

Cabinet	AGENDA ITEM No. 5.3
12th October 2009	PUBLIC REPORT

Cabinet Member(s) responsible:	Councillor Piers Croft : Cabinet Member for Strategic Planning, Growth and Human Resources	
Contact Officer(s):	Shahin Ismail	Tel. 452484

CAMBRIDGESHIRE AND PETERBOROUGH MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS (SUBMISSION STAGE)

R E C O M M E N D A T I O N S	
FROM : Head of Delivery Cabinet is recommended to:	Deadline date : 1 October 2009
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Consider the views put forward by CMT, LDF Scrutiny Panel and the Planning and Environmental Protection Committee (Refer to Section 4 of this report) on the following documents, 2. Recommend that Council approve the publication of the following Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents for pre-submission consultation in February/March 2010 and the submission of the Documents to the Secretary of State <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Core Strategy Development Plan Document • Site Specific Proposals Development Plan Document 3. Recommend that Council approve the publication of the following Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Draft Supplementary Planning Documents for consultation in February/March 2010 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Location and Design of Waste Management Development • RECAP Waste Management Design Guide 4. Note the publication of the following Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Draft Supplementary Planning Document for consultation in February/March 2010 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Block Fen / Langwood Fen Master Plan <p>This latter document covers a geographical area outside of the Peterborough Unitary Authority area.</p>	

1. ORIGIN OF REPORT

- 1.1 The Minerals and Waste Plan is being produced jointly by Cambridgeshire County Council and Peterborough City Council and will set the framework for all minerals and waste development up to 2026. The Minerals and Waste Plan, when adopted, will replace the

existing Cambridgeshire Aggregates Local Plan and the Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Waste Local Plan.

- 1.2 The Plan allocates sites to ensure a steady supply of mineral to supply the growth agenda, and to facilitate modern waste management facilities to secure a major change in the way we manage our waste.
- 1.3 The Plan will ensure that adequate provision is made for the sustainable delivery of minerals needed for the growth agenda to 2026. Also that the waste generated from existing and proposed new developments, is managed in a sustainable way through a network of waste management facilities. The Plan makes provision for a range of suitable sites for the development of an appropriate number of waste management facilities in the period up to 2026.
- 1.4 The Minerals and Waste Plan comprises:
 - **Core Strategy:** a document setting out the strategic vision and objectives, and including a suite of development control policies to guide minerals and waste development
 - **Site Specific Proposals:** Document setting out site specific proposals for mineral and waste development and supporting site specific policies
- 1.5 Three Draft **Supplementary Planning Documents** (SPD's) have also been prepared:
 - **Location and Design of Waste Management Facilities**
 - **RECAP Waste Management Design Guide**
 - **Block Fen/Langwood Fen, Mepal Master Plan**
- 1.6 The '**RECAP Waste Management Design Guide**' SPD will provide advice on the inclusion of facilities for the storage and separation of waste within new housing and commercial development.
- 1.7 The '**Design and Location of Waste Management Development**' SPD will provide potential developers of waste management development with detailed advice on the design and location factors influencing the development of a range of waste management development. This is an update of an existing SPD that currently applies to 'major' waste management development which was adopted by the Councils in 2005.
- 1.8 The **Block Fen/Langwood Fen** area is near Cambridge and does not, therefore, fall within the jurisdiction of Peterborough City Council. However, it is an area where mineral extraction (mainly sand and gravel) will be focused and where there will be significant landfill of inert waste. It will therefore make a significant contribution to achieving the objectives of the Minerals and Waste Plan and the SPD sets out in detail the intended phasing and other issues to take into account in the ongoing mineral extraction and landfill operations in the area. However, the Master Plan does not require the formal approval by the City Council.
- 1.9 These SPD's will be appended to policies in the Core Strategy and it is intended that they be consulted on at the same time as the pre-submission consultation takes place on the DPD's and are approved at the same time as the Core Strategy document.
- 1.10 *The draft submission stage DPD's and draft SPD's will be available to view electronically on the Council's website at <http://democracy.peterborough.gov.uk>
Written copies are also available in the Members rooms.*

2. PURPOSE AND REASON FOR REPORT

- 2.1 The purpose of this report is to seek the Cabinet's approval for publication of the Submission Stage Minerals and Waste DPD's (Core Strategy and Site Specific Proposals)

for pre-submission consultation for a six week period in February/March 2010 and subsequent submission to the Secretary of State for approval.

