

**Worcestershire Mineral and Waste Local
Development Framework**

**Annual Monitoring
Report**

April 2013 – March 2014

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Executive Summary

The Waste indicators monitored in this AMR reflect the objectives of the Waste Core Strategy, which was adopted during the monitoring period on 15th November 2012. The Minerals indicators currently being monitored reflect a combination of National Planning Policy Framework and Local Aggregates Assessment objectives, and objectives that mirror issues in the Waste Core Strategy.

They show that progress towards most indicators is adequate. The main areas of concern relate to:

- The provision of aggregate minerals is below target (M12, M13, M14, M16 and M17). This is being considered as part of the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan¹.
- None of the new permitted waste development for new reuse, recycling, storage, sorting and transfer were located at level 1 or 2 of the geographic hierarchy identified in the Waste Core Strategy in this monitoring year. This was over 40% decrease on the last year's performance. However the number of permission was low and the developments were justified in level 3 of the hierarchy.

Particularly strong performance is being seen against indicators [W8](#), [W9](#), [W10](#), [W11](#) and [W12](#) which monitor planning permissions for sustainable waste developments contributing to the County's natural resources, environmental, cultural and economic assets, the character and amenity of the local area and the health and wellbeing of local people. For example, 100% of planning permission was for developments which take into account amenity considerations and no applications have been granted on greenfield land.

Strong progress also being seen against Waste Core Strategy targets [W16: Waste sent to landfill](#) and [W17: Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of waste](#). Waste managed in Worcestershire that was disposed of in landfill has continued to decline. Furthermore recycling and recovery rates for Household, Commercial and Industrial waste are currently exceeding the milestones set out and good progress towards achieving the targets set out is being observed despite of the slight decrease in rates since 2012 monitoring year.

¹ Please note that in previous AMRs this document was referred to as the "Minerals Development Framework" and the "Minerals Core Strategy". This reflects a change in terminology only – the purpose and content of the document remains unchanged.

Summary of Performance

Monitoring indicators have been defined according to the following convention:

- ☺ Indicator showing good progress, and/or target has been achieved
- ☹ Progress towards target is neither good nor bad
- ☹ Indicator showing unsatisfactory progress towards target
- ↑ Indicator showing positive trend
- ↓ Indicator showing negative trend
- Either a) an indicator has been monitored to set a baseline but progress towards the target is not monitored; b) There are currently no targets set out to monitor progress against; c) data is not currently available to monitor this indicator; or d) no relevant applications were received during the monitoring period.

Table 0.1: Summary of performance

Indicator		Progress towards targets
	Compliance with Regulation 34 (1) Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012	☹
Waste Core Strategy (WCS) for Worcestershire Indicators		
W1	Permissions for waste management development granted contrary to the EA advice on flooding [M1] ² .	☺
W2	Permissions for waste management development granted contrary to the EA advice on water quality [M2].	☺
W3	Permissions for waste management development that include measures for energy efficiency.	☹↑
W4	Permissions for waste management development with a gross floor space of over 1000m ² gaining at least 10% of energy supply annually from renewable energy supplies.	-
W5	Permissions for waste management development that include measures for water efficiency.	☹↓
W6	Permissions for new landfill capacity that include landfill gas management systems.	-
W7	Permissions for new built waste management development that include provision for biodiversity enhancement [M3].	☹↑
W8	Permissions that have an unacceptable adverse impact on landscape character, scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, battlefields or registered historic parks and gardens [M4].	☺
W9	Permission for new waste management granted in the Malvern Hills or Cotswolds AONB [M5].	☺
W10	Permissions for new waste management development take into account local characteristics [M6].	☺
W11	Permissions for new waste management development take into account amenity considerations [M7].	☺
W12	Permission for new waste management development on Greenfield sites	☺↑

² Where Waste Indicators correspond directly to Minerals Indicators, the number of the corresponding Minerals Indicator is denoted in square brackets.

W13	Permission for new waste management development in the Green Belt.	☹️↓
W14	Permissions granted in accordance with highways advice [M8].	😊
W15	Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in re-use and recycling: increasing % of waste recycled.	😊
W16	Waste sent to landfill.	😊↑
W17	Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of waste.	😊
W18	Adoption of appropriate policies regarding managing waste arisings from all new developments in City, Borough and District DPDs.	-
W19	Development permitted within 250 meters of a waste management facility against County Council advice.	😊
W20	Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in re-use and recycling capacity based on headline delivery milestones in the Waste Core Strategy	😊
W21	Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in 'other recovery' capacity based on headline delivery milestones in the Waste Core Strategy	😊
W22	Maintain equivalent self-sufficiency in 'sorting and transfer'	☹️
W23	Maintain equivalent self-sufficiency in disposal and landfill.	😊
W24	Applications for Waste Management Development determined within 13 weeks [M10].	☹️↑
W25	Number of Waste Management proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage [M11].	☹️
W26	Permitted applications for waste management which include a Consultation Statement [M19].	☹️
W27	Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision [M20].	😊
W28	Increase in GVA in Worcestershire from waste management development	😊
W29	Permitted 'other recovery' and disposal (excluding landfill) capacity at each level of the geographic hierarchy	-
W30	Permitted re-use, recycling, storage, and sorting and transfer capacity at each level of the geographic hierarchy.	☹️↓
Minerals Indicators³		
M1	Permissions for minerals development granted contrary to the EA advice on flooding [W1] ⁴ . (<i>NPPF and WCS</i>)	-
M2	Permissions for minerals development granted contrary to the EA advice on water quality [W2]. (<i>NPPF and WCS</i>)	-
M3	Permissions for new mineral operations that include provision for biodiversity enhancement [W7]. (<i>NPPF and WCS</i>)	-
M4	Permissions that have an unacceptable adverse impact on landscape character, scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, battlefields or registered historic parks and gardens [W8]. (<i>NPPF and WCS</i>)	-
M5	Permission for new minerals development granted in the Malvern Hills or Cotswolds AONB [W9]. (<i>NPPF and WCS</i>)	-

³ As the Minerals Indicators have been compiled from a number of sources pending the adoption of the emerging Minerals Local Plan, the origin of the indicator is denoted in italic text. These include the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), indicators which mirror those found in the Waste Core Strategy (WCS) and the Local Aggregates Assessment (LAA).

⁴ Where Minerals Indicators correspond directly to Waste Indicators, the number of the corresponding Waste Indicator is denoted in square brackets.

M6	Permissions for new minerals development take into account local characteristics [W10]. <i>(NPPF and WCS)</i>	-
M7	Permissions for new minerals development take into account amenity considerations [W11]. <i>(NPPF and WCS)</i>	-
M8	Permissions granted in accordance with highways advice [W14]. <i>(NPPF)</i>	-
M9	Production of secondary and recycled aggregates. <i>(NPPF, WCS and LAA)</i>	-
M10	Applications for Minerals Development determined within 13 weeks [W24]. <i>(National Policy)</i>	-
M11	Number of minerals proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage [W25]. <i>(WCS)</i>	-
M12 a ⁵	Annual production of primary land won aggregates: Sand and Gravel. <i>(NPPF and LAA)</i>	☹
M12 b	Annual production of primary land won aggregates: Crushed rock. <i>(LAA)</i>	☹
M13	Landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves. <i>(NPPF and LAA)</i>	☹
M14	Landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves. <i>(NPPF and LAA)</i>	☹
M15	Landbank of permitted clay reserves. <i>(NPPF)</i>	☺
M16	Sufficient productive capacity for sand and gravel supply. <i>(NPPF)</i>	☺
M17	Sufficient productive capacity for crushed rock supply. <i>(NPPF)</i>	☹
M18	Sufficient productive capacity for clay supply. <i>(NPPF)</i>	☺
M19	Permitted applications for minerals development which include a Consultation Statement [W26]. <i>(WCS)</i>	-
M20	Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision [W27]. <i>(WCS)</i>	☺
M21	New permitted mineral development in 'preferred areas'. <i>(Minerals Local Plan saved policies superseded by MLP)</i>	-
Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Indicators⁶		
SCI2	Access to information	-
SCI3	Consultation response rate/involvement	-
SCI4	Satisfaction with the planning process	-
SCI5	Consultation methods	-
SCI6	Value for money	-

⁵ Please note that Indicators M12a and M12b were monitored as one item in previous years. Rationale for the split is explained in the analysis section.

⁶ The current Statement of Community Involvement does not set specific targets. The SCI is currently being revised and any new targets for monitoring will be consulted on in due course and included in subsequent AMRs.

0. Introduction and background

Purpose of the report

- 0.1. This is the Council's eighth AMR. It covers the period from 1st April 2013 to 31st March 2014.
- 0.2. The County Council is required to produce an Annual Monitoring Report⁷ (AMR) of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework. The purpose of the AMR is to:
- review the progress of implementing the County's Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme (LDS), particularly whether the Council is meeting the timetables and milestones set out in the Scheme;
 - provide realistic and useful indicators, targets and information to assess the effectiveness and impacts of the policies being implemented; and
 - assess whether the policies in the County's Development Plan Documents need to be adjusted or replaced.
- 0.3. The AMR assesses the Minerals and Waste policy framework, which during the monitoring year consisted of saved policies from the existing Worcestershire County Structure Plan 1996-2011, the Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan 1994-2004, and the Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire.
- 0.4. The AMR also monitors progress in the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan as set out in the Local Development Scheme and provides an annual update on the Local Aggregates Assessment (LAA).
- 0.5. Borough, City and District Council Local Development Documents are assessed in the AMRs prepared by the responsible authorities.

Community Involvement

- 0.6. In 2013 the County Council engaged with the six district councils and the Worcestershire Local Enterprise partnership (LEP) to develop the Planning Charter⁸ which sets out Worcestershire's ambitions for a streamlined and effective planning and development culture which supports future prosperity. This document is accompanied by the Memorandum of Understanding which defines the specific commitments that planning services across the county and the LEP have made, and aims to coordinate efficient and effective engagement through timely decision-making and the promotion of development through strategic policy documents. The goal of this framework is to establish a business friendly planning system.

⁷ This requirement is set out under Section 35 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004.

⁸ The Planning Charter and the Memorandum of Understanding are available online from: http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/planning/planning_policy_strategy/memorandum_of_understanding.aspx

0.7. The AMR also includes a summary of the activities undertaken as part of the "Duty to cooperate" when preparing the minerals and waste development framework and considers the indicators set out in the Statement of Community Involvement.

0.8. The AMR has been published on the Council's website:
www.worcestershire.gov.uk/amr

0.9. The Council is committed to extending public involvement in its work particularly in connection with its planning policies. Please contact us if you would like to comment on the report generally or can suggest targets or indicators which future AMRs could consider.

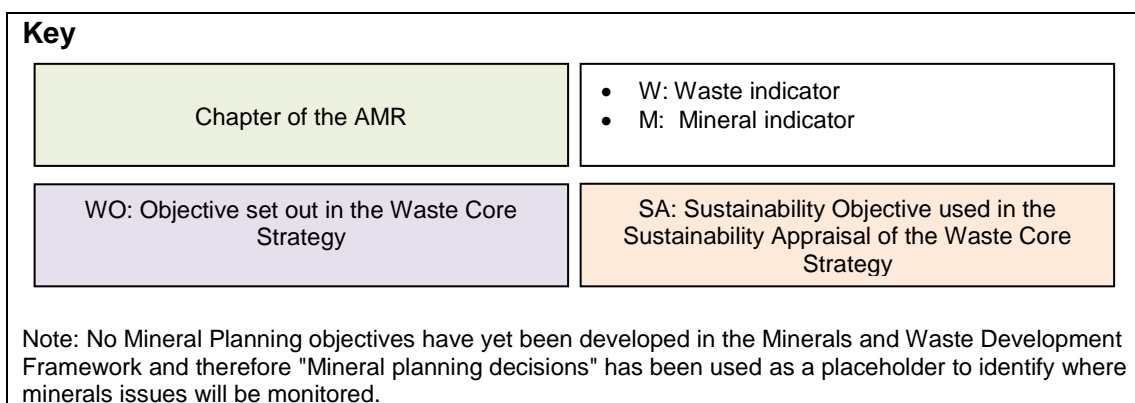
Nick Dean
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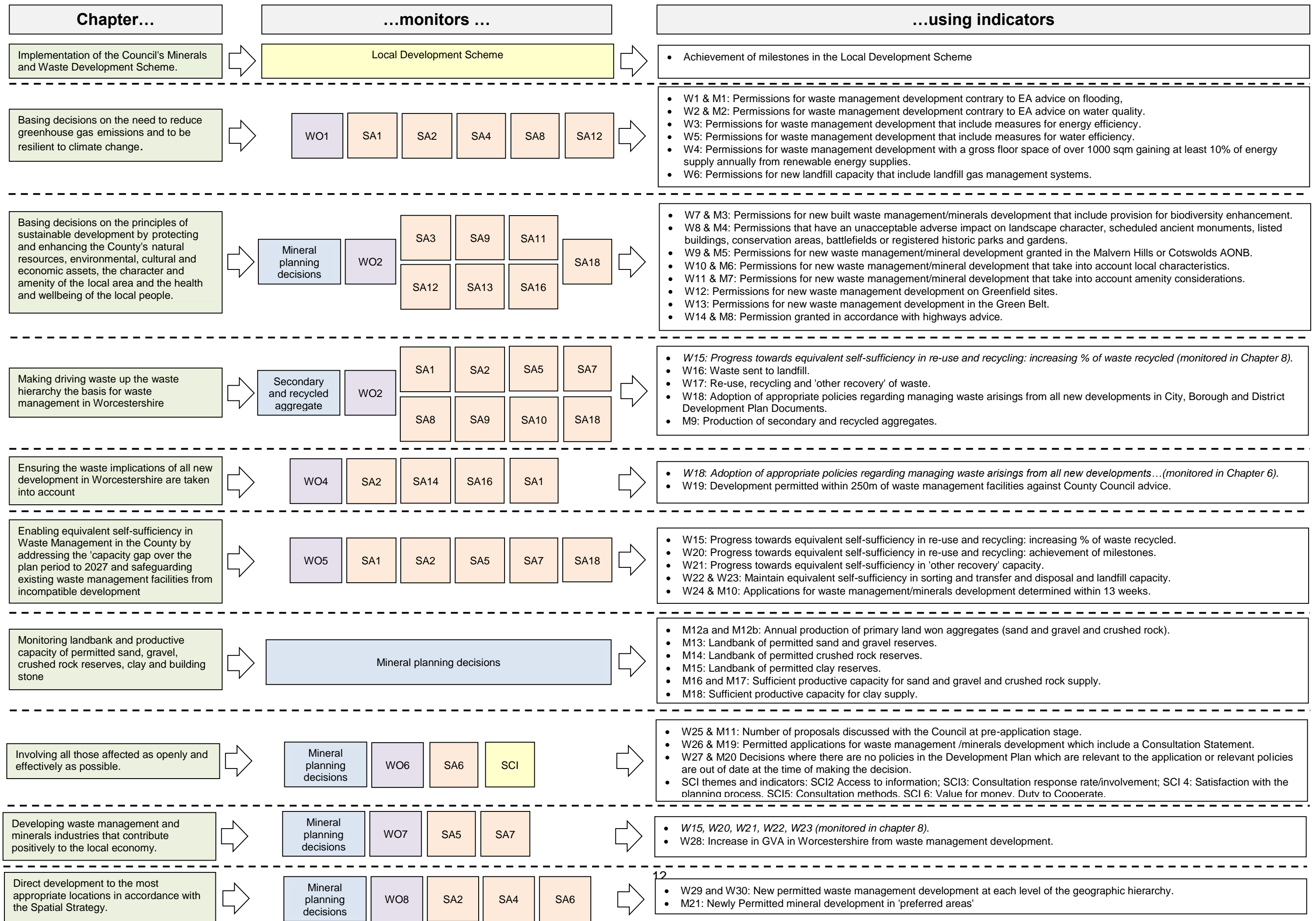
Email: minerals@worcestershire.gov.uk
Phone: 01905 766733

Structure of the report

0.10. The report structure is set out in Figure 0.1. It reflects the objectives of the Waste Core Strategy, which were subject to public examination during the monitoring period and were adopted on 15th November 2012. The structure of future AMRs may be revised to reflect the emerging objectives of the new Minerals Local Plan.

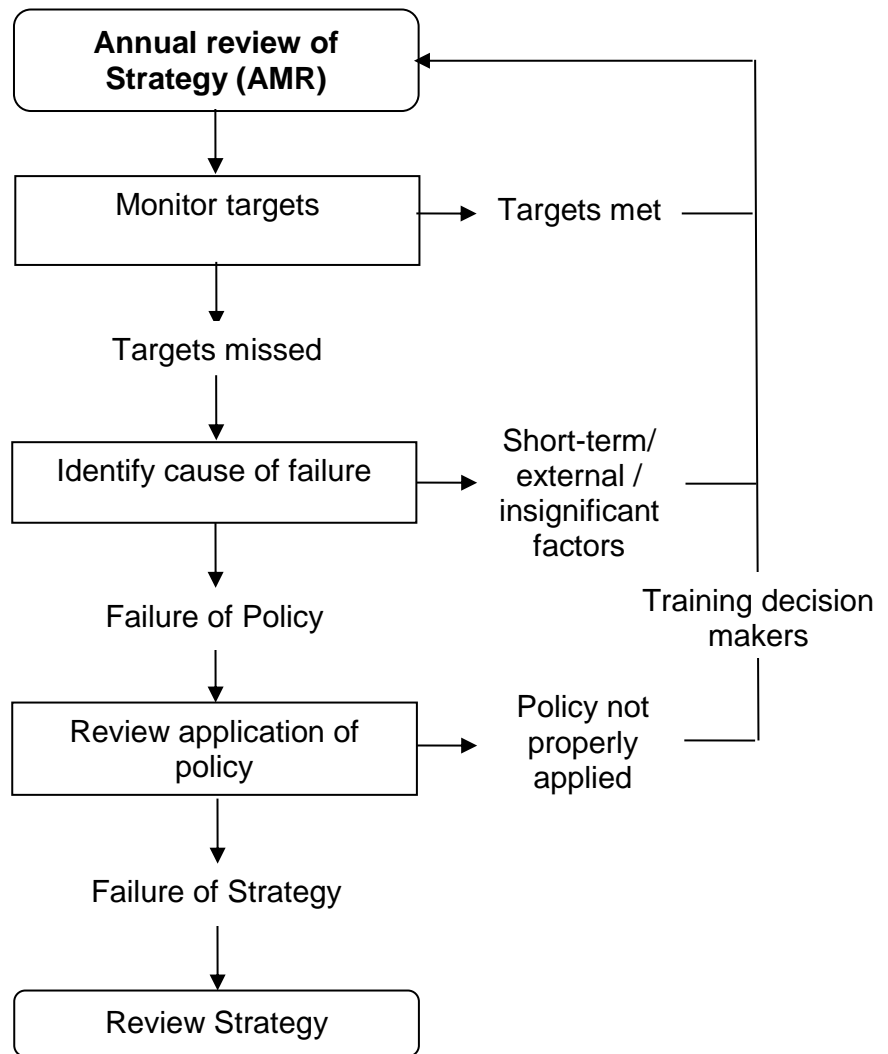
Figure 0.1. Structure of the AMR 2013





0.11. If monitoring indicates that targets have been missed, the process outlined in Figure 0.2 will be followed. This process will establish whether a failure to meet a target is significant, in which case we need to review and correct the Waste Core Strategy, or whether it is the result of short-term or other factors which are not significant. It may be possible to correct some failures through mechanisms such as adopting a Supplementary Planning Document (SPD) rather than formally reviewing the entire Strategy.

Figure 0.2: Policy review process



0.12. Subsequent AMRs will give details of the review processes undertaken where necessary.


0.13. The Waste Core Strategy and the Community Involvement (SCI) indicators in this report have been tested at public examination, however the Minerals Indicators have not. The Minerals indicators are largely based on those monitored in previous years, the requirements of National Policy including the Local Aggregates Assessment, and some new indicators which mirror those for waste where appropriate. These will be adapted as necessary to be brought in line with the emerging Minerals Local Plan.

1. Implementation of the Council's Minerals and Waste Development Scheme

Section Summary

This section monitors the Statutory requirement to comply with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, particularly Part 2, Sections 14, 16, 18 and 19.

Indicators:

Indicator	Target	Current performance
Compliance with Regulation 34 (1) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012	Achievement of milestones in the Local Development Scheme	

Other issues to be monitored: Other planning documents prepared by Worcestershire County Council which are not set out in the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme.

