

Minerals and Waste Joint Plan

Consultation Statement

**Prepared under Section 22(c) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning)
(England) Regulations 2012**

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 The Minerals and Waste Joint Plan is being produced by North Yorkshire County Council (NYCC), the City of York Council (CYC) and the North York Moors National Park Authority (NYMNP). It will contain planning policies for minerals and waste developments in the area until 2030.
- 1.2 The Plan is being prepared in accordance with relevant legislation – principally the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2008 (as amended) and the Town and County Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012. The 2011 Localism Act has also introduced requirements relating to the Duty to Cooperate. Although referenced within this statement a separate Duty to Cooperate Statement has also been produced.
- 1.3 For the purposes of the 2012 Regulations the Joint Plan is a Local Plan. The 2012 Regulations prescribe the process for producing a Local Plan, including stipulating when and how consultation should be carried out. This aside, the Joint Plan authorities recognise the benefits of consultation and have sought to engage thoroughly with interested parties and key stakeholders throughout production of the Plan, beyond the requirements of the Regulations.
- 1.4 Regulation 22(c) of the 2012 Regulations require a statement to be produced which sets out:
 - (i) which bodies and persons the local planning authority invited to make representations under regulation 18,
 - (ii) how those bodies and persons were invited to make representations under regulation 18,
 - (iii) a summary of the main issues raised by the representations made pursuant to regulation 18,
 - (iv) how any representations made pursuant to regulation 18 have been taken into account;
 - (v) if representations were made pursuant to regulation 20, the number of representations made and a summary of the main issues raised in those representations; and
 - (vi) if no representations were made in regulation 20, that no such representations were made'This statement must be submitted to the Secretary of State alongside the Plan (and other documentation) for Examination.
- 1.5 Whilst the 2012 Regulations require consultation at two stages of plan production (Regulation 18 and Regulation 19), the authorities have undertaken consultation at four stages, as set out below:
 - First Consultation (Regulation 18) – to obtain views on what the Joint Plan should contain and the issues it should address;
 - Issues and Options (not specifically required) – to present the issues the Plan should address and identify a number of strategic options for addressing those issues;
 - Preferred Options (not specifically required) – to set out the preferred options for the Plan (close to a draft of the Plan);
 - Publication (Regulation 19) – the Plan which is proposed to be submitted for Examination.
- 1.6 The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 requires planning authorities to produce a Statement of Community Involvement which sets out how they will consult as part of the production of plans and in considering planning applications. The status of each of the Statements of Community Involvement is set out below:

- North Yorkshire County Council – adopted 2006 (updated 2013)
www.northyorks.gov.uk/CHttpHandler.ashx?id=21888&p=0
- City of York Council – adopted 2007
www.york.gov.uk/info/200406/ldf_evidence_base_documents/465/ldf_evidence_base_documents/38
- North York Moors National Park Authority – adopted 2006 (addendums added 2012 and 2013)
www.northyorkmoors.org.uk/_data/assets/pdf_file/0019/320338/Final-SCI-with-addendum-March-2013.pdf.

- 1.7 Although each authority has an adopted Statement of Community Involvement, the authorities have produced a Communications Plan which sets out how consultation will be undertaken at each stage of the production of the Joint Plan. This can be viewed at www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan.
- 1.8 As mentioned above the Duty to Cooperate has been introduced by the 2011 Localism Act. This requires planning authorities to co-operate with specified bodies (including other planning authorities, environmental bodies, transport bodies etc) on strategic matters. This has been undertaken on an on-going basis throughout production of the Plan as and when appropriate. The Joint Plan authorities have produced a separate statement outlining the elements of plan preparation which have been relevant to meeting the requirements of the Duty to Co-operate. There is some overlap between the Duty to Co-operate and more general consultation however this statement focuses upon the more formal elements of consultation. The Duty to Cooperate Statement is available to view in the evidence base for the Plan.
- 1.9 Strategic Environmental Assessment is required under the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive¹ and Sustainability Appraisal (which incorporates the requirements for SEA) is required under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004. There are specific consultation requirements relating to SEA and SA and these are detailed within the relevant sections below. Habitats Regulations Assessment is required under the Habitats Directive² and although there are less specific requirements for consultation the relevant reports have been published as part of consultations throughout Plan production.
- 1.10 At the outset of Plan production a Joint Plan website was set up to provide clear branding for the Plan and to enable consultees and the public to easily locate any information relating to the Joint Plan by holding it all on one site. The website is hosted by North Yorkshire County Council and links have been provided from the websites of the North York Moors National Park Authority and the City of York Council. Any reference to the Joint Plan website in this document therefore relates to this website. The address of the website is www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan. A 'screenprint' of the front page of the website (as at May 2013) is shown in Appendix 1A.

¹ 2001/42/EC

² 92/43/EEC

2. Regulation 18 consultation (May / June 2013)

2.1 Regulation 18 of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 sets out the following requirements:

18.—

(1) A local planning authority must—

- (a) notify each of the bodies or persons specified in paragraph (2) of the subject of a local plan which the local planning authority propose to prepare, and
- (b) invite each of them to make representations to the local planning authority about what a local plan with that subject ought to contain.