- 2.2 Approval is also sought for the publication of the two draft SPD's 'Location and Design of Waste Management Facilities' and 'RECAP Waste Management Design Guide' for consultation in February/March 2010. Cabinet is also requested to note the publication of the draft Block Fen/Langwood Fen Master Plan SPD for consultation at the same time.
- 2.3 The documents have already been considered by the Local Development Framework (LDF) Scrutiny Panel, CMT and Planning and Environmental Protection Committee. The views / comments made are set out in this report (Refer to Section 4 below) for consideration by Cabinet.
Cabinet is requested to recommend to Council, for a full council resolution,
- that the Minerals & Waste Core Strategy and Site Specific Proposals DPD's should be published for pre-submission consultation in February/ March 2010 with or without any amendment.
 - that the draft Minerals and Waste Supplementary Planning Documents (*Location and Design of Waste Management Facilities* and *RECAP Waste Management Design Guide*) are published for consultation in Feb/March 2010.
- 2.4 The Minerals and Waste **Core Strategy** and **Site Specific Proposals** are termed development plan documents and as such the pre submission consultation must conform to the requirements set out in new Regulation 27 (Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 as amended). Before a council submits a development plan document to the Secretary of State, it must publish and make available the documents it proposes to submit.
- 2.5 This report is for Cabinet to consider under its Terms of Reference No. 3.2.9 "To commission reviews by and determine any changes of policy proposed by the Scrutiny Committees and Commissions making recommendations to Council about proposed changes to the Council's major policy and budget framework."

3. **TIMESCALE**

Is this Statutory Plan?	YES	If Yes, date for relevant Cabinet Meeting	13th October 2009
Date for relevant Council Meeting	2nd December 2009	Date for submission EERA	N/A

- 3.1 Member consideration of the draft Submission Plans and SPD's has taken place at the following meetings:
- LDF Scrutiny Panel 7th September
 - Planning & Environmental Protection Committee 22nd September
 - CMT 22nd September
 - Cabinet 12th October
 - Council 2nd December
- 3.2 A similar process is being followed by Cambridgeshire County Council with formal approval for pre-submission consultation and submission to the Secretary of State being sought at a Council meeting on 13th October 2009.

4. **VIEWS OF COMMITTEES**

- 4.1 The LDF Scrutiny Panel considered a report on the pre submission Minerals and Waste DPD's at a meeting on 7th September. The following views/comments were raised:

Qn: Would the Sustainability Appraisal look at the affects on climate change?

Officer Response:

Yes - the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the Minerals and Waste documents is centred on 14 SA Headline Objectives (revised following consultation on the scoping report – July/Aug 2005). Objective 10 –To reduce Cambridgeshire’s and Peterborough’s contribution to climate change. This ensures that climate change has directly been taken into account when appraising all policies within the Minerals and Waste (M&W) Plan. M&W Core Strategy policy ‘CS22 Climate Change’ requires all proposals take account of climate change for the lifetime of the development. This is most likely to be through measures to minimise greenhouse gas emissions, and by measures to allow flexibility for future adaptation.

Qn: Was there a danger that we would need to continue to import waste to keep the proposed energy from waste facility going?

Officer Response:

Yes, there is a danger, but a policy has been developed to deal with this. The existing Cambridgeshire & Peterborough Waste Local Plan 2003 policy WLP3 seeks to limit the amount of waste being imported into the area use of catchment area restrictions, by imposing planning conditions.

M&W Core Strategy (Pre Submission version) Policy CS29 - The Need for Waste Management Development and the Movement of Waste does likewise stating “to ensure that excessive provision is not made within the Plan area, which would result in unacceptable importation of waste, planning permission will be dependent upon applicants entering into binding restrictions on catchment area, tonnages and /or types of waste”.

