

# Preparing the Draft Plan Report

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## Annex B

HEREFORDSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN  
DRAFT PLAN



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## Minutes of the meeting of the West Midlands RTAB

30 October 2017

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## Annex B

HEREFORDSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN  
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**Minutes of the meeting of the West Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body,**  
**Monday 30<sup>th</sup> October 2017**  
**at Walsall Council House**

**1. Welcome, Introductions and Apologies**

Attendance:

Adrian Cooper	Chair, Shropshire Council
Dawn Sherwood	Walsall MBC
Ian Humphreys	International Synergies
Julie Castree-Denton	Staffordshire CC
Mark Watkins	Sandwell MBC
Marianne Joynes	Worcestershire CC
Martin Everett	Environment Agency
Michelle Ross	Wolverhampton CCK
Phil Ward	Worcestershire CC
Thomas Lewis	Stoke on Trent CC
Tony Lyons	Warwickshire CC
Vicki Eaton	Herefordshire Council
Kirsten Berry	Hendeca, on behalf of Herefordshire Council
Peter Field	Technical Secretary

Apologies: David Piper, Harjot Rayet, Jeff Rhodes, Maurice Barlow, Peter Hopkins, Rob Haigh, Susan Juned.

The Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting, and thanked Dawn Sherwood and her colleagues at Walsall MBC for their hospitality.

**2. Minutes of meeting on 21<sup>st</sup> March 2017**

2.1 The minutes were agreed. It was also agreed to seek an alternative web site 'home' for RTAB's minutes and other documents, possibly with the West Midlands Combined Authority.

**3. Duty to Co-operate**

(a) The Duty to Co-operate Protocol

3.1 It was agreed that the Duty to Co-operate (DtC) Protocol, agreed in 2013, should be refreshed and commitments renewed.

3.2 The Chair suggested and it was agreed that RTAB might usefully respond to the Government consultation on 'Planning for the Right Homes...', urging that waste planning issues should be included in those matters to be subject to the proposed Statements of Common Ground.

## (b) Herefordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan Issues and Options

3.3 Vic Eaton outlined the programme for preparation of the Plan leading to adoption in 2019, and introduced Kirsten Berry of Hendeca, who had been commissioned to provide expert advice to the Council.

3.4 Kirsten summarised the approach taken to and the key conclusions from the Waste Needs Assessment, including: the calculation of waste arisings, movements, facilities and management characteristics at the base date (2015); the methodology adopted to forecast waste arisings; and the conclusions regarding the need for additional waste management facilities for specific waste streams over the plan period.

3.5 Overall, arisings are forecast to increase from about 600kt in 2015 to about 750kt in 2031. Taking into account the contractual commitment regarding the Hartlebury EfW facility, applying EU targets for municipal waste re-use/ recycling, and assuming 65% recycling of C&I waste and 70% recovery of CD&E waste by 2030, it is concluded that there may be a requirement for a household waste recycling centre, c.150kt C&I recycling facility(ies), and additional capacity for both recovering and disposing of CD&E waste.

3.6 Questions focused on issues regarding the methodological approach, equivalent self-sufficiency, capacity for AD, and implications for landfill capacity within and beyond Herefordshire's boundaries.

3.7 The group felt that the methodology adopted in the Needs Assessment was appropriate to the Herefordshire context, and was a good exemplar; the assessment of arisings and existing capacity used available data to best effect; and forecasts of future arisings were based on an appropriate range of assumptions, including household, economic and GVA projections, across the relevant waste streams.

3.8 Regarding equivalent self-sufficiency, the EnviRecover energy from waste plant in Hartlebury, Worcestershire provides contractually agreed capacity to meet Herefordshire needs for municipal waste up to 2031, and the position beyond 2031 can be assessed in future reviews. There was general agreement that adopting a quid-pro-quo approach by increasing provision for C&I waste in Herefordshire might be theoretically possible, but may also be an unlikely scenario in terms of market feasibility.

3.9 It was agreed that the rapid increase in AD facilities over recent years is unlikely to be sustained in the longer term as needs are met and subsidies decline.

