ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT 2005-2006
WORCESTERSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL

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1. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The statutory requirement for this, second, Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) is to address the adequacy of the Council's Planning Policies for the period for the financial year, 1st April 2005 to 31st March 2006.

The Report therefore includes:-

- Details of progress on implementing the Council's Mineral and Waste Development Scheme;
- An assessment of the effectiveness of how saved policies are being implemented; and
- Possible proposals for the future.

Other matters, including:

- A short summary of the physical and economic background of the County with an emphasis of how these relate to minerals and waste issues
- A note on the relationship between the Annual Monitoring Report and the Community Strategy, and
- Details of the policies themselves.

At the request of the Government Office for the West Midlands, this AMR is shorter than that for the previous year, with more matters included in Appendices

Minerals and Waste Development Scheme

The Council is on target with the preparation of all its proposed Local Development Documents (the Statement of Community Involvement, Waste Core Strategy, and Waste Proposals Map). The Local Development Scheme will be reconsidered and rolled forward in 2007.

Monitoring of Saved Policies
Minerals:

Current national policy is that the County should have minimum landbanks of 7 years for sand and gravel and 10 years for crushed rock.

The most up to date assessment from publicly available information (the West Midlands Regional Aggregates Working Party Annual Report for 2004) are that Worcestershire had landbanks of 6.4 years for sand and gravel and less than 10 years for crushed rock at 31st December 2004. In practice officer estimates are that landbanks were even lower during the period 2005-06.

For reasons of business confidentiality separate figures for crushed rock production and reserves cannot be published for Worcestershire. The Council is concerned however that its productive capacity and landbank for crushed rock will not realise the County sub regional apportionment and that its policies to ensure the production of crushed rock need re-assessment.

The position for sand and gravel is better but still not adequate. Two of the Preferred Areas for extraction identified in the Minerals Local Plan remain unworked and (at December 2006) there are two undetermined applications for planning permission to work other sites. If these were to be given permission they could postpone the need for a review of the Local Plan policies, so far as Sand and Gravel supply is concerned. The Council intends however to begin pre-commencement work and evidence gathering during 2007 with a view to including a Minerals Core Strategy in its Local Development Scheme during the year.

Waste:

The Council's saved Structure Plan policies for waste set out criteria to guide the location of waste management criteria and their assessment in accordance with its adopted BPEO (Best Practical Environmental Option) Strategy. The policies comply with some of the waste policies in the Regional Spatial Strategy but are not in complete accord with government policy as set out in PPS10. The analysis confirms the need for a Waste Core Strategy Local Development Document and one is currently in preparation. It does however also demonstrate that the use of criteria based policies is effective in enabling waste management facilities to be developed in Worcestershire, confirming the appropriateness of the Council's current proposal not to prepare a site specific DPD for waste management uses.

Future Proposals

The report also identifies possible areas of interest for future monitoring.

Difficulties in Producing this Report

The report has highlighted limitations in the availability of data regarding:

- Waste Management Treatment and capacity; and particularly that for
- The treatment of Construction and Demolition Waste

The difficulties regarding the availability of information on Aggregate production identified in the AMR for 2004-05 have however largely been overcome and future AMRs should increasingly be based on more sound data.

The Council has undertaken a Sustainability Appraisal of its proposed Waste Core Strategy. Subsequent Annual Monitoring reports will include indicators and targets developed as part of this work.

2. ANNUAL MONITORING REPORT – OBJECTIVES

2.1 Background

The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 introduced substantial changes to the land use planning system in the UK. As part of which existing Development Plans will be replaced by Local Development Documents. The existing Worcestershire County Structure Plan and Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan have been "saved" until 28th September 2007. Between now and then the Council will have

(1) submitted a Waste Core Strategy to the Secretary of State to replace the saved Structure Plan waste policies,
(2) begun pre-commencement work on a Minerals Core Strategy,
(3) agreed a revision to the Local Development Scheme, rolling it forward to 2010, and
(4) agreed with the Government Office for the West Midlands (GOWM) and the Regional Planning Body (RPB) which Structure Plan policies are to be saved beyond 28th September 2007 and the mechanisms for their subsequent consideration.

The new Development Plan documents have to be kept under constant review and amended or replaced as necessary. Under Section 35 of the Act the Council must produce an Annual Monitoring Report to assess progress on the preparation of its Local Development Documents, the appropriateness of the Council's policies for Mineral and Waste planning and the need for changes to them. This is the Council's second Annual Monitoring Report of its Minerals and Waste Development Scheme and is submitted to meet that requirement. Future Annual Monitoring reports will be produced to cover the period from the beginning of each financial year and will themselves evolve in response to changing circumstances.

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 in other plans, policies or proposals which future annual Monitoring Reports could consider. However, because the whole Local Development system is still in its infancy and the Council has very limited resources at present, it may not be able to address issues not referred to in this report for some years.

If you would like further information or to comment on the contents of this report please contact:

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2.2 Objectives of the Monitoring Report

2.1.1 The objectives of the Annual Monitoring Report are to:

- Review the progress of implementing the Local Development Scheme particularly whether the Council is meeting the timetables and milestones set out in the Local Development Scheme;
- Provide realistic and useful indicators, targets and information to assess the effectiveness of the policies being implemented. The purpose is to examine if policies are achieving their objectives; and
- Determine whether objectives are having an effect on the wider social, environmental and economic objectives within the Community Strategy and achieving outcomes which are consistent with sustainable development objectives.

2.3 Structure of Report

2.3.1 The report is set out in eight sections:

Part 1 – Executive Summary

Part 2 - Background

Part 3 – P**rogress on the Local Development Framework**.

Parts 4, 5 and 6, an assessment of the existing Development Plan policies.

Part 7 – Community Involvement

Part 8 – Limitations and proposals for the future

and appendices addressing some matters in detail.

The AMR assesses policies included in the existing County Structure Plan 1996-2011 and Minerals Local Plan 1994-2004 and indicators and data to assess the effect of existing policies in the following policy areas:

- Minerals, and
- Waste

Comments on emerging LDDs and future issues relating to landscape, biodiversity and sustainability are also included.

2.3.2 An analysis on each of the policy areas is carried out by:

- Outlining the policy area and aims and objectives of that policy area as stated in the Regional Spatial Strategy.
- Providing background information on the broader social, economic and environmental circumstances in the County.

- **Core output indicators** as outlined in Local Development Framework Monitoring – A Good Practice Guide (ODPM 2005) are aligned with the policy area they relate to. Quantifiable data is provided against each of these where available.
- Other indicators such as **local indicators** and **best value performance indicators** are used where relevant to assess and monitor particular policies.
- Targets, where applicable, are provided for indicators where they are provided in the Development Plan.
- A brief analysis, in italics, is included to interpret the data presented.

Possible proposals for future Annual Monitoring Reports are also noted in italics.

Context and Background for the AMR

The Community Strategy provides the strategic framework to which local strategies link and connect. A note on the Community Strategy and weblink is attached as Appendix 1.

A summary of the context for the Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme and a summary of the nature of the County, issues relating to Mineral and Waste Planning and web links to the County State of the Environment report and County Economic Assessment 2005-06 are attached as Appendix 2.

Minerals and Waste Issues: Economic Significance

The Mineral and Waste management industries in Worcestershire are not significant in terms of the numbers of people directly employed or their financial value to the County's economy (although they may be locally important at the Parish level and future AMRs may explore this). Their small scale however belies the significance mineral and waste development has in terms of sustainability and the considerable potential it has to enhance or, if inadequately addressed, to harm the environment. It also conceals the fact that the minerals and waste industries are fundamental to the workings of the economy, true primary industries on which all other economic activity depends and cannot function without. The Mineral and Waste Development Framework for Worcestershire will reflect this significance.

3. LOCAL DEVELOPMENT SCHEME DELIVERY

This section of the report gives details of progress in implementing the Council's Mineral and Waste Development Scheme.

Objective: to comply with the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004: particularly Part 2, Sections 14, 16, 18 and 19

Core Output Indicator: Compliance with Regulation 48: Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004

Achievements:

Regulation 48 (3a)
The Minerals and Waste Development Scheme was revised in April 2006. Documents specified in Schedule 2 of the Scheme are:-

- Statement of Community Involvement
- Waste Core Strategy (DPD)
- Waste Proposals Map (DPD)

Regulation 48 (3b)(i)(ii)
The timetable specified for the production of these documents is:
From Appendix 1 Mineral and Waste Development Scheme

Table 1

Development document	Stage of Preparation	2004	2005				2006				2007			
		Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4	Q1	Q2	Q3	Q4
Statement of Community Involvement	Scoping													
	Pre-submission Consultation													
	Submission to Secretary of State													
	Proposed date for Adoption													
Waste Core Strategy	Evidence Gathering													
	Preparing issues and options in consultation – pre-submission consultation													
	Public participation on Preferred Option													

	Submission to Secretary of State													
	Proposed date of Adoption													
Waste Proposals Map	Evidence gathering													
	Preparing issues and options in consultation – pre-submission consultation													
	Public participation on Preferred Option													
	Submission to Secretary of State													
	Proposed date of Adoption													

Regulation 48 (3b)(iii)(a)(a)
Stage each document has reached in its preparation (see Table above):

- Statement of Community Involvement; Submission to the Secretary of State was made on 9th January 2006, on target. (The date for Adoption proposed in the Local Development Scheme was for the second quarter in 2006. The Secretary of State did not respond formally until August 2006. The SCI was therefore adopted in November 2006.
- Waste Core Strategy; The Preferred Options Report was made public in May 2005 and the Regulation 26 Consultation undertaken in June and July 2006. The Sustainability Appraisal was undertaken iteratively at the same time and the final Appraisal undertaken by external consultants. All stages were completed on target.
- Waste Proposals Map (was developed in parallel with the Waste Core Strategy), on target.

Regulation 48 (3b)(b) and (c)(c)
(Documents submitted in accordance with the timetable) The Waste Core Strategy Submission Document was approved by the Council's Cabinet on 30th November 2006. The Council's revised timetable means however that it can now only go to full Council for agreement to submit it to the Secretary of State on 11th January 2007. It will not therefore be submitted until 18th January, 2½ weeks outside of the quarter prescribed in the Local Development Scheme. This has the advantage however that the whereas submission before Christmas would have meant that the statutory public notification period would have taken place over the holiday period, (when the public would have been less able to engage with it) the notification period will now take place during normal working time.

Regulation 48 (3c), (d), (e) and (f)
No documents specified or local development orders were adopted, approved or revoked between 31st March 2005 and 1st April 2006.

Regulation 48(4) and (5)
No old policies as defined in para 1(4) of Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 are not being implemented.

Analysis

Collectively these represent compliance with BVPI 200(b). The Council is meeting its milestones at present. It intends however to review the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme for Worcestershire in 2007 in order to assess the need and possible timetable for a Minerals Core Strategy.

Natural Resources Strategy

The Council is concerned that the need to manage natural resources, such as soil, water and air, climate change and renewable energy, all of which are fundamental to the concept of Sustainability are not being addressed in a holistic way in the County. These matters need to be considered in a strategic way both in policy and geographical terms but do not lend themselves to the statutory planning system. The Council has discussed with GOWM how the concept might be addressed in Worcestershire and intends to put proposals to the District and Borough Councils to discuss how the Council could use its role as a "4.4 Authority" (Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004) to assist them in the preparation of their own DPDs. Future Local Development Schemes for Worcestershire may therefore include references to this concept.

4. ANALYSIS OF POLICIES IN EXISTING DEVELOPMENT PLANS

4.1 MINERAL ISSUES

All building works and some manufacturing processes require minerals in some form. The geological presence of suitable minerals and the commercial costs of working them determine areas where suitable raw materials can be extracted. Local extraction and use of minerals reduces construction costs, increases local employment and spending power and minimises some strategic impacts such as road traffic, but inevitably incurs impacts on local environments and for people living in and around the sites. On the positive side, however, mineral workings can create both ephemeral and permanent habitats, some of which are specifically encouraged in national and County Biodiversity Action Plans and significant new land forms, some of which, notably rock faces, lakes and reed beds are locally very scarce.

4.2 Regional Trends

The Regional Spatial Strategy aims to concentrate development over the period up until 2021 into the conurbation and larger urban areas of the West Midlands. The reuse of brownfield land as part of this process is likely to release large volumes of recycled materials for aggregate use. It is not clear if the rate of redevelopment, particularly where concentrated in limited areas, e.g. the Black Country Study, could have implications for aggregates supply at an inter-Regional scale.

4.3 Revisions to Regional Policy

The distribution of future development within the region is likely to change the distribution and movement of aggregates within the region, increasing flows on the major transport routes into the conurbation and could have implications for sub-regional, e.g. County supply. Phase 2 of the Review of the RSS is likely to be fundamentally important in this regard. It is not possible at present however to assess what its effects might be.

4.4 Local Context and Background Data

Permitted Mineral Sites in Worcestershire (and operational status during the financial year 2005-06)

WORCESTERSHIRE

Table 2 - Sand and Gravel Sites

Quarry	Operator	QPA Member	Environ Designation	Aggregate Sales 2005	Reserves at 31/03/06
Ball Mill	Tarmac	Yes		Yes	Yes
Blackstone	Hills West Midlands Ltd	No	Green Belt	Yes	Yes
Chadwich Lane	Salop Sand and Gravel Supply Co Ltd	No	Green Belt SSSI	Yes	Yes
Wildmoor	John Williams (Cinetic Sand) Ltd	No	Green Belt	Aggregates and Foundry Sand	Yes
Clifton	Tarmac	Yes		Yes	Yes
Pinches (Chadwich Mill Farm)	Brian Hill Haulage Ltd	No		Yes	Yes
Ripple	Cemex	Yes		Yes	Yes
Ryall House Farm	Cemex	Yes		Being Restored	No
Sandy Lane	Stanley Evans	No	Green Belt	Aggregate and Foundry sand	Yes
Saxons Lode	Cemex	Yes		No	No

The following sites appeared in the AMR for 2004/05:

- Lickhill (Hills, West Midlands Limited)
- Lower Moor (Avon Gravels)
- Shepley (Cemex)

but are no longer operational, all are in the process of restoration

- Ryall House Farm and Saxons Lode are different parts of the same site (Cemex) both are being restored. The processing plant and access to the highway which served both are however being retained to serve the working at Ripple. Barges are used to carry extracted material from Ripple to the plant in order to avoid the use of unsuitable roads between the two.

Table 3 - Crushed Rock (Limestone)

Quarry	Operator	QPA Member	Environ Designation	Aggregate Sales 2005	Reserves at 31/04/06
Broadway	Smith & Son (Bletchington)	Yes	AONB	Aggregates: Building Stone: Agric use:	Yes
TOTAL Aggregate Purposes				Confidential	Yes
TOTAL Non Aggregate Purposes				Confidential	Yes
(Source: WMRAWP)					

Clay (Sales Figures are not supplied to RAWP)

Quarry	Operator	Environ Designation	Clay Sales 2005	Reserves 31/12/05
New House Farm	Baggeridge Brick	Green Belt	Yes	Yes
Waresley	Baggeridge Brick	Green Belt	Yes	Yes

4.6 Minerals Local Plan Allocations Unimplemented to Date

The County of Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan identified one Preferred Area for extraction for crushed rock and eight Preferred Areas for extraction for sand and gravel in Worcestershire; applications for 3 of these, have yet to be made (at December 2006). All are sand and gravel sites.