- 4.2 The Planning and Environmental Protection Committee considered the DPD’s at a meeting on 22nd September and raised the following matters:

Qn: For future waste facilities the calculations assume that the PREL scheme will be built, isn’t it too early to assume this? Will the Plan stand firm if it doesn’t get built?

Officer Response:

The capacity of the proposed PREL development is c. 650,000 tonnes per annum (tpa) throughput. The scale of this facility is so relatively large that it was considered essential to calculate future requirements with and without PREL and to make an assumption on which to base the Plan.

Whilst the application has not yet been determined by the Secretary of State, it has progressed a significantly along the route to determination. For this reason it was assumed for the purpose of the Plan calculations, that PREL will become operational from 2013.

The impact of this is to lengthen the lifespan of existing landfill sites and reduce the number of treatment facilities required.

However, the provision of waste site allocations in the Plan together with policies to protect of existing sites ensures that there is sufficient flexibility for an alternative scheme(s) such as the City Council’s energy from waste proposal to be developed too.

If PREL and other facilities aren’t developed and the challenging waste recycling, composting and re-use targets are not met across the Plan area, the annual monitoring indicators set out in Chapter 12 Implementation and Monitoring will signal the need for a review.

Qn: Do we have to accept the importation of London’s waste?

Officer Response:

Yes – the Minerals and Waste Plan documents have to conform with the East of England Regional Plan which was adopted in May 2008. Policy apportsions 5.1 million tonnes of pre-treated London waste for management within the Plan area over the Plan period 2006-2026.

Whilst it is not popular, the total amount equates to less than 5% of the total waste arisings to be managed over the Plan period and it should not be forgotten that an element of Peterborough’s waste arisings are exported, for example clinical waste to Addenbrokes,

Cambridge and general hazardous wastes to the East Northants Waste Management Park, Kings Cliffe.

Other discussion:

Other discussion centred around a location map of existing facilities and the proposed site allocations.

5. BACKGROUND TO THIS STAGE OF THE PREPARATION OF THE MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS

5.1 The preparation of the new Plan has involved significant public consultation at the following stages:

- Issues and Options (June 2005 and January 2006)
- Preferred Options (November 2006 and October 2008)
- Additional proposed sites (Jan/Feb 2009)
- Further Additional Sites (April/May 2009).

5.2 Representations received at these earlier rounds of public consultation have been taken into account as the Plan has progressed. The Plan has now reached the 'submission' stage as, after it has been subject to a further round of consultation in Feb/March 2010, it will be submitted to the Secretary of State for approval (July 2010).

5.3 Once the Plan is submitted to the Secretary of State the opportunity for the Council's to make changes is limited to minor changes which can be proposed prior to the examination. The Council is, therefore, effectively endorsing the Submission Plan as the one which it seeks to adopt and implement. Following the hearing / examination in public only the Inspector can make changes to the Plan, which will be done through changes proposed in the report he publishes, having tested the Plan for soundness through the examination process. The Plan will then be adopted by the Councils.

5.4 The key issues and main changes made to the DPD's since Preferred Options 2 are set out in Appendix 1.

6. REASONS FOR RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 To progress the development plan documents in line with the agreed targets and milestones set out in the Peterborough Local Development Scheme 2007-2010. (Revised April 2007).

7. ALTERNATIVE OPTIONS CONSIDERED

7.1 The implications of not progressing the documents would be to potentially hinder the planning of strategic resources required for Peterborough's and Cambridgeshire growth agendas. The Minerals and Waste Development Plan will be vital in ensuring that construction materials are available to support the growth agenda in this area, and that sustainable waste management is available for new and existing communities. The Plan period is 2003 to 2026.

7.2 The ability to meet the Local Development Scheme targets brings financial benefits to both authorities in the form of Planning Development Grant monies.

8. IMPLICATIONS

8.1 The City Council is committed to the production of these documents as indicated in the Peterborough Local Development Scheme 2004-2007, approved by Government office East in April 2007.

8.2 The documents plan for a Peterborough's sustainable future, making provision for minerals used in development and for waste facilities to manage the City's forecast waste growth.