3.10 The possibility of adopting more demanding targets for recycling and recovery in order to reduce the demands on landfill to an absolute minimum over the plan period was explored. Julie Castree-Denton argued that plans in general should adopt aspirational targets for landfill diversion and providing for new recycling and recovery infrastructure higher up the hierarchy, so that landfill sites are only used for specialist waste and non-recoverable and non-recyclable waste. Kirsten argued that the EU targets were more stringent than current national ones, and it would be a stretch to meet these, but agreed that the implications of adopting further increases in recycling could be explored.



3.11 The Group welcomed the opportunity to comment at this stage of the plan preparation process, supported the methodology and findings of the technical work carried out so far, and expressed the hope that the comments made would be taken into account as the plan moves forward to the next stage.

(c) Black Country Core Strategy Review – Issues and Options Report

3.11 Dawn Sherwood explained that the Core Strategy Review is at an early stage, and that the Waste Study has not yet been updated. The Review looks forward to 2036 and has to deal with challenging requirements for new dwellings in particular. Adoption is expected in 2021.

3.12 Dawn summarised progress in implementing the Plan's waste policies from 2010 to 2017: a significant net increase of over 1mt in treatment and transfer capacity, with new capacity built almost entirely in appropriate locations, on allocated sites or at established waste facilities; strategic waste sites have been successfully safeguarded; and most of the major projects have been implemented.

3.13 Key challenges will include the need to plan for additional waste capacity in the face of the uncertain pace and location of housing growth, and how to manage the uncertainties accompanying Brexit and the apparent weakening in the market for additional waste infrastructure. Deficiencies in waste data add to the challenge.

3.14 Responding to RTAB's submission to the Issues and Options consultation, Dawn welcomed RTAB's support for the general approach, and confirmed that she would bring further presentations to the group at the relevant stages in plan preparation. The Black Country Boroughs will also be engaging with the established DtC Group on Metropolitan area cross boundary issues, as well as with other relevant WPAs on an individual basis as necessary. The equivalent self-sufficiency principle will be maintained as an aspiration and used in forecasts of future needs. Scoping for the Waste Study is underway. It will be prepared in stages, probably jointly or in close consultation with South Staffordshire Council. Stage 2 of the EDNA will take into account waste infrastructure needs. Dawn sought clarification on the implications of the circular economy for planning policy.

3.15 The group welcomed and supported the Black Country Borough's approach to the Review and preparation of the Waste Study, and will look forward to receiving further presentations in the future. Dawn agreed to explore the possibility of inviting RTAB members or a representative to the DtC event planned for 13<sup>th</sup> December.

#### **4. Waste Data Issues**

4.1 The group confirmed that some guidance on methodology for assessing arisings and capacity, as well as projecting future needs, would be desirable. It was felt that this guidance should reinforce the general message that spurious accuracy should be avoided, and that the adopted approach should make the best use of available data, whilst acknowledging the weaknesses of that data. The group might usefully point towards exemplars, such as the Herefordshire work. Assessments should take the principle of equivalent self sufficiency as the starting point; and, consistent with the concept of the circular economy, the provision of waste management infrastructure should be regarded as a key economic opportunity and ambitious targets should be

adopted. The guidance might also include an underlining of the importance of safeguarding key waste management sites from alternative development.

4.2 The Chair asked the group whether the 'West Midlands Trends' monitoring document should be updated. Some members felt that a West Midlands-wide context was valuable both for plan preparation and also as a backcloth for considering DtC matters. It was agreed that group members should advise the secretary on what if anything they would like to see included in future updates of the monitoring document, by the end of November.

## **5. Environment Agency update**

5.1 Martin Everett confirmed that the 2016 waste data interrogators are now available. Other data sets, for example about permits, are available.

5.2 Martin explained that the Agency is becoming increasingly aware of the problems associated with illegal dumping, with criminals now travelling longer distances as a result of efforts to counter the practice.

5.3 Martin asked for RTAB's assistance in providing a picture of plan preparation intentions over the next 1-2 years, to help the Agency with its workload planning. It was agreed to circulate all members with the request.

## **7. Progress on Plans and Developments**

Warwickshire – publication stage comments on the Minerals Plan to be reported to Cabinet will include options regarding aggregates supply.