Background



- 1.1. The current Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS) for Worcestershire came into effect in September 2012. This MWDS covers the final stages of the preparation of the Waste Core Strategy and the development of the Minerals Local Plan.
- 1.2. The 2012 update maintained the timetable for the Waste Core Strategy and added a timetable for the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan.

Monitoring progress

1.3. The stages of preparation for the Waste Core Strategy were all completed by the end of 2012. **Table 1.2** shows the timetable set out in the September 2012 LDS for the Minerals Local Plan. The ticks indicate when the element was completed.

Table 1.2 Progress on achieving the Minerals Local Plan (against the 2012 Local Development Scheme)

Development document	Stage of Preparation	2012	2013				2014				2015			
		Q4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4	Q 1	Q 2	Q 3	Q 4
Minerals Local Plan	Initial concept consultation (Reg 18: Public Participation)	✓												
	Second stage issues consultation (Reg 19: Publication of local plan)					✓	✓							
	Draft Plan consultation: detailed proposals (Reg 19: Publication of local plan)													
	Statutory publication and period for representations (Regs 19 and 20: Publication and representations)													
	Submission to Secretary of State (Reg 22: Submission of documents and information)													
	Examination (Reg 24: Independent examination)													
	Adoption (Reg 26: Adoption of plan)													

 = Milestone target
 = Milestone achieved

Progress against the targets

1.4. The first stage of the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan took place in the Winter 2012-2013 meeting the Local Development Scheme target. The Second Stage Consultation (Reg 19 Issues consultation) was programmed to take place during Q2/Q3 of 2013. This actually commenced in Q4 and ran until Q1 of 2014.

1.5. A significant factor in this delay was that the assessment of the county's mineral resources proved more difficult than originally anticipated and required much more time than scheduled. This assessment is fundamental to the development of the plan. The original timetable assumed that the evidence used to develop the current Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan (H and WMLP) (1997) would be sufficient, subject to fact checking. In practice the British Geological Survey have produced substantially updated data and the information they now provide digitally is significantly different from the plans on which the Hereford and Worcester MLP was based. The iterative development of the MLP has shown that the limited number of resource assessments and the level of detail undertaken for the Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan was not sufficient for the kind of plan now being developed, which is not only different in kind but will be subject to "soundness" tests at Examination which are very different from those for the earlier plan. The assessments of the mineral resources in

the county undertaken for the Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan were not published and so were not subject to public scrutiny. As the MLP currently being prepared needs to be based on robust and transparent information it was necessary to undertake a thorough and consistent assessment of resources across the county and present it in a format that could be published for public comment.

- 1.6. The assessment now undertaken is the most thorough the Council has ever prepared, its preparation was however far more difficult and time consuming than had originally been envisaged.
- 1.7. This has had a knock-on impact on the preparation of the Draft Plan. Furthermore, producing a restoration-led plan a more ambitious aim than was initially realised. The work so far has been praised by external partners as "*visionary*" and "*exemplary*" but it is taking a significant amount of work with partners to gather evidence, understand implications and agree ways forward to make the aim of a restoration-led plan a reality. Our partners are committed to assisting us but are also working at full capacity; simply in terms of finding times to meet and allowing partners a reasonable timescale to action any tasks, this has stretched some of our timescales.
- 1.8. Finally, there were staffing changes within the Minerals and Waste Team during this monitoring year which reduced 4 FTE to 2.2 FTE working on the Minerals Local Plan. This caused disruption and led to delays in elements of the work.

Action

- 1.9. The programme for the Minerals Local Plan preparation is currently being reviewed to take into account the current timescales, staff capacity and complexity of the development process. This will need Member endorsement. In the future monitoring years this indicator will be measured against the revised project programme if this has been endorsed.

Other statutory planning documents

The flooding sections detailed below reflect new statutory regulations that came into effect this year.

Worcestershire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS)

- 1.10. The LFRMS is a statutory document and the County Council is required by the Flood and Water Management Act to produce this document. The Strategic Planning Team is leading on the development of the 'emerging' LFRMS in Worcestershire
- 1.11. As Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for Worcestershire, the county council needs to 'develop, maintain, apply and monitor' a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS). The Strategy will focus on local flood risk due to flooding from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses and must be consistent with the Environment Agency's National Flood Risk Management Strategy for England
- 1.12. The Strategy will be the primary method through which the LLFA discharges its role to provide leadership and co-ordinate flood risk management on a day to day basis. It will act as a focal point for integrating a range of flood risk related outcomes across the county.
- 1.13. The LFRMS is subject to SEA scoping and HRA screening and these have also been undertaken in house by the Strategic Planning and Environmental Policy Teams. The statutory agencies have been consulted on the SEA and HRA in October/November 2013 alongside a draft Issues and Options document.
- 1.14. The Issues and Options document has been consulted on with partner Risk Management Authorities.

Worcestershire Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP)

- 1.15. The 'emerging' SWMP is currently being developed by the Flood Risk Management Team with advice and input from Strategic Planning on planning related matters. The SWMP is a non-statutory document however it will form an important evidence base for the LFRMS.
- 1.16. The SWMP is also being used by the Strategic Planning team to inform the LLFAs response to planning applications and during pre-application.
- 1.17. The SWMP has also been used to inform the South Worcestershire Development Plan SFRA.

Sustainable Drainage Systems Approval Body (SAB)

- 1.18. Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act (yet to be commenced) requires Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) to establish a

SuDS Approval Body (SAB) to carry out regulatory activities related to the approval of drainage consent for development. For Worcestershire, the County Council is the LLFA and as such will be required to establish a SAB once commencement of this section of the act takes place.

- 1.19. The Strategic Planning team is currently leading on the establishment of the SAB. A SAB co-ordinating group met in October 2013 and a series of Task and Finish groups were established to start exploring issues for delivery.
- 1.20. Defra has recently consulted on proposed changes to the FWMA and the role of the SAB and the LLFA. The proposals could fundamentally change the role of the planning system in the consideration of SuDS with a potential commencement in Spring 2015. The Strategic Planning team is leading on responses to this consultation and advising the LLFA and partners.

Statement of Community Involvement

- 1.21. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) aims to make sure that everyone has a chance to be informed, get involved and be consulted in the appropriate way during the planning process, whether for planning policy or a planning application. Its vision is to create genuine opportunities for all interested members of the community to have a stake in the decisions that will influence minerals, waste and county matters planning within Worcestershire.
- 1.22. Since the SCI was first adopted in 2006, the Government has introduced substantial changes to the planning system through the introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Localism Act and Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010. As a result, the SCI is currently being updated and went through a consultation in summer 2014. The final document will be ready in spring 2015.
- 1.23. As part of this work the current SCI indicators were reviewed and new ones developed to ensure that the SCI is fostering community engagement. The SCI will evaluate the following:
 - Satisfaction levels with the process/service
 - Access to / availability of information
 - Comprehensibility and appropriateness of information
 - Clarity over how comments will be used
 - Planning application process
 - Response rates

The next year's AMR will set and monitor targets to evaluate community engagement. Should they fall below the target level it will trigger a need for review to establish if the SCI is no longer delivering its objectives.

Other non-statutory planning documents, advice and guidance prepared by the County Council

Validation Document

- 1.24. The County Council, as the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority, is responsible for the processing and determination of planning applications for minerals and waste management developments and for its own developments such as schools, roads, railway stations and libraries.
- 1.25. As part of the County Council's wider 'Open for Business' agenda, the Development Management team are updating our Planning Validation Document. This document will enable the council to accept and validate planning applications in a more timely and efficient manner, thereby reducing delays that would otherwise occur in the processing of applications. The Validation Document will provide applicants and their agents with guidance on the information required by us when submitting a planning application. If an applicant fails to submit an application in accordance with the requirements set out in the Validation Document the council will be entitled to declare the application invalid.
- 1.26. The Draft Validation Document has previously passed through two rounds of consultation and following the publication of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), the County Council went out to further consultation during summer 2014 to ensure that it had taken account of this new national planning policy. The final Validation Document will be ready in spring 2015. The Validation Document will be subject to regular review and as a minimum it will be reviewed every two years to ensure it stays valid.

Landscape Character Assessment supplementary guidance

- 1.27. The Landscape Character Assessment Supplementary Guidance (LCA SG) is a non-statutory document that provides guidance on the application of landscape character principles to development. The guidance was endorsed by the County Council in 2011, and has also been endorsed by five out of Worcestershire's six district councils. There is currently no timetable for the final district council to endorse the document. Endorsement means that, whilst it will not constitute a formal part of the Local Development framework, the SG may carry weight as a 'material consideration'.
- 1.28. The Landscape Character Assessment is accessible interactively online on the council's website and is being used to inform both forward planning and development management decisions.

Natural resources strategy

1.29. The Council considers it a priority to holistically manage natural resources such as soil, water and air, and associated issues such as climate change and renewable energy, all of which are fundamental to the concept of sustainability. These matters are being considered strategically both in policy and geographical terms. The Council has held discussions with the District and Borough Councils on how it can use its role as a County Planning Authority to assist them in the preparation of their own DPDs. A series of Technical Research Papers has been developed alongside other policy documents.

Planning for Soils Technical Research Paper

1.30. The *Planning for Soils in Worcestershire Technical Research Paper* has been adopted. The paper aims to inform the strategic consideration of soils in the development of Local Plans.

Planning for Water Technical Research Paper

1.31. The *Planning for Water in Worcestershire Technical Research Paper* has been adopted. This paper intends to provide a consistent approach to water management and acts as an evidence base to inform policy and strategy development. It is directed at everybody involved in plan making in Worcestershire and adjacent areas. This plan will be reviewed in the future to consider the changes to flood legislation and other emerging statutory requirements but this has not currently been scheduled.

Renewable Energy Strategy

1.32. A Worcestershire County Council Renewable Energy Strategy is being prepared that aims to reduce the controversy around renewable energy projects and respond to public concerns by informing communities of the benefits of renewables and identifying best practice in how schemes should be brought forward. It also sets a framework for the County Council seizing the economic opportunities presented by renewable energy. A draft version of the strategy was consulted on during 2013, and it is expected that the final version will be adopted in winter 2014/15.

Climate Change

1.33. The *Planning for Climate Change in Worcestershire Technical Research Paper* was adopted in May 2008 and is not currently scheduled for revision.

1.34. The paper identified the need for further work to fully embed climate change into policy making. This further work included investigating the potential for a County-wide Green Infrastructure network which is detailed below.

1.35. Another issue identified in the Planning for Climate Change paper was the need to look at ways of restoring exhausted mineral sites in light of climate change. A concept paper setting out the proposed contents of this paper underwent internal consultation in November 2012 and a draft was developed. It was subsequently circulated for further internal and

stakeholder consultation in spring 2013. The document is currently being finalised in preparation for further public consultation.

- 1.36. The paper aims to set out guidance for the operation and restoration of mineral sites in Worcestershire for biodiversity gain. Measures advocated include habitat reconnection and the importance of flood alleviation and surface water control. The paper itself will focus on strategic restoration aspirations of Worcestershire's riverine terrace corridor; aiming to create and reconnect wetland habitats such as wet grassland, wet woodland, reedbeds and standing water which will contribute towards Worcestershire's climate change amelioration/mitigation and adaptation responses.
- 1.37. The technical paper on mineral site restoration will form part of the evidence base to support the development of the Minerals Local Plan.
- 1.38. The Council expects these papers to be used as part of the evidence base in DPD preparation by all of the LPAs in the county.

Infrastructure Planning

- 1.39. During 2013/2014 Worcestershire County Council has continued to focus on the infrastructure required to bring forward development, in partnership with colleagues in districts. During this period the focus has been on contributing to a number of external documents including the Infrastructure Delivery Plans for the districts to support their local plans, and on project development and delivery the pace of which has accelerated.
- 1.40. We also propose to revise the county Infrastructure Strategy, following public consultation in winter 2013, to produce a more development focused document which will deliver infrastructure where it is required to facilitate development and overcome market blockages, and a range of future working models. Work on this will commence early 2015.

Sub-regional Green Infrastructure Planning

- 1.41. Worcestershire County Council have been working with partners including the Environment Agency, Natural England, Forestry Commission and Worcestershire Wildlife Trust to develop a multi-disciplinary approach to environmental planning across the county at a range of spatial scales.
- 1.42. They have prepared the Worcestershire Green Infrastructure Strategy which was published during the winter 2013. The Strategy established a vision and priorities for green infrastructure provision in the county. It set out county-scale principles to inform plans and strategies being developed by partner organisations and to enable a coherent approach to delivery across a range of initiatives.
- 1.43. Currently, a Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan is also being prepared. The document will identify a number of projects to deliver the priorities outlined in the Strategy and will establish a spatial focus for collective action on green infrastructure in Worcestershire. The document is expected to be adopted in autumn 2014.

- 1.44. The Strategy has been informed by four evidence base documents:
- 1.45. GI Framework document 1 (November 2008) provides an introduction to the concept of green infrastructure and also identifies the need for the strategic planning of green infrastructure and the policy drivers that support the planning of green infrastructure at differing spatial scales.
- 1.46. GI Framework document 2 (July 2012) provides an introduction to the natural environment data sets of landscape, biodiversity and historic environment and develops the concept of Green Infrastructure Environmental Character Areas based on the quality and quantity of these natural environment assets.
- 1.47. GI Framework document 3 (May 2013) identifies the functionality, and supply of strategic recreational assets in Worcestershire and the potential of these assets to support further recreational demand. It explores the potential need for new recreational assets, identifies areas of search for strategic assets and potential funding mechanisms for new facilities.
- 1.48. GI Framework document 4 (September 2014) investigates the socio-economic role of GI including climate change, economy, health and well-being benefits.
- 1.49. A research paper on the viability of green infrastructure on new development is also being currently prepared. This paper aims to provide a support in implementation of the green infrastructure schemes by developers, land owners and other stakeholders. The document is expected to be adopted in winter 2015.

2. Basing decisions on the need to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and to be resilient to climate change

Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator	Current performance
W1 Permissions for waste management development granted contrary to the EA advice on flooding.	☺
M1 Permissions for minerals development granted contrary to the EA advice on flooding.	-
W2 Permissions for waste management development granted contrary to the EA advice on water quality.	☺
M2 Permissions for minerals development granted contrary to the EA advice on water quality.	-
W3 Permissions for waste management development that include measures for energy efficiency.	☹↑
W4 Permissions for waste management development with a gross floor space of over 1000m ² gaining at least 10% of energy supply annually from renewable energy supplies.	-
W5 Permissions for waste management development that include measures for water efficiency.	☹↓
W6 Permissions for new landfill capacity that include landfill gas management systems.	-

Other issues to be monitored: Changes in national policies or targets relating to climate change, flood risk, energy efficiency and water efficiency. Review trigger: WCS or Minerals Local Plan conflict with national policy.

Indicators W1 & M1: Permissions for waste management/minerals development granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding

Target: None

Review trigger: One permission granted contrary to Environment Agency advice.

Analysis:

Table 2.1: Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on flooding

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Waste Management Development					
Actual	None	None	None	None	None
Is target being achieved?	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺
Minerals Development					
Actual	None	None	None	None	N/A
Is target being achieved?	☺	☺	☺	☺	☹
Regulation 3 Development					
Actual	None	None	None	None	None
Is target being achieved?	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during this monitoring year.

Action

This indicator has been achieved and no action is required.

Indicators W2 & M2: Permissions for waste management/minerals development granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality

Target: None

Review trigger: One permission granted contrary to Environment Agency advice.

Analysis:

Table 2.2: Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality grounds

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Waste Management Development					
Actual	None	None	None	None	None
Is target being achieved?	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺

Minerals Development					
Actual	None	None	None	None	N/A
Is target being achieved?	☺	☺	☺	☺	☹
Regulation 3 Development					
Actual	None	None	None	None	None
Is target being achieved?	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during this monitoring year.

Action

This indicator has been achieved and no action is required.

Indicator W3: Permissions for waste management development that include measures for energy efficiency

Target: 100%

Review trigger: Less than 90% of permissions comply for three years in any five.

Analysis:

Table 2.3: Planning permissions granted for proposals that include measures for energy efficiency

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Waste management development (including waste water treatment)					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	3 (23%)	None	None	None
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☹	☹	☹
Minerals development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	None	N/A
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☹	☹	☹
Regulation 3 development					

Actual	Not monitored during this period	18 (32%)	None	5 (15%)	4 (16%)
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☹	☹	☹↑

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during this monitoring year.

Although none of the waste applications included proposals for energy efficiency, there were four Regulation 3 applications permitted which included energy efficiency measures. These measures included a low pitch photovoltaic array on the school roof, a wood fuel boiler, and a biomass flue.

Action

There is a small increase in energy efficiency measures in regulation 3 development since the last year, however the targets for waste and minerals development are not currently being achieved. This is in part due to the nature of the applications which have largely not proposed any variation to existing buildings or structures.

Policy WCS 11 states that:

"Waste management facilities will be permitted where it is demonstrated that the design of buildings, layout, landscaping and operation of the facility, and any restoration proposals take account of sustainable development practices and climate change mitigation and resilience through:...

c) reducing energy demand where possible and considering energy efficiency in the design and operation of all new built development..."

The following actions are proposed to address the failure of performance against this indicator:

- i. The draft validation document requires the submission of a sustainability statement. Adoption of the validation document is anticipated in Spring 2015. This should help to ensure this issue is addressed at an early stage in the application process.
- ii. A checklist will be prepared for use at pre-application meetings. This will to accompany the validation document and flag energy efficiency, amongst other issues, at an early stage.
- iii. The way in which this indicator is monitored will be amended to apply only to new built development, to order to better reflect the policy requirement.

This indicator will be monitored next year to see if the proposed actions have addressed the failure in performance.

Indicator W4: Permissions for waste management development with a gross floor space of over 1000m² to gain at least 10% of energy supply annually from renewable energy supplies

Target: 100%

Review trigger: One permission granted that does not comply.

Analysis:

Table 2.4: Percent of new built waste management development and significant alterations to buildings with a gross floor space of over 1000 sq m to gain at least 10% of energy supply annually from renewable energy supplies

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Actual	Not monitored during this period	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received
Is target being achieved?	?	-	-	-	-

Action

No proposals for waste facilities larger than this threshold were determined during the monitoring year. We will continue to monitor this indicator.

Indicator W5: Permissions for waste management development that include measures for water efficiency

Target: 100%

Review trigger: Less than 90% of permissions comply for three years in any five.

Analysis

Table 2.5: Percent of new built waste management development (including waste water treatment) that include measures for water efficiency

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	3 (27%)	2 (13%)
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☹	☹ ↑	☹ ↓

This monitoring year saw a drop in the number of granted applications for new built waste management developments including measures for water efficiency.

Action

This target is not currently being met. Both 2012/13 and 2013/14 monitoring years' numbers have been an improvement over previous years when no waste management applications received included measures for water efficiency, however they fall below the 90% target set. This is in part due to the nature of the applications which have largely not proposed any new or variations to, existing buildings or structures.

Policy WCS 11 states that:

"Waste management facilities will be permitted where it is demonstrated that the design of buildings, layout, landscaping and operation of the facility, and any restoration proposals take account of sustainable development practices and climate change mitigation and resilience through:...

c) reducing water demand where possible and considering water efficiency in the design and operation of all new built development..."

The following actions are proposed to address the failure of performance against this indicator:

- i. The draft validation document requires the submission of a sustainability statement. Adoption of the validation document is anticipated in Spring 2015. This should help to ensure this issue is addressed at an early stage in the application process.
- ii. A checklist will be prepared for use at pre-application meetings. This will accompany the validation document and flag water efficiency, amongst other issues, at an early stage.
- iii. The way in which this indicator is monitored will be amended to apply only to new built development, to order to better reflect the policy requirement.

This indicator will be monitored next year to see if the proposed actions have addressed the failure in performance.

Indicator W6: Permissions for new landfill capacity that include landfill gas management systems.

Target: 100%

Review trigger: One permission granted for landfill without landfill gas management systems where such a system would be practicable.

Analysis:

Table 2.6: Permissions for new landfill capacity that include landfill gas management systems

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
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Actual	Not monitored during this period	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received
Is target being achieved?	?	-	-	-	-

There were no applications for new landfill capacity including landfill gas management systems during this monitoring period. There were two landfill applications approved. One of them was for a gas management compound at the existing landfill site. It was retrospective landfill and this application did not include new landfill capacity. The second application was for improvements to existing earth noise bunds on an industrial site. Again this development did not create any additional void space or include new landfill gas management systems.