8.3 The financial implications of producing the reports are covered within Service existing budgets.

Appendix 1

KEY ISSUES SET OUT IN THE MINERALS AND WASTE DEVELOPMENT PLAN DOCUMENTS AND THE MAIN CHANGES MADE TO THE PREFERRED OPTIONS 2 VERSIONS

1 MINERALS

Sand and Gravel

- 1.0 Cambridgeshire and Peterborough are required to provide a minimum of 2.8 million tonnes of sand and gravel per annum throughout the Plan period. To allow some flexibility it is proposed that the Mineral Planning Authorities (MPAs) plan for the provision of 3 million tonnes per annum (mtpa) for sand and gravel. This equates to 60 million tonnes of sand and gravel over the Plan period.
- 1.1 In order to secure a supply of material across the geographical area of Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, the Plan area is divided into 3 sub-areas which together will supply 3 million tonnes per annum of sand and gravel per annum over the Plan period:
- 0.75 mtpa from the Northern Zone, i.e. Peterborough and north Fenland District
 - 0.85 mtpa from the Central / Southern Zone (excluding the Earith / Mepal Area)
 - 1.4 mtpa from the Earith / Mepal Zone (from 2010 onwards)
- In total, in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough, it is proposed that 45 million tonnes be allocated, 22 million tonnes of which will be worked during the period to 2026.
- 1.2 The following allocations for sand and gravel extraction are proposed in Peterborough:
- **Maxey Quarry** – southern extension
 - **Pode Hole Quarry** – southern and western extensions
 - **Kings Delph, Whittlesey** – southern side of A605 Whittlesey Road. This site is located close to Peterborough to serve its long term growth needs but is predominantly in Cambridgeshire.

Note: Sufficient provision is being made in the Plan area for sand and gravel. In Peterborough this is being achieved by extensions to existing sites.

Limestone

- 1.3 Limestone only exists in a small geographical area to the north-west of Peterborough and is the only 'crushed rock' in the East of England Region. There are sufficient reserves in the existing sites to meet the Regional apportionment for the Plan area of 300,000 tonnes per annum. However, if no further sites are identified this reserve will be exhausted by the end of the Plan period and limestone working in this area will cease unless new sites can be found. The MPA's have not been able to identify any suitable site as allocations for future limestone extraction because of environmental constraints and the need to ensure safe and suitable access. However, circumstances may change over the Plan period, so a criteria based policy has been included in the Plan which would allow a new site to come forward if it meets the tests in the policy.

Note: Limestone is only found in a small area in Peterborough. It has not been possible to identify new allocations (for access and environmental reasons). There is currently sufficient reserves to meet the Regional apportionment, but if no further sites are identified then reserves will be exhausted by 2026. Policy provision is, therefore, being made for new sites to come forward provided criteria are met.

There is no change from Preferred Options 2 although at that time it was considered that the regional apportionment of 300,000 tonnes per annum could not be met. A recent re-evaluation of reserves has indicated that there is just sufficient to meet the volumes required up to the end of the Plan period.

Sand and gravel and engineering clay borrow pits

- 1.4 The Plan proposes that the supply for sand and gravel will normally be drawn from permitted or allocated sites, and in the case of engineering clay this is best extracted from existing mineral or landfill sites in preference to new greenfield sites. However, it is recognised that where major infrastructure proposals come forward (such as major road schemes) and there is a source of material in the immediate area borrowpits can be more sustainable option, due to their proximity to the infrastructure scheme and ability to reduce environmental and amenity impacts. The only borrow pits proposed are related to the A14 upgrade due to the exceptional volumes of mineral required and these are all outside the Peterborough area.

Note: There are no borrow pits proposed in Peterborough. This is a change from Preferred Options 2 where a sand and gravel borrow pit was proposed at Middle West Farm, Thorney to serve the improvements works to the A1073. However, these road improvements works are well underway and it is clear that mineral for these works has been sourced from existing sites. The works are likely to be completed in the next 6 months or so and a borrow pit is not required.