Ripple (480,000 tonnes) – No application for planning permission yet made.
Ryall North (600,000 tonnes) – No application for planning permission yet made.
Strensham (800,000 tonnes) – Planning application submitted, undetermined at time of writing.

If permitted the sites at Ripple, Ryall North and Strensham would release material equal to about 2 years supply of sand and gravel.

4.7 Analysis Of Effectiveness In Meeting Regional Spatial Strategy Policies: Minerals

Objective: Achievement of Regional Spatial Strategy Policy M1A

Purpose: In summary the aim of the policy is to ensure that adequate provision is made for the supply of minerals, in particular to:

(i) be consistent with the principles of sustainable development
(ii) maintain landbanks of non-energy minerals
(iii) consider alternative sources of material
(iv) take account of other national and regional policies, and
(v) make sufficient provision to comply with RSS Policy M2

Core Output Indicators:

That the Landbank of Permitted Sand and Gravel Reserves should be at least 7 years
Actual Landbank for Worcestershire at 31st December 2006 = about 5 years (officer estimate)
That the Landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves should be at least 10 years
Actual Landbank in Worcestershire at 31st December 2006 = significantly below 10 years (officer estimate)
NB: Only one quarry produces crushed rock in Worcestershire; for reasons of confidential sensitivity details cannot be shown.

Local targets

No local targets are necessary. It is an indicator of how appropriate policies are if (1) applications can be determined in accordance with policy, or (2) where departures can be determined in accordance with officer recommendations that appropriate material circumstances apply.

Applications for mineral development determined 1st April 2005-31st March 2006

One application was determined (and approved) during the year, none were withdrawn

Details:
PP ref: 407531
Approved 27/01/06
Proposed extension to Clifton Quarry, consolidation of the existing sand and gravel extraction and restoration to agricultural use, natural conservation use and lakes.

Relevant Saved Development Plan Documents referred to in above application

Worcestershire County Structure Plan

SD2 Care for the environment
CTC 1 (Protection of landscape character
CTC 5 (Protection of trees, woodlands and hedges)
CTC 7 (Protection of agricultural land)

CTC 8 (protection of floodplain)
CTC 11 (Sites of national wildlife importance)
CTC 12 (Sites of regional or local wildlife importance)
CTC 13 (Protection of species)
CTC 14 (Protection of features of nature conservation importance)
CTC 15 (Enhancement of biodiversity)
CTC 17 (Protection of archaeological sites of regional or local importance)
M1 Preferred Areas
M3 Protection of Mineral Resources
M4 Cumulative Impact

Herefordshire and Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan.

2 Other Sand and Gravel Deposits
8 Highway Improvements
10 Progressive restoration
11 Reclamation generally
12 Restoration to agriculture
13 Restoration to water uses
14 Restoration to nature conservation, forestry and recreation
15 Maintenance of environmental standards
16 Treatment of public rights of way

Non Aggregate Minerals

Worcestershire also contains resources of other, non-aggregate minerals. The Regional Spatial Strategy draws attention to these in paras. 8.5.7 and 8.5.8 and emphasises that some of these are of national and regional importance.

In particular reserves of brick clay and salt exist in the Triassic and Mercian mudstone strata in the north of the County. Of these:

Salt: Production ceased in the 1970's. No amendments to policy are considered necessary at present.

Clay: Is worked at two sites in Hartlebury, which supply one significant brickworks (Baggeridge Brick).

Extraction commenced at New House Farm during the year, a site which has about a 30 year landbank. The other site, at Waresley, has been worked for some time and has a smaller, but nonetheless significant landbank. Together these are more than enough to provide the 25 years' supply of clay recommended in MPS1.

Building Stone: Building stone is currently only produced at one quarry, Fish Hill, as ancillary to aggregate production. The material produced, Oolitic Limestone, is used in only a few parishes in the south western corner of the County. Sales are mostly into Gloucestershire, where numerous comparable sites exist. The Council does not consider it necessary to define landbanks for this building stone.

Other building stones have only been used to a limited extent in Worcestershire. Demand is very limited and no quarries have been granted specific planning permission solely for its production since 1947 in Worcestershire. The Council will keep the need for specific policies for this material under review but no changes are proposed at present.

Silicia Sand: The Wildmoor Sandstone Formation is worked in the Bromsgrove area to produce foundry sand from a naturally bonded sandstone and building sand. The decline of the foundry industry and availability of synthetic alternatives has reduced demand for this material. It is listed as being of national importance in MPG13. Two quarries currently produce this material, both have significant reserves.

Analysis: Non Aggregate Materials

No applications for mineral working which would be a departure from the policies have been granted planning permissions by the Council at Appeal. There are no other reasons at present to believe that any of these policies are not appropriate or need amendment at present so far as non aggregate minerals are concerned.

Saved Development Plan policies relevant to achieving RSS Policy MIA

Structure Plan Policies:

SD1 Prudent Use of Natural Resources
SD2 Care for the Environment
M3 Extraction: Protection of Natural and Environmental Assets
M4 Restoration and After Use
M5 Protection of Abberley and Malvern Hills

Minerals Local Plan Policies

2 Criteria; Sand and Gravel Extraction, not preferred areas
4 Cumulative impact of workings
5 Abberley Hills Quarrying Policy
7 Preferred hard rock extraction areas
8 Highway Implications
9 Restoration, by use of fill
10 Progressive restoration
11 Reclamation generally
12 Restoration to agriculture
13 Restoration to water uses
14 Restoration to nature conservation, forestry and recreation
15 Maintenance of environmental standards
16 Treatment of public rights of way

Analysis: Aggregate Minerals

100% of applications for planning permission (including withdrawals) were permitted. No applications for mineral working, which would be a departure from these policies, have been granted planning permission by the Council or at appeal. Given this fact and that several significant designation for Preferred Areas for Mineral Extraction for aggregates in the Adopted (saved) Minerals Local Plan remain unimplemented there are no reasons to believe that any of these policies are not appropriate or need amendment at present so far as aggregate provision is concerned.

4.11 Objective: Achievement of Regional Spatial Strategy M1 (B)

Purpose: to ensure that development plans provide for adequate mineral supply without adversely affecting matters of acknowledged importance.

Relevant Indicators RSS Policy M1B

For example, Development Plans should

(i) identify and safeguard mineral resources
(ii) identify where future mineral working would/would not be appropriate
(iii) include policies to indicate the circumstances under which mineral working might be permitted
(iv) identify and safeguard opportunities for alternative forms for the transportation of minerals
(v) include policies to safeguard mineral resources
(vi) subject to Green Belt policies, identify and safeguard sites on the periphery of and within MUAs for the development of integrated material supply facilities
(vii) protect and seek improvements to biodiversity.

Local Targets

The Structure Plan monitoring indicators include:

- number and percentage of mineral applications refused on environmental grounds

Achievement
No applications were refused.

- number and percentage of mineral applications permitted/modified related to need/environmental factors/quality of restoration or aftercare

Achievement:
One application was permitted during 2005-06. (Extension to Clifton Quarry, ref: 407531 Approved 27.01.06). Conditions were imposed to modify the proposal to protect matters of acknowledged importance relating to the amenities of local people and restoration of the site.

- 1 (one)
- % modified 100%

Saved Development Plan Policies relevant to RSS Policy M1B

Structure Plan Policies
M3 (Mineral Extraction)
P15 (Freight Goods Transfer)
T17 (Retention of Rail Property)
T18 (Improvements to the River Severn)
SD1 (Prudent Use of Natural Resources
SD6 (Location of development in urban areas)
SD7 (Sequential approach to development)
SD8 (Development in sustainable rural settlements)
CTC 1 (Protection of landscape character)
CTC 2 (Protection of skylines and hill features)
CTC 3 (Protection of AONBs)
CTC 4 (Protection of AGLV)
CTC 5 (Protection of trees, woodlands and hedges)
CTC 7 (Protection of agricultural land)
CTC 8 (protection of floodplain)
CTC 9 (Impact on water courses and aquifers)
CTC 10 (Protection of sites of international wildlife importance)
CTC 11 (Sites of national wildlife importance)
CTC 12 (Sites of regional or local wildlife importance)
CTC 13 (Protection of species)
CTC 14 (Protection of features of nature conservation importance)
CTC 15 (Enhancement of biodiversity)
CTC 16 (Protection of archaeological sites of national importance)
CTC 17 (Protection of archaeological sites of regional or local importance)
CTC 18 (Enhance of archaeological sites)
CTC 19 (Protection of areas and features of archaeological significance)
CTC 20 (Protection of conservation areas)
CTC 21 (Reuse of buildings)

Minerals Local Plan Policies
1 Preferred Areas
2 Other Sand and Gravel Deposits
3 Protection of Mineral Resources
4 Cumulative Impact
5 Abberley Hills Quarrying Policy
6 Extraction of Non Aggregate Minerals
7 Preferred Hard Rock Extension Areas
8 Highway Improvements

15 Maintenance of Environmental Standards
16 Rights of Way

Analysis

There is no evidence at present that the saved policies are failing to protect matters of acknowledged importance or to achieve the other concepts listed in RSS policy M1B. However the Council is concerned that it does not have as sound a basis for the assessment of applications which could adversely affect mineral resources safeguarded under Structure Plan Policy M2 and Minerals Local Plan policy 3 as it would like. The issue of how to make safeguarding more effective is a common concern amongst MPAs and the ODPM is funding trials in other Counties to address it. The issue will be important for the proposed Minerals Core Strategy and will be explored during 2007.

4.8 Objective: Achievement of RSS policy M2

Purpose: In summary, the aim of the policy is to ensure an adequate and regular supply of aggregates over the period of the RSS, to enable economic growth to be sustained. Specifically, RSS policy M2 sets out the following sub-regional apportionment for Worcestershire for the period 2001-2016 (million tonnes/per annum).

Core Output Indicator: to meet the RSS sub regional annual apportionment for Worcestershire of:

Sand and Gravel 2001-2016	Crushed Rock 2001-2005	Crushed Rock 2006-16
0.871	0.163	0.163

(WMRAWP Sub-Regional Apportionment October 2003)

Achievement

Information on primary aggregate production for Mineral Planning Authorities (MPAs) is collected annually by each MPA from operating companies on behalf of the WMRAWP. This information is:

a requested annually (by calendar year)
b in arrears
c provided on a confidential and voluntary basis

returns are collected by MPAs and forwarded to the WMRAWP Secretary for agglomeration, in a way that protects commercial sensitivity, for subsequent publication in the WMRAWP Annual Report.

In the circumstances, the only figures publicly available for primary extraction of aggregates for Worcestershire are for the period 1st January to 31st December 2004, i.e. sales of sand and gravel = an estimated 850,000 tonnes. Sales of crushed rock cannot be released for reasons of business confidentiality. (Source: WMRAWP Annual Report 2004)

Sales of primary extraction aggregates in the County are relatively stable, follow regional trends and have not been affected by any significant local developments, there is no reason to believe that the 2005 figures will be significantly different from those stated above. Confidential information seen by Officers confirms that this is likely the case.

Productive Capacity: In order to be capable of meeting the RAWP apportionment the County needs sufficient productive units to produce the volumes necessary. A possible indicator is the number of productive units and their plant capacity.

Number of productive units operational in 2005/6:

Sand and gravel 8 (Productive capacity not limited by planning condition)
Crushed rock 1 (Productive Capacity not limited by planning condition)

Local Targets

No specific targets for meeting aggregates supply are set out in the saved development plans but Policy M1 of the Structure Plan makes the County's commitment to meet national and regional policy guidelines for aggregate sales. The core output indicator for these matters is set out above and is measured in terms of tonnage. A local target to assess output in terms of the percentage of actual regional production could usefully be set. In this case the targets are:

- Sand and Gravel apportionment 8.6% of regional production
- Actual achievement (2004 figures) = 9.3% (Target exceeded)
- Crushed rock apportionment 2.8% of regional production
- Actual achievement – not released for reasons of business confidentiality targets not achieved

(Source: WMRAWP Annual Report 2004)

Saved Development Plan Policies relevant to RSS Policy M2

County Structure Plan Policy M1 (to meet the County share of regional production)
Minerals Local Plan listed Policy 1 (identification of preferred areas for sand and gravel production), listed Policy 7 (preferred areas for crushed rock extraction)

Analysis

Sand and Gravel: *The Council is meeting its sub-regional apportionment of sand and gravel sales, has an adequate number of productive units to meet demand but does not have an adequate landbank. Significant volumes of sand and gravel (equivalent to about 2 years' sales) exist in sites allocated as Preferred Areas for extraction in the Minerals Local Plan. At present applications for planning permission to extract about 5.2mt are undetermined. Existing policies have worked satisfactorily so far as ensuring sand and gravel supplies are concerned but will need reassessment in the medium term.*

Crushed Rock: *The supply of crushed rock is even far more problematic in terms of both meeting regional supply and the number of productive units. County Structure Plan Policy M1 sets a commitment to meet national and regional apportionments of crushed rock and Minerals Local Plan Policy M7 is an enabling policy setting the criteria by which applications should be assessed. The Council considers that both policies are sound in principle and have been useful in practice. Difficulties arise however because only two applications for crushed rock extraction have been made in the County since 1997. This itself probably reflects the limited nature and distribution of hard rock within the County, very little of which is of aggregate quality or accessible outside of nationally e.g. AONB or locally, e.g. Abberley Hills Quarrying Policy, designations.*

At present the Council is not aware of any difficulties there might be in supplying the market with crushed rock in Worcestershire in the short term. As reported in the AMR for 2004-05, it is assumed that the shortfall is being made up with recycled materials and imports from other counties. The Council is aware however that the landbank for permitted crushed rock reserves is significantly below that recommended in Government guidance and it is very likely that the landbank of permitted reserves will be exhausted soon. This shortfall must be addressed. In the short to medium term the Council will consider whether the sub regional apportionment of crushed rock for Worcestershire can be maintained and what options might be explored. The Mineral and Waste Development Scheme will be reviewed during 2007 and will set out proposals to prepare a Minerals Core Strategy and Crushed Rock DPD.

4.9 Objective: Achievement of RSS policy M3

Purpose: In summary, the aim of the policy is to encourage the use of secondary aggregates and recycling.

The National and Regional Guidelines for Aggregate Permission in England 2001-2016 assume that in the West Midlands 88 million tonnes (24.5%) of the 359 million tonnes necessary will come from recycled and alternative sources. This amounts to 5.5 million tonnes per annum throughout the period of the Guidelines. In 2001 it was estimated that around 5 million tonnes of recycled and other alternative materials were reused in the West Midlands (Symonds Group Surveys for 2001). In order to increase this figure to the required level of 5.5 million tonnes and thus minimise the risk of needing to exploit additional primary aggregate sources, the amount of construction and demolition material that needs to be recycled per capita needs to rise across the region from 0.7 tonnes per annum to 0.8 tonnes per annum, assuming the supply from other sources remain constant. Accurate estimates of the amount of recycled construction and demolition waste being managed are extremely difficult to find, but the British Geological Survey quotes the Quarry Product Association's estimate that recycled and secondary aggregates now account for 24 to 25% of the total aggregate market in Britain. (BGS UK Minerals Year Book 2004). The West Midlands Regional Technical Advisory Body for Waste Annual Monitoring Report for 2005 stated however:

"The amount of construction and demolition waste produced in the Region is estimated to have reduced from 8.6 million tonnes in 2001 to 8.1 million tonnes in 2003. In 2001/02 the total estimated construction and demolition waste arising in the Region was 8.6 million tonnes, of which half was recycled, 46% was used on exempt sites for engineering and land restoration purposes, and just 5% was landfilled. By 2003, the quantity of C & D waste produced in the Region had reduced by 6% to 8.13 million tonnes, the proportion recycled increased from 50% to 61% (the highest performance for any region in England), and the quantity of material used at exempt sites halved (to the lowest level of any region other than London). Indications are that at least some parts of the construction industry are securing significant reductions in waste."