Worcestershire – Waste Plan review in 2020; AMR has been updated.

Staffordshire – Waste Plan review, jointly with Stoke, planned for 2018; therefore will begin with data work in the near future.

Stoke – local plan options to be published in January 2018

Shropshire – local plan review (housing matters) aiming for publication by the end of 2018; currently consulting on preferred options. No waste matters involved.

Industrial Synergies - Ian Humphreys gave details about two significant projects under development:

(a) The Birmingham and Solihull Industrial Symbiosis Project (BASIS), which aims to create a diverse network of businesses across the local enterprise partnership (LEP), supporting their transition to become more resource efficient and cost effective businesses. The project is led by Birmingham City Council, funded through the ESIF, and Industrial Synergies is the primary deliverer. The aim is to connect industry in such a way that one company's wasted resource becomes another's valuable process input. In addition, free advice will be available to SMEs located in the Birmingham and Solihull area, along with the transition regions of Lichfield, Tamworth, Burton on Trent, Uttoxeter, Cannock, Bromsgrove, Reddich and Wyre Forest on a range of issues including environmental permitting/ licensing, compliance, and environmental management.

(b) A project in the formulation phase which looks to draw money down from Birmingham City Council's SUDS fund (Sustainable Urban Development Strategy – EU derived). The project will be construction-focused and centred around HS2. It will look for opportunities to share material resources and lessen the burden on virgin aggregates.

Ian added that resource efficiency work is more likely to bear fruit in the densely developed urban areas where there are sizeable industry clusters than in rural areas. He also commented that the Herefordshire approach to projecting future arisings, using existing data sets and GVA projections, was the most practical way forward.

## **8. Future Meetings**

To be confirmed.

PF 10/1/18



West Midlands Aggregate  
Working Party  
Minutes of meeting  
9 November 2017

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## **West Midlands Aggregate Working Party**

### **Minutes of Meeting Thursday 9<sup>th</sup> November 2017**

**10 am – 1 pm Birmingham**

#### **Attendees:**

Adrian Cooper	Shropshire ( <b>Chair</b> )	AC
Brian Dore	Birmingham	BD
Shaun Denny	Cemex	SD
Jim Davies	EA	JD
Keith Bird	Hanson	KB
Mark Watkins	Sandwell	MW
Mike Halsall	Urban Vision ( <b>Secretariat</b> )	MH
Phil Ward	Worcestershire	MW
Maurice Barlow	Solihull	MB
Matthew Griffin	Staffordshire	MG
Ranjit Sagoo	Warwickshire	RS
Dawn Sherwood	Walsall	DS
Victoria Eaton	Herefordshire	VE
Tony Lyons	Warwickshire	TL
Nick Atkins	Tarmac	NA

#### **Apologies:**

Vicky Engelke	CLG
Mark North	MPA
Jo Davies	Breedon Aggregates
Rob Haigh	Coventry
Tim Claxton	Aggregate
Peter Huxtable	BAA
Gavin Ashford	APT Group
Mark Watkins	Sandwell
Nick Horsley	MPA
Carolyn Williams	Urban Vision
Davis Piper	Dudley
Harjot Rayet	Telford
Joanne Mayne	Stoke
Marianne Joynes	Worcs
Mark Page	Hanson
Trefor Evans	BAA
Thomas Lewis	Stoke

## **Item 1 - Introduction and Apologies**

- 1.1 Adrian Cooper (AC) welcomed everyone to the meeting and invited members to introduce themselves for record keeping.

## **Item 2 – Minutes of last meeting**

- 2.1 The minutes were agreed.

