

HAMPSHIRE COUNTY COUNCIL, NEW FOREST NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY, PORTSMOUTH CITY
COUNCIL, SOUTH DOWNS NATIONAL PARK AUTHORITY & SOUTHAMPTON CITY COUNCIL

Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan: Partial Update

Sustainability Appraisal (Incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment) Revised Scoping Report

September 2021



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1. Introduction

- 1.1 This document is the Scoping Report for the Sustainability Appraisal (SA) of the partial update of the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan (HMWP). This ‘integrated’ SA also incorporates the requirement to undertake a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of the partial update. Throughout the rest of this report this integrated SA/SEA will be referred to as the sustainability appraisal (SA).
- 1.2 This Scoping Report sets out:
- why a sustainability appraisal of the partial update of the HMWP is required;
 - the sustainability appraisal process and requirements;
 - the policies, plans and programmes relevant to the partial update;
 - the baseline information for the various indicators used to appraise the partial update; and
 - how the information obtained is taken forward in the next stages of the SA process and Plan preparation.
- 1.3 This Scoping Report is structured as follows:
- Section 2 introduces the concepts of sustainable development, provides the legislative context to SA and SEA and this scoping report and sets out the appraisal methodology and details of the HMWP Partial Update.
 - Section 3 identifies relevant plans, policies, strategies and programs, and provides the baseline and identifies environmental issues.
 - Section 4 outlines the SA appraisal framework. and
 - Section 5 provides a summary of the contents of the Environmental Report.
- 1.4 There is a requirement, through the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004¹, that the following agencies are consulted on the contents of the scoping report:
- Natural England;
 - Historic England; and
 - Environment Agency.
- 1.5 A consultation of the above statutory agencies, adjacent local authorities and other key stakeholders took place in June 2021 on the SA Scoping Report and associated Baseline Report. This Revised Scoping Report and associated Revised Baseline Report² were prepared following the consultation. Section 6 of this report outlines the questions on which comment was sought for the consultation, and details of who responded and how comments were addressed is provided in Appendix B. These revised reports will inform the preparation of the SA/SEA Interim Report, which will be provided as part of the Regulation 18 consultation.

¹ Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 -

<https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2004/1633/contents/made>

² Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan: Partial Update Sustainability Appraisal (Incorporating Strategic Environment Assessment) Revised Scoping Report September 2021 -

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

2. Sustainability Appraisal – Requirement & Methodology

Legal and Policy Requirements

Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

- 2.1 Delivering sustainable development is a core principle underpinning the UK planning system and it is important that the HMWP reflects the Government's sustainable development policies. A widely used definition of sustainable development is: '...development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs' (Bruntland Commission, 1987).
- 2.2 The HMWP should contribute towards achieving 'sustainable development' by influencing spatial planning policy and informing decisions on where minerals and waste development occurs. The SA will play an important part in demonstrating that the emerging HMWP Partial Update is sound and reflects sustainability objectives.
- 2.3 Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004³ requires a local planning authority to carry out a sustainability appraisal (SA) of its local plan documents during preparation. More generally, section 39 of the Act requires that the authority preparing the plan must do so '*with the objective of contributing to the achievement of sustainable development*'.
- 2.4 Additionally, the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)⁴ states that local plans and spatial development strategies should be informed throughout their preparation by a sustainability appraisal that meets relevant legal requirements. The Appraisal should demonstrate it has '*addressed relevant economic, social and environmental objectives (including opportunities for net gains). Significant adverse impacts on these objectives should be avoided and, wherever possible, alternative options which reduce or eliminate such impacts should be pursued. Where significant adverse impacts are unavoidable, suitable mitigation measures should be proposed (or, where this is not possible, compensatory measures should be considered)*'.
- 2.5 A sustainability appraisal is a systematic process that considers ways by which the emerging plan can contribute to improvements in environmental, social and economic conditions, as well as a means of identifying and mitigating any potential adverse effects that the plan might otherwise have. In so doing, it can help ensure that the proposals in the plan are appropriate given the reasonable alternatives. It can be used to test the evidence underpinning the plan and help to demonstrate how the tests of soundness have been met. Sustainability appraisal is applied as an iterative process informing the development of the plan.

³ Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2004/5/contents>

⁴ National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) Paragraph 32 - https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf

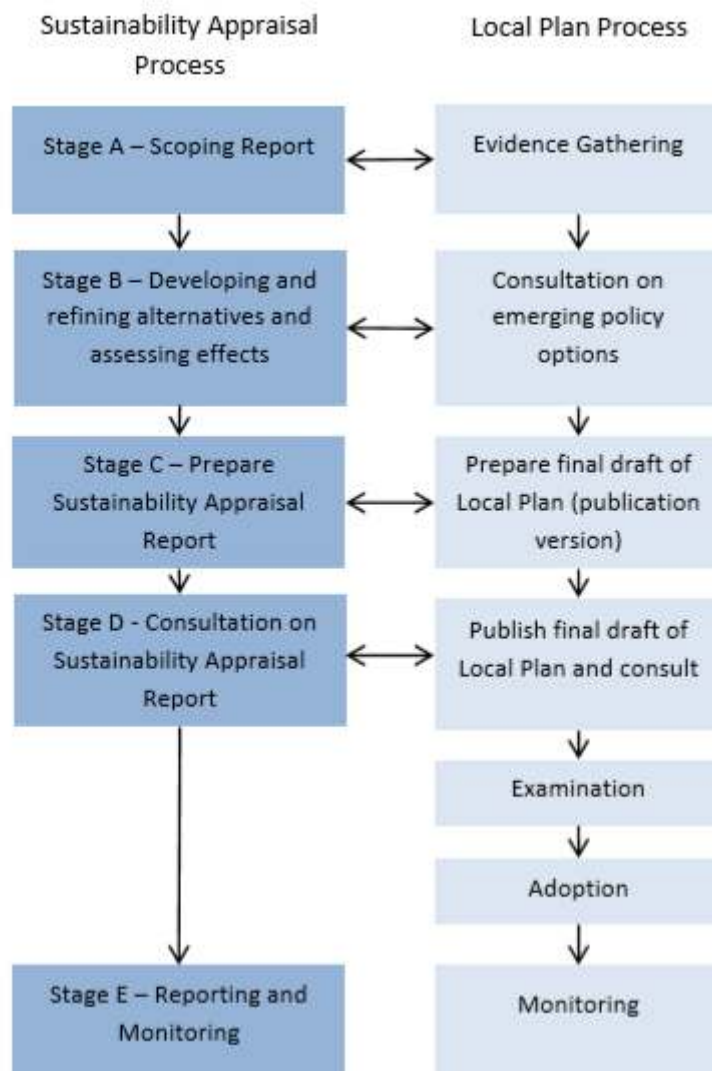
Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA)

- 2.6 Additionally, when preparing a local plan, it is a statutory requirement to conduct an environmental assessment, commonly referred to as Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA), in accordance with the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (commonly referred to as the 'Strategic Environmental Assessment or SEA Regulations')⁵.
- 2.7 SEA is the systematic appraisal of the potential environmental impacts of policies, plans, strategies and programmes during the development of the Plan before they are approved, ensuring that the environmental implications of the Plan are fully and transparently considered. The objective of SEA is to *'provide a high level of protection of the environment and to contribute to the integration of environmental considerations in the preparation of plans and programs with a view to promoting sustainable development'*⁶.
- 2.8 The SEA:
- identifies, describes and evaluates the significant environmental effects of implementing the HMWP Partial Update;
 - identifies actions to prevent, reduce or as fully as possible offset any adverse effects;
 - allows the environmental effects of alternative minerals and waste management approaches and mitigation measures to be considered;
 - provides an early and effective opportunity to engage in preparation of the HMWP Partial Update through consultation; and
 - monitors the implementation of the plan to identify any unforeseen environmental effects and take remedial action where necessary.
- 2.9 The SA and SEA processes have been combined in this report to provide an integrated assessment of the partial update of the HMWP.
- 2.10 The SA process comprises five main stages, labelled A – E in Figure 2.1, below. Figure 2.1 also shows the integration of the SA process with Plan preparation.

⁵ Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/uksi/2004/1633/contents/made>

⁶ Article 1 of the EU SEA Directive - <https://ec.europa.eu/environment/eia/sea-legalcontext.htm>

Figure 2.1: Integration of sustainability appraisal and Plan preparation processes



Scoping Stage

- 2.11 SA is an on-going and iterative process. This Scoping Report forms the first part (Stage A) of the SA process and will look to identify the broad sustainability effects of the partial update of the Plan and the approach and level of detail appropriate for the SA.
- 2.12 The scoping stage involves reviewing relevant plans and programmes and collating baseline information in order to identify significant issues relevant to or that need to be addressed through the partial update of the HMWP. Scoping then defines sustainability objectives and sets the framework for assessing the HMWP Partial Update and also monitoring its effectiveness.
- 2.13 Sustainability appraisal is on-going and iterative. The appraisal process (Stage B) helps to refine the issues and options into a set of realistic, preferred options that have been assessed thoroughly.