(2) The bodies or persons referred to in paragraph (1) are—

- (a) such of the specific consultation bodies as the local planning authority consider may have an interest in the subject of the proposed local plan;
- (b) such of the general consultation bodies as the local planning authority consider appropriate; and
- (c) such residents or other persons carrying on business in the local planning authority's area from which the local planning authority consider it appropriate to invite representations.

(3) In preparing the local plan, the local planning authority must take into account any representation made to them in response to invitations under paragraph (1).

2.2 The purpose of the Regulation 18 consultation was therefore to provide consultees and the public with background information on the Joint Plan (i.e. why and how it is being prepared and factual information relating to minerals and waste in the Plan area) and to invite their comments on what should be contained in the Plan and what issues should be addressed.

2.3 North Yorkshire County Council had previously begun work on a Minerals Core Strategy and a Waste Core Strategy and the results of consultations and discussions as part of this have also been fed into the production of the Joint Plan, including the outcomes of a workshop held in October 2011. Summary reports of the responses received from these consultations are available as an Annex to this Consultation Statement.

2.4 The Regulation 18 consultation ran for six weeks from 17th May until 28th June 2013.

Who we consulted

2.5 Relevant 'specific' and 'general' consultees as identified in the 2012 Regulations were contacted either by letter or by email. 'Prescribed bodies'³ identified in the 2012 Regulations and the 2011 Localism Act for the purposes of the Duty to Co-operate were also consulted, a full list of all those contacted is contained in Appendix 2D.

2.6 In addition to these consultees, the three authorities have a large number of other organisations and individuals contained on their consultation databases and each of these was also contacted by either letter or email. For Data Protection purposes details of the individuals consulted are not shown in this report, a total of 3126 individuals were directly consulted.

How we consulted

³ Many of the 'Prescribed bodies' are also 'specific' consultees under the 2012 Regulations

2.7 To facilitate this consultation the following consultation material was produced. These documents can be viewed at www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwipointplan .

- Summary leaflet – 8 page A5 leaflet containing information on why and how the Plan is being produced, key factual information on minerals and waste in the Plan area, questions to prompt consultation responses and details on how send comments in.
- Background Paper – More detailed version of the summary leaflet (15 page A4 booklet) particularly containing more information on minerals and waste in the Plan area.
- Comments Form

2.8 The evidence base material which was available at the time was also published on the Joint plan website (www.northyorks/mwevidence). This was made available to help inform consultation responses and consisted of:

- Demographic and Economic Evidence paper
- Environmental Evidence paper
- Minerals Specific Evidence (NYCC area)
- Waste Specific Evidence (NYCC area)
- Cross-cutting Issues (NYCC area)
- North York Moors National Park Minerals Technical Paper
- North York Moors National Park Waste Technical Paper
- City of York Council Minerals and Waste Technical Paper
- Safeguarding of Minerals Infrastructure Paper (NYCC area)
- Cross Boundary Minerals Safeguarding (NYCC area)

2.9 The consultation also included a call for sites, building upon the previous call for sites work undertaken by both North Yorkshire County Council and the City of York Council. This was explained in the consultation documentation which was published and details about how to submit a site were provided in a guidance note on the Joint Plan website.

2.10 The consultation was publicised through a range of means consisting of:

- Press release issued jointly by the three authorities (see Appendix 2A for articles);
- Article in the NYCC electronic newsletter NY NOW (emailed to residents of North Yorkshire who have subscribed);
- Posters displayed in libraries and on parish council notice boards (see Appendix 2B);
- Twitter announcement by the North York Moors National Park Authority and City Of York Council;
- On the Joint Plan webpage (see Appendix 2C).

2.11 All consultees were sent details of the consultation along with either a paper or electronic copy of the summary leaflet. Details of how to access other documents on the Joint Plan website were provided in the letter or email, with an option of receiving paper copies also given if requested. Parish Councils were also sent a paper copy of the comments form.

2.12 Copies of the summary leaflet, background paper and comments forms were made available in all libraries, including mobile libraries throughout the Plan area and in the offices of each of the three authorities, including those of the District and Borough

Councils within the NYCC area. Details of the locations where the documents were available is contained in Appendix 2E

- 2.13 In recognition of the fact that the consultation information was displayed on North Yorkshire County Council's website, most consultation emails and letters were being sent from North Yorkshire County Council and responses were to be sent back to North Yorkshire County Council. Contact details for the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority were placed on the Joint Plan website in order to assist residents or others in contacting their relevant authority if they so wished.

Consultation on supporting documents.