## **Item 3 – NCG Update**

- 3.2 AC went through minutes of the NCG meeting which had not yet been finalised and circulated. Comments were as follows:
- NCG had not met for 5 years and there was a good turnout
  - Communication amongst the regions has broken down somewhat
  - A standard template is required or forecast model is required for identifying future trends if a breakaway from the 10 year average method is to be adopted
  - If the NPPF review is going to reflect planned urban growth then the minerals section should also be revisited to reflect this
  - The lead-in times for the release of reserves to meet future development demand need to be taken into consideration
- 3.2 Brian Dore (BD) commented that depleting reserves will slow housing growth and construction costs will increase, resulting in further delays.
- 3.3 Nick Atkins (NA) commented that the market would react and sort the issue but it would mean more expensive minerals in the interim while reserves are released.
- 3.4 AC explained that funding for AWP is unclear going forward, as was whether a national survey would be undertaken.
- 3.5 Ranjit Sagoo (RS) queried whether there would be an AWP response to NPPF changes. AC replied that if any consultation on the minerals section occurs then yes we can collate responses.
- 3.6 Keith Bird (KB) mentioned that at the East Mids AMR they agreed to write a follow-up letter to the NCG expressing the importance of the AWP funding.

**Action: AC to liaise with Lonek in relation to the East Midlands response**

## **Item 4 – Annual Survey**

- 4.1 Mike Halsall (MH) gave a brief overview of the report and explained there are some outstanding sections. Matthew Griffin (MG) queried one of the landbank figures and also suggested the LAA figure in Table 5 is removed.
- 4.2 KB explained what was discussed at the East Mids AWP meeting with regards to including both imports and exports within the region and identify local supply issues.



This would come from the LAA data and the 2014 national survey. MH agreed to take same approach to West Mids as was agreed with East Mids.

**Actions: MH to send an email to each authority for which further information is required and update AMR with LAA data and national survey figures. MG to email MH with details of landbank discrepancy.**

#### **Item 5 – LAAs**

- 5.1 AC explained that LAAs had been received late and the consensus was that people had not had chance to review them yet. It was agreed that comments would be issued by end of November.
- 5.2 There was some discussion about the West Midlands conurbation LAA due to lack of resources and it was agreed between Dawn Sherwood (DS) and Maurice Barlow (MB) that they would try to produce something between them.
- 5.3 There was some discussion about what is the minimum level of detail to be included in an LAA and it was agreed that the POS guidance would be circulated.

**Actions: All to make any comments on LAAs by end of November and any outstanding LAAs be distributed before the end of the year. MH to circulate**

#### **Item 6 – Progress on Development Plans**

- 6.4 Sandwell – Undertaking a review of the Joint Core Strategy and site allocations document.
- 6.5 Worcestershire – Undertaking a 4<sup>th</sup> Call for Sites and there will be a full consultation in August 2018 with pre-submission programmed for Spring 2019 and adoption in 2020.
- 6.6 Herefordshire – Consultants provided a presentation. Issues and options has been produced. A draft plan is programmed for spring 2018 with adoption programmed for 2019.
- 6.7 Staffordshire – Minerals Plan Adopted February 2017 now looking at review of the waste plan which was adopted in 2012.
- 6.8 Warwickshire – Due to a large increase in permitted reserves, Cabinet resolved to go back to publication stage with fewer sites allocated (6.5Mt instead of 8Mt).
- 6.9 Birmingham – Plan adopted January 2017. UDP DM policies saved until replaced later this year with new DPD which includes minerals and waste policies.
- 6.10 Shropshire – Reviewing plan based on housing figures only and a Green Belt review. Will replace existing documents with one Local Plan. Do not envisage allocating minerals sites at present due to large reserves.
- 6.11 Solihull –Preferred Option consultation complete and currently working through responses.

- 6.12 Walsall – Had a short examination. Main mods will be consulted upon. Adoption is due early next year.
- 6.13 There was some discussion on whether there should be a 7/10 year landbank at the end of the plan period. It was agreed there should be until last day of plan being in force.

#### **Item 7 – Update from Industry**

- 7.1 KB explained there had been a second successive quarterly decline in sales against the previous year and other industry representatives agreed that the industry was slow at the moment but this did not necessarily match construction figures.

#### **Item 8 – Date of next meeting**

- 8.1 February, so to be prior to AWP contract ending in March.

**Action: MH to send invitation request through liaison with Brian Dore.**

#### **Item 9 – AOB**

- 9.1 Jim Davies (JD) requested that he be contacted with any issues EA related and was interested in restoration schemes requiring large volumes of waste material and water abstraction schemes.
- 9.2 AC noted that following a HS2 meeting, that HS2 representatives may want to contact the AWP in the future for advice on sourcing materials due to lack of expertise at local authorities.

