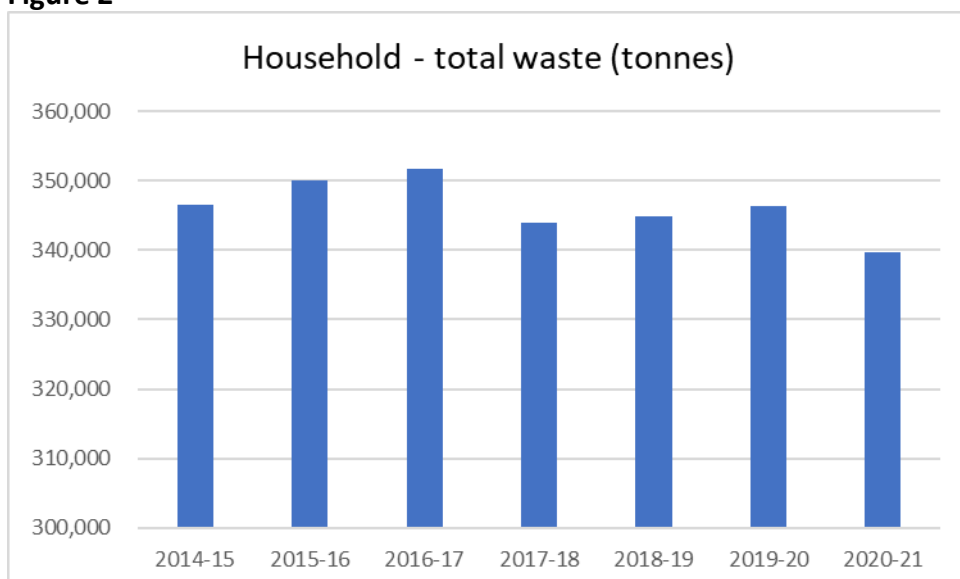
Figure 1



Source: Defra Waste Management Statistics

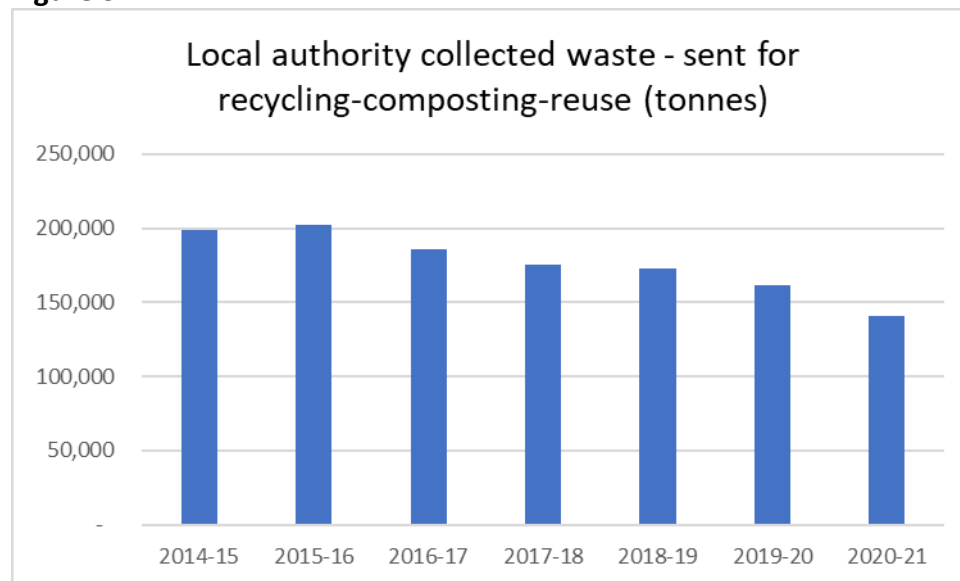
Household waste arising has also reduced over this period. This is slightly surprising in the context of the Covid 19 pandemic which required the majority of people to work from home. However, consumption overall may have reduced as a result of lower economic activity during this period.

Figure 2



The amount of LACW sent for recycling has steadily reduced over the last five years:

Figure 3



Suffolk historically had one of the highest recycling rates in England but this has reduced in all the Suffolk Districts over the past six years as shown in the table below:

Table 1

Financial Year	% sent for recycling
2014-15	51.66%
2015-16	51.72%
2016-17	48.10%
2017-18	46.15%
2018-19	45.27%
2019-20	42.07%
2020-21	38.28%

The LACW recycling rate is shown in below for each of the Suffolk Districts. These have been subject to some reorganisation in recent years and so the graphs below show the rates for the combines councils before each merger and the current district. It is possible that the process of re-organisation has disrupted services to some extent.