- 2.14 The Scoping Report is also the mechanism for developing a sound and robust appraisal framework and appraisal methodology and hence forms the basis for the appraisal and the production of the Environmental Report (Stage C).
- 2.15 The sustainability appraisal framework will consist of a set of sustainability objectives and criteria against which the HMWP Partial Update’s draft Vision, Objectives, Policies and proposed sites can be compared to assess compatibility and inconsistencies. These in turn will go on to provide the structure and scope of the Interim SA/SEA (Environmental) Report, which will be consulted upon alongside the Draft HMWP Partial Update Plan. The final output of the SA Report process will be a combined report (the ‘Environmental Report’) which meets the regulatory requirements for both SA and SEA and which will be published alongside the proposed submission HMWP Partial Update.
- 2.16 Table 2.1 provides a summary of the key tasks required for Environmental Reports (in the SEA Regulations) and highlights where the tasks are addressed within this scoping report. It is of note that the Regulations do not specifically prescribe that a scoping report be prepared. Where a task is not required for scoping but is required in the Environmental Report, ‘N/A’ has been inserted. These tasks, however, will be included in the Environmental Report, a list of the proposed contents of which is provided in Section 5.

Table 2.1: SEA Roadmap⁷

Task	Where covered in this report
(a) an outline of the contents; and main objectives of the plan or program; and the relationship with other relevant plans and programmes.	Section 5 Paras. 2.19 – 2.23 Section 3 and Baseline Report ⁸
(b) the relevant aspects of the current state of the environment and likely evolution thereafter without implementation of the plan or program.	Section 3 and Baseline Report
(c) the environmental characteristics of areas likely to be significantly affected.	Section 3 and Baseline Report
(d) any existing environmental problems which are relevant to the plan or program including, in particular, those relating to any areas of a particular environmental importance, such as areas designated pursuant to Directives 79/409/EEC (The Birds Directive) and 92/43/EEC (the Habitats Directive).	Section 3 and Baseline Report
(e) the environmental protection objectives, established at international community or member state level which are relevant to the plan or program and the way those objectives and any environmental considerations have been taken into account during its preparation.	Section 4
(f) the likely significant effects on the environment, including on issues such as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • biodiversity; 	Partly covered in Section 3, further details will be

⁷ The requirements of the SEA address the requirements for an SA, specifically with respect to reviewing policies and plans, assessing topic areas and determine likely evolution with the plan.

⁸ HMWP Partial Update Revised SA Baseline Report September 2021 -

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • population; • human health; • fauna, flora, soil; • water; • air; • climate factors; • material assets; • cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage; • landscape; and • interrelationship between the above factors. 	provided in the Environmental Report
(g) the measures envisaged to prevent, reduce, and as fully as possible offset any significant adverse effects on the environment of implementing the plan or program.	N/A
(h) an outline of the reasons for selecting the alternatives dealt with, and a description of how the assessment was undertaken including any difficulties (such as technical deficiencies or lack of know how) encountered in complying the required information.	N/A
(i) a description of the measures envisaged concerning monitoring in accordance with Article 10.	N/A
(j) a non-technical summary of the information provided under the above headings.	N/A

Habitats Regulations Assessment

- 2.17 The Conservation of Habitats & Species Regulations 2017 (as amended)⁹, commonly referred to as the Habitats Regulations requires a Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) to be undertaken to assess whether the partial update of the Plan has the potential to have significant effects on Internationally protected sites for nature conservation, either alone or in-combination with other plans and projects. The HRA process is similarly iterative. A HRA Baseline and Methodology Report has been prepared¹⁰ and a separate HRA screening exercise for the partial update is being undertaken. The results of the HRA will be used to inform subsequent SA reports, with particular regard to biodiversity.

Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan (HMWP)

- 2.18 The minerals and waste planning authorities: Hampshire County Council, New Forest National Park Authority, Portsmouth City Council, South Downs National Park Authority and Southampton City Council are working in partnership to undertake a partial update of the HMWP, which will guide minerals and waste decision-making in the Plan area.

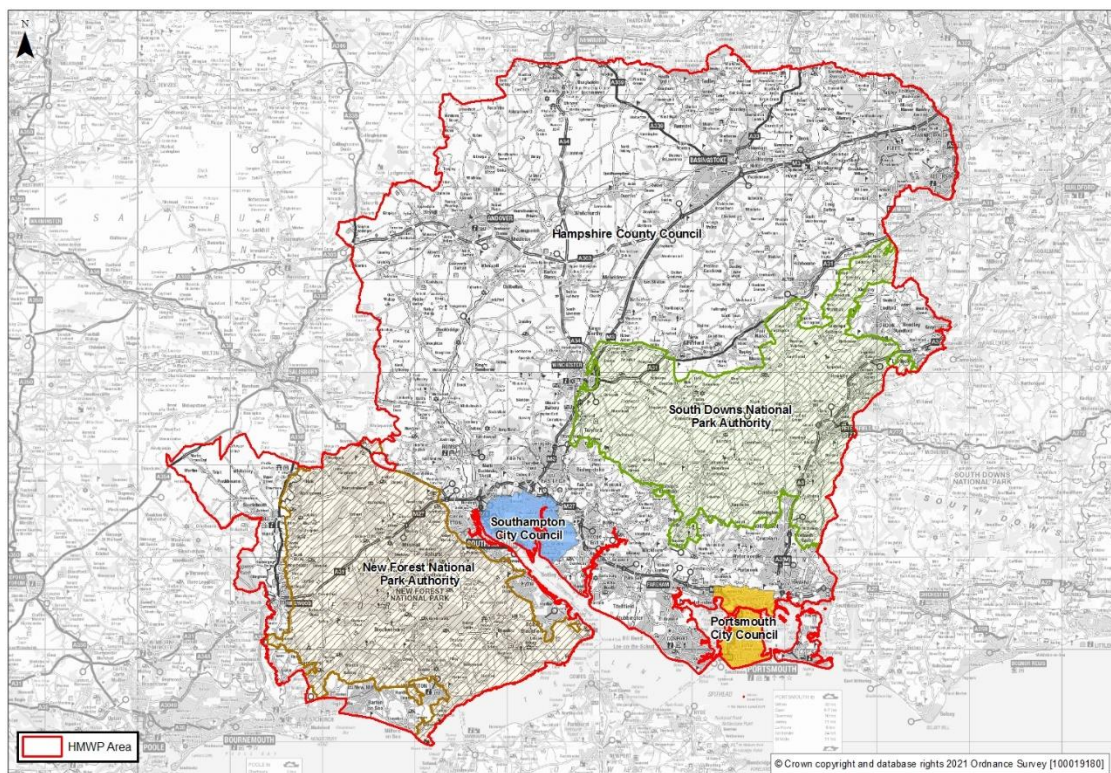
⁹ Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended) - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukxi/2017/1012/contents>

¹⁰ HMWP Partial Update HRA Baseline and Methodology Report September 2021 -

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

- 2.19 The current HMWP was adopted in October 2013¹¹. The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) requires that Local Plans should be reviewed to assess whether they require updating at least once every five years¹².
- 2.20 A review of the 2013 HMWP in 2020 recommended updating the HMWP to reflect national policy changes, the Hampshire 2050 Vision for the Future, and to ensure that the Plan is delivering a steady and adequate supply of minerals and enabling sustainable waste management provision. It was subsequently decided by all partners that the HMWP would be subject to a partial update.
- 2.21 This is important as out of date plans limit the ability for planning authorities to enable the right development, in the right location, at the right time, and may lead to a greater number of planning applications determined at appeal.
- 2.22 Minerals and waste planning issues are most appropriately addressed jointly so that strategic issues can be satisfactorily resolved. The HMWP will cover those parts of the minerals and waste planning authorities listed in paragraph 2.18 that are within the Plan boundary (see Figure 2.2).

Figure 2.2: Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan Area



¹¹ Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan (2013) -

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

¹² National Planning Policy Framework (Para. 33) -

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/1005759/NPPF_July_2021.pdf

Limitations

- 2.23 It should be noted that there is a plethora of environmental information available. However, the information presented in this report has been selected on the basis that it may be of direct influence or affected by the HMWP Partial Update. Effort has been made to avoid including baseline information or plans and programmes which are not of direct relevance to the partial update of the HMWP or are replicated elsewhere.
- 2.24 The information presented in this report is the result of a desk-based review and no formal requests for records, data or information have been made¹³. It may be necessary to collect further data against which to assess the potential sustainability effects of the partial update of the Plan with regard to specific HMWP measures, as they develop, and also post-construction monitoring requirements.
- 2.25 Impacts likely to result during the implementation of any built solution, for example construction impacts that might arise during the building or development of specific minerals or waste sites are more appropriately considered during project level Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA). If, however, environmental opportunities or constraints of built solutions are broadly identifiable they will be highlighted in the SA in order to avoid adverse effects and facilitate positive sustainability opportunities at an early stage of planning.

¹³ Where applicable, requests were made to the HMWP Authorities for available data.

3. Baseline Information

Review of Relevant Plans, Programmes and Policies

- 3.1 The first stage of the appraisal process is to identify policies, plans and programmes, which may impact the HMWP Partial Update or be impacted by it. This is an important part of the plan making process as it ensures the work is consistent with up-to-date policy, is informed by sound information and also helps the process of identifying environmental and sustainability issues. This draws on the requirements set out under the SEA Regulations to take into account the environmental protection objectives established at international, national, regional and local level. Legislation has been included as part of the review process.
- 3.2 Relevant policies, plans, programmes and legislation are set out in Table 2.1 (international), Table 2.2 (national) and Table 2.3 (regional/local) of the Revised SA Baseline Report¹⁴.
- 3.3 Legislation and policy, including requirements and direction set out at the international, national and regional/local levels, will influence the partial update of the HMWP. The Plan must respond to, and help to effectively facilitate, decisions taken within other documents that have an impact on waste management and minerals development.
- 3.4 The review has shown that a large number of plans, programmes, policies and legislation at international, national and regional/local level is relevant to the partial update of the HMWP. Within the Revised Baseline Report, their relevance has been summarised and recommendations made for associated sustainability objectives, which have been incorporated into the SA Framework outlined in Section 4.