- 2.14 In addition to the above, meetings were also arranged to enable more focussed discussion to take place with specific groups and organisations. A workshop was planned with representatives of the aggregates industry but unfortunately due to a lack of attendees this was unable to go ahead. Instead, an aggregates issues paper was sent to all aggregates organisations asking for their comments on specific aggregates questions. A list of invitees is available in Appendix 2F (further details are contained in section 7 of this document).
- 2.15 The Scoping Report for the Sustainability Appraisal identifies the sustainability issues for the area and, from this, identifies sustainability objectives and a methodology for assessing the sustainability impacts of the Plan. Consultation with the 'consultation bodies' is required on the Scoping Report for the Sustainability Appraisal under the Strategic Environmental Assessment Directive. The consultation bodies for the purpose of Strategic Environmental Assessment are English Heritage, the Environment Agency and Natural England. However, due to the topic being covered and the extent of the area of the Joint Plan it was considered sensible to carry out a wider consultation. Each consultee identified in Appendix 2D was therefore also made aware of the consultation on the Scoping Report.
- 2.16 The documents produced as part of the consultation on the Scoping Report were:
- Scoping Report (including two annexes containing the Appendices)
 - Scoping Report Comments Form (separate to the general comments form)
- These were made available on the Sustainability Appraisal pages of the Joint Plan website (see Appendix 2G).
- 2.17 In addition, two workshops were held in June 2013 to discuss with stakeholders in more detail the proposed sustainability objectives and proposed site assessment methodology.

Responses to Consultation

- 2.18 A total of 256 comments were received from 89 respondents. The main issues raised as part of the consultation were:

Minerals

Mineral Supply

- Ensure supply of locally sourced building and roofing stone is maintained, especially for local use.
- Ensure flexibility within in the Plan to respond to changes in the economic climate.
- The Plan needs to make clear predictions about requirements at the end of the Plan period.
- Do not support the continued use of fossil fuels

- Sand and Gravel-the on-going supply to adjoining areas (North East Region and Tees Valley area) should be maintained at levels similar to existing demand. Additional provision should be provided from reserves from Tees Valley area and West Yorkshire.
- Future provision should be based on 2007 levels.
- Support the division of landbanks into North/South distribution areas.
- The Plan should recognise the wider uses of silica sand and Magnesian limestone.
- Crushed Rock- adequate provision should be made to prevent an increase in requirements from Durham area.

Locational approach

- Allow small-scale extraction to ensure continuity of supply.
- No further extraction should take place in the National Park and AONBs.
- Support was given to extensions to existing quarries rather than opening up of new ones.
- The strategy should adopt an approach which seeks to locate sites close to intended market.
- Maintain supply by making specific site allocations and preferred areas.

Safeguarding

- Support safeguarding of important minerals to ensure continuity of supply.
- A range of views were expressed on a suitable approach to safeguarding, suggestions included: small-scale quarries which may only be used for specific projects and existing and potential mineral sites should be safeguarded. Specific mention was given to the safeguarding of underground coal resources.

Alternative sources of Supply

- Representations considered that the strategy should encourage the uses of alternatives to primary aggregates and adopt an approach which concentrates on maximising use of alternatives.

Restoration

- A range of views were received in relation to an appropriate approach to restoration however the predominant view was for a preference towards restoration which includes habitat creation with aims to achieve biodiversity enhancements. Other views were expressed about restoration to wetland to contribute to flood mitigation, and restoration to previous state through the use of landfill.
- Representations recommended that the plan should identify a strategic approach to restoration through a co-ordinated restoration led plan.

Environment and Amenity

- Respondents identified a number of environment and amenity issues including- the protection of landscape, specifically in the National Parks the AONBs, the protection of BMV land and the protection of historic assets and designations.

Transport

- Representations sought to reduce the distances travelled and maximise the use of alternatives to road transport.

Fracking

- It was identified that the Joint Plan needs to address the issues associated with fracking. There was an overall view that fracking should not be permitted within the Plan area.

Waste

Locational Approach

- Locate waste management facilities close to sources of arisings (major population/ economic areas)
- Consider co-location of new waste sites with existing sites or with complementary uses.
- The plan should adhere to the proximity principle and treat waste as close to source as possible, reducing transport distances and carbon emissions.
- Provide a good distribution of localised solutions across the Plan area.
- Identify specific sites within the Plan.
- Locate sites away from residential dwellings.
- Provide facilities to enable local residents to recycle as much waste as possible.
- Enable energy from waste provision to be maximised.

Cross-Boundary Issues

- Maximise use of waste management facilities at sites outside the Plan area (north and south)
- Do not allow importation of waste into the Plan area.

Facility types

- A range of waste management technologies should be considered.
- A range of views in relation to the use of incineration were raised. Some support was expressed for incineration although the majority of respondents who raised this issue considered incineration should not be included within the Plan.
- A range of views were expressed with regards to the continued use of landfill. Although some recognition for the on-going need for landfill was identified, most respondents preferred not to include landfill in the plan.

Environment and Amenity

- Protect, conserve and enhance the local natural and historic environment including habitats and water.
- Consider the operation and management of facilities to reduce environmental and amenity impacts
- Reduce traffic impacts including carbon emissions.

General

- There should be a preference in the plan to treat waste as high up the hierarchy as possible, prevent waste from arising. Reuse and recycling should be a priority.
- LACW, Hazardous Waste and Waste Water needs to be addressed in the plan.

Priorities for the Plan

Minerals

- Restoration should be a priority for the plan, including restoration to previous state, providing opportunities for biodiversity enhancements, recreation facilities and maximising benefits for local communities.
- Provide appropriate sites across the whole of the plan area.
- Provide flexibility in supply to take account of changing circumstances
- Site management, operation and restoration

Waste

- Cross-boundary issues- maximise waste management facilities at sites outside the Plan area.