Comments and recommendations:

No proposals for new landfill capacity were determined during the monitoring year.

With the continued shift towards reuse, recycling and other recovery it appears that the demand for additional landfill capacity will continue to reduce. However, there is still the potential for landfill gas management systems to be developed on existing landfill sites.

3. Basing decisions on the principles of sustainable development by protecting and enhancing the County's natural resources, environmental, cultural and economic assets, the character and amenity of the local area and the health and wellbeing of local people

Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator		Current performance
W7	Permissions for new built waste management development/minerals development that include provision for biodiversity enhancement.	☺↑
M3		☹
W8	Permissions that have an unacceptable adverse impact on landscape character, scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, battlefields or registered historic parks and gardens.	☺
M4		☹
W9 M5	Permission for new waste management/minerals development granted in the Malvern Hills or Cotswolds AONB.	☺
W10 M6	Permissions for new waste management/minerals development take into account local characteristics.	☺
W11 M7	Permissions for new waste management/minerals development take into account amenity considerations.	☺
W12	Permission for new waste management on Greenfield sites	☺↑
W13	Permission for new waste management in the Green Belt.	☹↓
W14 M8	Permissions granted in accordance with highways advice.	☺

Other issues to be monitored: Changes in national policies or targets relating to climate change, flood risk, energy efficiency and water efficiency. Review trigger: WCS or Minerals Local Plan conflict with national policy.

Indicators W7 and M3: Permissions for new built waste management development that include provision for biodiversity enhancement.

Target: 100%

Review trigger: Less than 90% over three years in any five.

Analysis:

Table 3.1: Percent of permissions for new waste management development which include provision for biodiversity enhancement

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Waste management development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	3 (23%)	7 (44%)	5 (45%)	5 (62%)
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☹	☺↑	☺↑
Minerals development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	1 (100%)	1 (100%)	N/A
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☺	☺	☹

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during this monitoring year.

Action:

The target is not currently being met for waste however there has been a significant increase in the proportion of development that includes provision for biodiversity enhancement since the adoption of the Waste Core Strategy in September 2012.

The following actions are proposed to address the failure of performance against this indicator:

- i. The draft validation document requires the submission of a sustainability statement. Adoption of the validation document is anticipated in Spring 2015. This should help to ensure this issue is addressed at an early stage in the application process.
- ii. A checklist will be prepared for use at pre-application meetings. This will accompany the validation document and flag biodiversity enhancement, amongst other issues, at an early stage.
- iii. The way in which this indicator is monitored will be amended to apply only to new built development, to order to better reflect the policy requirement.

This indicator will be monitored next year to see if the proposed actions have addressed the failure in performance.

Indicators W8 & M4: Permissions having an unacceptable adverse impact on landscape character, scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, battlefields or registered historic parks and gardens.

Target: None

Review trigger: Permission granted for one application that does not comply. Proposals will be considered to have an unacceptable adverse impact where this is identified by a statutory body or in the committee or delegated report prepared.

Analysis:

Table 3.2: Permissions having an unacceptable adverse impact on landscape character, scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, battlefields or registered historic parks and gardens

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Waste management development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	None	None
Is target being achieved?	?	☺	☺	☺	☺
Minerals development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	None	N/A
Is target being achieved?	?	☺	☺	☺	☹
Regulation 3 development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	None	None
Is target being achieved?	?	☺	☺	☺	☺

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during this monitoring year.

Action: This indicator has been achieved and no action is required at present.

Indicators W9 and M5: Permissions granted in the Malvern Hills or Cotswolds AONB.

Target: No unacceptable adverse change in the quality or character of the landscape.

Review trigger: One permission with an unacceptable adverse impact.

Proposals will be considered to have an unacceptable adverse impact where this is identified by a statutory body, Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty Joint Advisory committee or in the committee or delegated report prepared.

Analysis:

Table 3.3: Permissions granted in the Malvern Hills or Cotswold AONB

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Waste management development (not including waste water treatment⁹)					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	None	None
Is target being achieved?	?	☺	☺	☺	☺
Minerals development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	None	N/A
Is target being achieved?	?	☺	☺	☺	☹
Regulation 3 development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	None	None
Is target being achieved?	?	☺	☺	☺	☺

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during this monitoring year.

Action:

This indicator has been achieved and no action is required at present.

⁹ As waste water must be treated near its origin, it may be necessary to locate a waste water treatment facility in an area that would otherwise be avoided.

Indicators W10 and M6: Permissions for new waste management/minerals development take into account local characteristics

Target: No unacceptable adverse impact on local characteristics.

Review trigger: One permission with an unacceptable adverse impact.

Proposals will be considered to have an unacceptable adverse impact where this is identified by a statutory body or in the committee or delegated report produced for the development. This indicator is intended to monitor elements not covered by indicators W8/M4 and W9/M5. Local characteristics are defined in WCS 12 and include good building design, effects on green infrastructure and impact on the local vernacular.

Analysis:

Table 3.4: Number of permissions granted for new waste management/minerals development with unacceptable adverse impact on local characteristics.

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Permissions granted with unacceptable adverse impact on local characteristics	Not monitored during this period	Not monitored during this period	Not monitored during this period	None	None
Is target being achieved?	?	☺	☺	☺	☺

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during this monitoring year.

Action:

This target has been achieved for the monitoring period and no action is required.

Indicators W11 and M7: Permissions for new waste management/minerals development that take into account amenity considerations

Target: No unacceptable adverse impact on amenity.

Review trigger: One permission which has an unacceptable adverse impact.

Proposals will be considered to have an unacceptable adverse impact where this is identified by an Environmental Health Officer, statutory body or in the committee or delegated report prepared.

Analysis:

Table 3.5: Permissions for new waste management and minerals development that take into account amenity considerations

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Waste management development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	13 ¹⁰ (100%)	16 (100%)	11 (100%)	8 (100%)
Is target being achieved?	?	☺	☺	☺	☺
Minerals development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	1 (100%)	1 (100%)	1 (100%)	N/A
Is target being achieved?	?	☺	☺	☺	☹

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during this monitoring year.

Action:

This indicator has been achieved and no action is required at present.

Indicator W12: Permission for new waste management development on Greenfield sites

Target: None

¹⁰ In 2010-11 this indicator was monitored as NOT including waste water treatment, however all applications should take amenity considerations into account. As such, the 2010-11 numbers do not reflect the total number of applications received.

Review trigger: One permission for development other than landfill, composting or waste water treatment.

Analysis:

Table 3.6: Permissions for new waste management development on Greenfield sites (not including landfill, composting or waste water treatment)

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None ¹¹	1 (9%)	None
Is target being achieved?	?	😊	😊	😐	😊↑

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during this monitoring year.

Action:

This indicator has been achieved and no action is required at present.

Indicator W13: Permission for new waste management development in the Green Belt

Target: No unacceptable cumulative impact on the purposes of Green Belt designation.

Review trigger: Periodic review every 5 years to assess impact of permissions granted for waste management development within the Green Belt

Analysis:

Two permissions were granted for waste management development within the Green Belt during the monitoring period.

The County Council approved both applications as they not posed significant impact on the openness of the Green Belt neither due to their size or nature. The sewage pumping station to benefit six properties in Wolverley was considered essential infrastructure and allowed under the 'very special circumstances' clause in the NPPF.

The second application for a foul water biodisc package treatment system with pump discharge for a property in Kings Norton was considered to be an engineering operation which would not be inappropriate in the Green Belt.

Action:

Permissions for waste management development in the Green Belt will be recorded in each AMR and a full review of the impact of these permissions will be

¹¹ Wrongly reported as "not monitored" during the previous monitoring period

undertaken every 5 years, the first of which will be in 2018 (five years after the adoption of the Waste Core Strategy).

Indicator W14 & M8: Permissions granted in accordance with highways advice.

Target: 100%

Review trigger: One permission granted contrary to advice from the County Council's Highways department or the Highways Agency.

Analysis:

Table 3.7: Permissions granted contrary to highways advice

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	None	None
Is target being achieved?	?	☺	☺	☺	☺

Action:

This indicator has been achieved and no action is required at present.

4. Making driving waste up the waste hierarchy the basis for waste management in Worcestershire

Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator	Current performance
W15 <i>Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency.</i>	☺
W16 Waste sent to landfill.	☺↑
W17 Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of waste.	☺
W18 Adoption of appropriate policies regarding managing waste arisings from all new developments in City, Borough and District DPDs.	-
M9 Production of secondary and recycled aggregates.	-

Other issues to be monitored: Changes in national policies or targets. Review trigger: WCS or Minerals Local Plan conflict with national policy.

[Indicator W15: Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in recycling](#)

See Chapter 6 for full discussion of this indicator.

Indicator W16: Waste sent to landfill (Defra annual reports on waste managed)

Target: Decrease in % waste managed sent to landfill.

Review trigger: Increase in % waste managed sent to landfill for two years in a five year period.

Analysis:

The Waste Data Interrogator gives figures for Transfer, Metal Recycling Sites, Treatment and Landfill. The percentage landfilled is calculated as below:

$$\frac{\text{Total waste landfilled}}{(\text{Total waste managed in Worcestershire} - \text{Transfer})} \times 100 = \text{Percentage landfilled}$$

It is however acknowledged that many transfer facilities also undertake some form of treatment activities. If more robust data becomes available this will be considered in future monitoring.

Table 4.1: Decrease landfill, as measured by Defra annual reports on waste managed

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
Actual	370,715	443,205	463,585	398,533	252,748
Percentage of all waste managed in Worcestershire that goes to landfill	64%	59%	49%	35%	29%
Is target being achieved?	☺	☺	☺	☺	☺

Figures based on Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator figures for Household and C&I waste landfilled in Worcestershire.

Action:

The percentage of waste disposed of to landfill continues to decline. Target W16 is being met and no action is required.

Indicator W17: Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of waste

Target:

LACW: 78% LACW (with a minimum of 50% recycling by 2020)

All other waste (C&I, C&D and Hazardous): 75%

Review trigger:

Milestone target not met.

Analysis:

LACW¹² figures are robust and recycling and recovery rates can be calculated by looking at the Defra *Local Authority Municipal Waste Statistics* which give total tonnages for LACW waste managed through landfill, incineration with energy from waste (recovery), incineration without energy from waste and recycling/composting.

There is no reliable data however on how C&I or C&D waste arisings in Worcestershire are managed. The lack of reliable data is a concern nationally and was acknowledged recently by both Defra and the Chartered Institution of Wastes Management (CIWM). Please see below under "[Other issues: national trends in forecasting](#)" for more details on this issue.

The Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator gives combined data for Household and C&I waste managed in Worcestershire and many of the sites included are also known to manage C&D waste.

75% recycling and recovery will be retained as a target for C&I and C&D and will be monitored separately if better data becomes available in the future. As it does not appear that it will be possible to monitor this effectively for the foreseeable future, the HCI (household, commercial and industrial waste) figures from the Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator will be used.

The following interpretation will be used to measure this indicator:

$$\frac{\text{HCI Treatment} + \text{HCI MRS}}{\text{HCI Total} - \text{HCI transfer}} \times 100 = \text{All waste recycling/recovery rate}$$

Table 4.2: Recycling and recovery rates

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Recycling	45%	45%	46%	46%	47%
Recovery	11%	7%	6%	5%	5%
MSW/LACW¹³	56%	52%	52%	51%	52%

Note: This data is validated and made publically available by the Environment Agency Waste Data Flow which is published quarterly. Local Authority Collected Waste figures are for April – March and are for Worcestershire only (not Herefordshire).

¹² Local Authority Collected Waste

¹³ Please note that there was a terminology change during the 2011-12 monitoring year. "Municipal Solid Waste" is now referred to as "Local Authority Collected Waste".

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Household and Commercial and Industrial wastes	41%	47%	62%	58%	Data not yet available

Note: This data is validated and made publically available by the Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator (WDI) which is published annually. WDI figures are for January – December. The most recent WDI data currently available is for 2013

In order to monitor progress towards the long-term targets the following milestones from the WCS will be used:

Table 4.3: Recycling/recovery targets and baseline

	2008-9	2009-10	2014-15	2019-20
LACW (total)	54% (actual)	56% (baseline)	65.8%	78%
All waste	36% (baseline)	38%	46.5%	75%

Baseline: Defra Municipal Waste Statistics 2009-10 and Waste Data Interrogator 2009. Bold shows actual figures. Those in normal type face are the targets.

Figure 4.1: Recycling/Recovery rates and baseline targets (MSW/LACW)

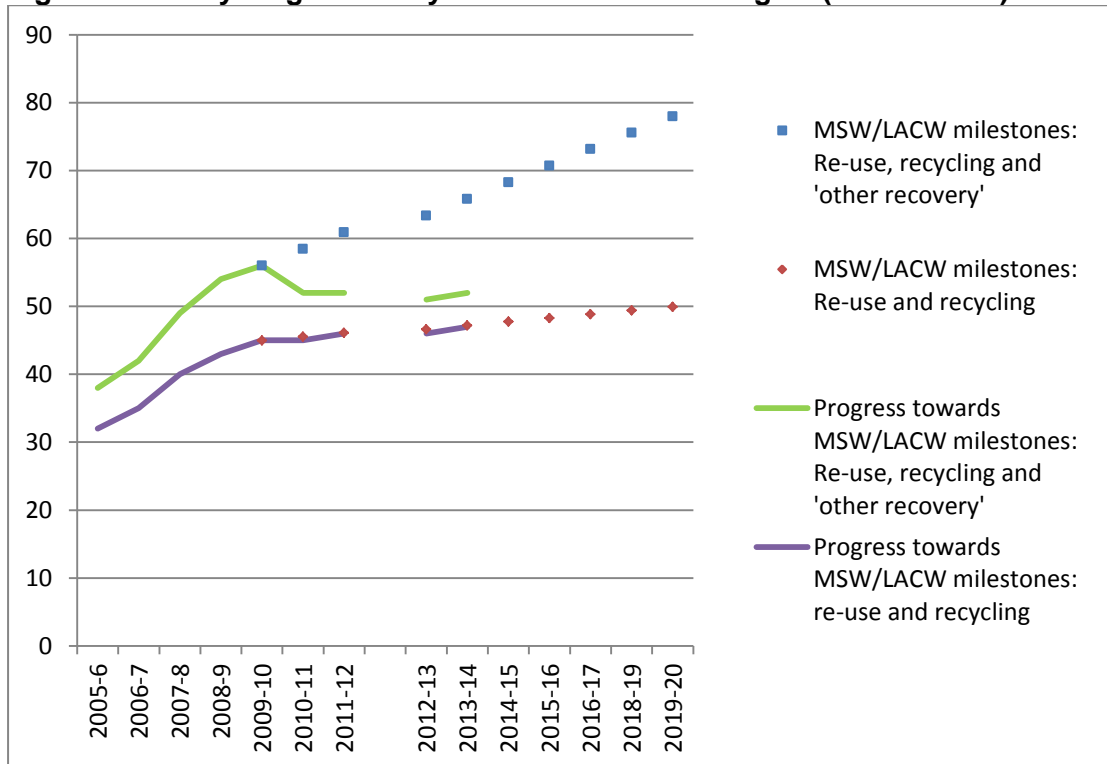
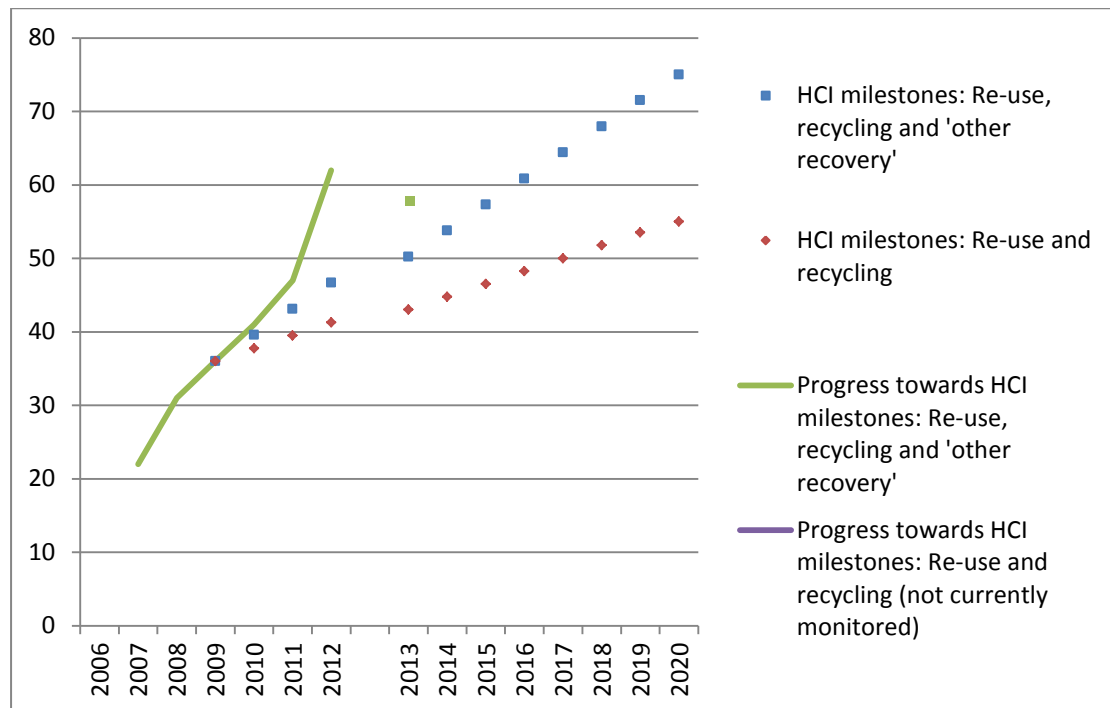


Figure 4.2: Recycling/Recovery rates and baseline targets (Household, Commercial and Industrial waste)



Action:

Recycling/Recovery rates for Household, Commercial and Industrial waste are currently exceeding the milestones set out and good progress towards achieving the targets set out in indicator W17 is being achieved despite the slight decrease in rates since the 2012 monitoring year.

Recycling rates for LACW have met set targets, although overall recycling/recovery rates for LACW remain low as a result of losing access to spare capacity at an energy-from-waste site outside the county. However, because recycling is above recovery on the waste hierarchy this is not considered to be a problem at this stage.

The reuse/recycling/other recovery rate has fallen to 13.8 percentage points below the target milestone. However planning permission has been granted and construction commenced for an Energy from Waste facility at Hartlebury Trading Estate in Worcestershire. The plant will manage both Worcestershire and Herefordshire's LACW. It is anticipated that this facility will have a significant impact on recovery rates once operations are on stream.

We will continue to monitor this target closely and action will be considered if the issue becomes significant.

Indicator W18: Adoption of appropriate policies regarding waste managing waste arisings from all new development in City, Borough and District Councils' Development Plan Documents¹⁴

Target:

Adopted by all City, Borough and District Councils.

Review trigger:

One relevant DPD adopted without appropriate policies.

Analysis:

Table 4.4: Adoption of appropriate policies in City, Borough and District Councils' DPDs

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
DPDs adopted?	Not applicable.	Wyre Forest Core Strategy	None adopted ¹⁵	None adopted	None adopted
Relevant policy included	-	Yes	-	-	-
Is target being achieved?	-	☺	-	-	-

The Council formally commented on waste matters during all of the local plans currently being prepared in the county.

Please refer to the '[Duty to Cooperate](#)' section in Chapter 8 for a list of comments on policies and DPDs adopted by adjoining County and District Councils during the monitoring period.

Action:

This indicator will be monitored annually and will record whether representations have been made at each formal consultation stage of consultation and whether appropriate policies have been included at adoption.

¹⁴ Within Worcestershire

¹⁵ Excluding the Waste Core Strategy

Indicator M9: Production of secondary and recycled aggregates

Target:

There is no basis for setting a target for this indicator at present. The concept will be explored in the preparation of the proposed Minerals Local Plan and possible targets developed accordingly.

Review trigger:

Until a target has been set, there is no basis for setting a review trigger.

Analysis:

It is national policy to encourage the production of secondary and recycled aggregates; at present however there are no mechanisms to assess how production can be measured. Defra is considering the issue at a national level.