Establishing the Baseline

- 3.5 The initial stage of SA involves researching, collating and describing the sustainability baseline for the Plan Area. This provides the evidence base which will be used to inform the Environmental Report.
- 3.6 Baseline data includes existing environmental and sustainability information from a range of sources which is quantitative and qualitative. The information provides the basis for assessing the potential impact of the Plan's policies, objectives and options and will assist in the development of appropriate mitigation measures and sets the baseline for future monitoring. The baseline information profile will include baseline data pertaining to the following:
 - the latest available data and comparison nationally (where available);
 - future trends and/or predictions and the likely future trends without implementation of the plan;
 - limitations, uncertainties and gaps in the data set; and

¹⁴ HMWP Partial Update Revised SA Baseline Report September 2021 - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

- existing environmental and sustainability problems.
- 3.7 Once the locations of potential sites have been identified it will be easier to predict direct and indirect impacts on specific areas. This will be included in the Environmental Report.
- 3.8 The SEA Regulations identify environmental receptors that must be initially considered for all environmental assessments. These include:
- population and human health;
 - biodiversity, flora and fauna;
 - soil;
 - water;
 - Air;
 - climatic factors;
 - material assets;
 - cultural, architectural and archaeological heritage;
 - landscape; and the
 - inter-relationship between the above factors.
- 3.9 Under the requirements of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, Sustainability Appraisals should also include economy, employment and health.

Rationale for Scoping

- 3.10 The above list serves as a starting point from which issues have been scoped in or out of the SA, depending on whether or not they are considered likely to affect or be affected by the partial update of the HMWP.
- 3.11 Table 3.1 provides a summary of the preliminary scoping and justification for the scoping in or out of particular issues.
- 3.12 The Revised Baseline Report¹⁵ that accompanies this Revised Scoping Report contains the detailed baseline information. The Revised Baseline Report should, therefore, be read in conjunction with this Revised Scoping Report.

¹⁵ HMWP Partial Update SA Revised Baseline Report September 2021 - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

Table 3.1: Rationale for scoping

Receptor/Issues		Scope and Justification	
		Scoped out	Scoped In
Population and Human Health	Population growth and structure		Population predictions influence the HMWP Partial Update. Baseline information will include population growth, distribution and structure statistics.
	Quality of life/social deprivation		The minerals and waste industry provides direct employment for a small proportion of the population within the Plan area and has indirect influence on employment in a number of other industries such as the construction and manufacturing sector. Minerals industry activity could give rise to temporary (in that opportunities for direct employment would exist for the lifetime of a mineral site) and reversible (in that the labour force could grow or contract in line with demand for minerals) employment. Minerals and waste development can also have a significant impact on amenity. Baseline information will include basic economic, employment and amenity data.
	Health		As the HMWP Partial Update may have an impact on air and water quality through minerals and waste development, processing and transportation, health data relating to life expectancy and respiratory disease, together with information relating to the Plan area's surface and groundwater sources is provided in the baseline.
	Tourism and recreation of national and regional importance		Actions arising from the HMWP Partial Update could affect important tourist, recreational and amenity resources (e.g. air quality, visual, congestion) and could present opportunities to deliver recreational benefits. Baseline information will include the location of important tourism sites within the Plan Area.
Material Assets	Transport infrastructure network		Actions arising from the HMWP Partial Update have the potential to affect key transport routes (e.g. road, rail) and infrastructure (e.g. wharfs, ports and airport safeguarding). Baseline information will include information on critical infrastructure (road, rail, sea and air).

	Traffic and congestion		Actions arising from the HMWP Partial Update have the potential to impact traffic. Baseline information will include information on critical infrastructure.
	Minerals and waste infrastructure		Directly relevant.
	Economy and employment		The minerals and waste industry provides direct employment for a small proportion of the population within the Plan area and has indirect influence on employment in a number of other industries such as the construction and manufacturing sector. Minerals industry activity could give rise to temporary (in that opportunities for direct employment would exist for the lifetime of a mineral site) and reversible (in that the labour force could grow or contract in line with demand for minerals) employment. Baseline information will include basic employment data.
Biodiversity, Flora and Fauna	International designated sites (e.g. SAC, SPA, Ramsar sites) and known supporting sites	An HRA will be undertaken separately, the results of which will be incorporated into the SA Environmental Report.	Actions arising from the HMWP Partial Update could have direct or indirect effects on the features of internationally designated sites. Basic data collection on such sites will be included in the SA. Detailed information relating to habitats and species relevant to SPA, SAC and Ramsar designations will be included in the HRA and not duplicated in the baseline. The SA, HRA and HMWP Partial Update are integrated processes and the SA and HRA will be able to influence the partial update of the HMWP.
	National and local designations (e.g. National Nature Reserves (NNRs), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs))		Actions arising from the HMWP Partial Update could have direct or indirect effects on the features of nationally designated sites. Baseline information will include details of the nationally designated sites in the Plan area.
	Local nature conservation sites (e.g. Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation (SINC), County Wildlife Sites (CWS) and Wildlife Trust Reserves)		Locally designated sites of nature conservation importance may be affected (positively or negatively) by potential minerals and waste sites. Baseline information will include details of local sites.

	Priority habitats and species (informed by local Biodiversity Action Plans)		There is duty to have regard to these (listed in the Annexes of the Natural Environment and Rural Communities (NERC) Act 2006 ¹⁶). Baseline information will include details of the habitats of principle importance in the Plan area.
Soil, Geology and Geomorphology	Soils (surficial and bedrock geology)		Directly relevant.
	Designated earth heritage sites (e.g. geological SSSIs)		The HMWP Partial Update could have direct impacts on designated geological sites through flooding, erosion or sedimentation. Baseline information will include earth heritage sites.
	Contaminated land		Minerals and waste sites have the potential to cause contamination and mobilise existing contamination. The baseline will include a discussion of contamination issues and the threat it poses to soils.
	Agriculture and land use		It is important that due regard is given to the agricultural grade of land when considering the potential siting of waste and minerals sites, to prevent the loss of Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land.
Water	Water resources (groundwater/surface)		Water resources linked to local geology (e.g. groundwater levels) and hydrological regimes are vulnerable to minerals and waste development (e.g. from dewatering and pollution). The baseline will include information on geological aquifers and river systems. The HMWP Partial Update will need to consider whether any sites will lead to adverse impacts on the water bodies within the Plan area.
	Flood Risk		Flood risk will be considered in planning for minerals and waste. Information regarding the areas of flood risk (groundwater, surface water) and future trends in the Plan area will be included in the baseline. This will incorporate climate change allowances provided by the Environment Agency ¹⁷ .
	Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF)		Portions of the Plan area are Nitrate Vulnerable Zones (NVZ). Information on NVZs will be included in the baseline.
Air	Air quality		The chemical of predominant concern for all Air Quality Management Areas in the Plan area is nitrogen dioxide, which is associated with traffic

¹⁶ Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act 2006 - <https://www.legislation.gov.uk/ukpga/2006/16/contents>

¹⁷ Environment Agency climate change allowances - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessments-climate-change-allowances>

			emissions. The HMWP Partial Update may also have a significant effect on air quality more widely (waste combustion, waste treatment and transportation). Information will be included in the baseline.
Climate	Climatic change		Minerals and waste development has the potential to generate significant carbon emissions and waste processing has the potential to emit the more potent greenhouse gases, e.g. methane. Basic information will be included in the baseline.
The Historic Environment	Historic Landscape Character		Minerals and waste development may affect historic landscape character (HLC) by modifying patterns and connections within the landscape that have evolved over time. Basic information on HLC will be included in the baseline.
	Registered Parks and Gardens and Registered Battlefields		The Plan area has a rich cultural environment with a large number of registered sites. Minerals and waste sites may directly or indirectly affect views and setting of both Registered Parks and Gardens and Registered Battlefields. Details of registered assets will be included in the baseline.
	Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas		Minerals and waste sites may indirectly affect the setting of Scheduled Monuments, Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas. Details of listed and designated assets will be included in the baseline.
	Other known and unknown features of archaeological and/or heritage interest		The impact of minerals extraction within the Plan area would be assessed by reference to the known archaeological data (designated and undesignated) and the implied archaeological potential of areas, within the framework set out by the National Planning Policy Framework.
Landscape and Visual Amenity	Designated landscapes		The location and setting of National Parks and Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) located within and adjacent to the Plan area will be considered when considering any minerals and waste development. Detail of relevant designated landscapes will be included in the baseline.
	Non-designated landscape		Landscape character and visual impact beyond nationally designated landscapes will be considered as part of the planning of minerals and waste development. Detail of the Plan areas landscape will be included in the baseline.
	Green Belt		The nature of the Green Belt is vulnerable to minerals and waste development. Details of Green Belt within the Plan area will be provided in the baseline.