## Minerals and Waste Planning Duty to Co-operate Meeting Notes

15 February 2018

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## **Minerals & Waste Planning Duty to Co-operate Meeting Notes**

Thursday 15<sup>th</sup> February 2018

Gloucestershire County Council - Gloucester

**Present:**

Lorraine Brooks - – Gloucestershire County Council (LB1)  
Laura Burford – Gloucestershire County Council (LB2)  
Marianne Pomeroy – Worcestershire County Council (MP)  
Kirsten Berry – Hendeca, Consultant for Herefordshire County Council (KB)  
Kevin Singleton – Herefordshire County Council (KS)  
Victoria Eaton – Herefordshire County Council (VE)

**1. Discussion of key points relating to Herefordshire Council's emerging Minerals and Waste Plan**

**KB** - A draft plan (joint minerals and waste) will be published in the next few months (late spring 2018). Since the last consultation the needs assessments on minerals and waste have been updated. The waste one has not significantly changed. The minerals needs assessment will include figures from the most recent LAA, it shows that there is sufficient landbank until the end of the plan period (2031 to be in line with the adopted Herefordshire Core Strategy rather than the standard 15 year plan period). Some negative response received with regards to the timeline (primarily from minerals industry) but the forecasting timeline has been extended to 2035 (4 years beyond plan end date). Some updates are required to the mineral needs assessment to take account of LAA and AWP reports. The landbank is good and it is likely that the plan will be making a positive contribution to MASS.

All sites in Herefordshire have been visited and a spatial context and sites report has been produced. This will suggest which sites are to be taken forward into the plan. A report has also been drafted to explain the thought process of moving from the evidence base and response to Issues and Options Report to preparing the plan. The first half of the plan has been drafted and the policies are in the process of being written. Consultation is anticipated for late spring, possibly May. Will need to go to Cabinet and Scrutiny panel before consultation.

In terms of waste the updated needs assessment includes 2016 data and has not changed significantly since the previous year. The existing joint contract for managing Herefordshire and Worcestershire's LACW is in place until 2023 with a potential for a 5 year extension. [Post meeting update: the Joint Working Agreement with Worcestershire contained a clause stating that the Joint Review Board will meet to discuss the desirability of extending the contract no later than 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2018.] Both authorities recognise that most of Herefordshire's MSW is managed at facilities in Worcestershire as part of that contract, although Herefordshire does have some operating facilities, such as Household Waste Recycling Centres, and opportunities for new waste facilities to come forward within the county. They are most likely to be located on existing industrial areas and strategic employment areas, not least to encourage achievement of the circular economy in Herefordshire. There are no

proposals to safeguard waste sites, they are either not in sustainable locations or are on existing industrial sites. There is a new CDE processing plant that could be identified for intensification in the future and should address the need for additional CDE waste treatment. There is not a lot of residual municipal waste management capacity in Herefordshire, with only around 100,000 tonnes (largely C&I waste) generated going forward. Herefordshire's relatively remote location and the quantity is not significant enough for any of the major waste operators to be interested. Therefore it is likely that there will be more reliance on smaller-scale sites such as on industrial estates. There are strategic employment areas across Herefordshire including the Enterprise Zone at Rotherwas (Hereford) and other industrial sites in the market towns which should provide for more strategic opportunities. There are no identified locations for non-hazardous landfill, but opportunities for inert landfill have been identified. The plan is for equivalent self-sufficiency, recognising that some wastes will still travel for treatment and Herefordshire will be reliant on non-hazardous landfill out of county. Waste as a whole is a slightly more complex issue.

There will be specific consideration of agricultural waste, a key concern for councillors in Herefordshire. AD facilities will be promoted. There need to be focus on how agricultural waste is managed to stop phosphates etc entering the River Wye SAC via the River Lugg. The EA will not permit the existing targets to be exceeded. There is a nutrient management plan in Herefordshire which is intended to control the level of phosphate in the rivers whilst enabling new development. AD is an important policy consideration for Herefordshire.