No more up to date information is available for 2006.

There are no suggestions or reasons to suspect conditions or industry practices are different in Worcestershire from those anywhere else in the region. Tracking the management of C & D waste is, however, very difficult.

Core Output Indicator

A relevant core indicator would be Indicator 5B (Local Development Framework Monitoring: A Good Practice Guide) the production of secondary and recycled aggregates. No such information is obtainable.

Local Targets

There are no specific targets in PPS10 or either the County Structure Plan or Minerals Local Plan for the use of alternatives to naturally occurring aggregates or other minerals.

Secondary/recycled aggregates are produced in two ways:

- at sites with specific planning permission for such production, and
- at "other" sites where processing takes place in association with recycling activities

Sites with specific planning permission:

In Worcestershire only one site has a specific planning permission for such production. The operator mothballed the site after less than one year on the grounds that no regular supply of material could be obtained.

The Council is aware that specific waste transfer stations do crush materials on site and that their sites have a maximum permitted level of activity in their Waste Management Licences. There is no basis for assessing what proportion of this output is recycled into aggregates.

Other Sites:

In reality, production is likely to be much larger from "other" sites. Mostly on-site production of recycled materials from demolition contractors, who now routinely clear previously developed land, crush hard materials on site and re-use them as foundations or sell them. Such activity may be permitted development under the General Permitted Development Order 1995, 28 day rule, or as part of the implementation of a planning permission. The local planning authority has no power to compel demolition contractors to provide information from such activities or the County Council to be provided with it. The issue is further complicated by the fact that crushing plants are mobile, move quickly from site to site, and are licensed by the Environmental Health Officer in the company's "home base", which, because plants are mobile and follow the redevelopment of sites could be anywhere in the country. The Federation of Demolition Contractors is a member of the WMRAWP but is unable to provide regional production figures let alone sub-regional, county, ones.

These matters have been issues of concern for the WMRAWP; West Midlands Regional Technical Advisory Body (WMRTAB) for some time and research has been commissioned by the ODPM. The Council supports proposals from government to develop Site Waste Management Schemes and has included the concept in its emerging Waste Core Strategy. The success of such schemes will largely depend on District Councils for implementation and they may be important in future. It is not possible however to provide a meaningful answer to this core output indicator at this time.

The Council's (five year) highway management contract with Ringway includes provisions to realise the Cabinet's commitment to recycle as much material as possible, notably that:

- The service should re-use carriage and footway material as a matter of course,
- Keep the recycling of such materials within the carriageway wherever possible, and
- Establish at least one specific recycling depot to process other construction materials generated by the contract.

This represents a significant change in the Council's policy. The previous contract precluded off-site recycling construction materials. At that time the small scale of many arisings made them uneconomic to process on site, much useful material was wasted. This should no longer be the case.

An estimated 600 tonnes of asphalt material was recycled during the period 31 March 2005 – 1 April 2006.

Saved Development Plan Policies relevant to RSS Policy M3

Structure Plan Policy SD1 – Prudent use of natural resources,
M6 production and use of alternatives to primary aggregates,
Minerals Local Plan Policy 17 – recycled minerals.

Analysis

There is no evidence that significant volumes of secondary/recycled materials which could be used as substitute aggregates are being landfilled in the County and it is now the norm that suitable on-site materials are crushed and processed on site or at Waste Transfer Stations for sale or use. The lack of specific permissions may reflect the effectiveness of recycling operations at the 'other' sites referred to above. There are no reasons to believe that the existing saved policies are not appropriate or need amendment at present.

However, the Council is aware that useful materials are being used on 'exempt' sites and that this may not always be the best possible way of managing and using this material. It is also concerned that other parts of this waste stream, notably subsoils may not be used/disposed of in the most sustainable way. These matters have been addressed in the emerging Waste Core Strategy.

The extent and nature of how waste is disposed of on 'exempt' sites could be explored in future Annual Monitoring Reports.

4.10 Objective: In summary, the aim is achievement of Regional Spatial Strategy Policy M4

Purpose: to ensure that development plans make adequate provision for the exploitation of energy mineral resources.

Background

The British Geological Survey states "Hydrocarbons: the prospects for discovery of oil and gas in Herefordshire and Worcestershire are very low. Three exploration wells have been drilled in the County, none of which discovered oil or gas. Lack of source rocks in the Worcester Basin indicates that it is not prospective for oil and gas. The hydrocarbon potential of lower Palaeozoic rocks has been downgraded following the drilling of two dry holes on anticlines west of the Worcester Basin. Although some exploration licenses have been taken out on parts of the South Staffordshire and Wyre Forest coalfields that extend into Worcestershire, evidence from other parts of the West Midlands suggests that these rocks are unlikely to contain coal bed methane in commercial quantities. The Carboniferous rocks of the Forest of Dean coalfield are low in methane.

Coal: A small area of Worcestershire ……. lies off the southern end of the South Staffordshire coalfield. However the productive coal measures are absent …… Another comparatively small area of Worcestershire to the north west of Kidderminster lies at the southern end of the Wyre Forest coalfield. This coalfield was worked underground …… up until the 1940s. Applications for open cast working in the 1980s were refused ……. These coalfields are unlikely to attract any further open cast interest." (BGS: Mineral Resource Information for Development Plans: Hereford and Worcester, Resources and Constraints).

Saved Development Plan Policies relevant to RSS Policy M4

Structure Plan Policy M3 (Mineral Extraction) sets general criteria for where mineral extraction will be allowed.

Analysis

There is no information to suggestion that this policy is inadequate. Applications for energy minerals are unlikely but the proposed Minerals Core Strategy will consider if specific policies are necessary

5. ANALYSIS OF POLICIES IN EXISTING DEVELOPMENT PLAN: WASTE ISSUES

5.1 Waste Issues

"People produce waste, it is a fact of life; a fact we cannot change". (DEFRA Website) The nature of the materials discarded and public recognition of the pollution and climate change effects created, the unsustainability of current practices and the environmental and economic costs generated, mean that waste management is now an increasing political priority. However it is now the case that waste production is increasing at a slower rate than economic growth. This is an important change since last year's AMR

5.2 Context

5.2.1 National Trends

In England and Wales government incentives and targets for the treatment of Municipal Solid Waste (MSW) have begun to reduce the rate of increase and the percentage recycled, composted or recovered. Industrial and Commercial Waste (I & C) and Construction and Demolition (C & D) waste, which represent ¾ of all waste produced are beginning to be seen as resources capable of use and costs which can be reduced. Up to date information on all waste streams is poor, particularly regarding C & I and C & D waste. Since last year's AMR was produced the National Waste Data Strategy has been started to improve both the quality and timeliness of information on all of these waste streams. Future Annual Monitoring Reports should be able to reflect this. At the local level, however, the lack of accurate information, especially on C & I and C & D waste is still a serious problem for policy development and monitoring.

5.3 Context: Regional Trends

MSW: The West Midlands Region produced just over 3 million tonnes of MSW in 2005-06 to the best level since 2001-02. Total MSW waste arisings increased by 11% between 1998-99 and 2003-04 but may now be reducing.

MSW Landfill: In 2005-06 just under half (53%) of the region's MSW was disposed of to landfill (a reduction in proportional terms from 60% in 1998-99 and 54% in 2002-03, with absolute reductions in 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2005-06). The West Midlands continues to have the lowest reliance on landfill of all English regions. By 2004-05 with a rate of 51% the Region has increased its rates of recovery value from MSW yet again, exceeding its targets (2005 40% and 2010 45%), the highest rate of all English regions.

MSW Recycling: The MSW recycling rate has increased from 8% (1998-99) to 20% (2005-06) but is below the average for England of 26.7% and below the target of 25% for 2005. EU landfill targets to progressively reduce the amount of biodegradable waste landfilled in 1995 (1.17 million tonnes) have been exceeded for both 2005 and 2010.

C & I: Revisions of the 2002-03 waste data by the Environment Agency show that regional production has fallen by 4% from 7.6 million tonnes in 1998-99 to 7.3 million tonnes in 2002-03. The amount of this material recycled has increased from 30% to 46% over the period, reducing the amount of material sent to landfill to about 2.9 million tonnes. The revisions show that, unfortunately, the region is NOT (as was mistakenly reported in the AMR for 2004-050) on track to achieve the national Waste Strategy and RSS target to reduce the proportion of Industrial and Commercial waste which is disposed of to landfill to at the most 85% of 1998 levels. Worcestershire has however achieved this target, see below.

Since 1998-99 industrial waste in the Region has fallen by 11%. There has however been an 8% increase in commercial waste, particularly in retail and wholesale, the textile and wood and paper sectors, reflecting changes in the Region's economic structure.

C & D: The 2005 Annual Monitoring Report stated that "Regional production fell from 8.6 million tonnes in 2001 to 8.1 million tonnes in 2003. The proportion recycled increased from 50% to 61%, the highest of any region in England and the quantity used at exempt sites halved, to the lowest level of any region other than London ((WMRTAB)." No more up to date information is available.

In general terms all the evidence is that the region is self-sufficient in waste management facilities. Further research by the RTAB should clarify this in 2007.

5.4 Potential Revisions to National and Regional Policy

Important additions to C & I waste streams are likely to develop as the End of Life Vehicles (ELV) and Waste Electrical and Electronic Equipment (WEEE) Directives come into effect. Agricultural waste has been brought into the definition of Directive Waste. Facilities to manage these materials will therefore become necessary both regionally and locally.

Phase 2 of the review of the Regional Spatial Strategy for the West Midlands is beginning and should be adopted in Autumn 2008. Future Annual Monitoring Reports will include reference to the emerging and final targets produced as part of the Review.

A very positive development is the recognition at both national and regional level that waste recycling and recovery plants can increasingly be considered like any other industrial activity and can be located on any general industrial land. The Council's Waste Core Strategy is based on this assumption.

5.5 Local Context and Background: Policies

Currently Development Plan policies for waste for the County are set out in the Worcestershire County Structure Plan. The Council has also adopted a Joint Municipal

Waste Management Strategy with the six Worcestershire District Councils and Herefordshire. The Strategy sets out a Vision for waste management in the County, incorporates the Council's BPEO Strategy and sets out targets for participating authorities. During the year significant progress was made in developing the Council's Waste Core Strategy. The Council hope to submit it to the Secretary of State in January 2007. The statutory notification period should be over by early March. Any policies which have not been objected to will then become material considerations for Development Control purposes.

Background Data (Waste Volumes)
The volume of waste produced in the County was:

	1998-99	**2004-05**
C & I	810,000 tonnes	629,000 tonnes
C & D	640,000 tonnes	No figure available
[Environment Agency SWMA, West Midlands 2000]		[Environment Agency 2006]
Household	264,878 tonnes	291,000 tonnes
[Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy 2004]		[WCC Waste Disposal Section]

Saved Development Plan Policies relevant to RSS Policy

There is no specific Waste Local Plan for Worcestershire. There are no specific land use allocations for Waste. There are therefore no development plan allocations unimplemented at present.

Table 4

Permitted Waste Treatment and Disposal Facilities in Worcestershire		
District	**Sites**	**Decision Notices**
Bromsgrove	10	24
Malvern Hills	16	27
Redditch	9	6
Worcester City	7	11
Wychavon	40	59
Wyre Forest	16	18
Total	**98**	**145**

The full list is attached as Appendix 5.

(Core output indicator 6(a)) (Local Development Framework: Good Practice Guide)

Applications for waste treatment and disposal facilities determined 1st April 2005 – 31st March 2006

Sewage Works

1. 407610 - Extension STW, Naunton Beauchamp - Approved 01.04.05
2. 407615 - Sewer improvements Callow End, Powick - Approved 18.04.05
3. 407616 - Upgrading STW Harvington, Anchor Lane – Approved 18.04.05
4. 407617 - Upgrading, Link Common, Malvern - Approved 26.04.05
5. 407620 - Upgrading STW Station road, Blackminster– Approved 21.06.05
6. 407621 - Upgrading STW, Appletree Lane, Inkberrow - Approved 14.07.05
7. 407622 - Upgrading STW, Hampton, Worcs – Approved 30.06.05
8. 407623 - Sewage pumping station, Aston Under Hill – Approved 19.07.05
9. 407627 - Upgrading STW, Bradley Green – Approved 29.07.05
10. 407629 - Upgrading STW, Upton Upon Severn - Approved 18.08.05
11. 407630 - Extension of STW, Aston Somerville – Approved 28.09.05
12. 407633 - New control cabinet Worcester - Approved 02.11.05
13. 407634 - New STW, Earls common - Approved 11.10.05
14. 407639 - Erection of control cabinet, Great Malvern - Approved 3.11.05
15. 407641- Erection of control cabinet, Great Malvern - Approved 8.11.05
16. 407643 - New STW incorporating Hawbridge STW - Approved 23.01.06
17. 407648 -Retention of workshop at Summerway Landfill- Approved 6.02.06
18. 407653 - 2 new control kiosks at Priest Bridge STW - Approved 28.03.06
19. 407654 - Replacement of control kiosk, Evesham - Approved 15.03.06

Waste

20. 407614 - Waste transfer facility with soil recycling, Hanbury Road, Stoke Prior, Hanbury– Approved 10.05.05
21. 407618 - Non-compliance with condition 6 to planning consent 91/551 Alexandra Hospital Medical Waste Incinerator, Redditch – Approved 09.06.05
22. 407624 - Installation of a gas utilisation plant, Cleanaway Ltd, Sandy Lane, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove – Approved 29.07.05
23. 407625 - Construction & extension to household waste site upper platform at Hill & Moor Household Waste Site, Throckmorton,–Approved 29.07.05
24. 407626 - To extend landfill operating hours at Hill & Moor Landfill Site, Throckmorton- Approved 11.08.05
25. 407628 - Importation, stockpiling of hardcore and road plannings for off-site distribution, Hilary Road, Stourport on Severn –Approved 13.09.05
26. 407631- Proposed storage and recycling site for timber by-products & green waste on land adj to Chadwich Lane, Belbroughton- Approved 02.03.06
27. 407636 -Importation and storage of green waste and recycling of wood chip for off site distribution on land off Chapel Lane, Offenham - Approved 22.03.06
28. 407640 - Vary condition 14 of planning permission 407544 for a waste transfer station in order to allow the use of an on site screener, Cleeve Road, Middle Littleton, - Approved 01.02.06
29. 407649- Extension and alterations to Household Waste Site, at Stourport Household Waste Site, Minster Road–Approved 23.03.06

Total Approved 29

Applications refused

1. 407638 Waste transfer facility and skip storage yard, Causeway Meadows Farm, Stoke Works, Nr Bromsgrove –Refused 15.11.05
2. 407637 - Christopher, Brian and Stephen Jordan The Levelling and reseeding of agricultural pastureland to make it suitable for work with tractors – Refused 14.12.05

Total Refused 2

Applications Withdrawn

No applications were withdrawn during this period.

Treatment (In the sense of two district processes to treat materials enabling them to be reused/recycled/composted).

No applications for treatment were determined during this period.