	Tranquillity		Although there are heavily populated areas and an extensive transport infrastructure within the Plan area, there are also extensive rural areas with high levels of tranquillity, including dark night skies. Consideration of impacts on tranquillity will help guide and influence the choice of development locations.
Inter-relationship between the above factors	e.g. water quality and biodiversity; land use change and landscape; quality of life and recreation/biodiversity	Inter-relationships will be included where relevant i.e., where minerals and waste sites give rise to the potential for secondary or cumulative impacts.	

Main messages from the baseline

- 3.13 The baseline provides a basis for understanding the environmental and sustainability issues in the Plan area. It helps to identify any environmental / sustainability problems and where applicable, ways to potentially resolve them. It is an important stage of the strategic environment assessment and ensures the process is based on sound evidence and assists in predicting and monitoring the likely effects of the plan.
- 3.14 The main messages from the Revised Baseline Report¹⁸ are summarised as follows:

Climate change

- 3.15 Most of the HMWP partner authorities and district and borough local planning authorities within the Plan area have declared climate emergencies and have prepared associated strategies and action plans. These strategies/plans set out policies, objectives and actions to achieve net zero carbon by target dates prescribed by each authority and implement climate change mitigation and adaptation measures.
- 3.16 The Department of Energy and Climate Change (DECC) have produced UK local authority and regional carbon dioxide emissions national statistics for 2005-2018, available on the National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory¹⁹. The data suggest that the Plan area has fairly typical per capita CO₂ emission when compared to the South East region and the UK as a whole and, in general, the data suggest that per capita emissions have been reducing since 2005.
- 3.17 The following climate change predictions apply to the Plan area:
- It is expected that precipitation in the winter will increase by up to 35% by 2080.
 - The average summer temperature in the South East is expected to rise by 1-4°C under 2°C global warming.
 - Sea levels in the South East are expected to rise by up to 30cm by 2040.
 - More frequent winter storms and greater near surface wind speeds.
 - The South of England will experience more dry summers, with a 20-60% precipitation reduction under 2°C global warming.
 - 27% of UK native species are at a medium to high risk of decline by 2080.
- 3.18 It is important that the HMWP Partial Update supports the climate change / sustainability commitments of the Plan area's local authorities.

Air Quality

- 3.19 Air quality is influenced by natural sources and human activities. Air quality in the Plan area is greatly influenced by human activities, the primary sources of which are: transportation; combustion of fuels; industrial processes; and agriculture.

¹⁸ HMWP Partial Update SA Revised Baseline Report September 2021 - <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

¹⁹ National Atmospheric Emissions Inventory - <https://naei.beis.gov.uk/laco2app/>

- 3.20 In the Plan area there are 22 locations where NO₂ limits are being breached, and one location where limits for PM₁₀ are breached. 22 Air Quality Management Areas (AQMA) are therefore in place. The primary source of NO₂ and PM₁₀ are vehicle emissions, and this is reflected in the locations of the AQMAs in cities and town centres, along roadsides and motorways.
- 3.21 Emissions of NO_x and PM₁₀ appear highest in New Forest, Winchester, Basingstoke, Test Valley, Southampton and Portsmouth. Of these locations, Southampton, Portsmouth, Winchester, Basingstoke & Test Valley also have proportionately higher levels of road emissions. New Forest has far higher background levels of emissions (non-road), likely due to the oil refinery and proximity to the port of Southampton. Neither Test Valley nor Basingstoke currently have AQMAs, despite higher total levels of emissions from all sources, reflecting the more dispersed emissions in these areas.
- 3.22 Minerals and waste development and activity has the potential to produce a range of air pollutants and it is important that the HMWP Partial Update supports the commitments and targets of the Plan area's local authorities, particularly with respect to carbon dioxide, nitrogen oxides and methane.

Biodiversity

- 3.23 The Plan area is one of the most important areas for habitats and species in England with a significant number of internationally, nationally and locally designated sites for nature conservation, and a rich flora and fauna, including many notable species.
- 3.24 The Plan area, however, has suffered significant losses in biodiversity over a period of many decades. Many habitats have been lost to development or have become degraded through changes in agricultural practice and afforestation. Populations of a number of notable species of flora and fauna are currently in decline in the Plan area due to range of issues including habitat loss and fragmentation, intensive agriculture, pollution, pesticides, non-native species and the effects of climate change.
- 3.25 Minerals and waste development specifically has the potential to significantly harm biodiversity, both directly and indirectly, including through habitat fragmentation, hydrological changes, physical disturbance of important species, and air and water pollution.
- 3.26 When appropriately planned and delivered, however, minerals and waste development can provide opportunities for biodiversity enhancement, particularly through the restoration of mineral extraction and landfill sites.
- 3.27 It is acknowledged that designated sites for nature conservation are a constraint to new mineral and waste sites.

Landscape and Visual Amenity

- 3.28 The character and function of the Plan area's landscape and townscape has been assessed and described in detail through county and district level integrated

Landscape Character Assessment (LCA). The Plan area's landscape is dominated by the National Character Areas of the Thames Basin Heaths, Hampshire Downs, South Downs, South Hampshire Lowlands, South Coast Plain, and New Forest.

- 3.29 The Plan area covers a range of important and highly valued landscapes, with almost 40% of its land area nationally designated, including two National Parks and three Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB). The 'setting' of designated landscapes significantly extends the area over which these designations influence planning policy and development management. A small part of the Plan area also falls within the South West Hampshire & South East Dorset Green Belt.
- 3.30 Outside the urban areas and principal transport network, the Plan area has a relatively high degree of tranquillity and extensive dark night sky areas, and this is particularly the case in the National Parks and AONBs.
- 3.31 Minerals and waste development has the potential to significantly harm landscape/townscape character, function and visual amenity, through associated infrastructure and land use change, and tranquillity and dark night skies through noise, vibration, and lighting. The character and integrity of some of the Plan area's river valley landscapes are particularly vulnerable to minerals and waste development.
- 3.32 It is acknowledged that designated landscapes and, to some extent Green Belt designation, provide significant constraints to minerals and waste development within the Plan area.
- 3.33 Site restoration, however, provides opportunities to enhance landscape character and function and visual amenity through choice of afteruse and implementation of appropriate planting schemes.

Soils, Geology and Geomorphology

- 3.34 Almost 60% of graded agricultural land in the Plan area is considered as the 'best and most versatile agricultural land' (Grades 1, 2 and 3a), with the majority being Grade 3.
- 3.35 The best agricultural grade of land is found within the south Hampshire coastal plain, east of Southampton Water. These are considered to be of regional importance and can coincide with sand and gravel deposits.
- 3.36 There are a range of threats to the Plan area's soils such as erosion, compaction, nutrient loss and biological degradation from climate change, development pressures, increasing demand for crops and other human activities.
- 3.37 Minerals and waste development has the potential to impact soil quality and quantity during soil stripping and storage processes.
- 3.38 The HMWP should aim to avoid locating development on the best and most versatile agricultural land and planning decisions must take sufficient account of soil quality.

- 3.39 The Plan area's geology and geomorphology have significant implications for the Plan area's water environment and minerals assets and is discussed further in the relevant sections below.

Historic Environment / Cultural Heritage

- 3.40 The Plan area has a rich historic environment, which encompasses archaeological sites, historic buildings and settlements, historic landscapes and parks and gardens. These assets range from individual artefacts, through sites and buildings, to extensive landscapes, and range in date from the early prehistoric to the late 20th century.
- 3.41 There are, consequently, a large number of historic environment assets across the Plan area that are afforded protection, including Listed Buildings, Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Registered Parks and Gardens, and Registered Historic Battlefields.
- 3.42 The historic landscapes across the Plan area have been assessed and described by Historic Landscape Characterisation (HLC) and there are a large number of undesignated archaeological sites/features that have been identified, the location and significance of which are recorded in the Historic Environment Records that cover the Plan area. Equally, there is likely to be a large number of significant archaeological sites/features that are yet to be discovered and described.
- 3.43 Minerals and waste development has the potential to directly damage or destroy historic environment assets and features, as well as affect their setting and accessibility and it is acknowledged that these assets and features will constrain minerals and waste development. Appropriately planned development, however, has the potential to uncover as yet unknown assets and features and contribute to our understanding of the historic environment.

Water Environment

- 3.44 The Plan area has an outstanding freshwater environment, with more riverine and wetland sites of national and international importance for wildlife than any other county area in England. It also lies within parts of three River Basin Districts (South East, Thames and South West) and is a highly populated area with a significant demand for water resources.
- 3.45 In 2016, 82% of water in the Plan area's rivers, streams and lakes (i.e. 'surface water') failed to reach 'good' ecological status compared with 86% in the UK.
- 3.46 Water resources in the Plan area depend on groundwater stored in the chalk aquifer of the Hampshire Downs, with over 70% of Hampshire's water supply derived from this source and the rest from groundwater-fed rivers (nationally only one third of water consumed is from groundwater).

- 3.47 Due to the importance of underground water bodies within aquifers to drinking water supplies, the Plan area has a large number of groundwater protection zones and most of the Plan area is covered by Nitrate Vulnerable Zones.
- 3.48 The Plan area's marine environment, particularly the Solent, is experiencing significant levels of nitrogen and phosphorus pollution mainly from domestic waste-water and agricultural sources.
- 3.49 Significant portions of the Plan area are subject to flooding and are located in Flood Zones 2 and 3 (incorporating the Environment Agency's climate change allowances²⁰).
- 3.50 There are significant pressures in the southeast of England on the water environment as this region is the driest and most heavily populated. These pressures are likely to increase due to projected population increase and the effects of climate change.
- 3.51 Minerals and waste development activity has the potential to significantly impact the water environment through pollution and impact on hydrological regimes. This is particularly the case in the river valleys.