Figure 4

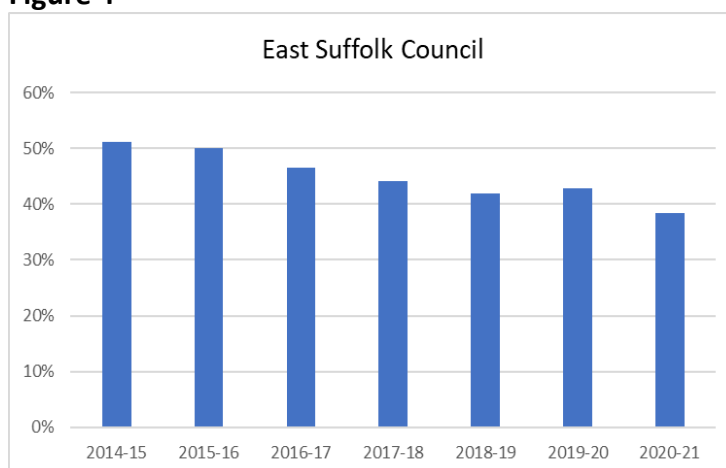


Figure 5

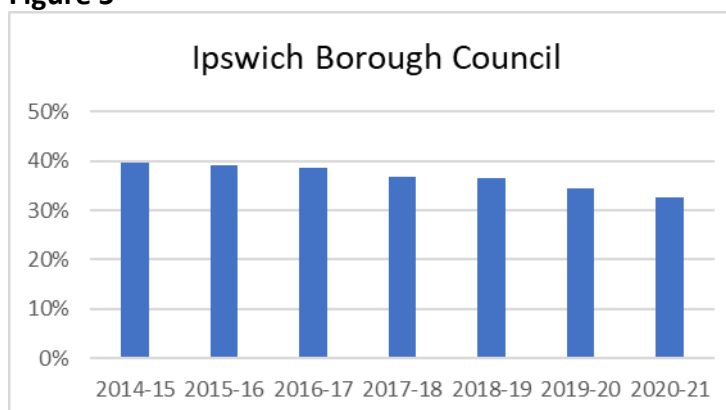


Figure 6

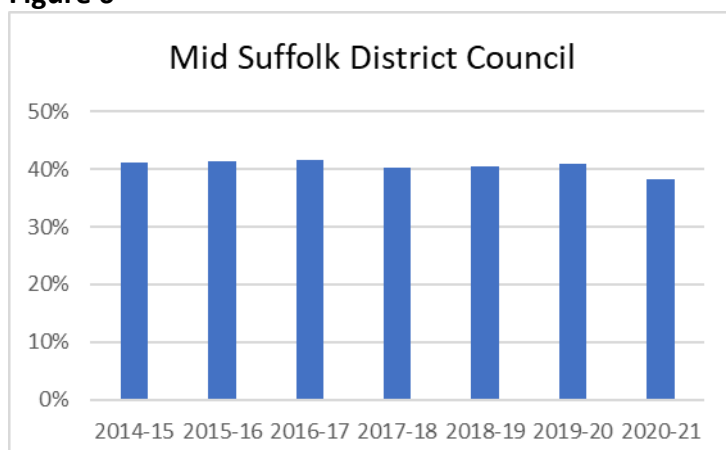
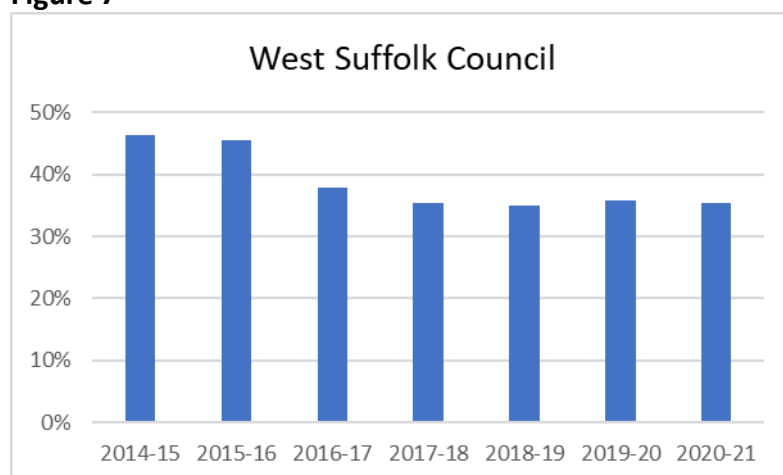