Disposal

33. 407612- Clent Parish Council Formation of cricket pitch through importation of inert fill at Centenary Field, Off Holy Cross Green, Holy Cross, Clent – Approved 15.12.05 – 20,000m³

Total additional disposal capaccity – 20,000m^3 (approx)

5.6 Objective: Achievement of RSS Policy WD1

Purpose: In summary, the aim of the policy is that development plans should include proposals to meet the following regional targets:

(i) to recover value from at least 40% of municipal waste by 2005; 45% by 2010 and 67% by 2015;
(ii) to recycle or compost at least 25% of household waste by 2005; 30% by 2010 and 33% by 2015; and
(iii) to reduce the proportion of industrial and commercial waste, which is disposed of to landfill to at the most 85% of 1998 by 2005.

Relevant indicator

Adoption of policies which implement these targets.

Key data

On 10th July 2003 the Council adopted a Best Practical Environmental Option (BPEO) Strategy, inter alia that the BPEO for:

- MSW will be based on a minimum of 33% recycling/ composting and a maximum of 22% landfilling and any balance managed through a form of thermal treatment,
- Commercial and Industrial waste will be based on reducing landfill to 23%, increasing recycling to 73% and 4% dealt with by existing thermal treatment,
- Construction and Demolition Waste will be based on reducing landfill to 24%, increasing recycling to 76%.
- It will be important to retain an element of flexibility when considering applications for waste management facilities. Processes or technologies put forward as an alternative to those which comprise the BPEO for a particular waste stream will have to clearly demonstrate how the impact of that process or technology will be equal to or not significantly greater than those which have been modelled for the agreed BPEO.

Structure Plan Policy WD1 states that proposals for waste management must have regard to the adopted BPEO and principles of proximity, regional self-sufficiency and waste hierarchy.

Local Targets (Source: Worcestershire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy and County Council Waste Management Section).

All figures are BVPI related figures based on assessments of Household (not Municipal) Waste. They do not include Soil and Hardcore from Household Waste Sites, Trade Waste, Collected Fly Tipped Waste or Parks Waste. All of which are recycled/composted to some degree but are not allowed to be included in the Council's records for recycled materials.

Targets are from the Joint Municipal Waste Strategy for Herefordshire and Worcestershire 2004-34.

Figures are from published audited sources, District and County websites.

Target 1: To achieve Government targets for recycling and composting of domestic waste by the end of 2003/04, 2005/06 and 2015/16, as a minimum

	Statutory Target	Recycling	Composting	Combined	Difference
Bromsgrove DC	18%	19.95%	20.62%	40.57%	22.57
Malvern Hills DC	18%	23.82%	0.00%	23.82%	5.82
Redditch BC	18%	16.86%	0.00%	16.86%	-1.14
Worcester City Council	24%	19.90%	0.04%	19.94%	-4.06
Wychavon DC	21%	19.11%	0.00%	19.11%	-1.89
Wyre Forest DC	18%	24.98%	0.00%	24.98%	6.98
Herefordshire	21%	17.31%	6.58%	23.89%	2.89
Worcestershire	30%	21.92%	9.54%	31.46%	1.46

Achievements: The County has surpassed its Statutory targets for recycling and composting and is working to further improve the rate. Planned changes to District Council recycling collection schemes and the completion of new recycling infrastructure in the county should result in all Councils exceeding their Statutory targets in future years. The National Waste Strategy is to be revised in the near future which may lead to changes in Statutory Targets. To meet current targets we are planning to construct a commingled MRF. This may be sufficient to meet revised targets however it may be necessary for other facilities to be constructed.

Target 2: To reduce the Kg/head collected/disposed of at 2001/02 levels by March 2006 and for the life of the Strategy

	2001/02 level	**2005/06 Result**	**Difference**
Bromsgrove	405.90 kg	468.80 kg	-62.90 kg
Malvern Hills	323.00 kg	312.00 kg	11.00 kg
Redditch	436.00 kg	415.00 kg	21.00 kg
Worcester City	317.00 kg	355.80 kg	-38.80 kg
Wychavon	405.76 kg	354.40 kg	51.36 kg
Wyre Forest	402.00 kg	356.10 kg	45.90 kg
Herefordshire	493.70 kg	521.70 kg	-28.00 kg
Worcestershire	532.00 kg	526.97 kg	5.03 kg

Achievements: The County has succeeded in reducing the waste kg per head to less than 2001/02 levels. A major factor in this is likely to be the continued provision of low cost compost bins to county households along with raised awareness through widespread advertising campaigns and other waste reduction initiatives. To date over 50,000 bins have been provided to householders in Herefordshire and Worcestershire.

NB The Council is now working towards a target of 485kg/head of waste collected/disposed and expects to achieve this by 2008-09.

Target 3: By 31 March 2005 Local Authorities will provide a household or kerbside recycling collection to % of their properties as shown below

	Target Coverage	2005/06 Coverage	Difference
Bromsgrove	90.00	91.90	1.90
Malvern Hills	100.00	100.00	0.00
Redditch	92.00	82.80	-9.20
Worcester City	96.00	95.35	-0.65
Wychavon	94.00	94.00	0.00
Wyre Forest	84.00	90.60	6.60
Herefordshire	59.00	62.28	3.28
Worcestershire	N/A	N/A	N/A

Achievements: Continued recycling scheme roll-outs in all districts has resulted in most Districts achieving their coverage targets. Worcester City and Redditch are now implementing an alternate weekly collection of residual waste and commingled recyclables in wheeled bins which should increase coverage to the 2005/06 target level.

Target 4: The Local Authorities within Herefordshire and Worcestershire will continue to promote and encourage participation in the household collection of recyclables to achieve 75% active participation by 2006

	Target Coverage	Participation %	Difference
Bromsgrove	75%	80%	5%
Malvern Hills	75%	75%	0%
Redditch	75%	70%	-5%
Worcester City	75%	76%	1%
Wychavon	75%	70%	-5%
Wyre Forest	75%	85%	10%
Herefordshire	75%	65%	-10%
Worcestershire	N/A	N/A	N/A

Note: WRAP funded project 'Target 75' promoted recycling throughout Herefordshire and Worcestershire. The District Councils have provided estimates based on methodology provided by WRAP. There is no BVPI for recycling participation rate.

Achievements: A sustained recycling awareness project was carried out during the year. Four districts now have a participation rate at or in excess of the 75% target. The move to alternate weekly kerbside collections using wheeled bins should result in an increased recycling participation rate.

Target 5: a minimum of 50% of all waste deposited at Household Waste Sites will be recycled/composted by 2005/06 and 55% by 2010/11

	Target	**Recycled and composted 2005/06**
Herefordshire	50%	62%
Worcestershire	50%	55%

Achievements: Continued investment in HWS sites across the two counties has resulted in recycling and composting rates exceeding targets. Staff training, site refurbishment and the provision of recycling facilities for a wider range of waste types have been responsible for this increase.

Target 6: By 2015 or earlier if practicable, a minimum of 33% of waste to be recycled and/or composted, 45% of waste to be recovered with a maximum of 22% to be landfilled as per the Best Practicable Environmental Option for Herefordshire and Worcestershire

	Recycled/composted	Recovered	Landfilled
Target 2015	33%	45%	22%
Current	29.76%	5.18%	65.06%

Achievements: We are well on the way to achieving these targets. Changes to kerbside collection schemes and investment in HWSs has improved recycling and composting levels. The planned development of a state of the art commingled MRF and Estech Fibrecycle autoclave facilities should be sufficient to meet these targets by 2015.

Target 7: To achieve the requirements of the Household Waste Recycling Act 2003 by December 31st 2010 to provide kerbside collection of at least two recyclable materials from all households (in conjunction with Target 3 above).

	Glass	Paper	Plastic	Textiles	Cans	Green
Bromsgrove	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Malvern Hills	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Redditch	Y	Y	N	Y	Y	N
Worcester City	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Wychavon	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Wyre Forest	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	N
Herefordshire	N	Y	Y	Y	Y	N

Achievements: All Districts provide a kerbside collection of at least two recyclable materials

Target 8: The Authorities will work together to achieve the Landfill Directive targets for 2009/10, 2012/13 and 2019/2020 and voluntary targets.

	LATS Allowance	BMW Landfilled	Difference
Herefordshire	53,716	53,155	561
Worcestershire	173,628	138,962	34,666
Total	227,344	192,117	35,227

Achievements: Improved recycling and composting rates combined with waste reduction initiatives have led to both Counties meeting their LATS targets for 2005/06

Target 9: To reduce the proportion of industrial and commercial waste which is disposed of to landfill to at the most 85% of 1998 to 2005 [i.e. 638,350 tonnes; 85% of 751,000 t – Source: Environment Agency SWMA 2000 West Midlands].

Achievement: In 2002-03, the most up to date period for which C & I waste arisings are available, 629,000 tonnes of C & I waste was treated in Worcestershire, of which only 58% (364,820 tonnes) was landfilled). Target achieved.

Saved Development Plan Policies relevant to RSS Policy WD1

Structure Plan Policy WD1 Waste Hierarchy

Analysis

Structure Plan Policy WD1 sets out criteria which would meet the requirements of RSS Policy WD1. Although the need for a BPEO is no longer part of the National Waste Strategy or Waste Strategy 2000 the Council's BPEO Strategy was subjected to a sustainability appraisal and to a public participation exercise during the year. Its basic principles have therefore been incorporated into the emerging Waste Core Strategy and remain valid. References to the concept of BPEO and to the Proximity Principle will however not be included in the Council's Waste Core Strategy Policies.

5.7 Objective: Achievement of RSS Policy WD2

Purpose: In summary, the aim of the policy is to ensure that adequate waste management and treatment facilities are provided and specifically that the following capacity is provided by 2021 in Worcestershire (as set out in tables 4 and 5 of the RSS).

Municipal Waste Recycling and Composting	**Municipal Waste Recovery**	**Final Landfill Void (All Waste Streams)**
Annual through-put capacity (100,000 tonnes) 159	Annual through-put capacity (100,000 tonnes) 164	Municipal (100,000 tonnes) 4,414 Industrial and commercial (100,000 tonnes) 6,883

and that accordingly the following additional MSW facilities are provided by 2021.

Recycling and composting capacity (000 tonnes)	Recovery and through-put capacity (000 tonnes)
134	**164**

Core Output Indicators (6a and 6b)

6(a) All Waste Types

Capacity of New Waste Management Facilities by Type (Core Output indicator 6(a)) (Local Development Framework Good Practice Guide)

Achievement:

Capacity of planning permissions for waste management facilities granted 2005-06

Extension to existing Household waste site – Capacity 13,950 tpa (est)
Formation of cricket pitch from importation of inert fill – 23,529 tonnes (est)
Soil recycling and waste transfer facility – 5000 tpa
Importation of hardcore and road plannings for off site distribution – 25,000 tpa
Storage and recycling site for timber by-products and green waste – 20,000 tpa (est)
Importation and storage of green waste and recycling of wood chip-20,000 tpa (est)

Achievement by Type [Permitted 2005-06, Not Implemented]

Recycling/recovery – 40,000 tpa (timber and green waste, 2 sites)
Waste Transfer – 44,000 tpa (WTS and soil recycling, 3 sites)
Disposal- 23,529 tonnes (1 site)

At 31st December 2006 there were undetermined applications for proposals for a composting facility with a treatment capacity of 35,000 tonnes per annum and a resource recovery park with a capacity of 180,000 tonnes per annum. Either of these would significantly increase the treatment capacity of the County. Applications for proposals for Materials Reclamation Facilities (MRFs) with a further capacity of 385,000 tonnes (of which 135,000 tonnes would be for Municipal Waste) were also undetermined at this date. Although not all of this waste would be treated (in the Environment Agency's sense of the term of being subject to 2 distinct treatments) and some residual waste would still be landfilled, the contribution of any of these would make to diverting waste from landfill would be significant.

Analysis

The Council is still receiving significant numbers of applications for waste management facilities. In contrast to some other Counties in the Region, the range of sizes of facilities is mixed and in some cases the capacity proposed in large. The Council regards this as continued vindication of its choice of policy direction – to rely on criteria based policies rather than the prescription of specific sites. It has continued this approach in its emerging Waste Core Strategy.

6(b) Municipal Waste Arisings

No new facilities specifically for the treatment of Municipal Waste were permitted or commenced during 2005-06. Nonetheless the Council has continued to improve its performance. Details of MSW was managed, the relevant BVPIs and of Local Targets are set out below.

Amount of Municipal Waste Arisings and Management by Management Type and Percentage each Management Type represents of the Waste Managed (Core Output Indicator 6(b))

Achievement:

2005/06 tonnage (MSW) and % as managed.

Management	Tonnage	%
Recycled	63771	21.92
Composted	27752	9.54
Recovered	19548	6.72
Landfilled	179841	61.82
Total	290912	100.0

See also Table 2 BVPI achievement.

Table 5 - BVPI – Explanation to Tables

The Best Value Performance Indicators in the tables which follow, are listed under the criteria set by the ODPM.

The indicators provide a measurement of the economy, efficiency and effectiveness of the Council as well as the quality of services provided. We have included the English National Average figures, compiled from the results of all the Councils in England, and that of all County Councils. This provides us with a guide to our comparative performance.

The indicators appear as follows:

The First Column	Details the number of the performance indicator.
The Second Column	Contains a brief description of the performance indicator. Definitions are provided by the ODPM.
The Third Column	Shows our figure for 2004/05 as reported in last year's Best Value Performance Plan.
The Fourth Column	Shows the target results outturns for 2005/06.
The Fifth Column	Gives the year end results for 2005-06
The Sixth Column	Gives the %variation from the previous year.
The Seventh Column	Shows our performance against the previous year (+ = achieved, - = failed)
The Eighth Column	Shows our variation from the target for 2005/06.
The Ninth Column	Shows our performance against the target.
The Tenth Column	Shows the CPA Prediction for 2006.

TABLE 5 – PERFORMANCE INDICATOR RESULTS – 2005-06

Ref No.	Best Value Performance Indicator	Previous Year Result (2004-05)	Year-end Target (2005-06)	Year-end Result (2005-06)	% Variation Previous Year	Outlook against Previous year	% Variation from Target	Outlook against Target	CPA Prediction 2006
BV 82a	Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste arisings, which have been recycled.	16.44%	22%	**21.92%**	33%	**+**	-1%	-	NA
BV 82a (i)	Tonnage recycled.			**63,771**					
BV 82b	Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste arisings, which have been composted.	7.47%	8%	**9.54%**	28%	**+**	+19%	+	NA
BV 82b (i)	Tonnage composted.			**27,752**					
BV 82c	Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste arisings, which have been used to recover heat, power and other energy sources.	7.19%	10%	**6.72%**	6%	**-**	-33%	-	NA
BV 82c (i)	Tonnage recovered.			**19,548**					
BV 82d	Percentage of total tonnage of household waste arisings which have been landfilled.	68.89%	60%	**61.82%**	10%	**+**	+3%	-	NA
BV 82d (i)	Tonnage landfilled.			**178,841**					
BV 84a	**Number of kilograms of household waste collected per head**	542.41kg	532kg	**526.97kg**	3%	**+**	+1%	+	In between
BV 84b	Percentage change from last year – kilograms of waste per head	New indicator	Not required	**-2.97%**	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
BV 87	Cost of waste disposal per tonne for municipal waste	£56.59	£59.17	**Awaited**					NA
BV 82a + 82b	**Percentage of the total tonnage of household waste arisings which have been recycled and composted**	23.91%	30%	**31.34%**	31%	**+**	+5%	+	Above upper

Integrated Waste Management Contract

In December 1998 Herefordshire Council and Worcestershire County Council together awarded a twenty five year contract for an integrated waste management service to Mercia Waste Management Limited, which established a sister company Severn Waste Services Limited to deliver the service locally.