Population and Human Health

- 3.52 The Plan area's population is projected to rise by 6.8% over the period 2019 – 2026. This is greater than the projected average increase in the UK and England population over the same period, which puts increasing pressure on public services, housing and waste facilities.
- 3.53 The review of relevant plans, programmes and policies outlined in Paragraphs 3.1 – 3.4 and detailed in the Baseline Report²¹, indicates that there will be collective Local Plan requirements for an additional 7,289 new dwellings per annum, across the Plan area. This also necessitates associated built infrastructure, including schools, healthcare, road improvements, waste management infrastructure, etc.
- 3.54 The Plan area has a slightly above average life expectancy and fairly typical age demographic, in comparison to the rest of England.
- 3.55 The population of the Plan area has relatively low levels of deprivation with the most deprived areas located within Southampton, Portsmouth, Rushmoor, Havant, Gosport and Eastleigh (with pockets in the New Forest). The latest Deprivation data show place-based deprivation has increased and is most notable in Havant, which has five more areas ranked in the 20% most deprived areas nationally.
- 3.56 The population within the Plan area has an average relative risk with respect to chronic obstructive pulmonary disease and access to medical facilities.

²⁰ Environment Agency climate change allowances - <https://www.gov.uk/guidance/flood-risk-assessments-climate-change-allowances>

²¹ HMWP Partial Update SA Revised Baseline Report September 2021 – <https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

- 3.57 The Plan area contains a wide range of green and blue infrastructure, providing opportunities for access to nature, including two National Parks, three Areas of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB), a number of Country Parks (including large formal visitor destination parks), coastal areas and beaches, and informal greenspace. The Plan area also has a considerable offering of cultural venues. Green and blue infrastructure mapping undertaken by the Plan area's local planning authorities, however, has shown that there are significant areas of greenspace deficiency, particularly in the urban areas.
- 3.58 A network of over 4,500 km of public rights of way (footpaths, bridleways and byways), including 13 long distance walking trails, intersect the Plan area.

Material Assets (Transport, Minerals and Waste)

- 3.59 The Plan area is well served by its principal transport networks of motorways and A-Roads, and mainline railway routes linking the Plan area to London and other parts of England and the UK. The Plan area's rail network is also utilised to import crushed rock into the area from other parts of the country
- 3.60 In 2019, the Plan area was the busiest road traffic area in the South East of England, which was in-turn the busiest in the UK. There are a number of congestion 'pinch-points' on the Plan area's principal road network
- 3.61 The Plan area is also well-served by two ports (Southampton and Portsmouth) and airports / aerodromes, including Southampton, Blackbushe and Farnborough Airports and Bournemouth Airport located close the Plan area's South West boundary.
- 3.62 Based on current trends, there is likely to be an increased amount of freight handled by Hampshire's major ports, as well as an increased use of Southampton airport and the expanding business of Farnborough airport for economic and social uses. This is particularly the case with permission now obtained for the runway extension at Southampton Airport.
- 3.63 There is a need to move towards sustainable waste management and achieve as much value from resources as possible. This is driven by factors such as increasing volumes of waste, a decreasing landfill capacity, and higher targets for reuse and recycling of waste. Economic growth is currently associated with increasing waste arisings.
- 3.64 Minerals are an essential component of the built environment in the Plan area, ensuring that economic objectives are capable of being met through development of homes, schools, offices, highways and other major infrastructure. Aggregates are sourced from land-won resources, marine-dredged, recycled and secondary aggregates, and imports.
- 3.65 Minerals can only be worked where they occur naturally, based on geological deposits, constraining the location and potential exploitation of minerals in the Plan area. The Plan area's geology gives rise to sharp sand and gravel, soft sand, silica sand, brick-making clay, chalk and oil and gas.

- 3.66 There are a number of different constraints and issues which affect the location of minerals development in the Plan area including the location of viable mineral deposits and the transportation of minerals. The majority of minerals and waste would have to be transported via the road network.
- 3.67 With a predicted increase in population across the Plan area, quantified by the collective Local Plan requirements for an additional 7,289 dwellings and associated infrastructure per annum, the transport network, public transport systems, waste management infrastructure and minerals supply industry will be placed under greater pressure year on year.

Economy

- 3.68 The Plan area has a diverse and vibrant economy and is strategically well placed in terms of its proximity to major ports, airports and road and rail networks. Prominent sectors in the Plan area's economy include Digital, Aerospace and Defence, Marine and Maritime and Financial Services and the area is home to the strategic operations of many major corporate brands.
- 3.69 Regionally, the Plan area is the most export-intensive area, representing over a fifth of all exports in the South East of England and its economy constitutes 19% of the South East's economy. Gross Value Added (GVA) per head of population, is more than 1.4% higher than the UK average.
- 3.70 The construction industry is a significant employer across the Plan area and the industry relies heavily on minerals supply (90% of aggregate minerals are used in this industry). Minerals make a crucial contribution to wider economic and development activity.
- 3.71 The Plan area is a growing economy and will increasingly rely on the supply of minerals and management of waste. The number of potential employees at waste facilities per square metre is, however, fairly small compared to other types of employment uses.
- 3.72 The Plan area provides a significant and varied tourism offer, with a wide range of visitor destinations/venues and supporting accommodation, and a number of market towns which are service centres for the surrounding areas. New patterns of living, shopping, transport and business all threaten the economic vitality of Market Towns.
- 3.73 Almost 60% of the Plan area consists of productive farmland, 82% of which are farm holdings of 100 ha or more. The Plan area contributes approximately 18% of the South East region's farmland.
- 3.74 The coast provides high-commercial value species such as sole, oysters, bass and lobster. The welfare of the shellfish stocks is of major concern for the future of the industry. Over 80% of the boats that are actively fishing the Plan area's coastline are now full-time.

4. Developing the Sustainability Appraisal Framework

- 4.1 The sustainability appraisal framework comprises the sustainability objectives, against which the strategies/proposals/policies of the HMWP Partial Update can be appraised to assess their potential impacts on the environment, and to what extent they promote sustainability. The framework also includes the criteria or indicators which will assist in testing and measuring these objectives.
- 4.2 The objectives within the sustainability appraisal framework (Table 4.1) have been derived from the review of baseline information and review of plans, programmes, policies and legislation.
- 4.3 Collectively, the objectives should be able to adequately 'measure' the sustainability of the policy document being appraised and identify areas of potential impact of the strategies/options.
- 4.4 Each policy/strategy/option proposed for inclusion in the HMWP Partial Update will be tested against each sustainability objective. This is done by answering the questions set out as assessment criteria, to gain an understanding of how well the policy/strategy/option performs in relation to each sustainability objective. As each option under consideration is systematically and consistently appraised using these objectives and criteria, a picture of their relative sustainability is derived, and it becomes possible to compare different options/policies/strategies to determine which options are more or less sustainable. The assessment criteria are not set out in order of preference.

Table 4.1: Sustainability Appraisal Objectives and Indicators

Sustainability Objective	Appraisal Criteria: Will the Plan ...	Potential Plan Monitoring Indicators
SA1. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • lead to a decrease in production of greenhouse gases such as CO₂ and methane? • support renewable energy, gas sequestration etc? • reduce distances travelled by road? • ensure waste sites are located in areas which minimise the risk of flooding? • ensure mineral sites seek to alleviate flood risk or the impact of flooding? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of permitted applications that involve alternative transport methods / proportion (%) of waste and aggregates transported by rail or water • Biodegradable wastes diverted from landfill (% of municipal and C&I waste arisings) • Total energy production capacity provided by waste management facilities per annum • Delivery of beneficial outcomes from restoration including schemes identified for flood attenuation – ha/capacity
SA2. Improve and maintain air quality at levels which does not damage natural systems and human health	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seek to minimise road haulage? • lead to increased traffic congestion in built-up areas? • lead to increased dust and/or odours? • lead to increased adverse effect of air quality on biodiversity. • seek to avoid existing AQMAs? • Be in close proximity to air quality sensitive ecological receptors (International sites)? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number or proportion (%) of permitted applications with routeing agreements that avoid AQMAs • Emissions to air are within allowed limits and do not cause harm to the environment • Number of substantiated complaints and pollution incidents requiring enforcement action for developments satisfying Local Plan requirements • Local air quality monitoring data • Proximity to strategic road network
SA3. Protect, maintain, and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity including natural habitats, flora and fauna and protected species	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conserve and enhance internationally, nationally, and locally important sites for nature conservation? • protect, maintain, and enhance UK habitats and species of principal importance? • enhance ecological networks and habitat connectivity? • protect and conserve geological SSSIs and Local Geology Sites? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distance to nearest designated sites • Condition of sensitive receptors • Delivery of beneficial outcomes from restoration including net gain in biodiversity (BAP targets) and geodiversity (protection or enhancement of Local Geology Sites or geological SSSIs) – hectares (ha)
SA4. Protect and enhance landscape and townscape character, local distinctiveness and tranquillity	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • conserve and enhance the Plan area's National Parks and AONBs & their settings? • respect, maintain, and strengthen local landscape character and distinctiveness? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proximity and relationship of proposals to designated landscapes and their setting • Delivery of beneficial outcomes from restoration including enhancement of landscape character, and/or