- Move waste up the hierarchy prioritising waste reduction and encouraging re-use /recycling
- Plan for a number of small facilities across the plan area
- Maximise opportunities from waste-related development, e.g. EFW

Environment and Amenity

- Protect, conserve and enhance the local natural and historic environment including habitats, water and soil.
- Maximise benefits from minerals and waste developments, including EFW, environmental enhancements, potential for mitigation to climate change and employment opportunities.

Sustainable Development

- Ensure the plan clearly defines sustainable development and the appropriate balance between economic, environment and social consideration.

2.19 A further 297 comments were received specifically in relation to the Sustainability Appraisal from 46 respondents, and these are summarised in the First Consultation Sustainability Appraisal Consultation Outcomes Report: (www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwsustainability).

How have the responses been taken in to account?

2.20 We used the responses to the consultation to help us to identify the key strategic priorities for the plan, to develop an appropriate vision for the area and to develop the evidence base for the Plan. A table summarising each of the comments made and how these were considered in the development of the Issues and Options document is available at Appendix 2I).

3. Issues and Options Consultation (February / April 2014)

- 3.1 The Issues and Options stage provided a further opportunity for engagement on relevant issues and potential policy responses.
- 3.2 A specific Issues and Options consultation document was produced and an extensive public consultation ran for eight weeks from 14th February to 11th April 2014. The purpose of the consultation was to seek views on the issues identified and on the potential approaches (options) to address these. Details of the consultation and all of the consultation documents were available on or linked from the consultation webpage www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwconsult. As part of the consultation comments were also sought on the sites which had been submitted as part of the previous 'call for sites' exercises.

Who we consulted

- 3.3 Relevant 'specific' and 'general' consultees as identified in the 2012 Regulations were contacted either by letter or by email (Appendix 3A). 'Prescribed bodies' identified in the 2012 Regulations and the 2011 Localism Act for the purposes of the Duty to Co-operate were also consulted, and full details of all those consulted is contained in Appendix 3E. A reminder email or postcard was sent to each of the 'specific' consultees and Parish Councils two weeks prior to the close of the consultation.
- 3.4 In addition to these consultees, the three authorities have a large number of other organisations and individuals contained on their consultation databases and each of these was also contacted by either letter or email. For Data Protection purposes details of the individuals consulted are not shown in this report, a total 6620 individuals were directly consulted.

How we consulted

- 3.5 The main consultation documents upon which comments were sought were:
- Issues and Options consultation document (containing information on the sites which had been put forward for consideration);
 - Sustainability Appraisal Update Report (containing detailed assessments of the draft vision and objectives and each of the options); and
 - Draft Site and Area Assessment Methodology (following on from the targeted consultation undertaken previously).
- 3.6 To facilitate the consultation, a range of consultation material was produced. Particular consideration was given to the fact that the main Issues and Options document and the accompanying Sustainability Appraisal Update Report were lengthy and, in some places, fairly technical documents. The following items were produced:
- Summary leaflet – 8-page A5 leaflet containing information about the Joint Plan, details of why people may wish to be involved, the draft vision and objectives, details about the Sustainability Appraisal and the Site and Area Assessment and details of how to obtain further information, view the consultation documents and respond to the consultation.
 - Brief Guide to the Issues and Options Consultation – this A4 leaflet provided additional information to the summary leaflet on what is contained in the main Issues and Options document.

- Sustainability Appraisal Non-Technical Summary leaflet – this provided a summary of the purpose of Sustainability Appraisal, its relevance at the Issues and Options stage and how to find more information.
- Comments Form (three comments forms were available, one relating to the main Issues and Options document, one relating to the Sustainability Appraisal and Habitats Regulations Assessment and one related to the Sites and Area Assessment).

All documents listed above are available to view on our webpages
www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan

- 3.7 The evidence base material which was available at the time was also published on the Joint Plan website. Where necessary this was updated between the First Consultation and Issues and Options consultation. This was made available to help inform consultation responses and consisted of:
- Demographic and Economic Evidence paper
 - Environmental Evidence paper
 - Minerals Specific Evidence (NYCC area)
 - Waste Specific Evidence (NYCC area)
 - Cross-cutting Issues (NYCC area)
 - North York Moors National Park Minerals Technical Paper
 - North York Moors National Park Waste Technical Paper
 - City of York Council Minerals and Waste Technical Paper
 - Safeguarding of Minerals Infrastructure Paper (NYCC area)
 - Cross Boundary Minerals Safeguarding (NYCC area)
 - Minerals and Waste Topic Papers
 - Aggregates Discussion Paper
 - Minerals spatial sub-areas table
 - Derivation of options at Issues and Options stage
 - Managing landscape change (NYCC area)
 - North Yorkshire Sub-Region Waste Arisings and Capacity Requirements (Interim Report and Final Report)
- 3.8 The Issues and Options consultation was publicised through a range of means consisting of:
- Press release issued jointly by the three authorities, plus an additional ‘reminder’ press release two weeks prior to the close of the consultation (see Appendix 3B for a selection of the articles);
 - Article in the NYCC electronic newsletter NY NOW (4,014 subscribers);
 - Posters displayed in libraries and on parish council notice boards (see Appendix 3C);
 - Twitter and Facebook announcements by all three authorities for screenprints – a total of 5543 people saw the Facebook posts and the twitter post potentially reached 27,596 followers);
 - Information on the Joint Plan webpage (see Appendix 3D).
- 3.9 All consultees were sent details of the consultation along with either a paper or electronic copy of the summary leaflet. Details of how to access other documents on the Joint Plan website and how to make comments were provided in the letter or email, with an option of receiving paper copies if requested.
- 3.10 Copies of the summary leaflet, background paper and comments forms were made available in all libraries, including mobile libraries throughout the Plan area, and in the offices of each of the three authorities, including those of the District and Borough