The Contractor has to achieve certain targets for waste recycling, composting and recovery. A key component of the Contract was the provision of an integrated waste management facility, which included an energy from waste plant located in the north of Worcestershire. Following the refusal of planning permission for this facility in July 2002 and the introduction of Statutory Performance Standards for recycling and composting in March 2002, the counties and the Contractor have reviewed the future provision and requirements of the Contract, taking into account emerging technologies and latest best practice.

The structure of the revised contract and the preferred type of technology that will be used to meet the new targets was reported to Herefordshire Council and Worcestershire County Council's Cabinets in July 2004 and that decision, based on an autoclave thermal treatment process, has been incorporated into the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

Local Targets for Household Waste

A minimum of one strategic site will be provided within each District in Worcestershire. These will offer the full range of recycling disposal points and a facility to dispose of general waste and at some a disposal facility for cement bonded asbestos and hazardous household chemicals. These strategic sites will be provided at:

	Achievement
Bromsgrove	New location to be provided
Malvern	Malvern Link - achieved
Redditch	Crossgates Road - achieved
Wychavon	Droitwich and Hill and Moor - achieved
Worcester City	New location to be provided Bilford Road HWS refurbished in 2006/7
Wyre Forest	Stourport - achieved

In addition to these strategic sites, a number of recycling/re-use centres will be developed. These will accept a full range of materials for recycling and re-use. However, they will not accept general waste.

It is proposed that this type of facility would be provided at:

	Achievement
Malvern Hills	Tenbury Wells (new site required). Not achieved.
	Upton-on-Severn (new site required). Not achieved.
Wychavon	Evesham (new site required). Not achieved.
Worcester City	Worcester (new site required). Not achieved.
Wyre Forest	Hoobrook, Kidderminster (change of use from Household Waste Site to a recycling/re-use centre). Not achieved.

Provision of these recycling and re-use centres should improve recycling rates across the Counties.

Short term Diversion from Landfill

As a contribution to diverting waste away from landfill, 19,548 tonnes of municipal waste was processed during 2005/06 at a regional waste to energy plant.

Worcestershire County Council and Herefordshire Council will continue to use regional waste to energy facilities as a short term measure for diverting waste away from landfill.

Awareness Raising and Publicity

In recognising that Herefordshire's and Worcestershire's waste affects all residents, the Authorities have been working together on waste minimisation, reduction and recycling schemes. This joint working was put on a more formal footing in June 2000 when all the Authorities signed up to a Waste Minimisation Strategy.

Local Target: The key objectives of the Strategy were to reduce waste, change behaviour and attitudes to waste, essentially promoting the '3Rs' of "reduce, re-use, recycle", before considering disposal.

Achievement

We need to reduce the amount of waste created and also divert waste away from landfill.

A major waste reduction campaign – Mission Impossible – has been running since 2003-04. This 'call to action' has seen the growth in waste stopped and waste generation is starting to decline.

The Council have become a partner with WRAP (Waste and Resources Action Programme) on their home composting pilot scheme, which offers reduced price compost bins. During 2005-06 more than 16,000 compost bins were sold in Worcestershire. This initiative has made a significant contribution to waste reduction.

The Council is also promoting the use of kitchen food waste dispensers and offer a cash back scheme. For those who have no garden and can't compost, it provides an effective solution for kitchen waste, like vegetable peelings and leftover food waste.

Awareness of the environmental benefits of using 'real' nappies had been raised through the Council's 'Nappaccino Mornings' held at various locations throughout the County on a monthly basis.

The Council has been working with various organisations to promote re-use. Helping the close the loop between items that are unwanted by one person but highly sought after by another is a great way of diverting waste from landfill.

The development of the Social Enterprise in Waste and Recycling Forum during 2005 has proved to be an ideal catalyst in increasing awareness of re-use.

By linking in with the national 'Recycle Now' campaign, standard imagery is helping to relay a consistent approach and is assisting in achieving recycling targets.

Good media relationships have been established by all the local authorities, this has helped in promoting waste awareness and recycling.

Local Target, Partnership Working

Achievement

The local authorities continue to work together to deliver more sustainable and cohesive waste management services across the County. The Joint Members Waste Forum helps to drive the delivery of the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy. Consultancy support from the WIP/LASU Fund (Waste Implementation Programme/Local Authority Support Unit) enabled the Waste Collection authorities and the County Council to fully assess the improvement in recycling performance and the potential cost savings by moving to the "Vision" method of collection as outlined in the Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy.

Analysis
Structure Plan Policy WD1 sets the principles by which waste management facilities will be assessed. The background assumptions on which it is based, together with the Council's BPEO Strategy are no longer in accord with PPS10 and will be superseded when the Council's Waste Core Strategy is approved.

5.8 Objective: Achievement of RSS Policy WD3

Purpose: In summary the aim of the policy is that Development Plans should include policies and proposals that

(a)(i) guide the location of waste and new facilities to appropriate locations having regard to the proximity principle etc.
(ii) where consistent with BPEO, encourage alternatives to road transport
(iii) require the submission for in-house/on-site recycling of waste, for major development proposals
(b) include sites specific proposals
(c) guide proposals for new landfill

Relevant Output Indicators

If development plans include the relevant policies.

Local Targets

No specific targets are appropriate.

Saved Development Plan Policies relevant to RSS Policy WD3

Structure Plan Policies WD2 (Location of Waste Handling and Treatment Facilities),
WD3 (Location of such facilities without harm to features of acknowledged importance),
W3 (Suitable sites for landfill)

Analysis

The saved Structure Plan policies and the BPEO Strategy address the requirements of RSS policies WD3A (i) and (ii), B and C. No permissions have been granted or allowed at appeal which would not comply with these or the principles which the RSS policy seeks to achieve. In general terms, however, the Council considers that the saved policies and the BPEO strategy are not in accordance with PPS10. The Council's Waste Core Strategy DPD will supersede the Structure Plan policies and clarify the status of the Council's BPEO Strategy, which parts of it are to be retained and how it will be applied.

The Waste Core Strategy could be adopted in 2007. All of the Structure Plan Waste policies will then be superseded. The Council does not however intend to prepare a sites specific Waste DPD in the short term. The Council has serious shortages of staff resources at present and is concerned that the preparation of a site identification document would delay the preparation of the Minerals Core Strategy unacceptably. It also considers there are good practical reasons for not doing so. Firstly the partial review of the Regional Spatial Strategy has commenced. Part of the review is to identify regional and sub-regional needs for different types of waste management facilities across the three main waste streams. The Council considers it would be difficult to make progress on a sites

specific DPD in advance of these options and the subsequent alterations to the RSS it will entail. Secondly, the Council does not believe that the absence of a site specific DPD is holding back the provision of adequate and appropriate sustainable waste management facilities. Between the adoption of the County BPEO in July 2003 and 1st December 2006, the Council has received 119 applications for waste related facilities. Of these, 86 (72%) have been approved; 7 (6%) refused, 10(8%) withdrawn and 16(13%) still to be determined.

If those applications relating to sewage are discounted from the 119 then 58 applications were received. Of these 36 (62%) were approved, 7 (12%) refused, 7 (12%) withdrawn and 8 (14%) are still to be determined. These applications have been for a range of facilities across the waste streams including landfill and tipping, aggregate recycling and crushing, waste transfer and bulking facilities, anaerobic digestion, composting and greenwaste processing, and a major waste treatment (autoclaving facility) for MSW at Hartlebury, which has now been approved. It is clear therefore that the absence of sites specific proposals has not unduly delayed the provision of appropriate sustainable waste management facilities in Worcestershire.

The Council has one further reservation, that sites specific allocations for specific waste facilities could frustrate both alternative suitable sites (not known at the time of plan preparation) and innovative technology from being brought forward. The recently approved Estech facility at Hartlebury is a good example of this. The site had been previously discounted as it had a planning permission for alternative use. The application was for an emerging and developing technology previously not considered a viable waste management option within Worcestershire.

It intends therefore to base its determination of applications for planning permission for waste management related activity on the Waste Core Strategy as soon as it is adopted and RSS; unless and until either RSS policy or the Council's monitoring procedures indicate that this is not sufficient.

RETENTION OF SAVED DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES BEYOND 28TH SEPTEMBER 2007:

Structure Plan:

At present there is no up to date adopted Local Plan for Bromsgrove District. The Structure Plan is therefore the most up to date set of planning policies for the District. This is particularly important given the large area of Green Belt involved. The Council is however currently reviewing the need to retain all the Structure Plan policies in accordance with the advice from GOWM and the Regional Planning Body. The Council will continue to re-assess the need for policies to be saved as Bromsgrove District Council progress their Local Development Documents. The Waste Core Strategy will however supersede Structure Plan policies WD1, WD2, WD3 and WD4. These policies are likely therefore to be set aside by the end of 2007.

For the record, the following Structure Plan policies were used by the County Council for the determination of applications for planning permission during the year.

Worcestershire Structure Plan Policies used by Worcestershire County Council in the determination of applications for Planning Permission between 1st April 2005 and 31st March 2006

SD.1 Prudent Use of Natural Resources
SD.2 Care for the Environment
SD.3 Use of previously developed land
SD.5 Achieving Balanced Communities
SD.6 Location of development in urban areas
SD.7 Sequential approach to development

CTC.1 Protection of landscape character
CTC.4 Protection of AGLV
CTC.5 Protection of trees, woodlands and hedges
CTC.6 Green Open Spaces and Corridors
CTC.8 Protection of floodplain
CTC.9 Impact on water courses and aquifers
CTC.11 Sites of national wildlife importance
CTC.12 Sites of regional or local wildlife importance
CTC.13 Protection of species
CTC.14 Protection of features of nature conservation importance
CTC.15 Enhancement of biodiversity
CTC.16 Protection of archaeological sites of national importance
CTC.17 Protection of archaeological sites of regional or local importance
CTC.19 Protection of areas and features of archaeological significance
CTC.20 Protection of conservation areas

WD.1 Waste Hierarchy
WD.2 Location of Waste Handling and Treatment Facilities
WD.3 Waste Management Facilities
WD.4 Landfill

M.1 Regional Production
M.3 Mineral Extraction

M.4 Restoration and Aftercare
M.6 Recycled Materials

D.16 Reuse and Conversions of Buildings
D.28 New Building for Business Purposes in the Green Belt
D.30 Farm Diversification
D.38 General Extent and Purposes of the Green Belt
D.39 Control of Development in the Green Belt
D.40 Green Belt Boundary Definition

RST.1 Criteria for the Development of Recreation and Sports Facilities

EN.3 Waste to Energy

T.11 Assessment of new Roads
T.12 Road Schemes

Minerals Local Plan:

The Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan still includes some preferred areas for extraction which have not been applied for and the policies by which they and other mineral development should be assessed. The Council intends to include a Minerals Core Strategy in its Local Development Scheme when it is reviewed during 2007. Once adopted the Minerals Core Strategy will supersede the Minerals Local Plan.

For the record the following Minerals Local Plan policies were used by the County Council for the determination of applications for planning permission during the year.

Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan policies used in the determination of applications for planning permission between 31st March 2005 and 1st April 2006

M2 Criteria; Sand and Gravel Extraction, not preferred areas
M8 Highway Implications
M10 Progressive Restoration
M11 Reclamation generally
M12 Restoration to agriculture
M13 Restoration to water uses
M14 Restoration to nature conservation, forestry and recreation
M15 Maintenance of environmental standards
M16 Treatment of Public Rights of Way
M17 Alternative, Secondary and Recycled Aggregates.

6. LANDSCAPE AND BIODIVERSITY ISSUES

The Core Strategy will explore the links between the environmental impacts of Mineral and Waste development, particularly on the landscape and biodiversity of the County, through its Sustainability Appraisal process. In connection with this work, the Council is currently beginning a major programme to improve its assessment of the condition of landscape and biodiversity of the County. Work is in hand to monitor changes in the County's environment in a systematic way through the Worcestershire State of the Environment Report. A baseline (at 2004) has been established for 23 areas of concern. *Future annual monitoring reports could assess the implications of this work and it is possible that an SPD might be developed in future.* Other work will include:

Measure Landscape Character Change

The UK BAP targets have undergone review in 2005/06 to facilitate the government's commitment to halt the loss of biodiversity by 2010. In line with this, the Worcestershire BAP review commenced in October 2006 and will be completed in 2007. This revised version of the Worcestershire BAP will use BARS (Biodiversity Action Reporting System) to monitor progress against targets in relation to local, regional and national targets.

County Biodiversity Action Plan

The Council is developing a methodology to undertake this work and is currently exploring the development of baselines from which changes in the condition of the landscape will be measured.

Landscape change at a broader, regional level is currently monitoring through Natural England's Countryside Quality Counts (QC) initiative.
Future annual monitoring reports could assess the implications on these changes and the need for future planning policies.

Biological Records Centre

The Worcestershire Biological Records Centre holds flora and fauna species records that are an essential component for full and complete consideration of biodiversity by local authorities and statutory agencies.

Ongoing work compiling records within the County continues and will inform the above work.

Special Wildlife Site Review

If adequately supported by local authorities and statutory agencies working in Worcestershire, the SWS system will provide higher quality repeatable monitoring data.

Subject to local authority and statutory agency funding, it is expected that the review will be completed by 2009.

This work will be guided by national changes proposed by the Wildlife Trusts and future annual monitoring reports will report progress.

Worcestershire Habitat Inventory

The aims of the Worcestershire Habitat Inventory Project are to:

- set up a GIS database that will enable a flexible approach to collation, storage, analysis and dispersal of habitat and land use data.
- Identify habitat/land use of every land parcel in Worcestershire by Aerial Photograph Interpretation, and analysis of existing habitat and Species data.
- To provide baseline habitat/land use information, derived from 2005 aerial photosets, that will enable monitoring of habitat/land use change to be undertaken in Worcestershire.
- To assist Worcestershire's local authorities to meet their obligations according UK legislation and Government policy guidance, for example:

    - Consideration, conservation and enhancement of biological diversity when exercising their functions
    - Monitoring of Local Development Frameworks and RSS
    - Obligations under SEA/SA
    - State of the Environment reporting
    - CPA, LPSA and LAA progress monitoring

At current levels of progress completion of the full county Habitat Inventory is likely to occur in 2008. Progress after June 2007 is subject to funding being obtained.

The implications of all of these matters could be addressed in future Annual Monitoring Reports.

7. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Statement of Community Involvement

The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was adopted by the Council on 30th November 2006. It sets out the Council's proposals for involving the community, stakeholders and statutory bodies in the preparation of the Mineral and Waste Development Framework and the processing of applications for planning permission.

In developing the SCI the Council achieved very high returns from its initial consultation (43% from over 1,000 people and organisations contacted) and significant success in identifying and contacting Hard to Reach Groups. Criteria will be developed during 2007 to monitor how effective the SCI is in fostering community involvement. Results will be incorporated in the AMR for 2007.

8. LIMITATIONS AND PROPOSALS FOR FUTURE MONITORING

Currently the Council is experiencing difficulties with:

- Obtaining up to date information re: Waste Management Treatment capacity, and
- Ascertaining the volume and treatment of Construction and Demolition Waste are described above.