Other Issues to be monitored: National trends in waste arisings and projection data

In autumn 2013 after the end of the monitoring period, conflicting reports from two reputable sources were published. The first was a report from Defra titled "Forecasting 2020 Waste Arisings and Treatment Capacity: Revised February 2013, published October 2013". This report sets out the analysis used to forecast levels of biodegradable municipal waste arisings and treatment in England in 2020. It intends to establish whether England is on target to meet the EU Landfill Directive targets for waste diversion. The second paper is the CIWM Report 2013 "Commercial and Industrial Waste in the UK and Republic of Ireland", which describes C&I waste as the "final piece of the puzzle in the rapidly developing waste infrastructure landscape in the UK"¹⁶.

While the reports ostensibly have different foci, they both emphasise the lack of good data on Commercial and Industrial arisings. However, their analysis of that data is very different: the Defra report forecasts declining C&I arisings to 2020 while the CIWM report forecasts a stable level of C&I waste generation over the same period. The Defra report projects a mean surplus capacity of between 2.4 and 2.7 million tonnes in 2020¹⁷ whereas the CIWM report states that based on their analysis, "future available waste treatment capacity in the UK will not be enough to manage the volumes of arising waste from household, commercial and industrial sources"¹⁸. Both reports identify the lack of data as a key challenge for policy making. The Waste Core Strategy forecasting was based on the assumptions in the national waste plan of continued growth in arisings over the plan period. If this trend of declining arisings and lower volumes continues, there will be impacts on the WCS that will need to be addressed.

¹⁶ CIWM (2013) "Commercial and Industrial Waste in the UK and Republic of Ireland: Executive Summary" [online] Available from: www.ciwm-journal.co.uk Accessed 28.10.2013

¹⁷ Defra (2013) "Forecasting 2020 Waste Arisings and Treatment Capacity: Revised February 2013 report" [online] Available from: www.gov.uk/defra Accessed 24.10.2013

¹⁸ CIWM (2013) "Commercial and Industrial Waste in the UK and Republic of Ireland: Executive Summary" [online] Available from: www.ciwm-journal.co.uk Accessed 28.10.2013

5. Ensuring that the waste implications of all new development in Worcestershire are taken into account.

Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator	Current performance
W18 <i>Adoption of appropriate policies regarding managing waste arisings from all new development in City, Borough and District Councils' Development Plan Documents</i>	-
W19 Development permitted within 250 meters of a waste management facility against County Council advice.	😊

Other issues to be monitored: Changes in national policy or targets. Review trigger: conflict with national policy.

[Indicator W18: Adoption of appropriate policies regarding waste managing waste arisings from all new development in City, Borough and District Councils' DPDs](#)

See Chapter 4 for a full discussion of this indicator.

Indicator W19: Development permitted within 250 meters of a waste management facility against County Council advice.

Target:

None

Review trigger:

One permission against County Council advice.

Analysis:

The Council was consulted on two strategic applications within 250 meters of a waste management facility during this monitoring period.

The first application site was at Weavers Wharf in Kidderminster. The council advised that Policy WCS 16 "New development proposed on or near to existing waste management facilities" in the adopted Waste Core Strategy apply to all

types of development in the county and should be considered when determining this application.

The Council was not satisfied that the application contained sufficient information to show that the proposed development would not be unacceptably adversely affected by bio aerosols or other emissions from the waste management operation. Following this, the applicant assured the County Council that the development would not introduce any new sensitive receptors (people or wildlife) into the area and that Weavers Wharf already operates without any adverse impact from the identified waste site. It has been concluded that in so far as this policy is relevant, its requirement was met and application has been approved by the Wyre Forest District Council.

The second application was for a 400 berth marina in Stourport-on-Severn. The applicant has identified that the proposed development site is less than 250m from a waste management facility (OSS Oil Recovery Depot) and such Policy WCS 16 is considered relevant to this application.

The County Council recommended that the applicant should provide an assessment of the implications of the proximity of the application to the existing OSS site to demonstrate that the new development will not be subject to " issues such as any noise, vibrations, dust, odours or fumes that may result from the normal operation of the site" which could lead to complaints that would jeopardise the legitimate continued operation of the OSS site.

This application has yet to be determined.

Table 5.1: Development permitted within 250 meters of a waste management facility against County Council advice

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2012-13
Actual	Not applicable	Not applicable	Not applicable ¹⁹	No relevant applications received	None
Is target being achieved?	-	-	-	-	☺

Action:

This indicator has been proposed to monitor the requirements in policy WCS 16 as set out in the Waste Core Strategy.

Following consultation by the City, Borough and District councils on applications within 250 meters of a waste management facility, the County Council will continue to monitor whether permissions are granted or refused.

¹⁹ This should read "No relevant applications approved against WCC advice."

6. Enabling equivalent self-sufficiency in waste management in the County by addressing the 'Capacity Gap' over the period to 2027 and safeguarding existing waste management facilities from incompatible development.

Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator	Current performance
W15 Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in re-use and recycling capacity.	😊
W20 Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in re-use and recycling capacity based on headline delivery milestones in the Waste Core Strategy.	😊
W21 Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in 'other recovery' capacity based on headline delivery milestones in the Waste Core Strategy.	😊
W22 Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in 'sorting and transfer'.	😐
W23 Maintain equivalent self-sufficiency in disposal and landfill.	😊
W24 <i>Applications for Waste Management Development determined within 13 weeks.</i>	😞↑
M10 <i>Applications for Minerals development determined within 13 weeks.</i>	-

Other issues to be monitored: Best available data on arisings and capacity will be monitored through the life of the strategy. Changes in national policy or targets.

[Indicators W24 and M10: Applications for waste management/minerals development determined within 13 weeks](#)

See Chapter 11 for full discussion of this indicator. A full list of operational waste and minerals sites in the County is included in [Appendix 1](#).

Indicators W15, W20, W21 and W22: Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency

Targets:

- a) [W15] Increase in % of waste recycled;
- b) [W20 and W21] progress toward headline delivery milestones for re-use, recycling and other recovery capacity set out in Policy WCS 2; and
- c) [W22] no capacity gap for:
- Recovery
 - Sorting or transfer

Review triggers:

- a) [W15] Decrease in % waste being re-used or recycled for two years in a five year period;
- b) [W20 and W21] Failure to achieve delivery milestones set out in Table 5 in Policy WCS 2; or
- c) [W22] Capacity gap identified for:
- Sorting or transfer,
- Or increasing capacity gap for reuse and recycling.

a) Change in % of waste recycled [W15]

Analysis:

Table 6.1: Change in % of waste being re-used or recycled

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Recycling	45%	45%	46%	46%	47%
Recovery	11%	7%	6%	5%	5%
MSW/LACW²⁰	56%	52%	52%	51%	52%

Note: This data is validated and made publically available by the Environment Agency Waste Data Flow which is published quarterly. Local Authority Collected Waste figures are for April – March and are for Worcestershire only (not Herefordshire).

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
Household and Commercial and Industrial wastes	41%	47%	62%	58%	Data not yet available

Note: This data is validated and made publically available by the Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator (WDI) which is published annually. WDI figures are for January – December. The most recent WDI data currently available is for 2013.

²⁰ Please note that there was a terminology change during the 2011-12 monitoring year. "Municipal Solid Waste" is now referred to as "Local Authority Collected Waste".

Action:

Overall recycling rates continue to increase and so no action is required. The reduction in recovery rates is due to a reduction in spare capacity at a recovery facility in Coventry used by the Council to treat LACW. This trend should reverse when Hartlebury Energy from Waste facility becomes operational in spring 2017 ([See W17](#) for further discussion of re-use and recycling rates and progression towards milestones set out in the Waste Core Strategy).

b) Capacity Gap [W20, W21, W22 and W23]

Analysis:

Table 6.2: Estimated Capacity gap (as set out in Table 5, Policy WCS 2)

	2010/11	2015/16	2020/21	2025/26
Capacity gap (total)	631,500	654,000	750,000	782,000
Re-use and recycling	391,000	400,500	460,000	498,500
'Other recovery'	240,500	253,500	268,000	283,500
Sorting and transfer	0	0	0	0
Landfill and disposal	0	0	0	0

Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency is demonstrated in Figure 6.1, Figure 6.2 and Figure 6.3, which show the projected capacity requirements (which have informed the emerging WCS) and actual capacity. Where actual capacity is less than projected requirement there is a capacity gap (re-use and recycling and 'other recovery'). Where actual capacity is greater than the requirement there is no capacity gap (sorting and transfer).

The current waste management capacity in Worcestershire is set out in Table 6.3²¹.

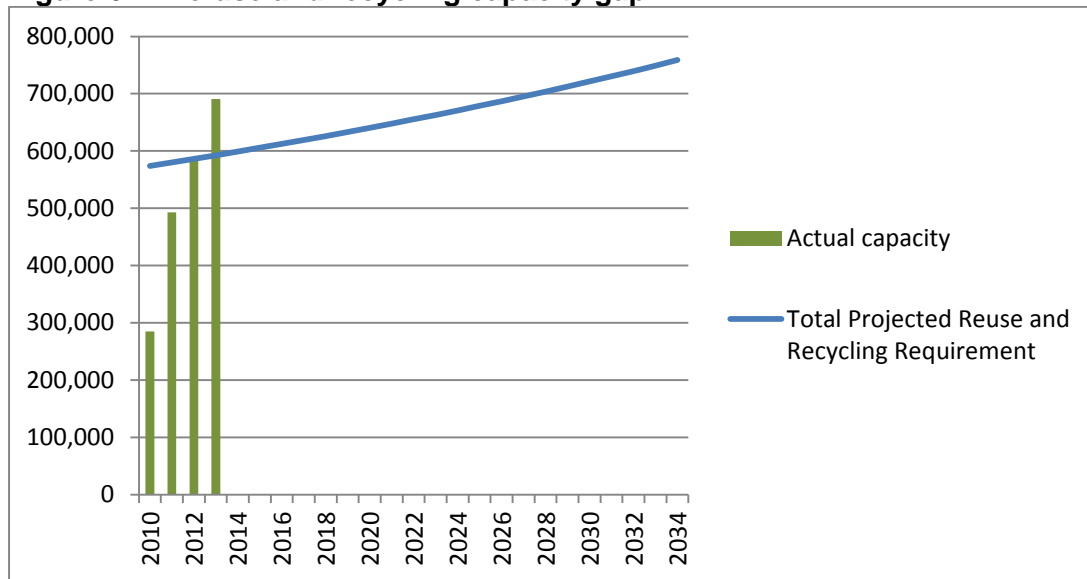
Table 6.3: Current capacity: all waste streams (tonnes)

	2010	2011	2012	2013
Re-use, recycling and other recovery	293,832	501,691	598,558	661,598
<i>Re-use and recycling</i>	284,832	492,691	588,558	690,650
<i>Other recovery</i>	9,000	9,000	10,000	32,608
Sorting and Transfer	1,054,127	903,597	690,975	933,955

Three sorting and transfer sites in the County suffered a total of four fires in 2013, this is very likely to reduce their capacity in future. (Please refer to the notes in [Appendix 1: Operational Sites](#) for details of which sites were affected).

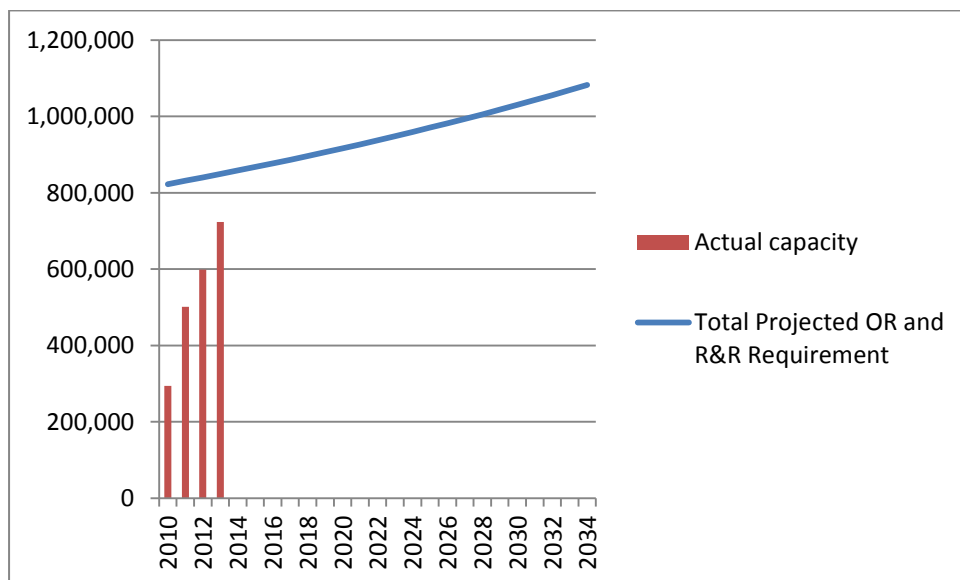
²¹ Calculated using the highest annual throughput for each individual site over the last 5 years. This is based on EA data where it exists, but where the site operates entirely or predominantly under an exemption, this data has been supplemented by information collected in a WCC survey published in the Waste Core Strategy Background Document Waste Sites in Worcestershire. For this AMR it is based on current available data for 2008 – 2013.

Figure 6.1: Re-use and recycling capacity gap



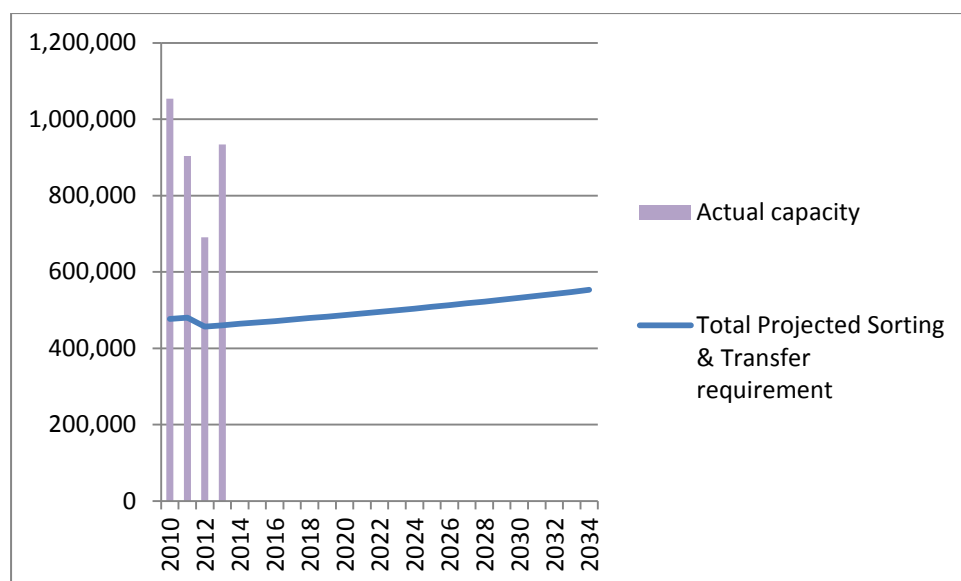
The data shows that, in comparison with the projected requirements set out in the Waste Core Strategy, the capacity gap for re-use and recycling exceeded predictions for the 2013-14 monitoring period. The effects of the loss in capacity referred to above are not yet known and not shown here, however at this stage we consider this good progress toward achieving indicator W20.

Figure 6.2: Re-use, recycling and other recovery capacity gap



Steady progress is being made towards meeting the delivery milestones set out in the WCS and closing the capacity gap and for re-use, recycling and other recovery. There also has been a significant progress towards closing the capacity gap for 'other recovery' (indicator W21).

Figure 6.3: Sorting and transfer capacity gap



Although sorting and transfer capacity has slightly decreased it still in line with projections of requirements and therefore it is considered that indicator W22 is being achieved.

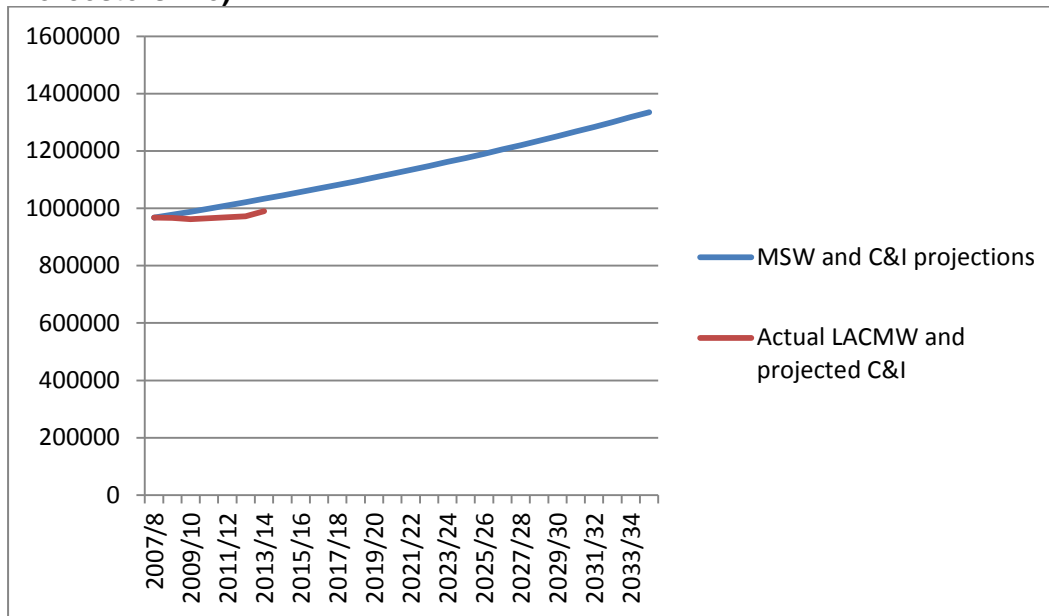
Accuracy of the projections

In addition to considering changes in capacity, the accuracy of the projections must also be monitored in order to properly assess progress towards (and maintenance of) equivalent self-sufficiency. It is possible to monitor LACW (now LAMCW) projections as set out below, however there is currently no robust data about C&I waste arising in Worcestershire. Please refer to the "[National trends in waste arisings](#)" section for more details on the situation nationally. The accuracy of these projections will be monitored if improved information becomes available.

Table 6.4: Projected and actual LA(M)CW arisings (Herefordshire and Worcestershire)

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2015/16	2020/21	2025/26
Projected LA(M)CW arisings	405,100	408,474	411,810	415,145	421,817	438,496	455,175
Actual LA(M)CW arisings	372,000	367,000	362,000	372,000			

Figure 6.4: Projected and actual LACW/LAMCW arisings (Herefordshire and Worcestershire)



The actual levels of LACW for 2013/14 are approximately 11% below the projected levels and the trend is in line with the upward trend projected.

The Waste Core Strategy projections are based on the assumption that:

- a) levels of waste produced per household will remain constant over the life of the strategy; and
- b) household numbers will increase over the life of the strategy in line with RSS projections;

resulting in an increase in LACW waste arisings. These were found sound at Examination.

The council does not propose to revise the projections at present. It considers that an 11% difference at this early stage in the Strategy will not have a significant impact on its adequacy. Arisings will be monitored closely and compared with national projections. If actual waste arisings become substantially different from those in the Waste Core Strategy it may however be necessary to review the Strategy.

Indicator W23: Maintain equivalent self-sufficiency in disposal and landfill.

Target: No capacity gap for disposal or landfill

Review trigger:

Capacity gap identified for disposal or non-hazardous, hazardous or inert landfill.

Analysis:

The Waste Core Strategy breaks landfill down into three broad categories:

- Non-inert landfill;
- Inert landfill; and
- Hazardous landfill

Each is addressed separately below.

Landfill is different to other types of capacity; once void space has been used it cannot be re-used. This means that in order to assess whether there will be a gap in inert landfill capacity during the life of the Waste Core Strategy the remaining void space and projected needs need to be considered.