Figure 7

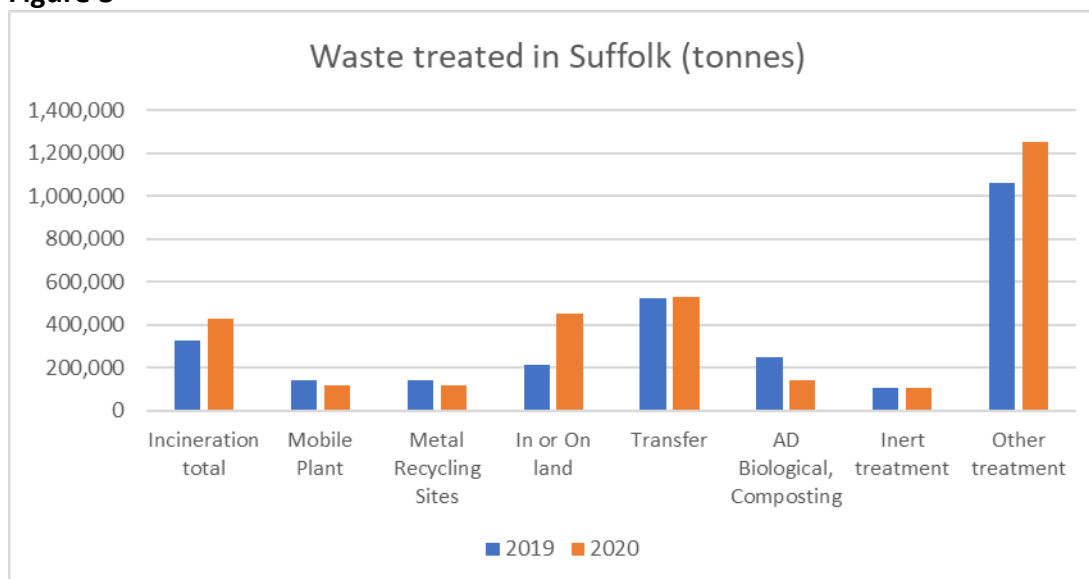
4 Waste Capacity

The capacity of waste management infrastructure has been calculated using the throughput of the facilities in the Plan Area as recorded in the Waste Data Interrogator. The amount of waste managed in Suffolk increased from 2019 to 2020 and in particular the amount of waste managed at the Energy from Waste facility at Great Blakenham increased following the grant of planning permission to enable it to manage 295,000 tonnes per annum, an increase from the original capacity of 269,000 tonnes per annum.

Table 2

Waste treated in facilities in Suffolk in 2019 and 2020 (tonnes)		
Year	2019	2020
Incineration total	328,245	428,929
of which		
SUEZ Suffolk Energy from Waste Facility	270,772	291,386
Eye Power Station	57,473	137,543
Mobile Plant	142,784	117,611
Metal Recycling Sites	143,655	120,825
of which Sackers	63,992	62,639
In or On land	213,174	452,482
Transfer	522,783	532,193
Treatment	1,415,707	1,503,929
of which AD Biological, Composting	248,921	144,546
of which Inert treatment	106,912	104,543
Other treatment	1,059,874	1,254,840
Total waste treated in Suffolk	2,766,348	3,155,969