The difficulties it reported in the AMR for 2004-05 regarding the access to and the use of information about the sales and reserves of aggregates have largely been overcome.

Because this is the Council's second Annual Monitoring Report it is not possible to identify trends or to assess the volume of some of the indicators chosen. More significantly the existing Structure Plan and Minerals Local Plan only identifies a limited number of targets and indicators to assess the adequacy of the saved policies. The Local Development Documents now in preparation and the Sustainability Appraisal being developed to assess them are likely to include far more and should enable more precise analysis to be made. Other documents prepared by the Council, notably the Community Plan are also in time likely to set measures by which policies should be assessed. Future Annual Monitoring Reports may be able to include these and analyses of their implementation.

The staff resources available to the Council to progress its planning work generally have significantly affected the production of this report and may continue to constrain future years' submissions.

APPENDIX 1

LINKS TO THE COMMUNITY STRATEGY

The Community Strategy provides the strategic framework to which local strategies link and connect (Appendix 3: Community Strategy Links).

An integral part of the Community strategy is to illuminate community goals and objectives. The movement towards these could be monitored by future Annual Monitoring Reports. Common targets and indicators, including where relevant, Best Value Practice Performance Indicators, could be used to measure the policies within the Local Development Framework, in order to link it with measuring the progress of the Community Strategy. The Community Strategy identifies six themes setting out the vision for Worcestershire, agreed by the (29) members of the Worcestershire Partnership. The themes are:

- Communities that are healthy and support vulnerable people,
- Communities that are safe and feel safe,
- Learning and skills for everyone, at any age,
- Economic success that is shared by all,
- A better environment – for today and our children,
- Connecting Worcestershire

The Strategy itself only sets one target which specifically relates to the Council's role as the Mineral and Waste Planning Authority for the County. (To double the recycling rate for PE1 Municipal Solid Waste between 2000 and 2005). The Strategy does however provide the context for its planning work and was the basis for the Sustainability Appraisal (Scoping Report) for the Waste Core Strategy. The Worcestershire Partnership Management Group have agreed that the Community Strategy will be reviewed during 2007 and subsequent Annual Monitoring Reports could link more closely to it.

A link to the Community Strategy can be found at: http://www.worcestershirepartnership.org.uk/environment (under Strategies and Plans.

APPENDIX 2

CONTEXT AND BACKGROUND

The County of Worcestershire covers an area of 173,529 ha. and is part of the West Midlands Region, it is adjacent to the major West Midlands Conurbation and Staffordshire to the north, the Marches Counties of Herefordshire and Shropshire to the west, Gloucestershire and the South West Region to the south and Warwickshire to the east. It includes six District Councils, Bromsgrove, Malvern Hills, Redditch, Worcester City, Wychavon and Wyre Forest. (See Worcestershire County Structure Plan Key Diagram (last page of this report)).

The following is a summary of the issues most germane to Minerals and Waste Planning.

Monitoring the State of our Environment

The Worcestershire Partnership Environment Group (WPEG) has developed an innovative way of helping us to map and recognise changes in state of the local environment in Worcestershire. Called the State of the Environment report it track changes annually and over the longer term bring together information from a range of partners in one place.

What is the Worcestershire Partnership Environment Group (WPEG)?

WPEG is a sub group of the Worcestershire Partnership and is made up of over 30 individuals representing many interests in the environment, including scientists, voluntary sector, businesses, government agencies and local Councils, elected members and farmers.

To see the State of the Environment report visit the Worcestershire Partnership website at www.worcestershirepartnership.org.uk .

Physiography

Worcestershire is one of the most diverse Counties in Britain. Not only does it have a very varied geology and landform but it encompasses the southern limit of many northern plant and animal species, and the northern limit of species found in the south, and so is exceptionally rich biologically. Cultural factors also have a significant influence. The County spans the boundary between what Oliver Rackham and other landscape experts describe as the ancient landscapes of the north and west of Britain and the planned landscapes associated with much of Central England. The Malvern Hills AONB is almost wholly, and the Cotswolds AONB is partly within the County. Part of the County has also been designated by the European Geoparks Association as part of the Abberley and Malvern Hills Geopark, one of only three geoparks in the UK.

Topographically the contrast of hard rocks to the north and west and softer rocks in the central and southern areas gives Worcestershire the appearance of a shallow basin surrounded by a ridge of higher ground, forming the catchment of the River Severn and its tributaries the Teme, Avon and Stour. (See Topography from a New Look at Worcestershire: Landscape 2004 www.worcestershire.gov.uk).

This variety and richness of geology has important implications for the nature and extent of mineral resources in the County.

The greatest part of the County is associated with triassic mudstone, low lying, mostly below 60 metres AOD and subject to significant seasonal flooding. The issue of flooding and its relationship with sand and gravel resources will be explored during the evidence gathering stages of the Council's Minerals Core Strategy during 2007.

The soil structure of the County reflects its varied geology and drainage systems. (See Appendix 5, Soils: from a New Look at Worcestershire's Landscapes 2004). The central and western parts of the County are free draining, with better status sandy soils in the river valleys (albeit subject to seasonal flooding) and very fertile soils in the Vale of Evesham. Soils in the north of the County are the most acid and impoverished, large areas of gleyed soils occur associated with glacial drift, shales and lias clays and there are poorly drained wetland soils away from river valleys e.g. at Longdon and Feckenham. *Future Annual Monitoring Reports could explore soil sustainability and improvement issues, with a view to possibly using waste materials as a soil improver.*

Land Use

The greatest part of the County is in productive agricultural use. Most distinctively horticulture, particularly orchards and market gardening. Cash crops are also important in the Vale of Evesham, terraces of the Severn and sandstones of the north. Mixed farming is typical of most of the rest of the County. The river valleys are notable for their pastures with rough grazing limited to unenclosed common lands, notably around the Malverns. Forestry remains the principal land use of the Wyre Forest.

Agricultural change and its implications for landscape character and biodiversity and the designation of agricultural waste as Directive Waste could be addressed in future Annual Monitoring Reports.

Population

The population of the County is 555,800 (mid year 2005) 64% of whom live in the towns of Worcester, Redditch, Kidderminster, Stourport-on-Severn, Bromsgrove, Malvern, Droitwich and Evesham. The population is projected to grow at a rate of around 0.5% per annum until 2011 to reach 558,900. The highest rate of growth is expected to be in the 65+ age band. About 3.6% of the population are from minority ethnic groups, the largest single minorities being from Pakistan, the oldest established being groups of travellers (National Statistics, 2004). The Council's BPEO and the Joint Waste Management Strategy are based on these figures. Changes in the population could have implications for municipal waste management and could be addressed in future annual monitoring reports.

Economy

A link to the County Economic Assessment 2005-06 can be found at www.worcestershirepartnership.org.uk/environment . The following is a summary of the issues most germane to Minerals and Waste Planning.

In 2005 81.0% of the working population was economically active, 3.6% above the West Midlands average and 2.6% above that for Great Britain, an increase of 0.3% since 2004. The rate for the West Midlands declined 0.1% in this period whereas that for Great Britain increased by 0.2%.

The economic activity rate for 16-24 year olds is 4.5% higher in Worcestershire than in the West Midlands and 3.7% higher than Great Britain. The economic activity rate for those aged 50 and over in Worcestershire remains higher than in the West Midlands and Great Britain. This is an ongoing trend and could be attributed to the significant number of older workers in the County. (Source: Annual Population Survey: Worcestershire County Council Interim Economic Assessment 2006-2007).

Business Competitive Indicators

Five Business Competitive Indicators were developed by the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) in 1995. These are currently based on local authorities boundaries established between 1996 and 1998 and the Learning and Skills Council areas established during 2000.

The five BSIs are:

- Growth Value Added (GVA)
- Per head of population (GDP)
- Average earnings
- Employment levels
- Survival rates for VAT registered businesses
- VAT registrations and de-registrations by business

Table 6 - Key Statistics for the Business Competitive Indicators are

	Worcestershire	West Midlands	Great Britain
POPULATION			
Mid-year Estimate 2005	555,800	5,365,400	58,485,000
Area (hectares)	173,529	1,300,400	24,910,000
Density (persons per hectare)	3.2	4.1	2.3
Population Change 2004 – 2005 (%)	0.7	0.6	0.6
HOUSEHOLDS			
Average Property Price (£), Quarter 2 2006	£190,196	£164,575	£199,165*
EMPLOYMENT			
Total Employment 2004	271,000	2,442,300	27,390,500
Change in Employment 2003-2004 (%)	0.8	0.4	0.6
Economic Activity Rate, 2004 (%)	81.0	77.4	78.4
Economic Activity Rate, 2004 (%) - Males	86.2	82.8	83.2
Economic Activity Rate, 2004 (%) - Females	75.6	71.5	73.2
% Employed in Manufacturing, 2004	19.7	18.2	13.3
% Employed in Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants, 2004	20.7	19.2	19.3
% Employed in Public Admin, Education, Health, 2004	26.5	27.7	27.8
% Employed in the Service Sector, 2004	70.5	71.8	76.6
Average Gross Weekly Earnings - Residents, 2004 (£)	£421.10	£405.30	£435.40
UNEMPLOYMENT			
Registered Claimants, August 2006	6,463	111,459	929,498
Unemployment Rate, August 2006 (%)	1.9	3.4	2.6
Proportion Aged 16–24, August 2006 (%)	29.8	32.5	32.0
Proportion of unemployed out of work 6 months+, August 2006 (%)	31.7	36.4	41.3
ECONOMY			
VAT Registered businesses (total stock at end of year), 2004	19,605	152,160	1,760,955
GVA Per Resident Head, 2003 (£)	£13,366	£14,624	£16,485**
GVA Per Full Time Equivalent Employee, 2003 (£)	£39,736	£39,759	£43,975**
EDUCATION			
GCSE 5+ A* - C (%), 2004/05	56.3	54.2	56.3***
GCSE 5+ A* - G (%),2004/05	92.8	89.8	86.4***
A-Levels 2 A – C (%),2004/05	59.1		
A-Levels 4+ A – E (%),2004/05	45.9		

Information from individual Local Authorities can be obtained from the website: http://www.dfes.gov.uk/rsgateway/contents.shtml

Sources: Office of National Statistics (ONS), Labour Force Survey, Annual Population Survey, Land Registry, Research & Intelligence Worcestershire County Council, NOMIS, 2001 Census, Annual Business Inquiry 2003, Joseph Rowntree Foundation.

**England & Wales*

***UK*

****England*

Self-Employment

The Annual Population Survey provides figures for self-employment. In 2005 it was estimated that 38,200 people were self-employed in Worcestershire, equating to 14.1% of the total working population. This rate is 1.3% above the national average of 12.8%. Locally the proportion of self-employed in Worcestershire has increased by 0.1% compared with the previous year, compared with a rise of 0.1% regionally and 0.2% nationally. (Source: Annual Population Survey, 2005)

Employment and Agriculture

The Annual Business Inquiry and hence para 4.16 below does not accurately represent those employed in agriculture. The June 2004 Agricultural Census for England (DEFRA) shows that local labour in the Agricultural Sector numbers 7,985 in Worcestershire. This represents an increase of 5.6% from 2003. Changes in the local agricultural sector could have visible affects on the character of the County's landscape and less perceptibly on biodiversity and possibly soil sustainability and water quality. *Further Annual Monitoring Reports could explore these issues.*

Unemployment

Although claimant count rates have increased since January 2005, Worcestershire is still well below the rate for the West Midlands and Great Britain. A pattern of increasing claimant count rates since January 2005 has also been evident regionally and nationally.

Table 7 - Total Unemployment

Area	**Male**	**Female**		
	Claimants and Rate (%) August 2006	Change since August 2005	Claimants and Rate (%) August 2006	Change since August 2005
Worcestershire	4,630	-136	1,833	98
%	2.6	-0.1	1.1	0.0
West Midlands	82,098	8,871	29,361	4,207
%	4.8	0.5	1.9	0.3
Great Britain	672,933	53,207	256,565	25,824
%	3.6	0.3	1.5	0.2

Source: NOMIS, National Statistics, 2006
Note: Rates are expressed as the number of claimants resident in an area as a percentage of the working age population resident in that year.
Working age is defined at 16-64 for males and 16-59 for females. The working age population figures are derived from mid-year population estimates which are compatible with the 2001 Census.

Long Term Unemployment

Long-term unemployment is defined as claimants spending six months or more on the claimant count register. In August 2006, 31.7 per cent of the claimants in Worcestershire (2,045 claimants) were classified as being long-term unemployed. This represents an increase of 9.3 per cent (590 claimants) since August 2005. Despite the large increase the level of long-term unemployment in Worcestershire in August 2006 remains significantly lower than the figure for the West Midlands region (36.4 per cent) or for Great Britain (41.3 per cent).

Claimants counted in youth unemployment figures are those aged between 16 and 24. In August 2006, 29.8 per cent of those who were unemployed in Worcestershire fell into this category, equating to 1,925 claimants. This is an increase of 1.6 per cent (100 claimants) since August 2005. Youth unemployment in Worcestershire remains slightly below regional and national figures. In August 2006 the West Midlands figure stood at 32.5 per cent while the total for Great Britain was 32.0 per cent.

Employment by Industry

Changes in the nature of the local economy could have implications for the nature and volumes of waste produced and the forms of management necessary. Future AMR's could assess the nature of changes in individual sectors and the possibility of significant effects.

Table 8 - Employment by Industry

Employee Jobs by Industry, 2000-2004

	Worcestershire			West Midlands	England
	2004	**%**	**% Change (00-04)**	**% Change (00-04)**	**% Change (00-04)**
Agriculture*	7,985	3.3	-4.2	-1.4	-2.0
Energy and water	1,128	0.5	-9.3	-43.2	-27.8
Manufacturing	42,442	17.8	-9.5	-21.4	-18.3
Construction	10,641	4.5	23.8	11.5	6.0
Distribution, hotels & restaurants	58,332	24.4	-1.6	8.0	5.4
Transport and communications	9,194	3.8	-14.5	-1.6	-0.5
Banking, finance & insurance, etc	39,414	16.5	17.2	14.5	4.1
Public admin, education & health	57,524	24.1	6.2	12.5	13.5
Other services	12,442	5.2	43.0	3.1	5.9
Total	**239,102**	**100.0**	**3.2**	**2.5**	**2.8**

Source: Annual Business Inquiry, 2000, 2004, DEFRA, 2000, 2004
*Taken from the Agricultural Census as the ABI underestimates employment in agriculture.
Note: The ABI excludes self-employed, working proprietors, domestic staff in private households and those in the armed forces.

Table above shows the structure of the workforce from the Annual Business Inquiry. Because the ABI underestimates the contribution of the agriculture and fishing sector to the economy of Worcestershire data on this sector has been taken from the June 2004 Agricultural Census.

Nearly a half of the entire workforce in the county is employed in the Distribution, Hotels and Restaurants Sector (24.4 per cent), or within Public Administration, Education and Health (24.1 per cent).

Between 2000 and 2004 there have been some significant changes in the job structure in Worcestershire. Overall there has been a 3.2% increase in the number of jobs (compared to 2.8% nationally) over the four-year period. Distribution, hotels & restaurants and Public Administration continue to be the two largest sectors in terms of total employee jobs.