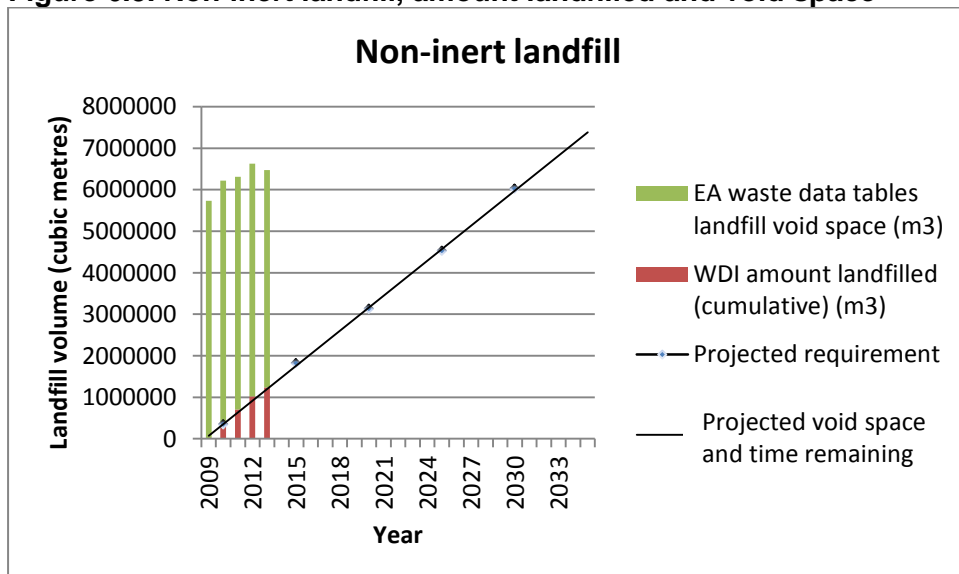
Non-inert landfill

Table 6.5 shows the cumulative amount of non-inert waste that has been disposed of to landfill and the remaining void space. Figure 6.5 illustrates how this compares to projected requirements for non-inert landfill.

Table 6.5 Non-inert landfill, amount landfilled and void space

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
WDI amount landfilled (cumulative) (m3)	Base year	348,622	703,607	1,020,506	1,236,446
EA waste data tables landfill void space (m3)	5,729,139	5,872,249	5,606,419	5,609,217	5,233,320

Figure 6.5. Non-inert landfill, amount landfilled and void space



The amount landfilled is in line with the projections made in the Waste Core Strategy. The council will monitor closely this indicator to ensure that these trends are continued.

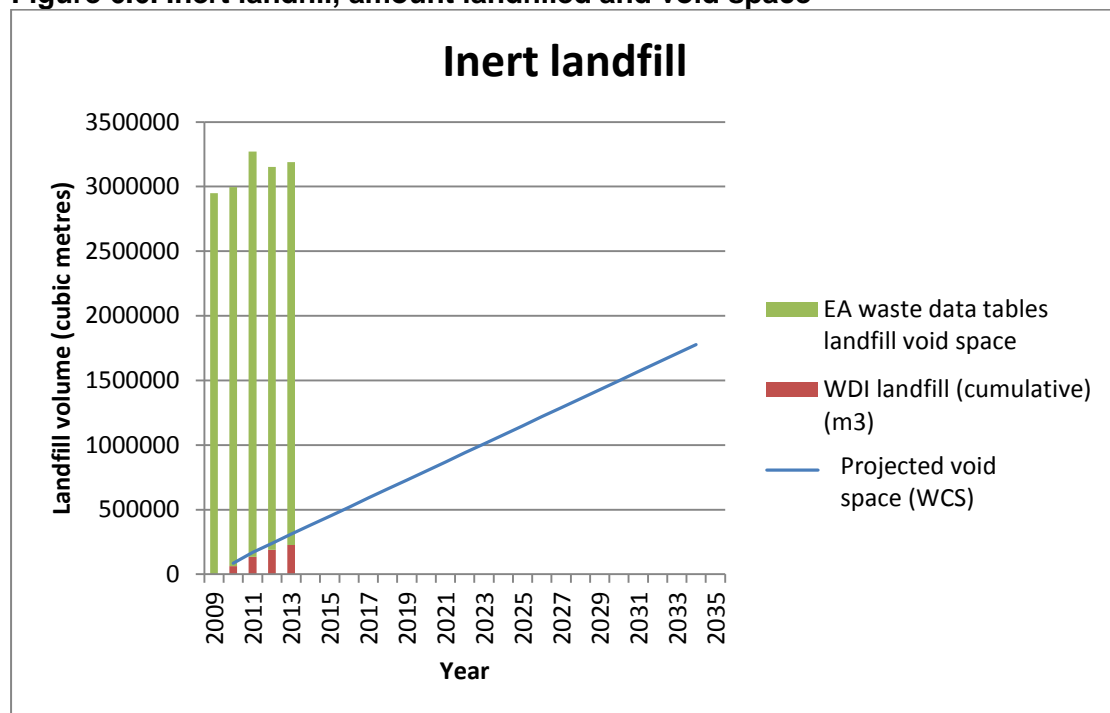
Inert landfill

Table 6.6 Inert landfill, amount landfilled and void space shows the cumulative amount of inert waste that has been disposed of to landfill and the remaining void space. Figure 6.6 illustrates how this compares to projected requirements for non-inert landfill.

Table 6.6 Inert landfill, amount landfilled and void space

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013
WDI amount landfilled (cumulative) (m3)	Base year	63,043	135,443	189,866	226,674
EA waste data tables landfill void space (m3)	2,949,000	2,932,670	3,134,542	2,962,000	2,964,000

Figure 6.6. Inert landfill, amount landfilled and void space

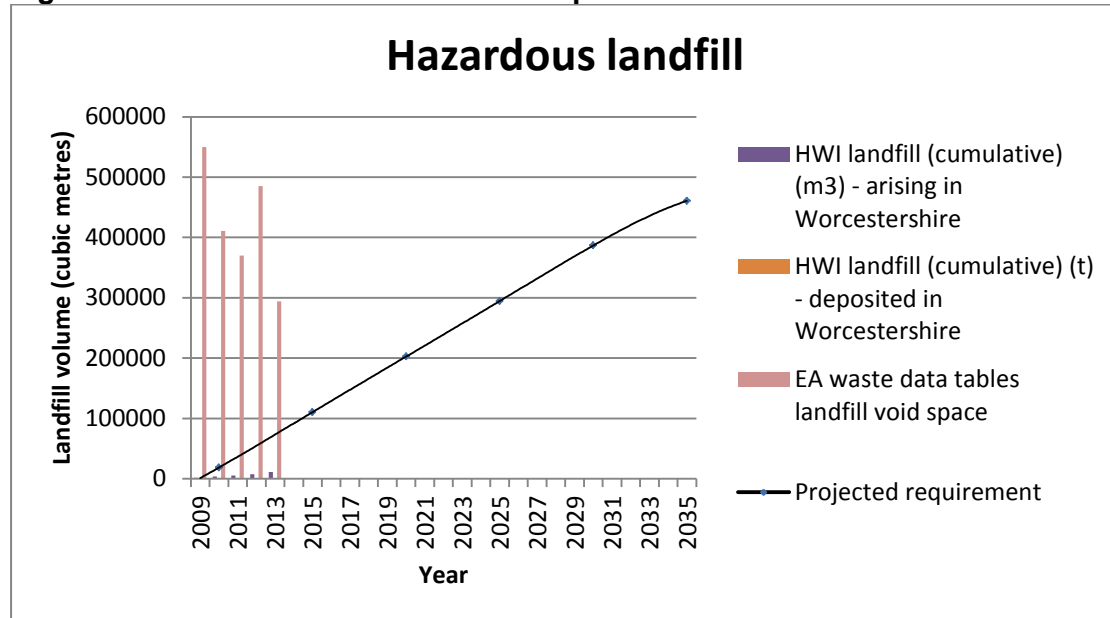


The amount landfilled is in line with the projections made in the Waste Core Strategy; however Environment Agency data indicates that void space has not declined at the same rate. This is not uncommon as a result of re-assessments of void space by the Environment Agency or the creation of new voids, as mineral workings with planning permission to be restored by landfilling are excavated. This means that there is more inert landfill capacity remaining at this stage in the Waste Core Strategy than was projected. This is not considered to be a problem, but will be kept under review.

Hazardous landfill

Environment Agency data indicates that no hazardous waste was landfilled in Worcestershire in 2012. Figure 6.7 shows the cumulative amount of hazardous waste that has arisen in Worcestershire and disposed of to landfill outside the County.

Figure 6.7. Hazardous landfill and void space



Actual levels of hazardous waste produced in Worcestershire disposed of to landfill are currently less than 20% of that projected. Void space has also significantly decreased in this monitoring year, probably as result of being used for the disposal of non-hazardous waste, in practice however there is likely to be sufficient capacity during the life of the Strategy and it is not considered that immediate action is required.

The council will continue to monitor this data closely to gain a more robust understanding of the trends. The situation will be re-assessed in next year's AMR.

7. Monitoring landbank and productive capacity of permitted sand, gravel, crushed rock reserves, clay and building stone.

Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator	Current performance
M12a ²² Annual production of primary land won aggregates: Sand and Gravel.	☹️
M12b Annual production of primary land won aggregates: Crushed Rock	☹️
M13 Landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves.	☹️
M14 Landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves	☹️
M15 Landbank of permitted clay reserves	😊
M16 Sufficient productive capacity for sand and gravel supply	😊
M17 Sufficient productive capacity for crushed rock supply	☹️
M18 Sufficient productive capacity for clay supply	😊

Other issues to be monitored: Productive capacity for building stone supply.

These monitoring indicators were developed before the requirement to prepare an Annual Local Aggregate Assessment (LAA). The Council will continue to monitor performance against these indicators until the Minerals Local Plan (MLP) is submitted for examination but will seek to develop new indicators through the preparation of the MLP. These indicators will be based on the LAA and the policies developed in the MLP.

Please refer to Annex 1 for additional details about landbank and productive capacity.

²² Please note that this indicator was monitored as a single item in previous years. Rationale for this decision is explained in the analysis section below.

Indicators M12 a and M12b: Annual production of primary land won aggregates

Please note that for clarity of analysis, this indicator has been split in two in order to report on sand and gravel and crushed rock individually. This will give a more accurate picture of the land won aggregates situation in the County.

a) Sand and Gravel

Target: Percentage of regional production as set out in the regional apportionment, currently 8.6%.

Review trigger: Below 8.6% for three years on any five.

Analysis:

In Worcestershire sand and gravel sales were relatively stable between 1999 and 2004. Sales fell in 2005 and 2006 before returning to pre-2004 levels in 2007. There was a marked decline in sales in 2008 and 2009 (see Table 7.1) and conversations between planning officers and operators suggest that the effect of the economic downturn on the building industry reduced the local demand for sand and gravel. The 2010 and 2011 numbers reveal modest increases of sales in Worcestershire while regional sales continue to decline.

The sand and gravel sales figures for 2012 are only published for Worcestershire in combination with Herefordshire due to long-standing confidentiality agreements that prevent data being published when there are less than 3 operational units in a Minerals Planning Authority. The Council intends to explore the opportunity to publish this data for Worcestershire alone in subsequent years.

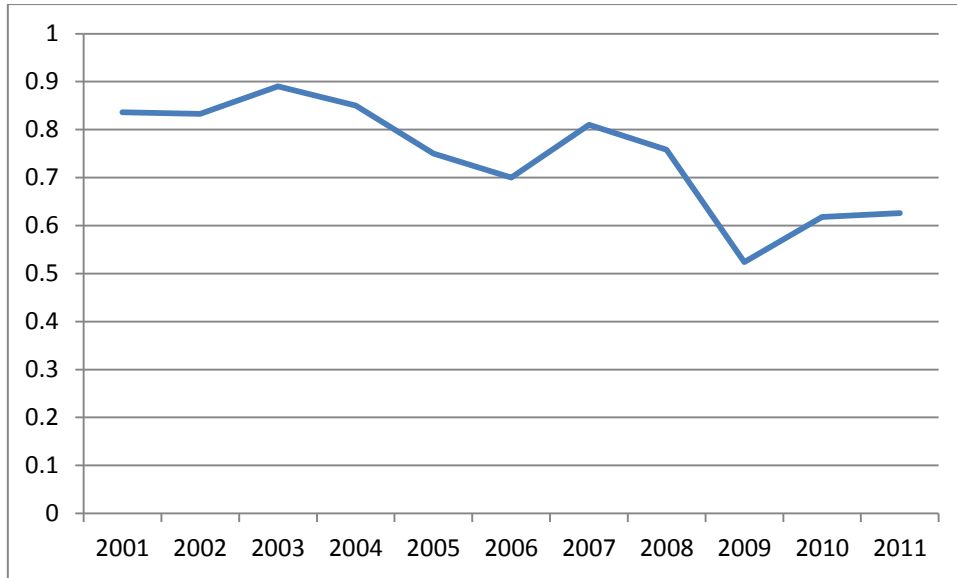
Table 7.1: Sand and Gravel sales for aggregate purposes (million tonnes) (RAWP)

Sand and Gravel	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Worcestershire	0.81	0.758	0.524	0.618	0.626	0.620#
Regional Total	10.02	8.332	6.212	5.95	5.99	5.81

Source: West Midlands Aggregates Working Party 2011 & 2012 Annual Report (2014).

Figures combined with Herefordshire due to reasons of confidentiality

Figure 7.1: Sand and Gravel Sales for Aggregate purposes in Worcestershire (million tonnes) (RAWP Annual Report)



Note: 2012 figures are not shown as these are combined with Herefordshire.

Table 7.2: Sand and Gravel Production [M12a]

<i>Sand and Gravel Apportionment - % of Regional production</i>	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Worcestershire	9.1% ²³	8.4%	10.4%	10.4%	
Herefordshire and Worcestershire					10.7%
Is the target being achieved?	☺	☹	☺	☺	☹

The target to meet 8.6% of the regional apportionment for sand and gravel was not met in the year 2008-09 but was exceeded in 2010 and 2011. This is due to both increased sales in Worcestershire and declining sales across the region.

For 2012 it may be more appropriate to consider the apportionment for Herefordshire and Worcestershire combined. This constitutes 11.4% of West Midlands supply. Production in Herefordshire and Worcestershire fell below this in 2012.

Action:

Supply has been above the target for 3 years in the last 5 so no action is proposed, but the development of the Minerals Local Plan²⁴, will consider this in detail and will seek to address any issues.

b) Crushed Rock

Target: Percentage of regional production as set out in the regional apportionment, currently 2.8%.

²³ Please note, there was an error in the 2009-2010 AMR, this figure should have read 9.1%.

²⁴ Please note that in previous AMRs this document was referred to as the 'Minerals Development Framework'. National requirements have led to the terminology change, but the content and intent of the document remains unchanged.

Review trigger: Below 2.8% for three years on any five.

Analysis:

The supply of crushed rock is problematic in Worcestershire both in terms of meeting both regional supply and the number of productive units. Difficulties arise because no significant applications for crushed rock extraction have been made in the County since 1997. These were for alterations and a very modest deepening at Fish Hill, Broadway, this site has since ceased operation and been restored.

The lack of other applications probably reflects the limited nature and distribution of hard rock within the County, very little of which appears to be of commercial quality or, as in Malvern Hills, to be under the control of a landowner willing to allow it to be worked.

For reasons of confidentiality figures for crushed rock sales in Worcestershire were combined with those in Herefordshire until 2011. In 2012 there were no crushed rock quarries currently operating in Worcestershire.

Table 7.3: Crushed rock sales for aggregate purposes (million tonnes) (RAWP)

Crushed rock	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Herefordshire/Worcestershire	0.216	0.224	0.2	0.33	
Worcestershire					0
Regional Total	3.436	3.03	2.8	2.47	3.12

Figure 7.2: Herefordshire and Worcestershire crushed rock sales for aggregate purposes (million tonnes) (RAWP)

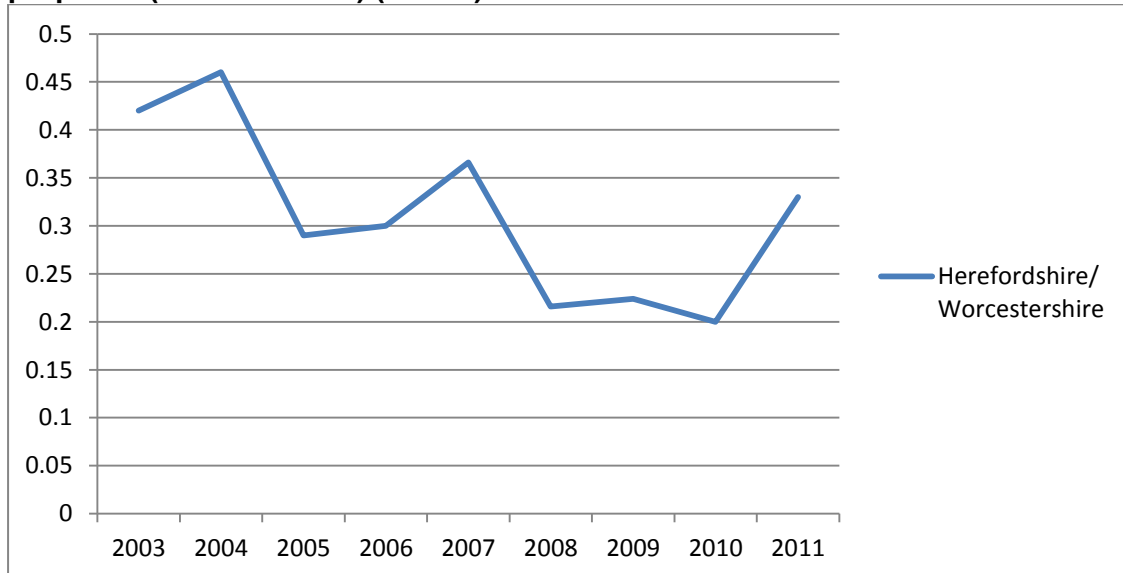


Table 7.4: Crushed rock production [M12b]

<i>Crushed rock apportionment 2.8% Regional production</i>	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-2012
Worcestershire	Confidential Below 2.8%	Confidential Below 2.8%	Confidential Below 2.8%	Confidential Below 2.8%	0
Is the target being achieved?	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹

Action

The target is not being met. The development of the Minerals Local Plan will seek to address these issues.

Indicator M13: Landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves

Target: A landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves of at least 7 years.

Review trigger: A landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves of less than 7 years.

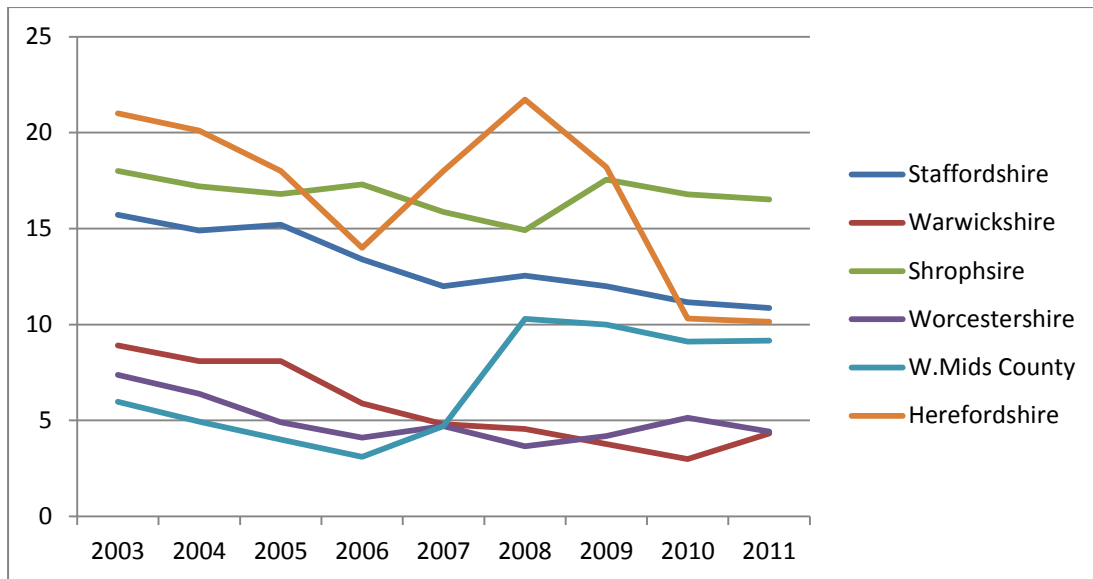
Analysis:

Permitted reserves in Worcestershire are listed in [Appendix 2](#).

Table 7.5: Worcestershire landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves (years) (RAWP)

Sand and Gravel landbank	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Worcestershire	3.65	4.19	5.15	4.42	-
Herefordshire & Worcestershire	-	-	-	-	5.7
Is the target being achieved?	☹	☹	☹	☹	☹

Figure 7.3: Landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves – West Midlands Region (RAWP Annual Report 2011)



The County's landbank at 31/12/2011 was 4.42 years. This was below the 7 years recommended in government policy. In 2012 the data was combined with Herefordshire and stated to be 5.7 years. This is still below the 7 years recommended in government policy. The Council is exploring the potential to publish figures for Worcestershire in subsequent years.