Other Minerals

- 1.5 An allocation for brick clay (and also for sand and gravel) is proposed Kings Delph, Whittlesey to secure long-term reserves for the brickworks. Part of this site may fall within Peterborough.
- 1.6 A small allocation for chalk marl is proposed at Barrington Quarry, Barrington in Cambridgeshire.

Note: Whilst there may be a small part of Kings Delph site in Peterborough no other sites are proposed for 'other minerals' in Peterborough. This is the same as Preferred Options 2.

Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSAs)

- 1.7 Government guidance in Minerals Planning Statement 1 (MPS1) requires the identification of Mineral Safeguarding Areas to ensure that workable mineral deposits are adequately considered in all land-use planning decisions, as they are a finite resource and to ensure that potential resources are not sterilised by other land uses without due consideration. Mineral Safeguarding Areas are required for all minerals including sand and gravel, brick clay, chalk and limestone, and should identify the extent of the resource which is considered to be of current or future economic importance.
- 1.8 The Plan identifies Mineral Safeguarding Areas using information held by the British Geological Society. This has been refined following consultation with the minerals industry (who hold additional geological data), and local planning authorities within and adjoining the Plan area.
- 1.9 Mineral Safeguarding Areas will need to be identified on the Proposals Map of the Peterborough Development Plan. This will ensure that developers and other relevant parties are aware of the presence of economic and potentially workable mineral resources, and that the resources are not needlessly sterilised and are taken into account in any major development proposals.

- 1.10 It is important to note that although MSAs are being identified there is no presumption that land within these areas will be worked for the extraction of minerals.

Note: The Mineral Safeguarding Maps (see Site Specific Proposals Appendix D) show the distribution of sand and gravel, limestone and brick clay in the Peterborough area. This has not changed since Preferred Options 2. In Peterborough the MSA's do not include areas that were already allocated in the Peterborough Local Plan (First Replacement) for development although it is likely to be a factor to take into account in the designation of new development areas.

2 WASTE MANAGEMENT

Scale of waste arising

- 2.1 Forecasts for the amount of waste to be managed to 2026 are set out below.

Waste Type	Quantity 2006 (tonnes)	Quantity 2011 (tonnes)	Quantity 2016 (tonnes)	Quantity 2021 (tonnes)	Quantity 2026 (tonnes)	Total quantity managed 2006-2026
C&D/Inert Waste	2,748,000	2,833,000	2,944,000	3,030,000	3,111,000	61,540,000
Municipal Waste	433,000	513,000	541,000	570,000	598,000	11,233,000
Commercial & Industrial Waste	1,166,000	1,326,000	1,531,000	1,777,000	2,053,000	32,752,000
Hazardous Waste	44,000	45,000	49,000	49,000	49,000	995,000
Agricultural	328,000	243,000	181,000	181,000	181,000	4,542,000
Imported non-hazardous for disposal	484,000	308,000	166,000	166,000	166,000	5,086,000
Total	5,203,000	5,268,000	5,412,000	5,773,000	6,158,000	116,148,000

Source:

Waste Management Statistical Basis for Cambs & Pboro Minerals and Waste Development Plan 2006-2026 (2009 Addendum - August 2009)

Importation of Waste from London

- 2.2 The Plan has made provision for Cambridgeshire and Peterborough to have sufficient waste management and landfill capacity to enable the disposal of the amount of residual waste from London that has been apportioned through the Regional Spatial Strategy with the amount reducing after 2015. The total amount of 'London waste' over the Plan period is 5.1 million tonnes (out of a total of 116,148,000 tonnes i.e. approx less than 5%). The waste will be pre-treated and will require disposal.

Note: The amount of residual waste to be imported from London that we are required to make provision for disposal has not changed since Preferred Options 2.

Provision of new waste management facilities

- 2.3 The figures tabled below take into account existing and planned facilities and their capacities. In Peterborough this includes the assumptions that a) the Peterborough Renewable Energy Limited energy park proposal will be operational by 2013 [650,000tpa capacity of which 600,000tpa is waste and 50,000tpa is energy crops]; b) the 25,000tpa extension to the Materials Recycling Facility will be operational from 2011. Taking these and other planned facilities across Cambridgeshire into account, the need for additional

waste management facilities required by 2026 has been established for the Plan area and is set out below. This is based on the typical facility sizes indicated, however in practice, fewer larger facilities or a greater number of smaller facilities may be built.