Mineral resources have been identified from the BGS maps. A 50m buffer around settlements will be proposed, the rest of the resource will be safeguarded. There is no need for MCAs as Herefordshire is a unitary authority. There will be safeguarding of permitted quarries, concrete batching plants and the existing railhead.

There will be a policy to cover non minerals and waste development.

It was generally agreed that the approach outlined for the Herefordshire MWLP was appropriate and satisfied concerns regarding self-sufficiency within Herefordshire and cross-boundary movements of minerals and waste.

## 2. Update on progress of minerals and waste plan preparation

### **LB1 and LB2 – Gloucestershire position**

MLP – went to cabinet on 31st January and will now be going before full county council on 28th March for approval to publish the plan. Key changes from draft plan include removal MW06 Oil and Gas policy, changes to wording of some policies due to comments from statutory consultees, removal of MCAs, removal of sites (Redpools, Manor Farm and Kempsford). **ACTION POINT - MP** agreed to circulate a publication relating to shale gas (action complete 15/2/2018).

WCS – adopted 2012. A review of all policies and those saved from the Gloucestershire Local Plan will take place once the MLP has been through examination. The WCS policies are currently monitored through the AMR. The 2015 AMR and a new development scheme will be published within the next few weeks. Javelin Park incinerator should be operational in 2019.

### **MP – Worcestershire position**

The WCS was adopted in 2012. The review process is likely to be will be through AMR rather than a separate review process.

The 3rd stage of the plan consultation finished in March 2017. The main issue raised in consultee comments and critical friend review was insufficient site allocations and too much reliance on windfall sites. A key outcome was the need to do another call for sites exercise which ended in January 2018. The communications team were involved to ensure there was a wider reach, particularly targetting landowners and operators. A number of new sites have been put forward, including additional information on some existing proposals, including Bow Farm (adjacent to Redpools Farm in Gloucestershire). The sites will now be screened before a decision is made on allocations. A new environmental and amenity methodology has been drafted for comments. **ACTION POINT - MP** will circulate.

It is possible that Worcestershire may do a separate sites document to ensure the main policy document is not delayed any further. It is envisaged a draft plan will be produced at the end of 2018 with publication and submission following in 2019.

3. Statements of Common Ground

It was agreed by all three authorities to explore whether a Statement of Common Ground covering the general position would be beneficial. **ACTION POINT - LB1** will draft a possible Statement of Common Ground and will be circulated with the minutes. **ACTION POINT - KS** will also circulate copies of an existing MoU between Herefordshire Council and some of the Worcestershire Districts.

4. AOB

**ACTION POINT -** It was agreed that once the Herefordshire draft MWLP is out for consultation, enabling both Gloucestershire County Council and Worcestershire County Council to see the detail of the policy presented, and a SoCG drafted, there may be a need for another meeting to be arranged.

**ACTION POINT -** LB1 or LB2 would circulate the draft minutes.





Notes of Minerals and Waste Duty to  
Cooperate Meeting between Powys  
Council and Herefordshire Council  
15 August 2018

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## Annex B

HEREFORDSHIRE MINERALS AND WASTE LOCAL PLAN  
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## **Notes of Minerals & Waste Duty to Cooperate Meeting**

**Date: 15.08.18**

**Location: The Gwalia, Ithon Road, Llandrindod Wells**

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### **Attendees:**

- Adrian Humpage: Senior Planning Officer - Planning Policy (Powys County Council)
- Kevin Singleton: Team Leader Strategic Planning (Herefordshire Council)
- Vic Eaton: Senior Planning Officer – Policy (Herefordshire Council)
- Kirsten Berry(Hendeca): consultant for Herefordshire Council

The following does not provide a verbatim record of the meeting, but is based on notes of the main points raised, combined with wording from the documents discussed.