Councils within the NYCC area. Details of the locations where the documents were available is contained in Appendix F

- 3.11 In recognition of the fact that the consultation information was displayed on North Yorkshire County Council's website, most consultation emails and letters were being sent from North Yorkshire County Council and responses were to be sent back to North Yorkshire County Council. Contact details for the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority were placed on the Joint Plan website in order to assist residents or others in contacting their relevant authority if they so wished.
- 3.12 In addition to the above, drop-in sessions were held in 10 libraries across the Joint Plan area and in the City of York Council's main headquarters. These were advertised in the press releases, on the posters, on the consultation page of the Joint Plan website and within the letters and emails sent directly to consultees. The drop-in sessions were held from either 1pm – 6pm or 2pm – 7pm (depending on library opening times). Detail of when and where these sessions were held is available in Appendix 3G. The drop-in sessions provided the public with an opportunity to ask any questions or discuss any aspect of the Joint Plan or the Issues and Options consultation with planning officers from the three authorities.

Consultation on supporting documents

- 3.13 Consultation was also carried out on the methodology for the Habitats Regulations Assessment and initial screening assessment of each of the options, with the main report being included on the consultation pages of the Joint Plan website and a specific question included on the Sustainability Appraisal response form.
- 3.14 Consultation also took place on the draft Site and Area Assessment Methodology, following on from the targeted consultation which took place in summer 2013 and a separate webpage provided specific details of this. A separate comments form was also available for providing comments relating to the Site and Area Assessment.

Responses to consultation

- 3.15 A total of 2408 comments were received from 332 respondents. A full list of respondents is available in Appendix 3H. All the comments received were recorded in the consultation database and a report detailing the responses in question order was produced and made available to view on NYCC website following the close of the consultation. The Summary of Responses document can be found on our website: www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointpaln.
- 3.16 A total of 92 people attended the drop-in sessions, most of whom were members of the general public. The main issues raised at the drop-in sessions related to fracking or potash and concerned enquiries about the sites within the consultation, although a number of other topics were raised by a smaller number of attendees. A full list of the issues raised, and details of those who visited the sessions is contained in Appendix 3G.

How have the consultation responses been taken into account?

- 3.17 As the consultation document asked a number of specific questions about detailed subject areas (id boxes) it is not possible to provide a summary of the consultation comments within this section of the document. A full summary of the responses received, and an overview of how the comments have been used in the development of the Plan, is available to view on our website www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan.

- 3.18 To help the Joint Plan progress to the next stage (Preferred Options), the Authorities prepared proformas for each of the Option Boxes and Chapters presented in the Issues and Options Consultation. These proformas present a summary of the evolution from issue to policy and contain summary information on the responses received and the Joint Plan Authorities' response to the comments, as well as a brief discussion around the evolution of the preferred option. The Proformas can be viewed at inset link www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointpaln a table containing the three authorities' responses to the comments received, in relation to specific policies, can be found in Appendix 3I.

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4. Supplementary Sites Consultation (January / March 2015)

- 4.1 The need to carry out a supplementary sites consultation arose as a result of new sites, or additions and revised information, in respect of previously submitted sites, being submitted during the Issues and Options Consultation stage.
- 4.2 The Supplementary Sites consultation ran for eight weeks from 14th January to 13th March 2015. The purpose of the consultation was to provide an opportunity for members of the public and other interested parties to comment on the new or revised sites. Details of the consultation and all of the consultation documents were available on or linked from the consultation webpage www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwconsult. As part of the consultation, comments were also sought on the sites which had been submitted as part of the previous 'call for sites' exercises.

Who we consulted

- 4.4. Relevant 'specific' and 'general' consultees as identified in the 2012 Regulations were contacted either by letter or by email. A full list of those contacted is contained in Appendix 4A. 'Prescribed bodies' identified in the 2012 Regulations and the 2011 Localism Act for the purposes of the Duty to Co-operate were also consulted, and details of these are also contained in Appendix 4A.
- 4.5 In addition to these consultees, the three authorities have a large number of other organisations and individuals contained on their consultation databases and each of these was also contacted by either letter or email. For Data Protection purposes, details of the individuals consulted are not shown in this report, however a list of organisations consulted is contained in Appendix 4A – labelled as 'other'. A total of 12295 individuals were directly consulted.