Figure 8

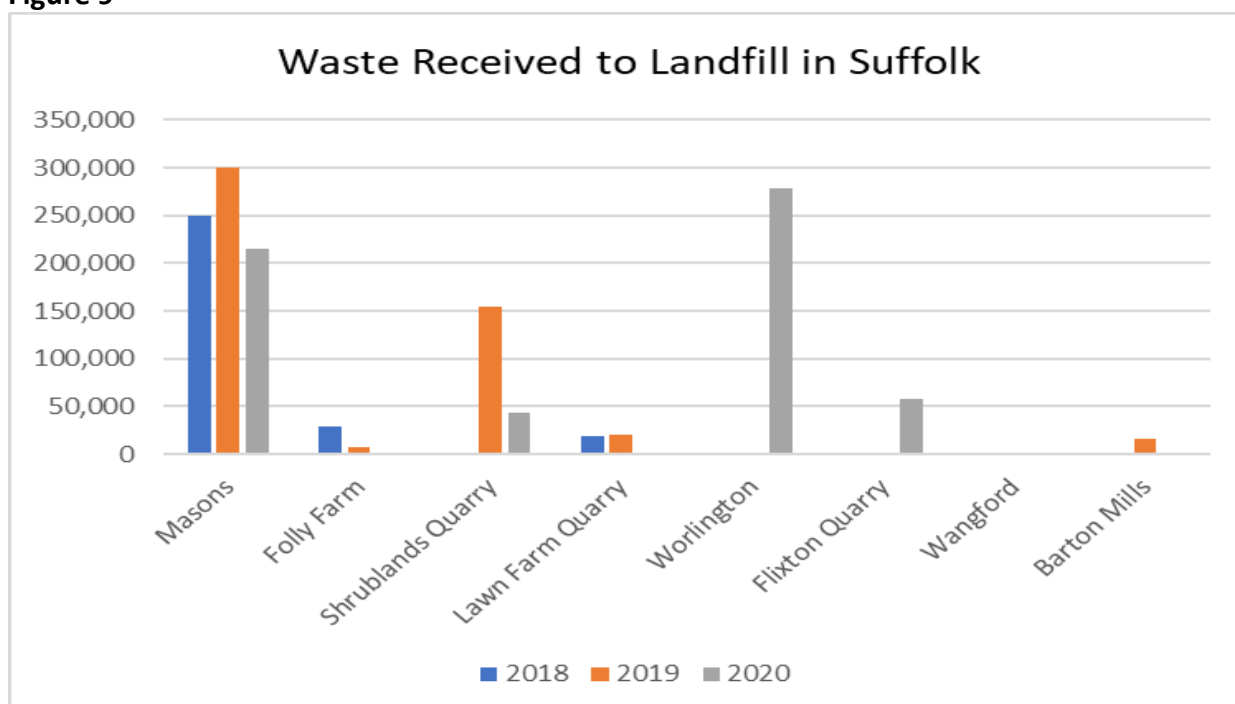


There is only one active landfill site receiving non-hazardous waste in Suffolk and this is Masons Landfill site which is operated by Viridor.

Worlington Quarry operated by Frimstone received significant amounts of soil deposits in 2020, but does not have a permit for the landfilling of non-hazardous waste. It's Permit is category A25 : Deposit of waste to land as a recovery operation.

Shrublands Quarry in an inert landfill site operated by Brett Aggregates also received significant quantities of inert waste in 2019.

Figure 9



5 Waste Movements

Suffolk largely achieves the goal of net self-sufficiency in the management of the waste arising within its area. This is demonstrated by the fact that there was a net flow of waste out of Suffolk of 172,400 tonnes in 2019 and a net flow into the county of 30,800 in 2020.

This includes non-hazardous and inert wastes.

Table 3

All waste managed in Suffolk (tonnes)		
	2019	2020
From Suffolk	2,364,359	2,492,717
From Norfolk	216,900	295,614
From Essex	184,380	242,527
From Cambridgeshire & Peterborough	87,527	258,010
Total	3,264,333	3,517,611

Table 4

Waste sent to landfill in Suffolk (tonnes)		
	2019	2,020
From Suffolk	257,482	241,909
From Norfolk	33,210	40,438
From Essex	37,736	73,371
From Cambridgeshire & Peterborough	531	0
Landfill Total	497,963	361,619

The total amount of waste sent *from* Suffolk to other waste planning authority areas is relatively modest as shown in the table below:

Table 5

Receiving authority (tonnes)		
Year	2019	2020
(Suffolk)	2,364,359	2,492,717
Bedfordshire Authorities	973	1,094
Cambridgeshire & Peterborough	131,506	106,514
Essex	82,845	125,287
Thurrock	14,290	10,589
Hertfordshire	24,498	24,337
Norfolk	502,092	403,162
East Midlands	55,238	55,802
South East	73,884	79,173
Total	3,436,754	3,486,840

Of the tonnages sent from Suffolk to Norfolk, a large proportion comprised sludge which was sent to facilities managed by Anglian Water. In 2019, 264,000 tonnes of sludges were sent to Whitlingham Sludge Treatment Centre near Norwich. In 2020, 163,250 tonnes of sludges were sent to Whitlingham and other facilities at Thetford and Lings Lynn.

This implies that there is a shortage of waste water treatment capacity in Suffolk and discussions with the Anglian Water would be useful to identify their needs to enable Suffolk to become more self-sufficient in managing this waste stream.