- Within the construction industry there has been a 23.8% increase in employee jobs from 8,597 to 10,641 (compared to 6% increase nationally).
- There has been a 43.0% increase in employee jobs in 'other services' sector (includes solicitors, accountants, employment agencies, marketing, security).
- The number of jobs in agriculture has decreased by 4.2% compared to a 2.0% decrease nationally.
- The manufacturing sector has experienced a 9.5% decrease between 2000 and 2004 compared to -21% regionally and 18% nationally.

Local Economic Forecast (March 2004)

The Local Economic Forecasting Model from Cambridge Econometrics provides future projections for a number of economic measures at County, regional and national level. Although projections are available up to 2020, analysis is limited to cover the period up until 2015. The main findings are outlined below.

Investment

Total investment in Worcestershire is projected to increase by 2.4% per annum between 2004 and 2010 (compared to 2.3% in the West Midlands and 3.1% in the UK), and by 2.3% per annum between 2010 and 2015 (compared to 2.2% in the West Midlands and 2.6% in the UK).

The figures indicate that only Worcestershire's Financial and Business Services sector will suffer a negative period of investment until 2010 (-0.6%), although during the period 2010 to 2015, investment is forecast to increase (2.7%). The data also shows relatively large projected increases in investment within the sectors of Transport and Communications (5.0%) and Government Services (4.7%) between 2004-2010. Although to a slightly lesser degree this trend is repeated across the West Midlands and the UK.

With the exception of Financial & Business Services, investment growth across all sectors in Worcestershire is expected to be lower in 2010-2015 compared with 2004-2010. Again this pattern is repeated on a regional and national level.

Other Indicators

Housing

Housing development could have implications for aggregate supply, the re-use of brownfield land and generation of alternative aggregates. The distribution of new housing could also have implications for municipal waste collection, the character of the landscape, traffic, pollution, water supply and quality. Effects on the local economy are also possible.

Regulation 48 (6) and (7) of the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 state that the Annual Monitoring Report must include an assessment of the number of dwellings built. These assessments are made by the six District Councils in the County. Their inclusion here could only be made on the basis of figures provided by these Councils and would inevitably not be as up to date as those shown in District Councils' own Annual Monitoring Reports. GOWM's advice is that these Regulations do not apply where the Local Development Framework does not include any housing element and that no such figures need be included here.

New housing allocations for the County will be imposed when Phase 2 of the RSS Review is approved in 2008. The new figures will have implications for the need for aggregates in the short term and for the provision of waste management facilities in the longer. These issues will be explored in subsequent AMRs and will inform the emerging Minerals Core Strategy and future reviews of the Waste Core Strategy.

Deprivation

Future AMRs could address issues of deprivation and progress, notably in the Rural Action Plan.

APPENDIX 3 DEVELOPMENT PLAN POLICIES

The Development Plan currently consists of the following documents:

Worcestershire County Structure Plan
Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan
West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy

APPENDIX 4 RELEVANT DOCUMENTS
MINERAL AND WASTE PLANNING

Regional Planning

West Midlands Regional Spatial Strategy (formerly RPG 11) (June 2004)

Worcestershire County Council

Minerals and Waste Development Scheme documents (current/latest documents asterisked). All obtainable from: http/worcestershire.gov.uk.

- *Statement of Community Involvement
- *Waste Core Strategy: Submission Document and Proposals Map (January 2007)
- Waste Core Strategy: Preferred Options Report (April 2006)
- *Annex to Sustainability Appraisal Report (April 2006) Waste Core Strategy, Preferred Options Report
- Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire: Moving Towards the Identification of Preferred Options (September 2005)
- *Sustainability Appraisal of the Waste Core Strategy: Issues and Options (September 2005) (and Appendices)
- Scoping Report: Sustainability Appraisal of the Waste Core Strategy (September 2005)
- Responses to Scoping Report Consultation (August 2005)
- Planning Issues and Options for Managing Waste in Worcestershire – Evidence Gathering in Preparation of the Core Strategy – Final Report (April 2005)
- *The Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme (April 2006)
- Waste Development Framework Report of the Stakeholder Workshops (December 2004)
- *Planning Best Practical Environmental Option (Cabinet approved) (July 2003)

Saved Plans

- *Worcestershire County Structure Plan 1996-2011 Adopted Plan (June 2001)
- County Structure Plan 1996-2011 Baseline Monitoring Statement at April 2001
- *Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan Adopted April 1997

Other Worcestershire County Council documents referred to in the text

- *Worcestershire State of the Environment Report (on-going)

- *"Managing Waste for a brighter Future"
  Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy for Herefordshire and Worcestershire 2004-2034 (November 2004)

- *Economic Assessment 2005-2006 Worcestershire County Council

APPENDIX 5 – PERMITTED WASTE MANAGEMENT SITES

Table 9: Current List of Active County Matter Permissions for Waste Management Facilities – Last updated December 2006

File Reference	Bromsgrove District
BR03/W/Mon	Off Dark Lane, Headley Heath, Wythall **Application 407544** - Construction of a Sewage Treatment Works
BR04/W/Mon	Weights Farm, Weights Lane, Redditch, Worcs **Application 404055 –** mineral extraction and regarding of land adjacent to north-east side of railway line **Application 407235** – tipping of inert materials and construction of access track **Application 407325** – continuation of tipping of material **Application 407376** – Extension of tipping area
BR05/W/Mon	Landfill at Quantry Lane, Romsley, Bromsgrove Worcs **Application 600605** – Landfill comprising improvement of the access, erection of fencing, provision of mess facilities and garage, deposit of domestic, commercial and non-hazardous industrial waste, covering with soil and restoration to agricultural use
BR07/W/Mon **7 permissions**	Sandy Lane Landfill Site, A491, (Stanley Evans Quarry) Wildmoor **Application Reference 6522R** – Landfilling of waste materials **Application 407102** – infilling of exisiting excavations with imported inert waste **Application 407292** – landfilling by cleanaway; appeal **Application 107110** – ROMPP relating to landfilling and restoration **Application 407480** – Gas utilisation facility (not yet implemented) **Application 407573** – Installation of a high temperature flare for the control of landfill gas – temporary use only **Application 407624** – Gas utilisation facility and gas control measures
BR10/W/Mon **5 permissions**	Waste transfer station, Cinetic Sand Quarry, Sandy Lane, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove **Application B20135** – use of land as a waste transfer station **Application B92/600 –** Modification of condition 1 of permission B20135 to extend time **Application 407466** – Modification of condition 2 of planning permission B92/600; name of operator of transfer station **Application 407474** – Application to amend planning condition to extend current restriction of use beyond 21/12/02 **Application 407496** – To change conditions 5 and 6 of permission B92/0600
BR14/W/Mon	Aston Road, Aston Fields Industrial Estate, Bromsgrove **Application 407568** – Waste transfer station, staging point for waste collection vehicles and bulking bays for dry recyclables
BR03M//Mon **3 permissions**	Shepley Quarry, Brookhouse Road, Bromsgrove **Application 407081** – disposal of excavated waste and surplus waste off M42 construction **Application 107103** - ROMPP relating to application 403143 (winning and

	working of sand) **Application 407558** – Variation of conditions 20, 23 and 30 of planning consent reference 107103 for the continuation of inert landfilling to a revised restoration scheme
	The Orchard, Radford Road, Alvechurch **Application 407660** – Upgrading of existing pumping station and access.
	Chadwich Lane, Belbroughton, **Application 407631** – Proposed storage and recycling site for timber by-products and green waste on land.
	Sites with EA licence but not on County Council record
	Metals and Ores, Industrial Estate, 138 Hanbury Rd, Stoke Prior, Bromsgrove. A to Z Skips, Metal Recycling Site.
Total live sites	10 **Total permissions 24**

File reference	**Malvern Hills District**
MH01/W/Mon	Palmers Meadow, Tenbury Wells,Worcs **Application 001852** (file reference 600576) - Household Waste site,
MH02/W/Mon	Lorry Park off Hanley Castle Road, Upton-upon-Severn **Application 602226** - Reclamation Centre for the siting of movable skips, other containers and a mobile office building surrounded by 1.8 metre high steel palisade fencing
MH03/W/Mon	Ball Mill Quarry, Grimley **Application 407540** - Aggregates Recycling Facility and associated agricultural improvements
MH05/W/Mon **2 permissions**	Astley Hampstall & Severn Meadows, Astley Burf. **Application 407503** – Extension to sewage treatment works and construction of new access at Astley Hampstall Sewage Treatment Works, Hampstall Lane, Astley Hampstall **Application 407528** – Revised location of proposed pumping station at Severn Meadows, Astley Burf
MH06/W/Mon	Welland Sewage Treatment Works, Welland, Nr. Malvern **Application 407517 –** Proposed modification and improvement of existing sewage treatment works
MH07/W/Mon	Household Waste Site, Newland Depot, Worcester Road, Malvern **Application 407514** – Refurbishment and extension of existing household waste site and construction of new gritter shed
MH09/W/Mon	The Common, Kerswell Green **Application 407487**- Construction of a new sewage works and an access layby
MH10/W/Mon	Waste Transfer Station, Guinness Farm, Leigh Sinton, Malvern **Application 407486 –** continuation of use of transfer station
MH16/W/Mon **2 permissions**	Penny Hill Quarry Landfill, Pudford Lane, Martley **Application 407016** – Landfill of wastes **Application 407287** – Proposed electricity generation plant using landfill gas as a fuel
MH18/W/Mon	Land off Church Farm, Grimley **Application 407534** – Proposed sewage pumping station to serve new sewage treatment works

MH19/W/Mon	Tenbury Wells Sewage Treatment Works, Rhyse Lane, Tenbury Wells **Application 407563** – Submerged aerated filter plant, phosphate removal plant and ancillary development **Application 407603** – Installation of 8 kiosks, field access and retrospective associated works in connection with STW
MH20/W/Mon	Upper Howsell Road, Great Malvern **Application 407581** - Erection of control cabinet for flood relief scheme
MH21/W/Mon	Poolhay, Nr. Corse Lawn, Malvern Hills Application 407605 – new STW on land off Link End road, SW of Poolhay
MH/23/W/Mon	Moorlands Road, Link Common, Malvern **Application 407617** - Installation of kiosk/cabinet to monitor performance of sewer and provide environmental data
MH/24/W/Mon	STW, Lower Ferry Lane, Callow End, Powick, Worcester **Application 407615** – Erection of electrical control kiosk as part of sewer improvements at Lower Ferry Lane, Callow End, Powick
MH25/W/Mon	Grove Crescent, Ryall Grove, Upton-upon-severn **Application 407629** – Proposed electrical control kiosk on the verge at the Horse and Groom Inn, Ryall Grove
	Old Road, Clifton Upon Teme **Application 407655** – Proposed upgrading of pumping Station
	Powick STW **Application 407656** – Construction of 1 no GRP Control Kiosk at Powick Sewage Treatment Works.
	Blackmore Park Industrial Estate, Near Malvern **Application 407662** – Proposed Control Kiosk at Blackmore Sewage Pumping Station.
	Malvern Sewage Treatment Works, Mill Lane, Malvern **Application 407666 –** Construction of 4 GRP kiosks.
	Kempsey Sewage Treatment Works, off Post Office Lane, Kempsey **Application 407668** – Improvement works to sewage Pumping Station including the erection of three kiosks.
	Church Road, Tenbury Wells **Application 407673** – Refurbishment of sewage pumping station
	Halfkey Farm, Halfkey, Malvern, **Application 407663** - Re use and conversion of existing haystore and shelter to domestic/small animal incinerator facility. Approved 14/9/06.
Total live sites	16 **Total permissions 27**

File reference	**Redditch District**
RE01/W/Mon **2 permissions**	Alexandra Hospital, Woodrow Drive, Redditch **Application 407293** – New medical waste incinerator to be housed in extension to existing plant building **Application 407618 –** variation for non compliance with condition 6 of permission 407293
RE02/W/Mon	Crossgate Road, Park Farm Industrial Estate, Redditch **Application 407471** – Extension and refurbishment of Waste Transfer Station and Household Waste site

RE04/W/Mon	Unit 5, Upper Crossgates Road, Park Farm **Application 407246** – Change of use to waste transfer station
RE06/W/Mon	Crossgates Road, Park Farm Industrial Estate **Application 407562** – Construction of bulk storage facility for recyclables on land adjoining council depot
RE07/W/Mon	Priest Bridge STW, Dark Lane, Bradley Green **Application 407627** – installation of ferrous chloride solution dosing plant for phosphorous removal (dosing pump kiosk and sludge thickening kiosk)
	Sites with EA licence but not on County Council record
	Redditch Transfer Station, Mercia Waste Management, HCI WTS
	Arrows Metals, Arthur Street, Lakeside, Redditch, Metal Recycling Sites (mixed MRS), Arrows Metals Redditch Ltd **Adrian Craddick – DJ Craddock and Sons,** DJ Craddock and Sons, End of life vehicles
	Delrene Motors, Alan Williams and Tony Williams, End of life vehicles
	Redditch & Lower Park Skip Hire – unit 21 Weights Farm, John Sagar Adam Wood, HCI - WTS
Total live sites	9 **Total permissions 6**

File reference	Worcester City District
WC01/W/Mon	Blackpole Recycling, Unit 100, Blackpole Trading Estate **Application 407530** – Change of use to Recycling Centre
WC03/W/Mon	The Recycling Centre, Stanier Road, Wardon, Worcester **Application 407447** – use of existing/approved buildings for shredding/other process of a similar nature resulting in volume reduction of any article to which the process is applied
WC04/W/Mon	Hallow Road Reclamation Centre, Horsford Road, St Johns, Worcester **Application 407529** – waste reclamation centre
WC05/W/Mon **4 permissions**	Household Waste Site, Bilford Road, Perdiswell, Worcester **Application 602424 –** improvements to existing household waste site and highways waste transfer station **Application 407472 –** use of land as a household waste site without complying with condition 2 of permission 602424 **Application 407526** – use of land as a household waste site without complying with condition 1 of permission 407472 **Application 407555** – application to use land as a household waste site without complying with condition 1 of permission 407526
WC07/W/Mon	Unit 61 C, Waste Transfer Station, Blackpole T.E. West **Application 407602 – Waste Transfer Station**
WC08/W/Mon	The Recycling Centre, Stanier Road, Warndon **Application 407479** – Erection of new buildings for waste treatment purposes on site of 12 existing tanks
	Land between River Teme and Toronto Close, Lower Wick **Application 407652** – modifications to an existing outfall structure and installation of a lockable barrier and steps to facilitate safe access by operational staff.
	Sewage Treatment Works, Bromwich Road, **Application 407657** – Erection of 2 control kiosks.
	Sites with EA licence but not on County Council record
	RKR/Malmoco used car spares Ltd, 17 Sheriff Street, Metal Recycling Sites, R K R Used Car Spares Ltd
Total live sites	7 **Permissions 11**