How we consulted

- 4.6 The main consultation documents upon which comments were sought were:
- Supplementary Sites Consultation
- 4.7 The Supplementary Sites Consultation was publicised through a range of means consisting of:
- Press release issued jointly by the three authorities (see Appendix 4A for a selection of the resultant articles);
 - Article in the NYCC electronic newsletter NY NOW (4,014 subscribers);
 - Information on the Joint Plan webpage (see Appendix 3C).
 - Reminders were sent out via 'Twitter' (27,800 Followers)
 - Information on the Joint Plan Website (see Appendix 4E)
- 4.8 All consultees were sent details of the consultation. Details of how to access other documents on the Joint Plan website and how to make comments were provided in the letter or email, with an option of receiving paper copies also given if requested. A copy of the Consultation letter is available to view in Appendix 4B.
- 4.9 Copies of the Supplementary Sites Consultation document were made available in all libraries, including mobile libraries throughout the Plan area and in the offices of each of the three authorities, including those of the District and Borough Councils within the NYCC area. Details of the locations where the documents were made available is contained in Appendix C
- 4.10 In recognition of the fact that the consultation information was displayed on North Yorkshire County Council's website, most consultation emails and letters were sent

from a dedicated mwjointplan email account, hosted by North Yorkshire County Council. Instructions to respond to the dedicated email were provided. Contact details for the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority were placed on the Joint Plan website in order to assist residents or others in contacting their relevant authority if they so wished.

Responses to consultation

- 4.11 A total of 608 comments were received from 329 respondents. A full list of respondents is available in Appendix F. All the comments received were recorded in the consultation database and a report detailing the responses was produced and made available to view on NYCC website following the close of the consultation.
- 4.12 A summary of responses received during this consultation stage, together with a summary of comments received about the sites at the Issues and Options stage, are available to view in Appendix G.

How were the comments taken into account

- 4.12 Comments received during this Supplementary Sites Consultation, and those comments received on Sites during the Issues and Options Consultation (See Section 3), have been used to inform the assessment of the Sites. Issues raised during the consultation regarding the proposed sites have been considered through the Site Assessment process and where relevant have led to the the identification of the key development principles accompanying the proposed site allocations.

Preferred Options Consultation (November 2015- January 2016)

- 5.1 Although not a specific requirement of the 2012 Regulations, the Preferred Options Consultation stage was considered a key stage in the planning process. It provides an opportunity for members of the public, statutory bodies and other interested parties to comment on the preferred approach before formal pre-submission Publication.
- 5.2 Given that the consultation would be running over the Christmas and holiday period, the Preferred Options consultation ran for nine weeks from 16th November to 15th January 2016. The purpose of the consultation was to provide an opportunity for members of the public and other interested parties to comment on the authorities' preferred policy approach and sites which the authorities' have identified as 'preferred' for inclusion within the plan. Details of the consultation and all of the consultation documents were available on or linked from the consultation webpage: www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwconsult.
- 5.3 To raise awareness of the forthcoming consultation, a press release was issued prior to the launch of the consultation. A sample of resulting articles is available in Appendix 5A.

Who we consulted

- 5.4. Relevant 'specific' and 'general' consultees as identified in the 2012 Regulations were contacted either by letter or by email. 'Prescribed bodies' identified in the 2012 Regulations and the 2011 Localism Act for the purposes of the Duty to Co-operate were also consulted. Details of all those who were consulted are also contained in Appendix 5B.
- 5.5 In addition to these consultees, the three authorities have a large number of other organisations and individuals contained on their consultation databases and each of these was also contacted by either letter or email. A total of 11,074 individuals were directly consulted. Appendix 5B contains the full list of all consultees. For Data Protection purposes details of the individuals consulted are not shown in this report.

How we consulted

- 5.6 The main consultation documents upon which comments were being sought were:
- Preferred Options Consultation and Appendices
 - Sustainability Appraisal
 - A summary leaflet
 - Sustainability Appraisal summary leaflet (containing information about the various assessments which are involved in the plan making process)
- 5.7 The Preferred Options Consultation was publicised through a range of means consisting of:
- Press release issued jointly by the three authorities (see Appendix 5A);
 - 'Hero Panel' on the NYCC website front page for the duration of the consultation.
 - Article in the NYCC electronic newsletter NY NOW (4,014 subscribers);
 - Advert on Plasma screens in Libraries (NYCC)
 - Information on the Joint Plan webpage (see Appendix 5C).
 - Notification via 'Twitter' (39,000 Followers)
 - Posters in all libraries and parish council notice boards (see Appendix 5E)
 - Parishes with preferred sites in their area were sent detailed site plans by way of extracts of Appendix 1 of the Preferred Options Consultation (see Appendix 5D for an example)