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seek to minimise the effects of minerals and waste development on tranquillity, including noise and light pollution? 	<p>protection or restoration of statutory or non-statutory landscape designations</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Impact on landscape character and tranquillity
SA5. Maintain and protect soil quality and protect the best and most versatile agricultural land	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • affect high grade agricultural land? • lead to soil pollution or contamination? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Retention of BMV agricultural land – ha of high grade agricultural land lost to minerals and waste development • Incidences of land contamination related to minerals and waste development.
SA6. Protect and conserve the historic environment, significance of heritage assets and features and their setting	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • protect, conserve, and/or enhance heritage assets and the historic/prehistoric environment of the Plan area? • contribute to the better management of heritage assets? • improve the quality of the historic environment? • provide for increased access to and enjoyment of the historic environment? • lead to the potential loss of historic landscape and features? • alter the hydrological conditions of water-dependent heritage assets, including paleo-environmental deposits? • provide for increased understanding and interpretation of the historic environment? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection or enhancement of the historic environment - % of applications • Area of highly sensitive historic landscape characterisation type(s) that have been altered and their character eroded – ha • Location of listed, designated, registered heritage features
SA7. Maintain and enhance the quality of ground, surface and coastal waters and manage the consumption of water in a sustainable way	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • seek to protect water resources in particular potable reserves and source protection zones (surface and groundwater, quantity and quality)? • seek to minimise adverse effects on water hydromorphology, natural processes and aquatic environment? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Distance to source protection zones • Number or proportion (%) of permitted applications: - affecting source protection zones (1, 2 & 3) - requiring abstraction licences - that incorporate SuDS • Emissions to water are within permitted limits and do not cause harm to the environment • Distance to public water supply abstraction. • Surface water chemical and biological status within vicinity of the site
SA8. Reduce the risk of flooding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ensure waste sites are located in areas which minimise the risk of flooding? • ensure mineral sites seek to alleviate flood risk or the impact of flooding? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number or proportion (%) of permitted sites for minerals and waste development within the flood plain (Flood Zone 3)

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Delivery of beneficial outcomes from restoration including schemes identified for flood attenuation – ha/capacity • Incidences of flood warnings • Distance to ‘areas susceptible to surface water flooding’ <p><i>(Incorporating the Environment Agency’s climate change allowances)</i></p>
SA9. Minimise negative impacts of waste management facilities and mineral extraction on people and local communities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • have impacts which could have a harmful effect on human health? • result in loss of amenity through visual impact, noise, dust, or vibration for local communities? • provide opportunities for enhancement of local amenity and access to the countryside? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of substantiated complaints and pollution incidents requiring enforcement action for developments satisfying Local Plan requirements • Delivery of beneficial outcomes from restoration including increased access to countryside and recreational opportunities
SA10. Minimise the impact of the transportation of aggregates and waste products on the local and strategic transport network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce distances travelled by road? • allocate sites that are well located in relation to surrounding settlements for waste, or markets for minerals? • enable waste facilities or mineral operation serve local needs? • facilitate HGV routeing agreements and developer contributions for infrastructure improvements? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of permitted applications that involve alternative transport methods / proportion (%) of waste and aggregates transported by rail or water • Number or proportion (%) of permitted applications with routeing agreements • Number of substantiated complaints requiring enforcement action for developments satisfying • Local Plan requirements
SA11. Support sustainable extraction, re-use and recycling of mineral and aggregate resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • support the waste hierarchy? • Produce recycled and secondary aggregate? • Extending existing facilities? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tonnage / % of waste secondary aggregate recycled
SA12. Contribute towards moving up the waste hierarchy in the Plan area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • increase the amount of waste re-used, recycled, or recovered? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Tonnage / % of waste recycled • Tonnage / % of waste composted • Tonnage / % of waste recovered • Tonnage / % of waste to be landfilled
SA13. Enable the Plan area to be self-sufficient in its waste management and provide an	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • reduce the need for waste to be transported outside the Plan area for treatment or disposal? • reduce the need for the Plan area to import aggregates? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Net self-sufficiency for waste management capacity:

adequate supply of minerals to meet its local needs.		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - proportion of total waste arisings (estimated/as managed) for municipal, C&I and CD&E waste managed within the Plan area - capacity gap (waste arisings minus existing capacity) for broad waste management methods (tonnes) • Sufficient aggregate is made available to support planned growth: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - total annual production rate for aggregates (sand and gravel, soft sand, and crushed rock) meet the annual provision rates - total existing capacity for recycled and secondary aggregates (tpa) - maintenance of landbanks (years)
SA14. Support the Plan area's economic growth and reduce disparities across the area	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • encourage the provision of more locally based skills and facilities? • generate new jobs for the Plan area? • support and encourage the growth of small and medium size business? 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of new planning permissions for mineral and waste development granted, including: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - total aggregate yield and annual production rate (for minerals), - annual throughput tpa (for recycled and secondary aggregates and waste management facilities)
SA15. Enhance networks of green and blue infrastructure and enable safe access to countryside and greenspace.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • minimise the impact of minerals and waste development on the local PRow network • enhance the local and wider GI networks through the restoration of minerals extraction and landfill sites 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extent of new public access created following restoration (km of paths/tracks; number of access points) • Compliance with local green and blue infrastructure strategies • Number of PRow diversion orders from M&W development

Relationship between SA Objectives and SEA Regulations issues

- 4.5 The SEA Regulations require that the Environmental Report prepared as part of the SEA includes information on the likely significant effects on the environment. In order to check that the sustainability appraisal will properly address these issues, Table 4.2 below assesses the extent to which the selected sustainability objectives relate to the issues identified by the Regulations. At least one objective relates to each SEA Regulations issue, so it is considered that this sustainability appraisal will meet the requirements of the SEA Regulations.

Table 4.2: SA Objectives cross-referenced against SEA Regulations issues

SEA Directive topic	SA objective
Biodiversity / flora, fauna	SA3
Soil	SA5
Water	SA7 and SA8
Air	SA2
Climatic factors	SA1
Material assets	SA10, SA11, SA12 and SA13
Cultural heritage (including architectural and archaeological heritage)	SA6
Landscape	SA4
Human health	SA9 and SA15
Population	SA9 and SA14

- 4.6 It is considered that the sustainability objectives selected will, when applied, be adequate in both breadth and depth to properly assess the partial update of the HMWP.

Reasonable Alternatives

- 4.7 The SEA Regulations require an assessment of the Plan and its reasonable alternatives. In order to assess reasonable alternatives, different strategy options for delivering the HMWP Partial Update will be developed and assessed at a strategic level against the established SA objectives and environmental baseline. The results of this assessment will be used to inform the decision-making process in choosing a preferred way of delivering the HMWP Partial Update.
- 4.8 In deciding what constitutes a 'reasonable alternative' the predicted funding envelope, existing legislation and Government policy will be considered. Options which conflict with existing national policy or are financially unachievable will not be considered 'reasonable' and the SA will clearly set out alternatives which have been rejected as being unreasonable. The HMWP Partial Update objectives and measures (in SEA terms called 'alternative options') are not sufficiently developed to include in this Scoping Report. However, they will be assessed at a later stage and included in the Interim Environmental Report.
- 4.9 The SA will also consider a 'without partial update' scenario. This will represent what may occur if the current plan is not updated. A description of this scenario and assumptions used in its formulation will be developed prior to assessment.

Assessment Approach

- 4.10 The objective of this SA is to assess impacts in order to inform and influence the partial update of the HMWP and facilitate discussions regarding alternative approaches, which will be evaluated in light of their potential impacts including cumulative, synergistic and indirect environmental effects on the different SA topics. For this reason, each issue will not be given a ranking, rating or numerical score.
- 4.11 The assessment of these environmental effects will be qualitative and informed by professional judgement and experience with other SAs, as well as an assessment of national, regional and local trends. In some cases, the assessment will draw upon mapping data to identify areas of potential pressure, for example flood risk or presence of environmental designations.
- 4.12 For all HMWP Partial Update policies / alternative approaches, Table 4.3 will be used to evaluate how the environment/sustainability would be affected, positively or negatively, from the implementation of the HMWP Partial Update, in relation to the objectives and indicators that comprise the framework. All HMWP Partial Update policies will be assessed based on their likely impact. Effects of the HMWP Partial Update will be described in terms of their nature. Potential minerals and waste sites will also be assessed. Some policies may be grouped as part of the assessment process to provide a better overview of effects, including in-combination.
- 4.13 In addition to the Vision, Plan Objectives and Policies of the HWMP Partial Update, individual sites will be assessed. The results will be used in the Plan update process and, where applicable, recommendations will be used to improve drafting of the HWMP Partial Update.

Table 4.3: Criteria

Symbol	Explanation of the Effect
++	Very Positive: will result in a very positive impact on the objective
+	Slightly Positive: will result in a slightly positive impact on the objective
0	Neutral: will result in a neutral or negligible effect on the objective
-	Slightly Negative: will result in a slightly negative impact on the objective
--	Very Negative: will result on a very negative impact on the objective
?	Unknown: the relationship is unknown, or there is insufficient information to make an assessment

- 4.14 A proforma will be used, which will include commentary on the reasoning for the effect. This will consist of information on the significance, uncertainty, duration, magnitude and reversibility of the effect. The proforma will also provide possible mitigation or negative effects and where applicable enhancement of positive effects (refer to Table 4.4).