- 1.0 AH gave an overview of Powys' minerals policies: following the conclusion of the Examination in Public of the Powys Local Development Plan (LDP) and the receipt of the Inspector's Report, the Council adopted the LDP on the 17<sup>th</sup> April 2018 and it became operative immediately. The policy framework provides an extended landbank necessary to ensure that throughout the plan period Powys can contribute to the regional supply of aggregates, in accordance with the level of apportionment set out in the SWRAWP, RTS. The Council, as Minerals Planning Authority (MPA), must maintain a minimum land- bank (permitted reserves) of 10 years for crushed rock aggregates throughout the Plan Period at the agreed rate of 2.51 million tonnes per annum for its contribution to the South Wales regional aggregate supply. The MPA has no requirement to contribute sand and gravel to the regional supply. (Most sand and gravel in Powys is from marine dredged sources in adjoining MPAs.)
- 1.1 Landbanks are healthy, with particularly high reserves of crushed rock, and therefore it is not considered necessary to allocate new sites for hard rock, sand and gravel or coal in the LDP. However, for aggregates, areas of category 1 and 2 reserves are safeguarded as are primary and secondary coal reserves in accordance with national policy.
- 2.0 Herefordshire Council has employed Hendeca to carry out the production minerals and waste needs assessments and the Minerals and Waste Local Plan (MWLP).
- 2.1 KB first gave an overview of draft MWLP minerals planning approach. The Minerals Needs Assessment provides the evidence base for the Plan's development. The policies and strategic approach taken are based on generous productivity and economic growth rate assumptions.
- 2.2 The county presently has only one productive sand and gravel quarry and two active crushed rock quarries. The operators of all three have asked for site extensions to these to be considered for allocation in the emerging MWLP. There is still a need for additional new allocations however, and two rounds of call for sites have resulted in interest being shown in areas adjacent or near to existing sand and gravel workings. All but one of these are considered to be acceptable for allocation in the draft MWLP.

- 2.3 The review of the underlying geology and natural and built environment of Herefordshire has identified both key areas of search for minerals development (for crushed rock and for sand and gravel) and those areas that should be constrained from future mineral workings. These areas complement the strategic approach to development set out in both the NPPF and the adopted Herefordshire Core Strategy.
- 2.4 The available data (BGS) shows that there are significant imports of crushed rock from Wales, so policies of the draft MWLP seek to provide for supply from within the county, both since this would be more sustainable and it would develop the county's contribution to the managed aggregate supply system in the West Midlands region.
- 2.5 AH: asked if the two crushed rock quarries are producing appropriate quality rock to enable a meaningful contribution towards self-sufficiency? KB: one quarry produces a mixed rock, which is generally of poorer quality, the other produces mainly construction stone and also stone which is subsequently powdered to make concrete. This means that there are still movements of high quality crushed rock coming into Herefordshire from Powys and these are likely to continue. Much of this goes to Wellington and is then loaded onto freight trains and transported to London and the south east by rail.
- 2.6 AH asked whether there is enough flexibility in the draft MWLP for increased self-sufficiency in crushed rock production? It would be useful to ensure that even at 2031, at the end of the plan period, there is still a 10+ year landbank. KB: yes, the draft plan has looked over the end of the plan period and there is enough flexibility with the allocations to ensure that there are sufficient provisions for supply of crushed rock.
- 2.7 AH: is there demand within Herefordshire for 'ghost' quarries for storage/stockpiling? KB: the Moreton/Wellington quarries have sufficient space for stockpiles of reserves and the areas of railway sidings adjoining them are also safeguarded.
- 2.8 AH asked if there is any additional information that Herefordshire need from them at this time. KB: information on Powys' aggregate supplies and landbanks.
- 2.9 AH: the Dolyhir/Strinds and Gore crushed rock quarries both have end dates of 2042. Gore's planning permission was received and consent confirmed in 2008 and Dolyhir/Strinds have extensions permitted. So strategic movement of rock, including High Specification Aggregates, over the border to Herefordshire will continue beyond the end of the plan period. This statement could be formally set out in an agreement/statement of common ground between the two authorities. This could also be done with Shropshire.
- 3.0 Herefordshire and emerging waste policies. KB outlined the draft MWLP waste policy approach. The overarching strategic spatial policy direction of the Herefordshire Core Strategy is relevant to the Draft MWLP and forms the backbone to its spatial approach. Consequently, waste development will be focussed at Hereford, Leominster and the market towns. However, the draft Plan recognises that some waste management development will likely be more dispersed; principally this is to deliver a locally identified demand, such as for agricultural or construction and demolition waste management. In line with the spatial strategy, the opportunities for such development on a site specific basis will be identified in policy.