- Individual twitter posts for each of the drop-in sessions held were issued.
- 5.8 All consultees were sent details of the consultation. Details of how to access the main consultation and other documents on the Joint Plan website and details on how to make comments were provided in the letter or email, with an option of receiving paper copies also given if requested. An electronic response form was developed and made available on the website, in addition downloadable version of the response form was also made available. www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwconsult . Reminders were sent two weeks before the close of the consultation.
- 5.9 Copies of the Preferred Consultation document were made available in all libraries, including mobile libraries throughout the Plan area and in the offices of each of the three authorities, including those of the District and Borough Councils within the NYCC area. Details of the locations where the documents were made available is contained in Appendix F
- 5.10 In recognition of the fact that the consultation information was displayed on North Yorkshire County Council's website, most consultation emails and letters were being sent from North Yorkshire County Council and responses were to be sent back to North Yorkshire County Council. Contact details for the City of York Council and the North York Moors National Park Authority were placed on the Joint Plan website in order to assist residents or others in contacting their relevant authority if they so wished.
- 5.11 In addition to the above, drop-in sessions were held in 16 locations across the Joint Plan area. The events were advertised in the press releases, on the posters, on the consultation page of the Joint Plan website and within the letters and emails sent directly to consultees. Twitter notifications were also sent for each event, one a week before the event, one the day before the event followed by a reminder sent on the day. The drop-in sessions were held during the afternoons and evening within the hours of 12 – 7pm; the exact times were dependent on the availability and opening times of the specific venue. Full details are available in Appendix 5E. The drop-in sessions provided the public with an opportunity to ask any questions or discuss any aspect of the Joint Plan and the preferred options consultation with planning officers from the three authorities. Approximately 186 people attended the events. A summary of the topics raised during the drop-in sessions is available in Appendix 5G.

Responses to consultation

- 5.12 A total of 2934 comments were received from 603 respondents, including comments from individuals who had utilised a standardised response. A full list of respondents is available in Appendix H. All the comments received were recorded in the consultation database and a report detailing the responses was produced and made available to view on NYCC website following the close of the consultation.
- 5.13 A summary of responses received during this consultation stage, together with a summary of comments received about the sites at the Preferred Options stage, are available to view in Appendix 5I

How have the consultation responses been taken into account?

- 5.14 The consultation document asked for views on whether the preferred policies were supported, and if not, why? To help the Joint Plan progress to the next stage (Publication) the Authorities prepared proformas for each of the Policies and Chapters presented in the Consultation. These proformas summarised how various issues had progressed, during the preparation of the draft plan. The Proformas can

be viewed on the Joint Plan website at: www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwjointplan. A table containing a summary of the representations and the three authorities' responses to the comments, and how they were taken forward, can be found in Appendix 5I.

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7 Consultation on Evidence Base and Supporting Documents

- 7.1 Throughout the preparation of the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan the authorities have prepared a number of evidence base documents and supporting information which have been used to inform the preferred approaches taken in the Joint Plan. A number of these have been developed through consultation with key stakeholders. The following section provides a brief overview of the different consultation which has been undertaken on the various different evidence base documents. All evidence documents were made available on the Joint Plan webpages at the Issues and Options and Preferred Options stages, and when the Plan was published.

North Yorkshire Sand and Gravel Assessment

- 7.2 In order to ensure that the Plan is developed using the most up-to-date available evidence base, British Geological Survey were commissioned to undertake an assessment of the Mineral resources in the Plan area. As part of this work Consultation with mineral industry representatives was undertaken to ascertain current physical and geological criteria for extraction. In total 8 active minerals operators were contacted along with the Minerals Products Association as the trade organisation of the Minerals Industry. Details of the consultation, including copies of the survey and contact information can be found in the North Yorkshire Sand and Gravel (2011) report available on: www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwevidence

Mineral Safeguarding Areas

- 7.3 British Geological Survey was commissioned to undertake a detailed assessment of minerals in the Plan area and identify areas for mineral safeguarding. As part of this work consultation was undertaken with representatives of the minerals industry and Neighbouring Mineral Planning Authorities. Details of the consultation undertaken can be found in the BGS report Mineral Safeguarding Areas for North Yorkshire County Council available on: www.northyorks.gov.uk/mwevidence

Sustainability Appraisal

- 7.4 The Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report was consulted on from 17th May 2013 to 28th June 2013 and revised in line with the consultation responses received (consultation comments can be viewed in a Consultation Outcomes Report (Feb 2014) available on the Joint Plan website. During the Scoping stage consultation two workshops were held, the first on 7 June 2013 in York and the second on 12 June 2013 in Northallerton.
- 7.5 Consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal took place alongside both the Issues and Options consultation, February 2014 up to the 11th April 2014, and the Preferred Options consultation, 16th November 2015 and 15th January 2016. These documents were placed on the Joint Plan Sustainability Appraisal web page alongside a questionnaire and response form. In addition, copies of the SA documents, including assessments of sites, and HRA and SFRA documents and the questionnaire were placed on the main Minerals and Waste Joint Plan consultation web page.