No planning applications for mineral development were determined by the County Council during the monitoring period.

The following applications for sand and gravel extraction were undetermined during the monitoring year.

- Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry at Land Adjacent to Strensham Water Treatment Works, Mill Lane, Upper Strensham (430,000 tonnes).** The application was validated in January 2010 and sent out for consultation in February 2010. Several statutory consultees and the County Council requested additional information from the applicant (Cemex UK Materials Limited). Furthermore, the Highways Agency opposed the proposed private means of access onto the motorway interchange, and directed that planning permission not be granted for an indefinite period of time. They submitted further information in response to the first consultation and this was consulted upon in June 2011. However, in July 2011 the Highways Agency confirmed that they opposed the private means of access onto the motorway interchange and reaffirmed their previous comments. The applicant is seeking to overcome the Highways Agency's objection.
- Proposed extraction of sand and gravel (403,000 tonnes) with the subsequent restoration to agriculture and wetlands at Manor Farm, Holdfast, Nr. Upton-upon-Severn, Worcestershire.** The application was validated on 8 July 2011. Several statutory consultees and the County Council requested additional environmental information from the applicant (Cemex UK Materials Limited), however, Cemex did not submit the information requested and have subsequently withdrawn the application.

Action:

The development of the Minerals Local Plan commenced in autumn 2012 and will seek to address these issues.

Indicator M14: Landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves

Target: A landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves of at least 10 years.

Review trigger: A landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves of less than 10 years.

Analysis:

There are no permitted reserves in Worcestershire.

Action:

The development of the Minerals Local Plan commenced in autumn 2012 and will seek to address these issues.

Indicator M15: Landbank of permitted clay reserves

Target: There is no set landbank for permitted clay reserves. The NPPF states that Local Planning Authorities should plan for reserves of at least 25 years. This will be the target for this indicator until it is refined during the development of the Minerals Local Plan.

Review trigger: A landbank of less than 25 years.

Analysis:

Clay is worked in Worcestershire at two sites in Hartlebury, at New House farm and Waresley (both owned by Wienerberger); together these brickworks are capable of producing over 2 million bricks per week. The operator is the largest brick producer in Europe and the brickworks in Worcestershire their largest in the UK. Based on information provided by the operator, it is estimated that the average life of these two sites is 30 years.

The Hartlebury site has not been operating at full capacity since at least 2010. In the medium term therefore, there does not appear to be any pressing need to review the Council's Mineral Planning policies so far as the provision of Brick Clay is concerned.

Action:

No action is currently required but the development of the Minerals Local Plan, which commenced in autumn 2012, will consider this in detail and will seek to address any issues.

Other Non-Aggregate Minerals

Target: There are currently no statutory targets for non-aggregate minerals. This will be developed through the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan.

Review trigger: There are currently no statutory targets for non-aggregate minerals. This will be developed through the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan.

Analysis:

Permitted reserves in Worcestershire are listed in [Appendix 2](#).

At present, clay, building stone and silica sand are the only non-aggregate materials produced in the County. It is unlikely that the extraction of oil, gas or coal will be commercially viable in the Worcestershire.

- **Clay** is considered above.
- **Building Stone:** Building stone has only been produced at one location in the county; Fish Hill quarry near Broadway, since 1947 and that was ancillary to aggregate production. The material produced, Oolitic Limestone, was used only in a few areas in the south western corner of the County. Sales were mostly into Gloucestershire, where numerous comparable sites exist. Production at Broadway ceased within the monitoring year. The Council does not consider that other sources can easily be identified, or that it would be useful or necessary to define landbanks for building stone in Worcestershire.
- **Silica Sand:** Two quarries currently produce very small volumes of this material. Reserves appear to be adequate for the present.

Action:

The development of the Minerals Local Plan commenced in autumn 2012 and will seek to address these issues.

Indicators M16 and M17: Sufficient productive capacity for sand and gravel supply and crushed rock

Target: There are currently no national policy targets but the NPPF stresses the need for mineral Planning authorities to ensure a "steady and adequate" supply and to ensure that large landbanks bound up in a few sites do not stifle competition. This will be considered through the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan. The Competition Commission is currently undertaking a market investigation of parts of the industry which could inform this indicator. A final report has yet to be produced, however a Provisional Findings Report was published in May 2013, and an addendum to the Provisional Findings was published in October 2013. These reports indicated that there are adverse effects on competition and detriments to customers in the aggregates, cement and ready-mix concrete market. The Commission has also produced a series of provisional decisions on remedies, which was also published in October 2013. No final report has been produced to date.

Review trigger: There are currently no formal targets. This will be considered through the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan. This indicator is being monitored to establish a baseline.

Analysis:

Table 7.6: Productive Capacity: Sand and Gravel

Productive Capacity: Sand and Gravel	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Productive Units	6	6	6	6	6

Table 7.7: Productive Capacity: Crushed rock

Productive Capacity: crushed rock	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Productive Units	1	1	0	0	0

Although there are 6 operational units within the County, the current sales of sand and gravel are below the County's sub-regional apportionment for sand and gravel. Crushed rock production, is not adequate in terms of production or the number of operational units, and the County's landbank for both sand and gravel and crushed rock are inadequate.

There does not seem to be any interest from the industry in correcting these problems. An application for planning permission for proposed sand and gravel pits at land adjacent to Strensham Water Treatment Works, Upper Strensham was being processed by the County Council during the monitoring year and remains undetermined (see above). This is one of the two remaining Preferred Areas for sand and gravel working in the Minerals Local Plan that remain unworked. The third remaining Preferred Area (Aston Mill) was proven to contain no workable material. A further application for a gravel pit at Holdfast was undetermined during the monitoring year but has subsequently been withdrawn.

Action:

This indicator is being monitored to establish a baseline. The development of the Minerals Local Plan commenced in autumn 2012 and will seek to address these issues.

Indicator M18: Sufficient productive capacity for clay supply

Target: There are currently no national policy targets but the NPPF stresses the need for mineral Planning authorities to ensure a "steady and adequate" supply and to take account of the need for provision of brick clay from a number of different sources to enable appropriate blends to be made. Weinerberger's site at Hartlebury appears to function adequately at present. This will be considered through the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan.

Review trigger: There are currently no statutory targets. This will be considered through the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan. This indicator is being monitored to establish a baseline.

Analysis:

Table 7.8: Productive Capacity: Brick Clay

Productive Capacity: Clay	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Units	2	2	2	2	2

Action:

This indicator is being monitored to establish a baseline. The development of the Minerals Local Plan commenced in autumn 2012 and will seek to address these issues.

8. Involving all those affected as openly and effectively as possible

Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator		Current performance
W25	<i>Number of waste development proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage.</i>	☹️
M11	<i>Number of minerals proposals discusses with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage.</i>	-
W26	<i>Permitted applications for waste management which include a Consultation statement.</i>	☹️
M19	<i>Permitted applications for minerals development which include a Consultation statement.</i>	-
W27/M20	<i>Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date.</i>	😊
SCI2	Access to information	-
SCI3	Consultation response rate/involvement	-
SCI4	Satisfaction with the planning process	-
SCI5	Consultation methods	-
SCI6	Value for money	-

Other issues to be monitored: Activities undertaken by the Council in line with the Duty to Cooperate on the preparation of the Minerals and Waste Planning Framework.

[Indicators W25 and M11: Number of proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage.](#)

[Indicators W26 and M19: Permitted applications for waste and minerals development which include a Consultation Statement.](#)

[Indicators W27 and M20: Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision²⁵.](#)

Please refer to Chapter 11 for a full discussion of these indicators.

²⁵ This indicator did not have an analysis section in previous AMRs.

Indicator SCI2: Access to information

Target: The current SCI does not set specific targets. The SCI is currently being revised and will be consulted on in due course.

Review trigger: There are currently no SCI targets to monitor. When the revised document is finalised this section will be updated accordingly.

Analysis:

A Biennial Satisfaction Survey was due to be undertaken in 2011/12 however due to the SCI currently being revised and the SCI monitoring indicators being under review it has been postponed until the next monitoring year. The results of this will be fed into the revised SCI and future AMRs will report on this.

The results of previous Satisfaction Surveys are detailed in the 2011-12 Annual Monitoring Report.

Action:

Trends are encouraging and no action is required at present. This indicator will continue to be monitored until the SCI is reviewed.

Indicator SCI3: Consultation response rate/involvement

Target: The current SCI does not set specific targets. The SCI is currently being revised and will be consulted on in due course.

Review trigger: There are currently no SCI targets to monitor. When the revised document is finalised this section will be updated accordingly.

Analysis:

This indicator measures 5 different aspects:

SCI3a) Number of people making representations on Local Development Scheme consultations.

During preparation of the Minerals Local Plan the consultation database was refreshed and the number of consultees reduced. As such the absolute numbers of people contacted during the consultations for the MLP are not directly comparable to those contacted during the public consultations for the WCS. We have therefore presented the response rates below in order to facilitate comparison.

Table 8.1: Waste Core Strategy consultation response rates

	WCS Emerging Preferred Options 2009	WCS First Draft Submission 2010	WCS Publication 2011	WCS Addendum consultation 2011
Consultation response rates	10.03%	7.8%	7.7%	1.8%

Table 8.2: Minerals Local Plan responses rates

	Minerals Local Plan – 1st stage	Minerals Local Plan – 2nd stage
Total number contacted	682 (432 letters, 250 emails)	507 (113 letters, 394 emails)
Responses received	39	66
Consultation response rates	5.7%	8.9%

Action:

The second stage consultation on the Minerals Local Plan took place during this monitoring year from 11th November 2013 to 31st January 2014. It included variety of consultation and engagement methods including open day drop-in sessions, stakeholder workshops and online quiz. This has led to response rates higher than rates of the First Stage consultation.

SCI3b) % of representations made by 'Hard to Reach' groups on LDS consultations.

7.3% of the responses received to the Minerals Local Plan second stage consultation were from hard-to-reach groups. 'Hard to reach' groups self-identify via the consultation questionnaire.

Action:

The SCI is currently being reviewed, and the intention is to re-examine the way we monitor hard to reach groups. As a result, this indicator may be monitored differently in the future.

SCI3c) Total number of pre-application meetings held during the monitoring year²⁶.

This item is monitored in Chapter 11 in conjunction with indicators W25 and M11.

SCI3d) Number of consultation statements submitted; and number in compliance with the SCI.

This item is monitored in Chapter 11 in conjunction with indicators W26 and M19.

SCI3e) Number of planning applications submitted online.

This item is monitored in Chapter 11 in conjunction with indicators W26 and M19.

²⁶ This section has been modified this year in order to clarify the discrepancy between the numbers in Indicators W25 and M11 monitored above and the numbers reported in this table.

Indicator SCI4: Satisfaction with the planning process

Target: The current SCI does not set specific targets. The SCI is currently being revised and will be consulted on in due course.

Review trigger: There are currently no SCI targets to monitor. When the revised document is finalised this section will be updated accordingly.

Analysis:

A Biennial Satisfaction Survey was due to be undertaken in 2011/12 however due to the SCI currently being revised and the SCI monitoring indicators being under review it has been postponed until the next monitoring year. The results of this will be fed into the revised SCI and future AMRs will report on this.

Satisfaction surveys were undertaken in 2007-08 and 2009-10. Detailed results of these surveys appear in the 2011-12 Annual Monitoring Report; however the overall level of satisfaction of those involved in planning policy consultations increased from 45.7% in 2007-08 to 56.9% in 2009-10.

Indicator SCI5: Consultation methods

Target: The current SCI does not set specific targets. The SCI is currently being revised and will be consulted on in due course.

Review trigger: There are currently no SCI targets to monitor. When the revised document is finalised this section will be updated accordingly.

Analysis:

Consultation on the second stage of the Minerals Local Plan was undertaken during the monitoring year. The consultation was undertaken in accordance with the SCI using the methods indicated in Table 8.3 below.

Table 8.3: Summary of consultation activities, Minerals Local Plan Second Stage

Activity	Letter/ email	Website	Media release/ Articles	Public notice in local press
Residents	★	★	★	★
LSP	★	★	★	★
Waste operators	★	★	★	★
Business	★	★	★	★
Interest groups	★	★	★	★
Voluntary Sector	★	★	★	★
Parish Councils	★	★	★	★
Other local authorities	★	★	★	★
Government Agencies	★	★	★	★

★: Focused

★: General

Consultation on planning applications

All planning applications forms, plans and supporting documents are made available on the Council's website. Officers strongly encourage all applicants to carry out significant pre-application community involvement on their proposal prior to submission.

Once received, the planning application is advertised. This includes erecting site notices, and depending on the nature and location of the proposal consultation letters may also be sent out to neighbours who the County Council consider are likely to be affected by a proposal. For major development proposals and proposals not in accordance with the Development Plan, advertisements are placed in local newspapers. Copies of planning applications are placed on deposit at County Hall and another venue, usually a local library, Hub (Customer Contact Centre) or District Council offices. Members of the public are given a period of 21 days in which comment, however, in special circumstances for example over a public or bank holiday additional time may be allowed.

Consultees specified in the *Town and Country Planning (Development Management) Order 2010*; in Appendix 6 of the current *Worcestershire County Council's Statement of Community Involvement*; and any other consultee the County Council considers should be notified due to the nature and location of the proposal, are consulted. Depending on the County Council's current arrangements with each consultee either a paper copy of the submission or an email with a link to it is sent out to the relevant consultees inviting them to comment on the planning application. Consultees are usually given a period of 28 days in which to comment.

Representations on planning applications must be submitted in writing. These are acknowledged by the County Council and members of the public are asked to indicate if they wish to address the Planning & Regulatory Committee if given the opportunity. The County Council's procedures for consulting on planning applications are carried out in general accordance with Worcestershire County Council's Statement of Community Involvement.

Note: The SCI is currently being revised and references to particular sections of the document can be changed in this reporting year.

Indicator SCI6: Value for money

Target: The current SCI does not set specific targets. The SCI is currently being revised and will be consulted on in due course.

Review trigger: There are currently no SCI targets to monitor. When the revised document is finalised this section will be updated accordingly.

Analysis:

This is a useful concept but is not easy to quantify as the value of any particular consultation is not related to the number of responses received. It is possible for example that a small number of perceptive responses may illuminate the issues better than a large number of repetitive or ill-informed ones. In addition, a decline in the number of responses over several consultations may reflect satisfaction with the process or indicate fatigue or dissatisfaction.

The value in financial terms of individual consultations or of the process as a whole is even harder to quantify. To date there are no corporate assessments of the value of the methods used and no national advice on how the value of consultations could be assessed.

These issues are being considered as part of the revisions that are underway.

Action:

No action is required at present.

Duty to Cooperate

The 'duty to co-operate' requires local planning authorities to co-operate with other planning authorities and relevant bodies on planning issues that cross administrative boundaries to ensure that strategic priorities are properly coordinated and clearly reflected in individual Local Plans.

The Council has and will continue to engage with planning authorities and other relevant bodies throughout the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan. Most of the activity undertaken is on an ongoing informal Officer basis. Member support and endorsement has been, and will be, obtained when strategic matters are identified.

The principal activities undertaken by the Council in line with the Duty to Co-operate on the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan during 2013-2014 are summarised in this section. Please refer to Annex 2: Duty to Cooperate for a detailed account of these activities.

Responses received on the Second Stage Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan were given unique reference numbers and all points were addressed in the *Second Stage Consultation Minerals Local Plan Consultation Response Document* which can be downloaded from the "Previous Consultation Stages" section of Emerging Minerals Local Plan webpages at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/minerals.

Engagement with other Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities

West Midlands Resource (formerly Regional) Technical Advisory Body for Waste (RTAB)

One of the main mechanisms through which the Council liaises with other Waste Planning Authorities in the West Midlands is through the West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body for Waste (RTAB). The RTAB is a body made up of waste planning authorities in the west midlands and representatives from the waste industry and voluntary and community sector. Because of the particularly close economic links between them the WMRTAB also includes a representative from the East Midlands RTAB and vice versa. The Chairmen of the RTABs also meet regularly to share ideas and where possible, co-ordinate their efforts. Despite the demise of the regional governance structure, the WM RTAB continues to meet to discuss planning issues two or three times a year.

Waste Planning Authorities have given updates on plan and development progress to the RTAB throughout the year, relevant issues have been discussed and in particular the group has re-asserted its support for earlier regional evidence regarding the role of Construction and Demolition waste in aggregate supply.

The group has also developed a Duty to Co-operate Protocol which has been signed by the Deputy Leader of Worcestershire County Council on the Council's behalf.

Meetings of the RTAB are ongoing and Worcestershire County Council will continue to engage with other Waste Planning Authorities through this mechanism.

West Midlands Aggregate Working Party (AWP)

The National Planning Policy Framework expects Minerals Planning Authorities to "plan for a steady supply of aggregates by:

- preparing an annual Local Aggregate Assessment, either individually or jointly by agreement with another or other mineral planning authorities, based on a rolling average of 10 years sales data and other relevant local information, and an assessment of all supply options (including marine dredged, secondary and recycled sources);
- participating in the operation of an Aggregate Working Party (AWP) and taking the advice of that Party into account when preparing their Local Aggregate Assessment..."²⁷

It also expects Minerals Planning Authorities to plan for a steady and adequate supply of industrial minerals by co-operating with neighbouring and more distant authorities to co-ordinate the planning of industrial minerals to ensure adequate provision is made to support their likely use in industrial and manufacturing processes.

Worcestershire County Council has been a member of the West Midlands Aggregate Working Party since it was formed. One meeting was held during the 2013-2014 monitoring period.

²⁷ National Planning Policy Framework, paragraph 145

Other aggregate working parties were also consulted on the Second Stage Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan.

Minerals and Waste Learning Group

The Planning Officers' Society manages a Minerals and Waste Learning Group which the Council subscribes to and has attended all four meetings over the monitoring period. The group exists to discuss matters relating to members' statutory mineral and waste planning duties.

Each meeting includes a discussion of member councils' activities and progress in developing and adopting mineral and waste development plans and in determining associated applications. Discussions are not currently recorded as part of the duty to co-operate but in practice the meetings and subsequent email exchanges function as informal duty to co-operate meetings.

Formal Duty to Cooperate meetings

The following formal Duty to Cooperate meetings were held during the monitoring period. Full details of these meetings can be found in Annex 2.

Table 8.4: Formal Duty to Cooperate meetings

Meeting	Date	Issues discussed
Gloucestershire County Council, Warwickshire County Council, and Herefordshire Council, at County Hall, Worcester	17.06.2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Status of MLP preparation in each county (mineral types, timetable, broad principles, matters of mutual interest) • Birdstrike and location of airfields • Status of Local Aggregate Assessment preparation and principles • Discussion of any complementary or conflicting issues, matters of concern and cross boundary initiatives (waste, nature conservation, imports/exports) • Data availability and sharing • Sites
Herefordshire Council, County Hall, Worcester	17.07.2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Update on the status of Minerals Planning Policy preparation in both counties • Local Aggregate Assessments • Complementary or conflicting issues and matters of concern (notably aggregate supply) • Data availability and sharing

Other Authorities consulted

Shropshire Council was consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan but did not submit comments. It was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments.

Herefordshire Council engaged in email discussions regarding crushed rock sales data and "apportionment" methodology, mineral development in the

Malvern Hills and Herefordshire's Core Strategy policies M3 and M4. Herefordshire Council was also consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan but did not submit comments, and it was consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments.

Warwickshire County Council was consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan but did not submit comments. It was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments.

Gloucestershire County Council engaged in an email exchange to confirm the mineral sites in Worcestershire to appear in maps in Gloucestershire's Minerals Local Plan. Gloucestershire County Council was also consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan and submitted comments (reference B018-2185). Gloucestershire County Council was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document and responded referring to their Transport Evidence Paper background document.

Staffordshire County Council was consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan but did not submit comments. It was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments. Informal discussions between officers about the content and progress of both counties' Plans were held at the POS Mineral and Waste Learning Project Meetings and WMRTAB meetings.

The adjoining Minerals Planning Authorities in the West Midlands conurbation were all consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan but did not submit comments. They were also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document and Dudley Metropolitan Borough Council responded noting that none of the major waterways run from Worcestershire into Dudley Borough but that they support the principle of transporting minerals by other than the road network although opportunities are limited in the Black Country.