Indicative Number of Additional Facilities by 2026			
Materials Recycling Facility (Assumed size 50,000tpa)	In Vessel Composting (Assumed size 40,000tpa)	Inert Waste Processing (Assumed size 125,000tpa)	Treatment [includes range of technology types incl. EfW, MBT] (Assumed size 250,000tpa)
12	1	12	0

Source:

Waste Management Statistical Basis for Cambs & Pboro Minerals and Waste Development Plan 2006-2026 (2009 Addendum - August 2009)

- 2.4 The spatial strategy for the provision of new facilities is to secure a network of waste resource and recovery facilities which will take into account existing and allocated sites. In order to help determine the best location for facilities consultants Jacobs were appointed to assist by using their model 'Netwaste'. This model bring together the geographical spread of waste arising and the local road network, in order to identify optimum area of search within which facilities should be located. This has been related to detailed site assessments of potential waste management sites, which takes into account a range of constraints and other factors, and allocations have been identified.
- 2.5 In line with government guidance flexibility regarding potential uses will be retained and uses are not prescribed for sites, although a list of suitable options for each sites are given.
- 2.6 A number of allocations have been made for built waste management development in Peterborough:

- **Storeys Bar Road, Fengate**
- **Hampton**
- **Dogsthorpe**
- **West of Peterborough**

Note: These sites have remained the same since Preferred Options 2. However, the extent of the Storeys Bar Road site has virtually doubled to reflect the current energy park proposal and the boundary of the Dogsthorpe site has been modified as a result of the land take by the A1073 improvement scheme. The 'West of Peterborough' area of search is likely to be progressed through the overall plan for the Great Haddon development.

Location of Household Recycling Centres

- 2.7 The Plan identifies a need for an additional Household Recycling Centre in Peterborough to serve the southern part of the city. The northern part will either continue to be served by Dogsthorpe or by a replacement facility.

Note: The same principles apply as at Preferred Options 2. However, it is anticipated that the household recycling centre to serve the southern part of the city may be accommodated at the 'West of Peterborough' site.

Hazardous Waste

- 2.8 It has been forecast by consultant Jacobs that over the Plan period around 995,000 tonnes of hazardous waste will need to be managed. It is proposed that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough continue to contribute to the management of hazardous waste by making appropriate provision for expansion and replacement of existing facilities.

- 2.9 In terms of hazardous waste that needs disposal to landfill, it is proposed that Cambridgeshire and Peterborough will continue to dispose of its general hazardous waste at the East Northants Resource Facility at Kings Cliffe, Northamptonshire immediately outside the Plan area. No need has been identified for an additional facility of this type in Cambridgeshire and Peterborough.
- 2.10 With regard to stable non-reactive hazardous waste (which is largely accounted for by soils and asbestos) arising from construction and demolition, some additional provision has been identified. This type of waste is disposed of in separate contained landfill cells, so can be accommodated at dedicated sites or can be integrated into an existing site with the capability to accommodate hazardous and non-hazardous waste landfill cells.
- 2.11 To contribute to the management of this waste stream, a site allocation has been made at:
- **Thornhaugh 1 Quarry, Thornhaugh.**

Note: no change from Preferred Options 2

Landfill

- 2.12 Even after recycling there will still be a need for landfill. The forecast need for the Plan period is set out below:

YEAR	Inert	Non-hazardous
2011	-1,221,000	9,173,000
2016	-4,296,000	6,251,000
2021	-7,013,000	4,192,000
2026	-9,605,000	2,124,000