Site and area Assessment

- 7.6 During summer 2013 *The Site Assessment Methodology* was drafted using input from the Sustainability Appraisal workshops carried out during the Regulation 18 First Consultation stage. The Site Assessment Methodology provides a framework for identifying the suitability of sites for minerals or waste development, informing the selection of preferred sites. Targeted consultation took place in August and September 2013 with a range of bodies and the consultation was also placed on the Joint Plan website. A summary of the responses received and how they were addressed is contained in the First Consultation Sustainability Appraisal Consultation Outcomes Report.
- 7.7 A revised methodology was produced in early 2014 and made available for comment alongside the Issues and Options consultation on the Joint Plan. The outcomes of this exercise were included in a Site Identification and Assessment Methodology and Scope - Summary of Consultation Findings (Spring 2014 Consultation) report in January 2015. Responses were received from 3 District Councils and the Environment Agency and English Heritage, as well as other interested parties.
- 7.8 The identification of suitable sites for inclusion in the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan required input from a wide range of different stakeholders at different times. As well as the wider consultation activities undertaken, a number of other activities were carried out. In order to help assess sites an expert panel was set up and invited to provide input into the sites either through workshop sessions or via electronic correspondence. A list of invitees is available in Appendix. A detail report of the panel sessions held is available at: www.northyorks.gov.uk/sustainability
- 7.9 Following the preferred options consultation the need to identify additional sand and gravel capacity in the Southern distribution area was identified. This led to the preparation of an Areas of Search paper which was circulated to Panel members for comments.
- 7.10 The outcomes of the panel workshops and consultation on the Areas of Search paper have been used to inform decisions on suitable sites and areas which will be taken forward within the Plan.

Local Aggregate Assessment

- 7.11 The National Planning Policy Framework has placed a new requirement on mineral planning authorities (MPAs) to prepare a Local Aggregate Assessment, either individually or jointly with other MPAs. The four MPAs in the North Yorkshire sub-region (North Yorkshire County Council, City of York Council and the Yorkshire Dales and North York Moors National Park Authorities) have worked jointly to produce a LAA for the North Yorkshire sub-region. The purpose of the Assessment is to assess issues relating to the demand for, and supply of, aggregate in the area, including an analysis of supply options and how these can be addressed.
- 7.12 Work on the sub-regional LAA began in 2012. Although there is no formal requirement to consult in the preparation of LAAs, Government guidance indicates that MPAs should submit them to the relevant Aggregates Working Party for consideration and scrutiny. In preparing the LAA for the sub-region, and subsequent revisions, the four MPAs sought input from the aggregates industry and other relevant mineral planning authorities on the scope and content of the LAA.

Aggregates Supply Options Paper 2013

- 7.13 In April 2013 invitations were sent to Minerals industry representatives, inviting them to attend an Aggregates Workshop to provide an opportunity for key stakeholders to input into plan, clarify the key issues and identify those most critical to the Joint Plan, as well as identifying any important cross-boundary issues relevant to aggregates supply which the Joint Plan should address. This was in order to help develop possible policy approaches and options which could be relevant.
- 7.14 Unfortunately due to the limited numbers of people who could attend the decision was taken to cancel the workshop. Nevertheless, the Joint Plan authorities were still keen to provide an opportunity for early engagement, and receive input into the development of potential Policy Options for the supply of aggregate minerals. As a result a detailed discussion paper was produced for consultation asking a series of questions relating to aggregate supply.
- 7.15 The document was circulated to minerals industry representatives on the 31st May requesting comments to be received by 28th June 2013. Only two responses were received.

Forecasting demand for aggregates Paper June 2014

- 7.16 During the issues and options consultation representations were received from the Mineral Products Association suggesting that more work should take place on forecasting possible future demand for aggregate, particularly sand and gravel, in order to help ensure a more robust evidence base for the Plan.
- 7.17 In response to this a discussion paper on forecasting demand for aggregates was prepared and circulated by email on the 11th July 2014 to representatives of the minerals industry and mineral planning authorities and the Local Economic Partnerships for comments. A list of consultees is available in Appendix 7A.
- 7.18 In particular the paper sought views on the merits of potential methods for forecasting outlined in the paper, and on the conclusions reached about the quantitative scale of provision for aggregate that could be made in the Minerals and Waste Joint Plan.

Cross-boundary safeguarding Paper (August 2014/ December 2014)

- 7.19 As part of the evidence base for the Joint Plan and in order to ensure that any significant cross boundary implications are considered, a Cross Boundary Safeguarding document was produced. The document was intended to help identify mineral resources which are safeguarded (or proposed to be safeguarded) near to or up to the boundary of the Joint Plan area, both within the Joint Plan area and in adjoining authority areas and to help ensure consistency of approach where necessary.
- 7.20 An email was sent on the 13th August 2014 to all adjoining minerals and waste planning authorities seeking comments on the document. Responses were requested to be received by 12th September 2014. A reminder email was sent on the 16th September 2014. In total 8 responses were received. As a result of the comments received the document was updated and made available once again for comment alongside the Local Aggregate Assessment in December 2014, during which time 3 further responses were received.
- 7.21 Following the identification of additional sand and gravel resources of potential commercial interest (glacio-lacustrine sand) the document was updated to reflect and

cross boundary safeguarding issues. As a result of this exercise one Authority, East Riding of Yorkshire, was identified as requiring further consultation and an email seeking comments was sent on the 15th July 2016.

Infrastructure Safeguarding Paper

- 7.22 This paper identified potential locations for safeguarding rail and water infrastructure which could be used for the transport of minerals, including railheads, railway sidings, stretches of railway which can be used for loading under licence and wharfs; and the potential for safeguarding other mineral supply infrastructure such as facilities producing concrete, coated roadstone concrete blocks, or gas supply infrastructure. In preparation of the document all District and Borough councils were contacted to help identify possible infrastructure for safeguarding. In total 19 minerals industry representatives and the 6 District and Borough Councils were consulted in December 2014. A list of consultees is available in Appendix 7A.