

# Carbon Impact Assessment:

## Initial assessment

### What are the proposed outcomes of the policy/decision?

**Policy/decision:** Cambridgeshire and Peterborough Minerals and Waste Local Plan – Proposed Submission (Full Council 16 October 2019)

This Plan sets the planning policy framework for all Minerals and Waste related planning applications to be determined against. It intends to ensure sufficient minerals are available to support the construction industry, as well as sufficient waste management infrastructure in place to deal with all waste arising in the area. The Plan has been developed jointly with Cambridgeshire County Councils. Policies in the Plan are wide ranging, including covering matters such as biodiversity, heritage, transport and restoration of sites.

### Now consider whether any of the following aspects will be affected:

Aspect	Likely climate effect:			Commentary
	+ve	-ve	neutral	
The council's energy consumption via buildings (electricity, gas, oil). Tick +ve if consumption will reduce.			✓	The MWLP has no impact on the Council's energy consumption via buildings.
The council's energy consumption via travel (eg petrol). Tick +ve if consumption will reduce.			✓	The MWLP has no impact on the Council's energy consumption via travel.
The councils water usage (especially hot water). Tick +ve if consumption will reduce.			✓	The MWLP has no impact on the Council's water usage.
Creation of renewable energy. Tick +ve if it increases renewable energy production.	✓			Whilst no allocations have been made for specific sites, the MWLP does contain policies which support applications for the generation of energy from waste. The MWLP also contains policies which protect existing renewable energy facilities from other forms of development.
Carbon offsetting – will the proposal offset carbon emissions such as through tree planting. Tick +ve if yes.	✓			The MWLP contains strong policies surrounding the restoration of mineral sites, with such restoration potentially including measures which can be used to off-site carbon emissions, such as tree planting or peat soil enhancement.
Reducing carbon emissions through amending ongoing activities not covered above eg management of land, such as peat soils, in a way which reduces carbon dioxide emissions. Tick +ve if yes.	✓			The MWLP contains policies which seek to reduce carbon emissions. Policy 24: Sustainable Use of Soils, for example, specifically requires soil management plans to be submitted with development proposals on land containing peat soils. The policy also supports proposals which enhance and protect peat soils, which are a major carbon sink.
If the project involves the creation or acquisition of a building, has the energy rating been considered.	✓			The MWLP contains a robust design policy which ensures that new mineral and waste management development achieves a high quality of design. Appendix 3 of the MWLP, The Location and Design of Waste Management

Are / will measures be included to make the building energy efficient? Tick +ve if yes.				Facilities, contains a dedicated chapter on Energy Efficiency and Sustainable Construction. This specifically states that construction materials should achieve an 'A' summary rating in the BRE publication, and development in general should achieve high levels of performance against BREEAM.
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**What information is available to help the environmental impacts identified above to be quantified?**

(e.g. this might be a estimation of energy consumption provided by a constructor, an estimate of distance travelled to a new site etc.)

Following approval of any planning application, the Councils' Development Management Officers will make regular site visits to assess compliance with any conditions imposed. The Sustainability Appraisal which accompanies the MWLP will also contain a chapter on Monitoring and Implementation. This chapter is still being written at present, however it will contain measures to help quantify environmental impacts and savings.

**Can any differences be justified as appropriate or necessary?**

By its very nature, the mineral industry is extractive, and therefore destructive. The industry does however operate on a 'restoration first' principle, meaning that full and detailed restoration schemes must accompany any planning application. The 'differences' can be justified in that mineral is required for the construction of homes, roads and employment etc. In addition, the afteruse will as a minimum return the land to its previous use, and in most cases will result in net environmental gains.

**Are any remedial or mitigation actions required?**

As outlined above, mineral extraction schemes will not be approved without a comprehensive restoration scheme in place. Such schemes will in most cases be phased, such that disruption to the land is kept to a minimum.

**Once implemented, how will you monitor the actual impact?**

The Sustainability Appraisal will contain a monitoring framework with which to monitor the implementation of the MWLP. The Councils will also carry out regular site visits.

<b>Policy review date</b>	Not set, but within 5 years from adoption
<b>Assessment completed by</b>	Chris Stanek, Senior Strategic Planner
<b>Date Initial CIA completed</b>	4 <sup>th</sup> October 2019
<b>Signed by Head of Service</b>	<b>Richard Kay, Head of Sustainable Growth Strategy</b>