- 3.1 Herefordshire hosts a robust waste transfer, re-use and recycling network, but has very little residual waste treatment or disposal capacity, particularly for C&I and CD&E wastes. LACW is primarily managed through the jointly contracted residual waste management facilities located in Worcestershire, which will operate for the plan period and likely beyond.
- 3.2 Other residual wastes are generally exported for recovery at facilities located beyond Herefordshire's borders. This movement demonstrates the market forces at work within the waste sector. Generally there is not a significant quantity of waste arising within the county and the area is not generally accessible and therefore not attractive to companies in this sector. AH commented that the situation is similar in Powys and much of their waste is also transported out of county.
- 3.3 Evidence shows, however, that the local waste management industry in Herefordshire is fairly dynamic. New sites are being opened and previous waste management service businesses are being restructured. Within the Core Strategy, Herefordshire has adopted a number of strategic employment sites, which include the specific growth areas of the Rotherwas Enterprise Zone and Leominster Enterprise Park. These locations have good potential to deliver the Circular Economy which the draft MWLP seeks to promote, where engineering, creative industry, manufacturing, waste and research sectors can combine resources to enable wastes to be kept at their highest value for as long as possible. In its simplest form, this might be the development of an incineration facility, accepting waste from local businesses which cannot be recycled and which returns electricity and, ideally, heat. This energy supply would be decentralised, secure and low carbon, enabling national and local priorities on climate change to be realised. One existing operator in the sector has already expressed interest.
- 3.4 Landfill: Herefordshire has sufficient capacity for inert waste over the Plan period, however, none for non-inert waste. The draft MWLP assumes the highest level of arisings and promotes waste treatment opportunities in appropriate locations but has no site allocations for non-inert landfill.
- 3.5 AH: Powys has sufficient landfill capacity at Bryn Posteg near Llandiloos as residual arisings are relatively small. Within the SE Wales region, should there be a need for additional capacity, Bryn Pica and Trecatti landfill sites in South Wales will meet Powys' needs for the foreseeable future. In the long term, however, recycling rates will need to improve and this is promoted through the LDP's policies.
- 3.6 Phosphates were highlighted as an issue in both counties in relation to the pollution of the River Wye and the Nutrient Management Plan and the workings of its technical group were discussed. KB highlighted the significant (natural) agricultural waste arisings in Herefordshire and the particular issue of waste from intensive poultry units, which is also a topic of concern to Powys. The Powys LDP does not contain a specific policy in relation to this form of development, however. In the Herefordshire draft MWLP, policy W3 deals with agricultural waste management and policy W4 sets out guidance in relation to waste water management, recognising the problems of detrimental levels of nutrients within the River Wye and its tributaries as a result of agricultural waste.
- 3.7 The group discussed the control set out under separate Environment Agency legislation and to what degree of the problems of high phosphate levels in the Wye are as a result of agricultural run-off and how much they are connected to a need for

improvements to waste water treatment works. Powys have high level policies and seek not to repeat national policies or other legislation/NRW guidance covering this issue.

- 3.8 The promotion of combined heat/power plants close to industrial/urban areas was discussed. The infrastructure and set up costs of this form of development are high and this often makes it unviable in rural counties like Powys and Herefordshire, which do not produce large quantities of waste. The Welsh Government is pushing heat/power, but low densities of development across the rural areas make this approach difficult to achieve. In Powys, no settlement achieves the minimum heat density threshold of 3MW/km<sup>2</sup> for a viable heat network. As a result, in the Powys LDP there is no specific development management policy, but the aspiration to promote such development is set out. In Herefordshire, the drivers for energy from waste plants feeding electricity and/or heat/cooling to be distributed to adjoining employment developments do exist at the Rotherwas industrial estate and its local enterprise zone, but are recognised to be more limited elsewhere in the county.
- 3.9 Viability may be an issue which is picked up in consultation responses and also by the Inspector at Examination. Might it be necessary to write a paper on viability and have discussions with the Rotherwas EZ Board prior to the pre-submission draft consultation? Keep this in mind and see whether it is an issue which comes to the fore during the draft MWLP consultation.