Second Stage Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan: Workshops

Worcestershire County Council proposed to hold an industry workshop and a green infrastructure workshop during the consultation period. These workshops did not take place as no expressions of interest were received for either event.

Engagement with other planning authorities in Worcestershire

Relevant issues were discussed the City, Borough and District Councils in Worcestershire through meetings of the Worcestershire Planning Officers Group (WPOG), and the Worcestershire Development Management Officers Group (DC Forum).

Individual cooperation has been undertaken with each of the planning authorities in Worcestershire as follows:

Bromsgrove District Council was consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan. Bromsgrove Council Planning officers attended the Second Stage Consultation open day in Bromsgrove and subsequently engaged in discussions regarding potential minerals issues at proposed development sites. Bromsgrove District Council was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments.

Redditch Borough Council was consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan but did not submit comments. It was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document and responded noting that there are no commercial or cruising waterways within Redditch Borough.

Wyre Forest District Council was consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan and submitted comments (reference B007-1968). Wyre Forest District Council was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments.

The South Worcestershire Authorities (Worcester City, Wychavon District and Malvern Hills District Councils) were consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan and jointly submitted comments (reference B046-681, 1623, 683). The South Worcestershire Authorities were also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments.

Through the Worcestershire "Strategic Planning and Infrastructure Group" (SPAIG) the council comments on applications made to the City, Borough and District councils for planning permission for strategically significant development in and adjoining the county and on emerging Plans. During the monitoring year comments were made on the mineral and waste implications of 13 planning applications, 1 planning appeal, 2 SPDs and 6 Neighbourhood Plans, alongside other matters including flooding, green infrastructure and highways.

Engagement with other bodies

Three open days were held near the beginning of the Second Stage consultation period to give the public a chance to find out more about the consultation, look at the background documents, and ask officers questions. They were attended by members of the public, representatives from Longdon, Queenhill and Holdfast Parish Council, Bromsgrove District Council officers, Gloucestershire County Council, Bentley Pauncefoot Parish Council, Belbroughton Parish Council and Hagley Parish Council.

Worcestershire County Council proposed to hold an industry workshop aimed specifically at operators and a green infrastructure workshop aimed at organisations involved in delivering and managing green infrastructure during the consultation period. These workshops did not take place as no expressions of interest were received for either event.

The Worcestershire Local Enterprise Partnership was consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan but did not submit comments. It

was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments.

The Greater Birmingham and Solihull Local Enterprise Partnership was consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan but did not submit comments. It was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments.

The Worcestershire Local Nature Partnership was consulted on the Second Stage of Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan but did not submit comments.

Joint activities and approaches

County and district planning officers work closely together, through Worcestershire Planning Officers Group, to address issues which are of importance to both county and districts and are better considered collaboratively and impact more than one district. This has included Continuing Professional Development training events, and work on evidence based research papers which have informed district and county policy. However the County Council's Planning Team has developed shared evidence based documents for use by the Districts and the County Council which have informed the development of the Waste Core Strategy and will inform the development of the Minerals Local Plan.

Green Infrastructure Partnership

The Worcestershire Green Infrastructure Partnership includes statutory agencies, local authorities, and voluntary sector organisations. Worcestershire County Council is a lead member of the Partnership and provides its secretariat. The GI Partnership has developed the Worcestershire Green Infrastructure Strategy and supporting evidence to guide the delivery of green infrastructure in the county through development, regeneration and environmental projects. The GI Partnership also works at the site level to influence development and ensure the successful delivery of ecosystem services.

Officers gave a presentation to the Worcestershire Green Infrastructure Partnership meeting of 29th January 2014, focusing on how Green Infrastructure was being embedded in the emerging Minerals Local Plan, particularly through site restoration. The Partnership expressed their support in principle for the emerging strategy for the Minerals Local Plan and agreed that member organisations would actively assist the council in developing both the Plan itself and Green Infrastructure Restoration Concept Plans for specific sites proposed for development in the Plan.

A Minerals Green Infrastructure Steering Group was established to assist with embedding the Green Infrastructure approach in the Minerals Local Plan. Not all participants have attended all meetings, but all have been included on email circulations with agendas, minutes and draft documents for comment. Meetings were held on 30th January 2013, 10th April 2013, 28th May 2013 and 11th June 2013 to develop the Green Infrastructure approach, with an additional meeting of a Landscape and Historic Environment subgroup on 26th June 2013. Members of the Green Infrastructure Steering Group also actively contributed to writing Area of Search profiles and provided specific text for the Second Stage Consultation document.

The Environment Agency

In addition to being a member of the Green Infrastructure Steering Group, the Environment Agency was consulted by direct mail on the Second Stage of Consultation and submitted comments (reference B058-719). The Environment Agency was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments.

The Historic Buildings and Monuments Commission for England (known as English Heritage)

In addition to being a member of the Green Infrastructure Steering Group, English Heritage was consulted by direct mail on the Second Stage of Consultation and submitted comments (reference B025-716). English Heritage was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document but did not submit comments.

Natural England

In addition to being a member of the Green Infrastructure Steering Group, Natural England was consulted by direct mail on the Second Stage of Consultation and submitted comments (reference B040-717). Natural England was also consulted informally on the draft Water Transport background evidence document and responded to state that use of waterways for transporting minerals should ensure protection and enhancement of the environment.

The Mayor of London

The Mayor did not respond to the "Get involved in Planning" leaflet. No issues have been identified which require co-operation with the Mayor of London, therefore the Mayor was not consulted regarding the Second Stage Consultation.

The Civil Aviation Authority

The Civil Aviation Authority was consulted by direct mail on the Second Stage of Consultation and submitted comments (reference B001-863).

The Homes and Communities Agency

No issues have been identified which require co-operation with the Homes and Communities Agency. However, they were consulted by direct mail on the Second Stage Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan. No response was received.

Clinical Commissioning Groups

The Primary Care Trusts and Acute Hospitals Trusts were sent the "Get Involved with Planning" survey and did not respond. The Primary Care Trusts have been disbanded and new Clinical Commissioning Groups set up. These are:

- South Worcestershire CCG
- Redditch and Bromsgrove CCG
- Wyre Forest CCG

A new single point of contact has been established to act as conduit for all liaison over health matters.

The Office of Rail Regulation

The Office of Rail Regulation was consulted by direct mail on the Second Stage of Consultation but did not submit comments.

Transport for London

No issues have been identified which require co-operation with Transport for London, therefore Transport for London was not consulted regarding the Second Stage Consultation.

Integrated Transport Authorities

Centro was sent the "Get Involved with Planning" survey and did not respond. In retrospect, we do not consider this approach to be appropriate for statutory consultees and Centro was contacted by direct mail regarding the Second Stage Consultation. No response was received.

Highways Authorities

The Highways Agency was consulted by direct mail regarding the Second Stage Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan and submitted comments (reference B003-2372).

WCC Highways were not sent the Second Stage Consultation in error. Subsequent discussion led to an individual contact being identified and the consultation material was forwarded on 12th June 2014 for comment. They responded to state they had nothing to add at this stage.

The Sustainable Schemes team²⁸ within WCC Highways was informally consulted on the Water Transport Paper and provided extensive comments.

Marine Management Organisations

Following the receipt of the "Get Involved in Planning" questionnaire to update the Council's consultation database, the Marine Management Organisation (MMO) requested not to be consulted further, stating that "the remit of the MMO's work reaches up to the mean high water springs mark along the coast and within any stretches of tidal river. Our maps indicate that there are no rivers within Worcestershire that are under tidal influence and as such this area is outside of the MMO's remit. We therefore do not feel it necessary to be consulted on any of the areas covered by the [Get Involved in Planning] questionnaire."

On 12th December 2013 we wrote again to the MMO, highlighting the Duty to Cooperate and setting out that although we do not anticipate the plan affecting marine and tidal issues, there may be areas of interest for the MMO such as imports from marine dredged sand and gravel or aspects of our Habitats Regulations Assessment. They were also consulted on the Second Stage Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan. The MMO responded to the consultation (reference B016-2190) recommending reference to marine aggregates be included within the Plan and highlighting information sources.

Policies adopted by neighbouring authorities

²⁸ The Sustainable Schemes Team in Worcestershire County Council's Highways unit was contacted as a representative of the Freight Quality Partnership. The Sustainable Schemes team used to run and administer the Worcestershire Freight Quality Partnership and the Vale of Evesham FQP which included Warwickshire and Gloucestershire. Both these groups have ceased meeting although the Sustainable Schemes team remain in contact with individuals and the Road Haulage Association and Freight Transport Association local area representatives.

Gloucestershire County Council

Following the adoption of their Waste Core Strategy in 2012, Gloucestershire County Council have recommenced work on their Minerals Local Plan. This has previously been through two stages of consultation. No consultations were held during this monitoring period but consultation on Site Options and Draft Policy Framework was scheduled for Summer 2014.

Staffordshire County Council

Staffordshire County Council updated their Minerals and Waste Development Scheme in January 2014. Work on preparing a new Minerals Local Plan is underway. No consultations were held during this monitoring period but consultation on a draft plan was scheduled for summer 2014.

Herefordshire Council

Currently Herefordshire's mineral and waste planning policies are set out in the Unitary Development Plan which was adopted in 2007. These policies were saved in 2010 and are pending replacement by the emerging Local Plan – Core Strategy. The draft Core Strategy was published for consultation in March 2013 and the Pre-submission Publication took place in July 2013. The Strategy does not include mineral and waste related matters, which have been deferred to a proposed Minerals and Waste DPD. Officers commented informally that they did not wish to comment on the Herefordshire Plan until then.

Warwickshire County Council

The Warwickshire Waste Core Strategy was adopted in July 2013. Work has recommenced on preparing the emerging Minerals Plan for the county. No consultations were held during this monitoring period but consultation on a 'Preferred Option and Policies' consultation document was scheduled for Autumn 2014.

Shropshire County Council

The Shropshire Core Strategy was adopted in February 2011. This Strategy replaced a number of saved policies from the County Council, including policies from the Waste Local Plan 2002-2014 and the Joint Minerals Local Plan 1996-2006 (prepared jointly with Telford and Wrekin Council). However, other policies from these documents have been saved and will remain in place until the adoption of the Site Allocations and Management of Development DPD (SAMDev). The Pre-Submission Draft (Final Plan) of the SAMDev was consulted on in March to April 2014. Worcestershire County Council submitted representations²⁹:

- support for waste policies MD14 and MD15,
- support for minerals policy MD5, schedule MD5a and MD5b and paragraphs 4.36-4.44, making suggestions for minor changes to aid clarity, confirming that no minerals issues would arise from the proposed mineral site allocations, and supporting Shropshire Council's positive approach to providing for the adequate and steady supply of sand and gravel through additional site allocations,
- support for mineral safeguarding policy MD16,
- support for managing the development and operation of mineral sites policy MD17.

²⁹ <http://shropshire.gov.uk/media/1060591/215-Worcestershire-CC.pdf>

9. Developing waste management and mineral industries that contribute positively to the local economy

Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator	Current performance
W15 <i>Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in re-use and recycling</i>	😊
W20 <i>Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in 'other recovery'</i>	😊
W21 <i>Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in 'sorting and transfer'</i>	😊
W22 <i>Maintain equivalent self-sufficiency in disposal and landfill</i>	😐
W28 Increase in GVA in Worcestershire from waste management development	😊

Other issues to be monitored: Best available data on arisings and capacity will be monitored through the life of the strategy in order to determine changes in the capacity gap. Changes in national policy or targets.

[**Indicators W15, W20, W21 & W22: Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency**](#)

Please refer to Chapter 6 for an in-depth discussion of these indicators.

Indicator W28: Increase in GVA in Worcestershire from Waste Management.

Target: Increase

Review trigger: Rate of increase slower than the total rate of change for Worcestershire GVA (or rate decrease faster) over three years in any five.

Analysis

Due to the low numbers of people employed in the minerals and waste industry, both sectors are combined for this indicator.

Table 9.1: Waste management and minerals GVA

	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	% change (2008- 2012)
Waste management and minerals GVA ³⁰ (£m)	62.3	83.8	62.2	83.7	83.8	+53.20%
Worcestershire GVA (£m)	8,778	8,457	8,930	9,300	8,457	+7.40%
% contribution from waste management and minerals	0.7%	1.0%	0.7%	0.7%	1.0%	

Source: Annual Business Inquiry/Business Register and Employment Survey

The GVA from waste management and minerals is only a small part of Worcestershire's GVA, but this increased between 2010 and 2012, due to an increase of approximately 600 employees in the sectors. In addition GVA from waste management and minerals increased, whilst overall GVA for Worcestershire also increased.

Action:

This target is being achieved and no action required.

³⁰ The following sectors are included:

07: Mining of metal ores

08: Other mining and quarrying

09: Mining support service activities

37: Sewerage

38: Waste collection, treatment and disposal activities; materials recovery

39: Remediation activities and other waste management services. This division includes the provision of remediation services, i.e. the cleanup of contaminated buildings and sites, soil, surface or ground water.

10. Directing development to the most appropriate locations in accordance with the Spatial Strategy

Section Summary

Indicators:

	Indicator	Current performance
W29	Permitted 'other recovery' and disposal (excluding landfill) capacity at each level of the geographic hierarchy.	-
W30	Permitted re-use, recycling, storage, sorting and transfer capacity at each level of the geographic hierarchy.	☹️↓
M21	New permitted mineral development in 'preferred areas'	-

Other issues to be monitored: Best available data on arisings and capacity will be monitored through the life of the strategy in order to determine changes in the capacity gap. Changes in national policy or targets.

Indicators W29 and W30: New permitted waste management development at each level of the geographic hierarchy.

Target: 100% of new "other recovery" at level 1 and 2 and over 50% of new re-use, recycling, storage, sorting and transfer capacity at levels 1 and 2³¹.

Review trigger: less than 100% or 50% respectively over a five year period.

Analysis:

Table 10.1: New permitted facilities at each level of the geographic hierarchy

	New permitted facilities 2012-13	
	Other recovery	Re-use, recycling, storage, sorting and transfer ³²
Level 1	0	0
Level 2	0	0
Level 3	0	2
Level 4	0	0
Level 5	0	0

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Level 1 or 2	Not monitored during this period	Not monitored during this period	40%	44.4%	0%
Is target being achieved?	?	?	☹	☹	☹↓

The purpose of this indicator is to direct new facilities to the most appropriate location. Level 3 represents the Evesham, Malvern and Pershore Zones and is generally a less desirable location for waste management facilities. There were two applications approved in level 3 areas: a pasteurisation house and enlarged storage bag to an existing anaerobic digestion plant and a new storage building both were in locations considered well-located where material considerations justified their development in Level 3 locations.

All other waste management applications determined during the monitoring year did not incorporate any new facilities.

Action:

A review is only triggered after five years of non-performance. No action required.

Indicator M21: New mineral development in 'preferred areas'

Target: 100% of new planning permissions for the winning and working of aggregate minerals to be granted for locations in Preferred Areas identified in the

³¹ This indicator does not monitor applications that do not include new facilities (ie. Change of use or variation of conditions).

Adopted Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan or in accordance with saved policy 2 or 7 in the plan.

Review trigger: One permission granted outside these areas.

Analysis: No new planning permissions for aggregate working have been granted during the period of this monitoring report. This indicator is being reviewed as part of the preparation of the Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan.

Action: No action is required at present. This indicator will continue to be monitored pending the preparation and adoption of the Minerals Local Plan.

11. Development Management

Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator		Current performance
W24	Applications for Waste Management Development determined within 13 weeks.	☹️↑
M10	Applications for Minerals development determined within 13 weeks.	-
W25	Number of waste development proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage.	☹️
M11	Number of minerals proposals discusses with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage.	-
W26	Permitted applications for waste management which include a Consultation statement.	☹️
M19	Permitted applications for minerals development which include a Consultation statement.	-
W27/M20	Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date.	☺️
SCI3	Consultation response rate/involvement	-

Other issues to be monitored: Summary of all applications determined by the County Council and any appeals.

Summary of Applications determined by the County Council, 2012-2013

The County Council determined 49 planning applications between 1st April 2013 and 31st March 2014. Permission was granted for 45 applications, two applications for planning permission for a Waste Management Facility within the West Midlands Green Belt were refused. Two applications for Waste Management Facilities were withdrawn.

Table 111.1: Planning applications determined by the County Council

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Waste management development					
<i>Permitted</i>	26	17	16	11	9
<i>Refused</i>	3	1	1	0	2
<i>Withdrawn</i>	(1)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(2)
Sub-total	29	18	17	11	13
Minerals development					
<i>Permitted</i>	2	2	1	1	0
<i>Refused</i>	1	0	0	0	0
<i>Withdrawn</i>	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Sub-total	3	2	1	1	0
Regulation 3 development					
<i>Permitted</i>	53	56	31	33	26
<i>Refused</i>	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Withdrawn</i>	(2)	(9)	(1)	(0)	(0)
Sub-total	53	56	31	33	26
Total	85	70	49	45	26
Sewage Treatment*					
<i>Permitted</i>				16	10
<i>Refused</i>				1	1
<i>Withdrawn</i>				(0)	(0)
Sub-total				17	10
Total				62	49

**While applications for Sewage Treatment have been received in previous years, their numbers have not been monitored until 2012-13 onwards. The change has been made in order to better represent the actual number of applications determined by the council. More detailed information about sewage treatment applications is not monitored in this report.*

During the monitoring year, the department also trained Members of the Planning and Regulatory Committee on the fundamental concepts and changing perspectives of the planning system; the importance of Development Plans and material planning conditions for their decision making; an overview of the National Planning Policy Framework, Growth and Infrastructure Act and Localism Act and probity, code of conduct and officer and member roles and responsibilities.

Please refer to [Appendices 1 and 2](#) for a detailed list of permitted waste and minerals sites in the County as well as waste and minerals permissions granted during the monitoring year.

Appeals

One appeal was lodged under Section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 on 20th March 2014. The appeal was for the erection of steel framed building for use as a Waste Transfer Station and extension of existing storage area for waste (part retrospective), new access, car parking and landscaping at Clevedon Farm, Icknield Street, Beoley, Redditch, Worcestershire. The application was refused by Members of the Planning and Regulatory Committee on 14 February 2014 (application reference 13/000062/CM) in accordance with officers' recommendations. At the time of writing the appeal has not been determined. A similar previous application was also refused by Members of the Planning and Regulatory Committee, in accordance with officers' recommendations on 26 September 2013 (application reference 12/000087/CM).

This was the only appeal lodged during the monitoring period, and no further appeals have been dealt with by the County Planning Authority to date.

Complaints to the Ombudsman

No complaints to the ombudsman were received during the monitoring period.

High Court Decisions

No applications were made to, or judgements made by, the High Court about Worcestershire County Council's planning service or decisions during the monitoring period.

Indicators W24 and M10: Applications for Waste Management and Minerals Development determined within 13 weeks.³³

Target: 100%

Review trigger:

One application not determined within 13 weeks.

Analysis

Table 11.2: Applications determined within 13 weeks

	2010/11	2012/13	2013/14
All applications determined by the County Council	67%	47%*	55%**
Minerals applications	-	0	-
Waste applications	33%	0	48%

* 2012-13 numbers include applications for sewage treatment

**2013-14 numbers include applications where an extension of time was agreed

Ten of the twenty one waste management applications determined by the County Planning Authority were determined with 13 weeks, 16 weeks if Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) development or had an agreed extension of time. This is a significant improvement compared to previous years and may be a result of: increased pre-application discussions, for which the County Council does not currently charge; the greater certainty provided by the adoption of the Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy, which encourages pre-application discussions and pre-application public consultation; and part way through the monitoring period, the introduction of a policy of formally agreeing an extension of time with the applicant for complex applications if the application is unlikely to be determined within 13 weeks. Whilst, eleven waste management applications were not determined within 13 weeks, this is considered to be due to the complexity of the applications being considered, with several applications requiring further information to be provided before they could be determined. It is anticipated that with the introduction of extension of time letters for future monitoring periods that the percentage of applications determined with the statutory timescales will increase.

This is the first monitoring year that we have monitored both applications with a 16-week deadline (EIA development) and applications subject to Extension of Time Letters. This is in order to report a more accurate picture of the department's performance.

³³ Applications submitted during the monitoring year that were determined within 13 weeks.

Indicators W25 and M11: Number³⁴ of proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage.