File Reference	Wychavon District
WY01/W/Mon	Pershore Sewage Treatment Works, Tiddesley Wood **Application 407556 – Erection of 4 GRP kiosks**
WY03/W/Mon	Grove Farm, Radford, Inkberrow **Application 407032** - Waste Transfer Station,
	Birds Commercial Metals, Long Marston, Pebworth **Application 407266** – Waste Transfer Station
WY05/W/Mon **2 permissions**	Glendale Landfill Site, Chatley, Ombersley **Application 407304 -** Filling of a depression at “Glendale”, Chatley, near Hawford **Application 407570** – Variation of condition 7 of planning permission 407304

	to allow a further two years for infilling to be completed
WY11/W/Mon **2 permissions**	Household Waste Site, Hanbury Road, Droitwich **Application 407469** – Refurbishment and extension of household waste site **Application 407490** – New access for household waste site
WY12/W/Mon	Land north of Long Lane, Throckmorton **Application 407512** – New STW & pumping station
WY16/W/Mon	Skip Hire Depot, Lydstep, Cleeve Road, Evesham Road, Middle Littleton, Nr **Application 407544** – Waste transfer station
WY17/W/Mon	Waresley Landfill Site, Hartlebury **Application 407551** – Construction and operation of landfill gas utilisation facility **Application 407177** – Clay extraction and restoration by tipping of refuse
WY18/W/Mon **2 permissions**	George Baylis Road, Berry Hill, Industrial Estate, Droitwich **Application 407333** – Waste reclamation centre **Application 407362** – Use of a mini-breaker crushing plant
WY20/W/Mon	Hill and Moor Landfill site, Throckmorton, near Pershore **Application 600444** – extension of landfill site **Application 407344** – landfill gas extraction and electricity generation plant **Application 407377** – erection of portal frame building and provision of a materials reclamation facility adjacent to the household waste site **Application 407390** – proposed extension of landfill site and associated activities including extraction of materials from land at Jacksons Farm, restoration to agriculture, woodland, nature conservation and amenity uses **Application 407499** – household waste site; new building to house materials reclamation facility and vehicle repair workshop; bulk storage bays; landfill reception and associated offices, car parking; screen mounding in operational areas; balancing lagoon and reed bed **Application 407519** – application to operate materials reclamation facility without complying with conditions 2 and 4 under permission **407377** **Application 407522 –** new vehicular access from Wyre Piddle Bypass to the existing site and proposed site reception facilities along the line of George Lane, Wyre Piddle **Application 407523 –** installation of buried pipe with air valve and wash out chambers to carry treated water from southern boundary of the landfill site to the River Avon **Application 407542 –** proposal to continue the operations to extend the landfill site without complying with condition 22 of permission 407390 **Application 407543 –** proposed new vehicular access from the Wyre Piddle Bypass to the site reception facilities parallel to George Lane **Application 407571 –** variation of condition 16 of permission 407499; extension of hours to the materials recycling facility **Application 407626 –** Extension to upper platform, replacement of embankment with a retaining wall **Application 407626 –** Variation of condition 16 of permission 407390; extension of hours of landfilling **Application 407625 –** Construction and extension to present household waste site upper platform
	Court End Farm, Mill Lane, Eckington **Application 407575** – Extension of Sewage Pumping Station
	Anchor Lane, Evesham

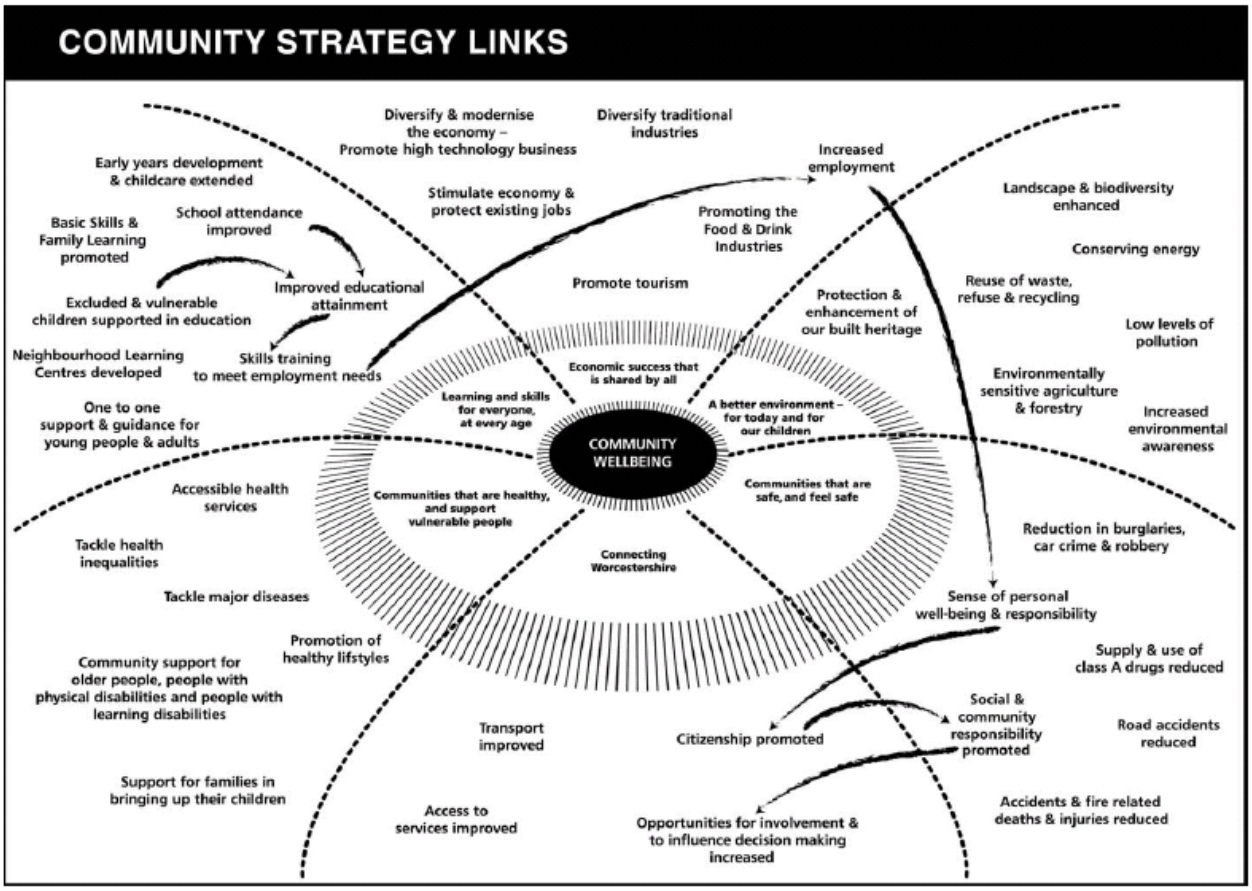
	Application 407584 – Extension of existing STW and erection of plant and buildings
	Off Atch Lench Road, Church Lench **Application 407583** - Extension to existing STW
	Land adjacent to Goosehill Farm, Hanbury, Droitwich **Application 407595** – Existing pit/excavation to be backfilled to generally level and return to agricultural use
	Quarry Lane SPS, Cleeve Prior, Wychavon **Application 407587** – Asset renewal, construction of temporary haul road and erection of two kiosks
	Sale Green, Droitwich Spa **Application 407592** – STW with new access
	Land at Harkaway Farm, Whittington **Application 407545** – sewage treatment facilities
	Kingsmoor Farm, Cleeve Prior, Evesham, Worcestershire **Application 407567 -** Composting of green waste
	Harvington Sewage Treatment Works, Anchor Lane, Evesham **Application 407616** - new WashWater Booster Kiosk
	Blackminster Sewage Treatment Works, Station Road, Blackminster, Evesham, Worcestershire **Application 407620** - Upgrading of sewage treatment works, erection of 6 blowers enclosures as part of asset renewal **Application 407599** - Upgrading of sewage treatment works as part of asset renewal scheme
	Bredon Hill School, Elmley Road, Ashton under Hill **Application 407623** – Construction of new sewage pumping station and erection of electrical control cabinet
	Inkberrow Sewage Treatment Works, Appletree Lane, Inkberrow **Application 407621** – Modification and extension of existing treatment works and erection of electricity meter cabinet
	Bredon's Hardwick, Bredon **Application 407593** – upgrading of sewage pumping station including erection of pump enclosure
	Off Orchard Lea, Naunton Beauchamp, Pershore **Application 407610** – extension to existing sewage treatment work
	Pershore Road, Hampton, Evesham **Application 407622** – erection of 3 GRP enclosures as part of upgrading works
	New House Farm Quarry, Hartlebury **Application 407613** – The construction and use of a temporary haul road to serve quarry **Application 407536** – Extraction of clays, including the construction of a new haul road from 24 hectares of land and the restoration of the resultant void to create a lake
	Hartlebury Trading Estate, Hartlebury **Application 407596** – Proposed waste treatment (using steam autoclaves) and recycling facility including the construction of a new building
	Honeyman's Brook **Application 407635** – Construction of revised layby for maintenance vehicles to service adjacent oil interceptor.
	Lydstep Cleeve Road, Middle Littleton, Near Evesham **Application 407640** – Proposal to vary condition 14 of planning permission

	407544 for a waste transfer station on land forming part of skip hire depot in order to allow the use of an on site screener at Pete Bott Skips.
	Hawbridge Sewage Treatment Works, Near Stoulton **Application 407643** – Construction of new sewage treatment works adjacent to and incorporating the existing Hawbridge STW.
	Droitwich STW Porters Mill, Ladywood, Droitwich **Application 407644** - Proposed modification to existing sewage treatment works.
	Drakes Lea, Bengeworth, Evesham **Application 407651** – Asset Renewal, replacement of an existing control Kiosk.
	Park Lane, Bradley **Application 407653** – Installation of 2 no control kiosks at priest bridge STW
	Harvey Road, Bengeworth, Evesham **Application 407654** – Replacement of existing control kiosk
	Rectory Lane Sewage Treatment works, Rock **Application 407667** – Proposed extension and upgrading of existing STW.
	Whittington STW **Application 407670** - New MCC Kiosk to house electrical control panels.
	Wessex House, Trench Lane, Oddingley. **Application 407672** – Construction of sewage pumping station and site perimeter fencing.
	Hartlebury Trading Estate **Application 407658** – Vary condition 34 of planning permission for the proposed waste treatment
	Pete Bott skips, Lydstep, Cleeve Road, Middle Littleton, Evesham. 407640 Proposal to vary condition 14 of planning permission 407544 for a waste transfer station on land forming part of skip hire depot in order to allow the use of an on site screener. Granted 01/02/06
	Metal and Ores, Hanbury Road, Stoke Prior, Hanbury 407614 part change of use from building for soil recycling purposes to waste transfer facility with soil recycling. Granted 10/05/05
	Chapel Lane, Offenham, Evesham Proposed importation and storage of green waste and recycling of wood chip for off site distribution on land off of Chapel lane. Approved 22/03/06 Mr A Tustin
	Sites with EA licence but not on County Council record
	Cleansing Services Group Ltd, Evesham Treatment Facility Physico Chemical Treatment Facility
	H T Waste recycling – transfer station HCI WTS
	Evesham Auto Salvage, Havemann-Mart Nicholas, End of life vehicles
	Common Road Dismantlers (breakers) Evesham, Hartwell Richard Francis End of life vehicles
	Droitwich Household waste site – Waste Transfer Station Mercia Waste management Ltd, HCI
Total live sites	40 **Total permissions 59**

File reference	Wyre Forest District
WF01/W/Mon **3 permissions**	Wyre Forest Recycling Services, Land at former tile yard, Sandy Lane Industrial Estate, Stourport **Application 407422** – Non-hazardous waste recycling centre **Application 407550** – Operation of a mobile crushing machine **Application 407600** – To vary Condition 3 of planning permission 407550 to extend time period to October 2006 and to vary condition 6 of same permission to allow movement of the crushing operation within the site
WF02/W/Mon	Former Lorry Park, Hoobrook Industrial Estate, Kidderminster **Application 407559** - Bulk Storage Facility for Recyclables
WF04/W/Mon **2 permissions**	Lawrences Skip Hire, Hoobrook Trading Estate, Kidderminster **Application 407380** – Non-hazardous waste transfer site **Application 407552** – To continue use of site as waste transfer site but without complying with conditions 3 and 4 of the above planning permission (407380)
WF05/W/Mon **2 permissions**	Summerway Landfill Site, Hillary Road, Stourport on Severn Hilary Road, Stourport **Application SU298/69** – tipping of soils and rubble **Application 407606** – recycling of soils by screening for off-site distribution
WF07/W/Mon	Land west of Arthur Drive, Hoobrook Farm I.E., Kidderminster **Application 407452** – waste transfer and recycling facility
WF08/W/Mon	Bone Mill, Minster Road, Stourport **Application 407470** – Household waste site
WF11/W/Mon	Hoobrook Transfer Station, Kidderminster **Application 601077 –** Household waste site
WF12/W/Mon **2 permissions**	Change of use of part of processing yard to waste transfer station, Lickhill Quarry **Application 407518** – change of use of part of processing yard to waste transfer station **Application 407582** – to continue the operation of waste transfer station and recycling facility in part of the yard
WF13/W/Mon	Lawrences, British Sugar site, Stourport Road, Kidderminster **Application 407564** – mobile crushing machine for the manufacture of recycled aggregates
WF16/W/Mon	Land at Hartlebury Trading Estate, Hartlebury **Application 407596** – Estech waste treatment by autoclaving and recycling facility including construction of new building and associated infrastructure
	Summerway Landfill Stourport on Severn **Application 407648** – retention of existing ancillary workshop.
	Road 2 Hoobrook Industrial Estate, Kidderminster **Application 407650** – Change of use of land for the processing and storage of recovered and recycled materials in association with the adjacent waste transfer stations operations.
	Wannerton, Blakedown **Application 407678** – Proposed asset renewal works at STW

	Sites with EA licence but not on County Council record
	Stephen Betts & Sons, Park Street Works, Kidderminster Stephen Alexander Betts, Special Waste Transfer Station
	Kidderminster Car Dismantlers MRS, Kenneth Walton, MRS (Vehicle Dismantlers)
	Wyre Forest Recycling Ltd Transfer Station, Wyre Forest Recycling Services Ltd, HCI – WTS
	Green Street Depot, Wyre Forest District Council, Special Waste Transfer Station
	Carmas 96 – MRS – Plot A, Road 2 Hoobrook Industrial Estate, Kidderminster. John David Boraston, MRS (Vehicle Dismantler)
Total live sites	16 **Permissions 18**

APPENDIX 6


COMMUNITY STRATEGY LINKS
Diversify & modernise the economy – Promote high technology business
Diversify traditional industries
Increased employment
Early years development & childcare extended
Stimulate economy & protect existing jobs
Landscape & biodiversity enhanced
School attendance improved
Promoting the Food & Drink Industries
Basic Skills & Family Learning promoted
Conserving energy
Improved educational attainment
Promote tourism
Reuse of waste, refuse & recycling
Excluded & vulnerable children supported in education
Protection & enhancement of our built heritage
Low levels of pollution
Neighbourhood Learning Centres developed
Skills training to meet employment needs
Economic success that is shared by all
Environmentally sensitive agriculture & forestry
Learning and skills for everyone, at every age
A better environment – for today and for our children
One to one support & guidance for young people & adults
Increased environmental awareness
COMMUNITY WELLBEING
Accessible health services
Communities that are healthy, and support vulnerable people
Communities that are safe, and feel safe
Reduction in burglaries, car crime & robbery
Tackle health inequalities
Connecting Worcestershire
Tackle major diseases
Sense of personal well-being & responsibility
Promotion of healthy lifstyles
Supply & use of class A drugs reduced
Community support for older people, people with physical disabilities and people with learning disabilities
Social & community responsibility promoted
Transport improved
Citizenship promoted
Road accidents reduced
Support for families in bringing up their children
Access to services improved
Opportunities for involvement & to influence decision making increased
Accidents & fire related deaths & injuries reduced