- 2.13 **Additional inert landfill** will be required as there is a shortfall of around 9.6 million cubic metres by 2026. Allocations for additional inert landfill are, therefore, proposed. In Peterborough these are at:
- **Cross Leys**
 - **Thornhaugh 2**
 - **Thornhaugh 2B**
 - **Cooks Hole**
- 2.14 With regard to **non-hazardous landfill**, the existing void is forecast to meet the need over the period to 2026. However, in the event that recycling and recovery facilities do not come on stream as fast as anticipated then there may a small shortfall of non-hazardous landfill at the end of the Plan period. The Plan suggests that if this requirement is demonstrated through the Councils annual monitoring work, new additional non-hazardous landfill capacity should be located in the broad location of the Whittlesey Brickpits, Whittlesey. This area meets the Environment Agency's technical criteria for the location of non-hazardous landfill (Regulatory Guidance Note 3: Groundwater Protection - Locational Aspects of Landfills) and may also offer the opportunity to sustainably transport waste by rail.
- 2.15 The Plan also proposes that exceptionally some small scale proposals may be considered favourably where it is demonstrated that supplementary landfill engineering is required in order to address land stability and / or to address existing or potential pollution of the environment involving supplementary landfill.

Note: There is a change in the way that waste disposal requirements have been calculated since Preferred Options 2 as previously there was a mix of two scenarios going forward because of the different municipal waste solutions selected by Cambridgeshire and Peterborough. These scenarios have been merged and account has also been taken of the possible impact of the PREL energy park on disposal requirements (which has resulted in a reduction in void for non hazardous waste disposal).

3 SUSTAINABILITY APPRAISAL

- 3.1 The preparation of the Minerals and Waste Plan is subject to a full Sustainability Appraisal (SA) which has been taken into account the policies and allocations set out in the pre-submission stage Minerals & Waste documents.

4 HABITATS REGULATION ASSESSMENT

- 4.1 A Habitats Regulations Assessment (including a full Appropriate Assessment) (HRA) has been carried out on the Minerals and Waste Plan. This work follows on from the initial screening and scoping assessments produced previously, which were published as part of the Preferred Options 2 consultation in 2008. Consultants RPS, who have taken the documents through a full Appropriate Assessment, including an in-combination assessment of the proposals, have carried out this further work. They have assessed the content of the plans to ensure there is no potential impact on the integrity of European Sites (namely those sites classified as Special Protection Areas, Special Areas of Conservation, and Ramsar sites). This has resulted in some minor amendments to the Plan, to ensure that it passes the HRA and does not cause any harm to the integrity of a European site, either alone or in combination with other plans or projects. This work has ensured that Articles 6(3) and (4) of the Habitats Directive are satisfied and meet the requirements set out in part VIA of the UK Habitats Regulations.
- 4.2 In Peterborough sites subject to particular scrutiny have included the Pode Hole Quarry extension (minerals), Dogsthorpe and Storeys Bar Road (waste).

Note: Further SA and HRA has taken place since Preferred Options 2. The sites under most scrutiny in Peterborough include the proposed extensions to Pode Hole Quarry due to proximity to the Nene Washes. Additional hydrological evidence in relation to the Pode Hole proposal has been received and addressed the HRA concern. Pode Hole remains allocated. Also of concern was the number of proposed waste management sites indicated at Preferred Options 2 stage as being suitable for energy from waste uses. The HRA raised concerns about the in-combination effects of additional site proposals beyond those at planning application stage at Storeys Bar Road (PREL) and Fourth Drove, Fengate (PCC waste management proposal). As a result the site proposal at Dogsthorpe no longer makes provision for energy from waste use. The energy from waste proposal at Kings Dyke Brickpits, Whittlesey would only be acceptable if it can be demonstrated to lead to improvements in air quality and not lead to an adverse impact on the integrity of the European Sites (Nene Washes).

5 CLIMATE CHANGE

- 5.1 The key objectives of the Plan include encouraging operational practices and restoration proposals that will minimise or help to address climate change. In practice this has meant that climate change is incorporated into many of the policies and proposals of the Plan. This includes major proposals such as those in the Earith / Mepal area where more sustainable flood management and large scale habitat creation (which also acts as a carbon sink) is being sought, in association with minerals and waste development.
- 5.2 There is also a new policy specifically relating to Climate Change (Policy CS22 in the Core Strategy [Pre Submission version]), which will require all minerals and waste management proposals to take account of climate changes for the lifetime of the development, by minimising greenhouse gas emissions and by incorporating measures to allow flexibility for future adaptation.