Table 4.4: Example of Proforma

Policy / Site X			
Objective	Criterion	Effects (short, long, temporary, permanent)²²	Mitigation/Potential Improvements
1			
2			
X			

4.15 Cumulative impacts will be assessed to ensure the full impact of the HMWP Partial Update is understood. Table 4.5 will be used to document cumulative effects.

Table 4.5: Example of Cumulative Effects Proforma

Objective	Impact of Policy X of the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan	Impact of other plans, projects, trends	Cumulative Impacts
1			
2			
3			
X			

²² Short term is less than 5 year, medium term between 5-10 years, long term more than 10 years.

5. Remaining SA/SEA Stages

Remaining Stages and Tasks

- 5.1 This Scoping Report satisfies Stage A and will be subject to formal consultation, after which the remaining stages will be undertaken:
- Stage B: Developing and refining options assessing effects;
 - Stage C: Preparing the Environmental Report;
 - Stage D: Consulting on the draft plan; and
 - Stage E: Monitoring significant effects of implementing the plan.

Proposed Structure of the Environmental Report

- 5.2 The proposed draft structure of the Environmental Report comprises the following:
- 1) Introduction, Purpose;
 - 2) Review of Policies, Plans and Programmes;
 - 3) Environmental Context;
 - 4) Problems and Issues;
 - 5) Framework and Objectives;
 - 6) Reasonable Alternatives;
 - 7) Preferred Approach (explanation / mitigation);
 - 8) Assessment of the Draft Plan Against Objectives;
 - 9) Monitoring Envisaged;
 - 10) Cumulative, Indirect, Synergistic, Long Term Effects; and
 - 11) Non-Technical Summary.
- 5.3 The Environmental Report will be clearly signposted to the requirements of the Strategic Environmental Assessment Regulations and will clearly identify how the responses from the consultation have been integrated. Particular attention will be given to the assessment of reasonable alternatives.

6. Consultation & Next Steps

- 6.1 To meet the requirements of the SEA Regulations, the views of the three statutory consultees (Environment Agency, Historic England and Natural England) and key stakeholders were sought in relation to the scope and level of detail to be included in the Environmental Report as part of a consultation in June 2021.
- 6.2 Consultees were requested to consider:
- Whether the scope of the SA was appropriate as set out, considering the role of the HWMP Partial Update to deliver a sustainable supply of minerals and sustainable waste management facilities to meet the needs of the Plan area.
 - Whether there were any additional plans, policies or programmes that are relevant to the SA that should be included.
 - Whether the baseline information provided was robust and comprehensive and provided a suitable baseline for the SA of the HWMP Partial Update.
 - Whether there were any additional key sustainability issues relevant to the HWMP Partial Update that should be included.
 - Whether the SA Framework was appropriate and included a suitable set of SA objectives and was supported by suitable site-based assumptions (Appendix A) for assessing the effects of the options as well as reasonable alternatives.
- 6.3 Responses received from consultees were reviewed and amendments made, where appropriate, to the Scoping Report, including the baseline (separate Baseline Report), policy context and SA Framework, where necessary. As a result, this Revised Scoping Report and associated Revised Baseline Report²³ were prepared following the consultation. Appendix B of this report provides detail of who responded to the consultation and how the comments were addressed.
- 6.4 As a result of the consultation the following improvements were made:
- Additional information and clarification was added to the SA Baseline Report, in relation to the review of relevant plans, programmes and policies; and air quality effects on biodiversity.
 - Additional performance criteria added for SA/SEA Objectives 1, 2 and 15, listed in Appendix A.
 - Improved and better focused performance criteria for SA/SEA Objectives 11, 12 and 13, listed in Appendix A.
 - Additional potential plan monitoring indicators added to Table 4.1.
- 6.5 This Revised Scoping Report and Revised Baseline Report will inform the preparation of the SA/SEA Interim Report (draft Environmental Report) as the HMWP Partial Update is assessed using the revised SA Objectives and Performance Criteria. The SA/SEA Interim Report will then be provided for comment, alongside the Plan²⁴, as part of the Regulation 18 consultation.

²³ Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan: Partial Update Sustainability Appraisal (Incorporating Strategic Environment Assessment) Revised Scoping Report September 2021 -

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

²⁴ Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan Partial Update Draft Plan (August 2022) -

<https://www.hants.gov.uk/landplanningandenvironment/strategic-planning/hampshire-minerals-waste-plan>

Acronyms and Initialisations

AONB	Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
BAP	Biodiversity Action Plan
BMV	Best and most versatile (agricultural land)
CD&E	Construction, demolition and excavation waste
C&I	Commercial and industrial waste
CO ₂	Carbon Dioxide
DECC	Department of Energy and Climate Change
EIA	Environmental Impact Assessment
HGV	Heavy goods vehicle
HMWP	Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan
HLC	Historic Landscape Characterisation
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
LCA	Landscape Character Assessment
LNR	Local Nature Reserve
LWS	Local Wildlife Site
MWPA	Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities
MWSA	Minerals and Waste Safeguard Area
NERC Act	Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act
NNR	National Nature Reserve
NO ₂	Nitrogen dioxide
NO _x	Oxides of nitrogen
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NVZ	Nitrate Vulnerable Zone
PM	Particulate matter
PRN	Principal Road Network
PRoW:	Public Right of Way
PWS	Public Water Supply
RIGS	Regionally Important Geological Site
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SINC	Sites of Importance for Nature Conservation
SPA	Special Protection Area
SPZ	Source Protection Zone
SRN	Strategic Road Network
SSSI	Site of Special Scientific Interest
SuDS	Sustainable drainage systems
TPO	Tree Preservation Order
UK	United Kingdom
WFD	Water Framework Directive

Glossary

Amenity

Something considered necessary to live comfortably. In property and land use planning, amenity is something considered to benefit a location, contribute to its enjoyment, and thereby increase its value.

Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB)

Areas of land considered to have significant landscape value and protected by the Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act 2000. Natural England is responsible for designating AONBs and advising Government and other organisations on their management.

Biodiversity

The total variety of life on earth, including all genes, species, ecosystems and the ecological processes of which they are part.

Climate change

The significant and lasting change in the distribution of weather patterns over periods ranging from decades to millions of years and the implications on the environment and communities.

Countryside

Land not in towns, cities or industrial areas that is either used for farming or left in its natural condition.

Cumulative Impacts/effects

Impacts/effects that result from the incremental changes caused by other past, present or reasonably foreseeable actions together with the plan or project in question.

Department for Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA)

The UK Government Department responsible for environmental protection, food production and standards, agriculture, fisheries and rural communities.

Development Plan Document (DPD)

Spatial planning documents which are subject to independent examination.

Emissions

Gases released into the atmosphere as a result of human activity. For example, a prominent greenhouse gas is carbon dioxide which arises from the combustion of fossil fuel and consequently contributes to climate change.

Environment Agency

A non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), with responsibilities relating to the protection and enhancement of the environment in England. Its functions include the regulation of industrial processes, the maintenance of flood defences and water resources, water quality and the improvement of wildlife habitats.

Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA)

Systematic investigation and assessment of the likely effects of a proposed development, to be taken into account in the decision making process under the Town and Country Planning (Environmental Impact Assessment) Regulations 2017 (as amended). The process is undertaken for a proposed development that would significantly affect the environment because of its siting, design, size or scale.

Flood risk

Areas which have a flood risk have the potential to flood under certain weather conditions.

Flood Risk Zones

Defined geographical areas with different levels of flood risk. Flood risk zones are defined by the Environment Agency and are categorised as follows:

- Flood Risk Zone 1: Low Probability;
- Flood Risk Zone 2: Medium Probability;
- Flood Risk Zone 3a: High Probability; and
- Flood Risk Zone 3b: Functional Floodplain.

Geodiversity

The variety of earth materials, forms and processes that constitute and shape the Earth, either the whole or a specific part of it.

Geology

The science that deals with the physical structure and substance of the earth, including the history and the processes that impact upon them.

Geomorphology

The study of the physical features of the earth's surface and the relationship with geological structures.

Green Belt

An area designated in planning documents, providing an area of permanent separation between urban areas. The main aim of the Green Belt policy is to prevent urban sprawl by keeping land permanently open; the most important quality of Green Belts is their openness.

Green infrastructure

A network of high-quality green and blue spaces and other environmental features, providing many social, economic and environmental benefits, including parks, open spaces, playing fields, woodlands, wetlands, grasslands, river and canal corridors, allotments and private gardens.

Groundwater Source Protection Zones (GPZ)

Geographical areas, defined by the Environment Agency and used to protect sources of groundwater abstraction.

Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA)

As required by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), the identification of any aspects of an emerging plan or project that would have the potential to cause a likely significant effect on National Site Network sites and Ramsar sites (either alone or in combination with other plans and projects), and to begin to identify appropriate mitigation strategies where such effects are identified (see also Appropriate Assessment).

Heritage Asset

A building, monument, site, place, area or landscape identified as having a degree of significance, meriting consideration in planning decisions, due to its heritage interest. These include designated heritage assets and other assets identified by local planning authorities (including local listing).