6 Performance of the Waste Policies and Conclusions

The outcome of the waste planning process in Suffolk has been to deliver broadly sufficient capacity of waste management facilities to manage the waste arising within the County. This includes a wide variety of treatment facilities to manage different types of materials, an energy from waste facility to manage residual waste from household, commercial and industrial sources, and sufficient landfill to dispose of the remainder.

Efforts to reduce, reuse and recycle waste will continue, particularly in the context of the implementation of the Government's Resources and Waste Strategy which was published in 2018. This proposes more separate collection of food waste and the separate collection of other easily recyclable materials and so consideration will need to be given to the delivery of bulking and transfer stations that may be associated with this.

Consideration may need to be given to the development of additional waste water treatment capacity, given the significant movements of sludges out of the Plan Area and liaison with Anglian Water will be needed to take this forward.

Appendix 1

Waste planning applications determined by Suffolk County Council

1st April 2019 to March 2021:

Application Reference	Type	Location	Proposal	Decision Date	Decision
SCC/0055/19IP	Full	West Bank Terminal Wherstead Road Ipswich IP2 8NB	Erection of a 9-bay modular building with x2 additional car parking spaces	25/06/2019	Application Approved
SCC/0049/19SE	Full	The Pit Wyken Road Stanton Bury St Edmunds IP31 2DP	Infilling of former chalk pit with inert waste, to be capped with soil and restored to wildlife conservation area.	01/07/2019	Application Approved
SCC/0068/19MS	Full	Shrubland Quarry Old Norwich Road Coddensham Ipswich IP6 9QW	Erection and operation of a replacement mineral processing plant	02/08/2019	Application Approved
SCC/0071/19SC	Full	Sinks Pit Main Road Kesgrave Ipswich IP5 2PE	Erection of a noise attenuation fence with associated recontouring along northern boundary bund.	07/11/2019	Application Approved
SCC/0090/19	Full	Hadleigh Quarry, Aldham, Mill Hill, Hadleigh IP7 6DL	Variation of condition 2, 28, 29 and 30 of planning permission B/12/01244 to increase HGV movements and amend phasing details.	12/11/2019	Application Refused
SCC/0091/19	Full	Hadleigh Quarry, Aldham, Mill Hill, Hadleigh IP7 6DL	Variation of condition 7,8 and 12 to increase HGV movements, erection of lighting on wash plant and to amend the scheme of noises	13/11/2019	Application Refused

			mitigation		
SCC/075/19MS	Full	Poplar Farm, Bedfield Road, Worlingworth, Woodbridge, IP13 7LR	Retrospective application: Recycling and waste transfer of inert wastes, including storage and crushing using mobile plant, and installation of noise attenuation barrier.	05/02/2020	Application Refused
SCC/0061/19SE	Full	Greenways Recycling Ltd Newmarket Road Risby Bury St. Edmunds IP28 6RE	Extension of existing site, new internal roadways and circulation space, new storage building, construction of cantilevered roof structures to existing yard, HGV and car parking areas and new weighbridge. Part retrospective in relation to a small area of extended concrete yard area.	03/06/2020	Approved with Conditions
SCC/0089/19W	Full	Beccles Business Park, B And B Skips Limited Anson Way Worlingham NR34 7TJ	Retrospective application for the regularisation of land used for temporary storage, processing and sale of inert aggregate and soil arising from the adjacent waste management facility.	12/06/2020	Approved with Conditions
SCC/0014/20SE	Full	Indigo Waste Services Ltd Unit 6 Little Heath Barnham IP24 2SY	Retrospective application for the use of the site for a recycled glass bulking facility, including storage facilities, haulage depot and ancillary	22/07/2020	Approved with Conditions

			parking.		
SCC/0058/20W	Full	Wangford Landfill Site Hill Road Wangford NR34 8AR	Installation of Leachate Tank, erection of portacabin and associated works.	04/11/2020	Approved with Conditions
SCC/0099/19B	Full	Harpers Hill Farm Harpers Hill Nayland With Wissington CO6 4NT	Part retrospective application for the erection of 6 bays for the storage of non-hazardous wastes with associated screening and soil washing.	06/11/2020	Approved with Conditions
SCC/0068/20W	Full	Beccles Business Park, B And B Skips Limited Anson Way Worlingham NR34 7TJ	Erection and use of a two storey office building and relocation of the site weighbridge to support the B and B operations	02/12/2020	Approved with Conditions
SCC/0097/20SC/VOC	Variation of Condition	Foxhall Waste Transfer Station Foxhall Landfill Site Foxhall Road Brightwell IP10 0BG	Variation of condition 2 (duration) of permission C/11/0766 to extend the duration of permission.	10/12/2020	Approved with Conditions
SCC/0055/20MSVOC	Variation of Condition	Barley Brigg AD Plant Barley Brigg Farm Laxfield Road Stradbroke IP21 5NQ	Variation Removal of Condition 15 from original application: MS/3892/15	23/12/2020	Approved with Conditions