Target: Increase

Review trigger: Decrease

Analysis:

Table 11.3: Waste and Minerals planning applications determined in 2013-14 that were discussed with Worcestershire County Council at the pre-application stage

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Waste management development (including waste water treatment)					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	1 (8%)	6 (37%)	9 (81%)	16 (76%)
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☺	☺	☹
Minerals development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	1 (100%)	None
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☹	☺	☹
Regulation 3 development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	19 (34%)	31 (100%)	33 (100%)	26 (100%)
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☺	☺	☺

Action:

Trends are positive for Regulation 3 development applications with an increase in the rate of determined applications that were subject to pre-application consultation. The pre-application consultation numbers for waste management development application numbers continued to increase; however it needs to be noted that the general rate for this indicator has decreased due to lower number of applications submitted in general. In winter 2015, the council will publish the Statement of Community Involvement and Validation document which are hoped

³⁴ Though this indicator refers to the "number of proposals", the target is to achieve an increase in the percentage of proposals determined during the monitoring period that were discussed with the Worcestershire County Council at the pre-application stage.

to positively influence the pre-application consultation rates for all type of development.

The merit of encouraging pre-application discussion with the council is being considered as part of the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan.

SCI3c: Total number of pre-application meetings held during the monitoring year³⁵.

This item was formerly included with *SCI3: Consultation response rate/involvement* but has been moved to the Development Management section to give a more complete picture of the department's activity during the year.

Table 11.4: Total number of pre-application meetings held

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Pre-application meetings held	59	39	36	86 ³⁶	91

Please note that since the 2012-13 monitoring year; this table indicates the total number of pre-application discussions held during the monitoring period. Because some pre-application discussions may not lead to an application coming forward, or may lead to an application that is submitted after the end of the monitoring period, these numbers may not correspond to the total number of applications determined during the monitoring year.

Action:

Trends are encouraging and no action is required at present. This indicator will continue to be monitored until the SCI is reviewed.

SCI3e: Number of planning applications submitted online

This item was formerly included with *SCI3: Consultation response rate/involvement* but has been moved to the Development Management section to give a more complete picture of the department's activity during the year.

Table 11.5: Applications submitted online

2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
76/92 = 83%	63/69 = 91%	46/54 = 89%	56/62 = 90%	42/49 = 86%

Action:

Since 2008 the Council has placed more importance on increasing the number of applications submitted online. The 2008-09 was the first AMR to monitor these

³⁵ This section has been modified this year in order to clarify the discrepancy between the numbers in Indicators W25 and M11 monitored above and the numbers reported in this table.

³⁶ Includes pre-application discussions on Regulation 3 applications. Numbers for previous years may not be directly comparable due to changes in the way these meetings are recorded.

numbers. This year saw a slight decrease in number of applications submitted online due to their complexity and volume of documents which were submitted using other forms of digital submissions (CDs). All applications, including paper and digital submissions received were uploaded and made viewable online.

There are currently no targets for this indicator, and so no action is required at this point.

Indicators W26 and M19: Permitted applications for waste and minerals development which include a Consultation Statement.

Target: 100%

Review trigger:

One permission granted without a consultation statement.

Analysis:

Table 11.6: Planning permissions granted for proposals that include a Consultation Statement

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Waste management development (including waste water treatment)					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	1 (8%)	3 (19%)	5 (45%)	9 (39%)
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☹	☹	☹↓
Minerals development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	0	N/A
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☹	☹	☹
Regulation 3 development					
Actual	Not monitored during this period	19 (34%)	5 (17%)	15 (36%)	15 (58%)
Is target being achieved?	?	☹	☹	☹	☹↑

Please note there were no minerals development applications in this monitoring year.

Action:

Currently the number of consultation statements submitted depends on the scale of the scheme and the attitude of the developer. The trend is towards an increasing rate of applications submitted with a consultation statement for Regulation 3 developments; however there has been a slight decrease in the rate for waste management development applications accompanied by a consultation statement. These trends could increase after the Validation Document is published. It will provide applicants and their agents with guidance on the information required when submitting a planning application. The council will be entitled to declare an application invalid if an applicant fails to submit the application in accordance with the requirements set out in this document.

Future AMRs will continue to monitor this indicator in order to measure the impact of the inclusion of consultation statements in the Waste Core Strategy.

SCI3d: Number of consultation statements submitted; and number in compliance with the SCI

This indicator was formerly included with *SCI3: Consultation response rate/involvement* but has been moved to the Development Management section to give a more complete picture of the department's activity during the year.

Table 11.7: Consultation statements

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14
Total Submitted	13/92 (14%)	19/69 (28%)	8/52 (15%)	20/62 (32%)	24/62 (39%)
Compliance with SCI	13 (100%)	19 (100%)	8 (100%)	20 (100%)	24 (100%)

Action:

The number of consultation statements submitted can depend on the scale of the scheme and the attitude of the developer; however the trend is encouraging with the percentage of applications accompanied by consultation statements generally increasing year on year. The AMR will continue to monitor this indicator in order to measure the impact of the inclusion of consultation statements in the Waste Core Strategy.

Indicators W27 and M20: Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision³⁷.

Target: None

Review trigger: One decision approved

Analysis:

The purpose of this indicator is to identify whether our planning policies are deficient in some way. Decisions being made on the basis of material considerations where there ought to be a policy in place would be indicative of a policy gap. For example, if there was a change in national policy requiring us to take some consideration into account in a particular way, this could lead to a decision being taken on this basis without our having a relevant policy to refer to.

Action:

None required.

³⁷ This indicator did not have an analysis section in previous AMRs.

Appendix 1: Operational waste sites and extant permissions within Worcestershire

1st April 2013 – 31st March 2014

WTS – Waste Transfer Station
HWS – Household Waste site
MRF – Materials Recycling Facility
WEEE – Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment

Table 0.1: Operational waste Sites (excluding sewage operations) within Worcestershire

Site	Operator	Facility Type	Application number
Bromsgrove			
Pinches Quarry, Chadwich Mill Farm	M V Kelly	Infilling	09/000055/CM, 407541, 407382, 407360, 407357, 407349, 407250, 407122, 407034, B4256, B1236, BU 260/66 BU244/69
Weights Farm	Mr S. Wood	Inert - Landfilling	407376, 407325, 407235
Veolia Landfill site, (former Stanley N Evans sand pit)	Veolia Ltd. (ex - Cleanaway)	Landfilling and electricity generation from landfill gas	407480, 407292, 107110, 407573, 407624, 407646
Chadwich Lane Quarry	Mr B. Wood	Inert Landfilling – Currently undergoing restoration	107108
Bromsgrove HWS Quantry Lane, Quarry	Mercia Waste	HWS	600605,
Westside Forestry, Land off Chadwich Lane Quarry	Mr B. Kenward	Storage and recycling of timber by-products	407631
Metal and Ores Ltd, Hanbury Road, Stoke Prior	Mr Banham	WTS	407614
Lye Bridge Depot	Worcestershire County Council Highways	Storage, treatment and export 1,000 tonnes gully waste	11/000048/CM.
Shirley Quarry Landfill Site, Peterbrook Road, Majors Green, Shirley, Worcestershire	Shirley Quarry Landfill	Construction of a reed bed system for the treatment of groundwater	12/000037/CM
Malvern Hills			
Guinness Park Farm, Go Greener	Maile Skips, Mr Costello	WTS	407486, 407429, 407339, 407241 09/000008/CM, 09/000057/CM

Site	Operator	Facility Type	Application number
Newland Depot, Worcester Road	Mercia Waste	HWS	407514
Hanley Road, Upton upon Severn	Mercia Waste	HWS	602226
Palmers Meadows, Tenbury Wells	Mercia Waste	HWS	600376
Unit 5, Spring Lane south, Malvern Link	CRS Metals	Materials recovery facility	09/000010/CM, 11/000055/CM
Grove House Yard, Tewkesbury Road, Tewkesbury	Dynamic Construction Limited	WTS	11/000060/CM
'Pear Trees' Fox Lane, Menithwood	Raymond Brookes	Engineering operations comprising remediation soil erosion, importation and spreading of inert sub soil.	09/000042/CM
Croome Farm, Croome D Abitot, Severn Stoke, Worcester	Defford Composting	Green waste Composting Facility	08/000059/CM 12/000051/CM
Land Adj To B4208 South Of Pendock Gloucester Graham Road	Mr Edward Philipson Stow	Green waste composting	07/000146/CM, 11/000029/CM 11/005481/CM and 13/000058/CM
Saxons Lode, Ryall Quarry,	Cemex	Quarry restoration involving infilling the quarry void with quarry waste (silt) and imported inert material.	407659 07/000053/CM
Pennyhill Landfill Site, Pudford Lane, Martley	Infinis Ltd	Proposed instillation of a replacement gas flare	13/000016/CM
Redditch			
Alexandra Hospital	Polkacrest	Clinical Waste Incinerator	407293
Redditch HWS, Crossgate Road	Mercia Waste	HWS	407471
Redditch bulking up facility Crossgate Road	Mercia Waste	Bulking up facility	407562
Smiths Metals	Smiths Metals	MRS	11/000006/CM
Delrene Motors (now A & S Skips), Brook Street, Lakeside, Redditch	Delrene Motors (now operated by A & S Skips)	Waste Transfer Station	13/000021/CM
Worcester City			
Augean Treatment, Stainier Road,	Augean Treatment	WTS, recycling centre – understood to be vacant	407479, 407447, 407416, 407352, 407300
Bilford Road, HWS	Mercia Waste	HWS	407555, 407526, 407495, 407472,
Hallow Road, HWS	Mercia Waste	HWS	602243, 407706
Blackpole Recycling Centre, Unit 100 Blackpole Trading Estate	Blackpole Recycling	WTS	407530 and 12/000018/CM
Wychavon			

Site	Operator	Facility Type	Application number
Waresley Quarry	Biffa Waste	Landfill and electricity generation from landfill gas	407551, 407177
Grove Farm, Radford,	Mr M. Fernihough	MRF, WTS	407243, 407178,
Hill and Moor Landfill	Mercia Waste	Landfill, HWS, MRF and electricity generation from landfill gas and composting facility	407571, 407557, 407543, 407542, 407523, 407522, 407519, 407499, 407390, 407377, 10/000003/CM 10/000030/CM 10/000074/CM and 12/000046/CM
Droitwich HWS, Hanbury Road	Mercia Waste	HWS	407490, 407469,
Throckmorton Airfield	DEFRA	Foot and Mouth Leachate Treatment Plant and burial pits	407688
Stanford Highway Depot,	Worcestershire County Council Highways	Highway waste (road planning etc) recycling	603353
Kingsmoor Farm, Cleeve Prior Evesham WR11 8LH	Mark Rawlings	Importation of green waste for composting	407567
Unit 12, St Richards Road, Four pools Industrial Estate, Evesham	Mr Andy Carlin SITR Midlands Associates	Change of Use of a building from B2/B8 to a Tyre baling facility with associated storage	09/000023/CM
Hartlebury Quarry	Biffa Waste	Landfilling	407547, 10/000019/CM, 11/000028/CM 12/000060/CM
Area 7 Norton Business Park	Mercia Waste	MRF	407669
Priest Bridge, Bradley Green	Mr Michael Banham	Composting	08/000061/CM
R & C Metals, Honeybourne		MRS	11/000025/CM
Spring Hill Farm, Salters Lane, Lower Moor, Fladbury	Spring Hill Nursery	Anaerobic digestion plant and new roundabout access and Pasteurisation House	11/000020/CM 12/000008/CM 13/000006/CM
SLC Enterprises Skip Hire (Skippy Skip Hire)	Mr. Steph Colonna Throckmorton Airfield, Qinetiq Pershore MTP, Long Lane, Throckmorton, Pershore.	Developments of a skip hire business and erection of a steel framed building for use as a waste transfer station.	12/000031/CM
Wyre Forest			
Blackstone Quarry, Lickhill complex	Hills Ltd	WTS, Landfilling	407518, 407410, 407268, 407156, 407123, 407036, 400920, SU.223/63, SU 12/54, SU 70/48, 407582
No. 2 Hoobrook Trading Estate	Mrs Karen Jones	WTS – scrap metal and ELV	08/000070/CM

Site	Operator	Facility Type	Application number
Wyre Forest Recycling, Sandy Lane Industrial Estate	Mr Downes	WTS	407550, 407422, 407600
Summerway Landfill, Talbots	Mr D. Talbot	Inert landfill. Soil, hardcore and road plannings recycling and storage.	SU. 298/69, 407434, 407606, 407628, 407684, 407711, 407712, 08/000012/CM, 08/000011/CM, 09/000094/CM 13/000053/CM, 13/000054/CM and 13/000055/CM
Pencroft, Arthur Drive, Hoobrook,	Pencroft Ltd	WTS – Currently vacant	407713, 407452, 08/000023/CM, 09/000037/CM
Stourport, HWS, Bonemill, Minster Road	Mercia Waste	HWS	407470, 407649
HWS Kidderminster, Hoobrook	Mercia Waste	HWS	601077, 407708
Bulk Storage, Hoobrook, Kidderminster	Mercia Waste	Bulk Storage for recyclables	407559
The UK Recycling Centre, Bewdley Road, Stourport-on-Severn, Worcestershire, DY13 8QT	7Tek	WEEE Recycling.	407687

Extant Permissions in Worcestershire, not yet implemented.

Site	Operator	Facility Type	Permission Ref.
Bromsgrove			
Sandy Lane, Wildmoor	United Waste	WTS	407681, 407665, 407560, 107104, 407496, 407474, 407466, 92/0600 B20135
Wychavon			
C&D Metals	Mr Ron Calder C & D Metals 60D Blackpole Trading Estate West, Worcester, WR3 8TJ	Retrospective change of use of land from B2 general industrial to sui-generis metal reclamation yard.	12/000014/CM Approved 17.09.2012
Robert Wiseman Dairies Limited	Robert Wiseman Dairies Pointon Way, Hampton Lovett, Droitwich Spa	Proposed erection of a waste water treatment plant	11/000072/CM Approved 11.04.2012
The Bird Group of Companies	Mr John Elliott The Bird Group of Companies	Proposed new A.S.R. (Automotive Shreddings Residue) Separation	11/000053/CM Approved 23.03.2012
Potter Group Logistics	Mr Steve McCarthy Unit 16, Site 7, The Potter Group Premises, Cutnall	Change of use of part of Unit 16 –from B8 – storage and distribution to sui-generis waste	12/000081/CM Approved 28/02/2013

	Green, Droitwich, Worcestershire	transfer station and erection of a portakabin	
The Bird Group of Companies	Mr John Elliott - The Bird Group of Companies	Proposed improvements to existing earth noise attenuation bund	11/000052/CM Approved 16.04.2013
Rotherdale Farm, Long Lane Throckmorton, Worcestershire WR10 2JH	Rotherdale Farm	Development of an Anaerobic Digestion Plant, Beef Unit and Ancillary Infrastructure	12/000008/CM Approved 13.07.2012 and 13/000038/CM Approved 1.10.2013
Biffa Waste Services Ltd., Hartlebury Landfill Whitlenge Lane, Hartlebury DY10 4HB	Biffa Waste Services Ltd.	Part Retrospective planning application for a landfill gas management compound	12/000060/CM Approved 27.03.2013
Forge House, Stourport Road, Kidderminster, Worcestershire DY11 7QE	Forge Recycling Centre	Variation of Condition of Planning Permission ref. no 407664	12/000040/CM (<i>following fire in 2013 we understand that this site is no longer operational</i>)

Waste site permissions and notional capacity granted in Worcestershire during the monitoring period³⁸

Site	Operator	Facility Type/Description	Permission Ref.	Notional Capacity (tonnes per annum)
Redditch				
Delrene Motors, Brook Street, Lakeside, Redditch	Delrene Motors	Change of use of part of the vehicle scrapyards and depollution centre to a waste transfer station	13/000021/CM Approved 10.07.2013	500 tonnes per annum
Wychavon				
Long Marston Works, Long Marston, Pebworth	Mr John Elliott, the Bird Group of Companies	Improvements to existing earth noise attenuation bunds	11/000052/CM Approved 16.04.2013	10,000 tonnes in total
Springhill Farm, Salters Lane, Lower Moor, Fladbury	Vale Green Energy	Pasteurisation House and enlarged storage bag at Spring Hill Farm, Fladbury	13/000006/CM Approved 30.05.2013	No additional capacity
Pennyhill Landfill Site, Pudford Lane, Martley	Infinis Ltd	Proposed instillation of a replacement gas flare	13/000016/CM Approved 20.08.2013	No additional capacity
AD Plant at Rotherdale Farm,	Vale Green Energy	New storage building ancillary to AD Plant	13/000038/CM Approved	No additional capacity

³⁸ This information has been requested by the RTAB and will be rolled in to the preceding table in subsequent years.

Long Lane, Throckmorton			1.10.2013	
Site	Operator	Facility Type/Description	Permission Ref.	Notional Capacity (tonnes per annum)
Malvern Hills				
Pendock Environmental Composting Facility, Eldersfield	Pendock Environmental	Extension to delivery hours at Pendock composting	13/000058/CM Approved 14.02.2014	No additional capacity
Wyre Forest				
Summerway Landfill Site, Hilary Road, Stourport on Severn	DE Talbot Transport	Continued use of Summerway Landfill for importation stockpiling of hardcore and road planings for off site distribution	13/000053/CM Approved 17.02.2014	No additional capacity – existing 25,000 tonnes per annum
Summerway Landfill Site, Hilary Road, Stourport on Severn	DE Talbot Transport	Proposed continued use of Summerway Landfill for recycling soils by screening for off site distribution	13/000054/CM Approved 17.02.2014	No additional capacity – existing 25,000 tonnes per annum
Summerway Landfill Site, Hilary Road, Stourport on Severn	DE Talbot Transport	Variation of Condition 1 of Permission 09/000094/CM to allow retention of existing workshop and lean to building	13/000055/CM Approved 17.02.2014	No additional capacity

Appendix 2: Operational minerals sites and extant permissions within Worcestershire 1st April 2013 – 31st March 2014

Table 0.1: Permitted Reserves in Worcestershire (and operational status during the financial year 2013-14)

Site	Location	Operator	Status	Designation	Aggregate sales 2013	Reserves at 31/03/14
Permitted Sand and Gravel Reserves						
Church Farm South/Ball Mill Quarry	Ball Mill, Grimley, Worcester	Tarmac	Active	none	Yes	Yes
Church Farm West (part of Church Farm)	Ball Mill, Grimley	Tarmac	Active	none	Yes	Yes
Clifton	Clifton Arles Wood Off A38, Severn Stoke, Worcester, WR8 9JE	Tarmac	Active	none	No	Yes
Ripple	Ripple, TEWKESBURY, Worcester	Cemex	Active	none	Yes	Yes
Ryall ³⁹	Ryall, Upton-upon-Severn, Worcestershire	Cemex	Active	none	N/A	N/A
Sandy Lane	Sandy Lane, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove, Worcester, B61 0QT	Veolia	Active	Green Belt	No	Yes
Wildmoor/ Cinetic Sands	Sandy Lane, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove, Worcester, B61 0QR	Salop Sand and Gravel	Active	Green Belt	No	Yes
Chadwich Lane	Chadwich Lane Quarry, Chadwich Lane, Madeley Heath, Bromsgrove, Worcester	Salop Sand and Gravel	Being Restored	Green Belt	No	No
Land adj. to Chadwich Lane (part of Chadwich Ln.)	Chadwich Lane Quarry, Chadwich Lane, Madeley Heath, Bromsgrove,	Salop Sand and Gravel	Not yet started	Green Belt	-	Yes

³⁹ Ryall is the processing site associated with the Ripple quarry. Material is extracted from Ripple and shipped by boat up the river to Ryall. Ryall was once, but is no longer an extraction site.

Site	Location	Operator	Status	Designation	Aggregate sales 2013	Reserves at 31/03/14
	Worcester					
Permitted Crushed Rock Reserves (limestone)						
Broadway/ Fish Hill	Fish Hill, Broadway Worcestershire, WR12 7LL	Smith & Son Bletchington	Part Restored	AONB	Yes Aggregates and non-aggregates	No
Permitted Clay Reserves (clay and shale)						
New House Farm	Hartlebury, Kidderminster, Worcestershire	Baggeridge Brick	Active	Green Belt	Yes	Yes
Waresley/ Baggeridge Brick	Hartlebury Trading Estate Hartlebury Industrial Estate, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY10 4JB	Baggeridge Brick	Active	Green Belt	Yes	Yes

Annex1: LAA

See separate file.

Annex 2: Duty to Cooperate

See separate file.