SCC/0094/20MS/VOC	Variation of Condition	Viridor Landfill Site Bramford Road Great Blakenham Suffolk Ipswich IP6 0JX	Variation of Condition 7 - Operating hours on permission: SCC/0057/18MS	15/01/2021	Approved with Conditions
SCC/0093/20MS/VOC	Variation of Condition	Viridor Landfill Site Bramford Road Great Blakenham Suffolk Ipswich IP6 0JX	Variation of Condition 8 of planning permission MS/1185/15 - operating hours	15/01/2021	Approved with Conditions
SCC/0071/20SC	Full	Foxhall Household Waste Recycling Centre Foxhall Road Foxhall IP10 0BG	<p>The proposed development will be a waste management facility comprising of the following:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Highways improvements along Foxhall Road including road widening and improved site access. . Relocation of the Recycling Shop and facilities to enlarge the overall site. . Alterations to the existing layout including introducing a split-level skip loading dock. . Alterations to the existing layout to 	28/01/2021	Approved with Conditions

			<p>improve traffic flows, segregation of HGVs and stacking within the site.</p> <p>. Largely relocating existing equipment.</p> <p>. Improving welfare facilities for staff.</p> <p>. Associated mechanical and electrical works</p>		
SCC/0081/20IP	Full	<p>Cliff Quay Water Recycling Centre</p> <p>Raeburn Road South</p> <p>Ipswich</p>	<p>The erection of a two glass reinforced kiosks to house electrical and control equipment</p>	08/02/2021	Approved with Conditions

Appendix 2

Number of times each policy in the minerals and waste local plan was used in decisions:

Policy	No. of times policy triggered
General policies	
Policy GP1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development	4
Policy GP2: Climate change mitigation and adaption	1
Policy GP3: Spatial strategy and key diagram	4
Policy GP4: General environmental criteria	7
Minerals policies	
Policy MP1: Provision of sand and gravel	1
Policy MP2: Proposed sites for sand and gravel extraction	1
Policy MP3: Borrow pits	
Policy MP4: Agricultural and public supply reservoirs	
Policy MP5: Cumulative environmental impacts and phasing of workings	1
Policy MP6: Progressive working and restoration	1
Policy MP7: Aftercare	1
Policy MP8: Concrete batching plants and asphalt plants	1
Policy MP9: Safeguarding of port and rail facilities, and facilities for the manufacture of concrete and asphalt	
Policy MP10: Minerals consultation and safeguarding areas	
Waste Policies	
Policy WP1: Management of waste	2
Policy WP2: Proposed site for waste management	
Policy WP3: Existing or designated landuse	3
Policy WP4: Household waste recycling centres	
Policy WP5: Open air composting	
Policy WP6: Enclosed composting facilities	
Policy WP7: Anaerobic digestion	
Policy WP8: Proposals for recycling or transfer of inert and construction, demolition and excavation waste	1
Policy WP9: Waste transfer stations, materials recycling facilities, end of life vehicle facilities and waste electrical and electronic equipment recovery facilities	
Policy WP10: Residual waste treatment facilities	
Policy WP11: Approval of sites for disposal of inert waste by landfilling or landraise	2
Policy WP12: Approval of sites for disposal of non-hazardous waste by landfilling or landraise	

Policy WP13: Mining or excavation of landfill waste	
Policy WP14: Waste water treatment	
Policy WP15: Transfer, storage, processing & treatment of hazardous waste	
Policy WP16: Treatment and storage of radioactive waste at Sizewell nuclear power stations	
Policy WP17: Design of waste management facilities	1
Policy WP18: Safeguarding of waste management sites	
Minerals sites	
Policy MS1: Barham	
Policy MS2: Barnham	
Policy MS3: Belstead	
Policy MS4: Cavenham	1
Policy MS5: Layham	
Policy MS6: Tattingstone	
Policy MS8: Wetherden	
Policy MS9: Wherstead	
Policy MS10: Worlington	
Waste sites	
Policy WS1: Sizewell	