Historic England

An executive, non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport, tasked with protecting the historic environment of England by preserving and listing historic buildings, scheduling monuments, registering historic Parks and Gardens and advising central and local government.

In-Combination Effect

Effects, which may or may not interact with each other, but which could affect the same receptor or interest feature (i.e. a habitat or species for which a European Site is designated).

Leachate

Water which seeps through a landfill site, extracting substances from the deposited waste to form a pollutant.

Landscape character

A combination of factors such as topography, vegetation pattern, land use and cultural associations that combine to create a distinct, recognisable character.

Listed Buildings and Sites

Buildings and sites protected under the Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act 1990.

Mineral

Limited and finite natural resources that can only be extracted where they are found.

Mineral resources

Mineral aggregates and hydrocarbons, which naturally occur in geological deposits in the earth.

Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities (MWPA)

The local planning authorities responsible for minerals and waste planning. In the Plan area, Hampshire County Council, Southampton City Council, Portsmouth City Council, New Forest National Park Authority and South Downs National Park Authority are the MWPA.

Mitigation

Measures taken to avoid or reduce negative impacts. Measures may include locating the development and its working areas and access routes away from areas of high ecological interest, or timing works to avoid sensitive periods.

National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)

Government policy framework that sets out planning policies for England and how they are expected to be applied. The NPPF provides guidance for local planning authorities and decision-takers, both in preparing development plans and in development management.

National Site Network (NSN)

An ecological network of areas protected for their international nature conservation value in the UK, comprising Special Areas of Conservation (SAC) and Special Protection Areas (SPA).

Natural England

A non-departmental public body sponsored by the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (DEFRA), responsible for ensuring that England's natural environment, including its land, flora and fauna, freshwater and marine environments, geology and soils, are protected and improved. It also has a responsibility to help people enjoy, understand and access the natural environment.

Public Rights of Way (PRoW)

Paths and other access routes, which the public have a legally protected right to use.

Ramsar Site

An internationally important wetland designated under the Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Wildfowl Habitat (Ramsar, Iran) 1971 and, as a matter of government policy, are afforded the same protection as National Site Network (NSN) sites.

Recycled aggregates

Products manufactured from recyclables or by-products of recovery and treatment processes, e.g. recycled aggregates from construction, demolition & excavation (CD&E) waste.

Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS)

RIGS are locally designated sites of local, national and regional importance for geodiversity (geology and geomorphology), protected by Local Plan policy.

Recycling

The series of activities by which discarded materials are collected, sorted, processed and converted into raw materials and used in the production of new products. Any recovery operation by which waste materials are reprocessed into products, materials or substances whether for the original or other purposes. It includes the reprocessing of organic material but does not include energy recovery and the reprocessing into materials that are to be used as fuels or for backfilling operations.

Registered Battlefields

Important battlefields registered by Historic England to provide protection through the planning system, and to promote a better understanding of their significance and public enjoyment.

Registered Parks and Gardens

Important parks and gardens that are listed and classified by Historic England in a similar system to that used for listed buildings and range from the grounds of large stately homes to small domestic gardens, as well other designed landscapes such as town squares, public parks and cemeteries.

Restoration

The process of returning a site to its former use or restoring it to a condition that will support an agreed after-use, such as agriculture or forestry.

Scheduled Monument (SAM)

Nationally important archaeological sites included in the Schedule of Ancient Monuments maintained by the Secretary of State under the Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979.

Source Protection Zone (SPZ)

Zones that are defined around large and public potable groundwater abstraction sites by the Environment Agency. To provide additional protection to safeguard drinking water quality by constraining proximity of an activity that may impact upon a drinking water abstraction.

Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)

A site designated by Natural England under the Wildlife and Countryside Act 1981 (as amended) (primarily by the Countryside and Rights of Way Act 2000) as an area of special interest by reason of any of its flora, fauna, geological or physiographical features.

Special Area of Conservation (SAC)

Sites identified under the EU Habitats Directive (92/43/EEC) supporting habitats or species listed within Annex I and II of that legislation, which form a network of internally recognised sites across Europe alongside SPA and Ramsar sites. Following the UK withdrawal from the EU, these sites are provided equivalent protection under the UK transposition of this Directive - The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Amendment (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.

Special Protection Area (SPA)

Sites identified under the EU Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds protecting sites supporting the habitats of migratory and other particularly threatened species of bird. They form a network of internally recognised sites across Europe alongside SAC and Ramsar sites. Following the UK withdrawal from the EU, these sites are provided equivalent protection under the UK transposition of this Directive - The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017 (as amended), as amended by the Conservation of Habitats and Species Amendment (EU Exit) Regulations 2019.

Strategic Road Network (SRN)

The SRN is made up of motorways and trunk roads, the most significant 'A' roads. The SRN is managed by National Highways. All other roads in England are managed by local and regional authorities.

Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

A systematic process, required under Section 19 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, that must be carried out during the preparation of a Local Plan. Its role is to promote sustainable development by assessing the extent to which the emerging plan, when judged against reasonable alternatives, will help to achieve relevant environmental, economic and social objectives. Sustainability appraisal incorporates the requirements of Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA).

Strategic Environment Assessment (SEA)

A systematic process, required by the Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004, to integrate environmental considerations into the preparation and adoption of plans and programmes with a view to promoting sustainable development. Often incorporated into Sustainability Appraisal (SA).

Sustainable Development

Sustainable development refers to a mode of human development in which resource use aims to meet human needs while ensuring the sustainability of natural systems and the environment, so that these needs can be met not only in the present, but also for generations to come.

Townscape

The appearance of a town or city; an urban scene.

Visual impact

In the context of the HMWP, the perceived negative effect that the appearance of minerals and waste developments can have on nearby communities.

Waste Hierarchy

The aim of the waste hierarchy is to extract the maximum practical benefits from products and to generate the minimum amount of waste. The revised Waste Framework Directive

introduced a changed hierarchy of options for managing waste. It gives top priority to preventing waste. When waste is created, it gives priority to preparing it for re-use, followed by recycling, then other recovery such as energy recovery, and finally disposal (for example landfill).

Appendix A: Draft Site-Based Assumptions

Symbol	Explanation of the Effect
++	Very Positive: will result in a very positive impact on the objective
+	Slightly Positive: will result in a slightly positive impact on the objective
0	Neutral: will result in a neutral or negligible effect on the objective
-	Slightly Negative: will result in a slightly negative impact on the objective
--	Very Negative: will result on a very negative impact on the objective
?	Unknown: the relationship is unknown, or there is insufficient information to make an assessment

SA/SEA Objective	Draft Performance Criteria (Site Appraisal)
SA1. Reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to and mitigate the impacts of climate change	<p><u>Energy/renewables (waste)</u> Red: no renewable or energy generation Green: some renewable and energy generation</p> <p><u>Transportation</u> Amber: road Green: water and rail accessed</p> <p><u>Flooding (minerals and waste - incl. CC allowances)</u> Red: Zone 2-3 Amber: Zone 2 Green: Zone 1</p> <p><u>Flooding (minerals)</u> Green: sand gravel extraction (water compatible)</p>
SA2. Improve and maintain air quality at levels which does not damage natural systems and human health	<p><u>AQMA</u> Red: in an AQMA Green: not in AQMA</p> <p><u>Transportation</u> Amber: road Green: water and rail accessed</p> <p><u>Air quality sensitive ecological receptor</u> Red: <200m Amber: 200m – 2 km Green >2 km</p>
SA3. Protect, maintain, and enhance biodiversity and geodiversity including natural habitats, flora and fauna and protected species	<p><u>International sites (SPA/SAC/Ramsar)</u> Red: <0.5km or impact zone Amber: =0.5-5km Green: >5km (7.5 km for Mottisfont Bats SAC and 12 km for Singleton and Cocking Tunnels SAC)</p> <p><u>National (SSSI/NNR)</u> Red: <0.5km or impact zone Amber: 0.5-5km Green: >5km</p> <p><u>Local (LWS/LNR/nature reserve)</u></p>

	<p>Red: <0.5km Amber: =0.5-0.8km Green: >0.8km</p> <p><u>Regionally Important Geological Site (RIGS)</u> Red: in a RIGS Green: not in a RIGS</p>
SA4. Protect and enhance landscape and townscape character, local distinctiveness and tranquillity	<p><u>Designated Landscape</u> Red: within designated landscape Amber: within setting of designated landscape Green: beyond setting of designated landscape</p> <p><u>TPO</u> Red: TPO on site Green: TPO not on site</p> <p><u>Green Belt (waste)</u> Red: in Green Belt Green: not in Green Belt</p>
SA5. Maintain and protect soil quality and protect the best and most versatile agricultural land	<p><u>Agricultural land</u> Red: grade1-2 Amber: grade3a Green: other/existing quarry</p> <p><u>Contaminated Land</u> Red: undeveloped/greenfield Green: brownfield land</p>
SA6. Protect and conserve the historic environment, significance of heritage assets and features and their setting	<p>Red: heritage asset/Archaeology Alert on site Amber: heritage asset/Archaeology Alert <250m Green: heritage asset/Archaeology Alert >250m</p>
SA7. Maintain and enhance the quality of ground, surface and coastal waters and manage the consumption of water in a sustainable way	<p>Red: within a SPZ or within 250m of surface water abstraction PWS Green: not in SPZ or within 250m of surface water abstraction PWS</p> <p>Amber: within 8m watercourse buffer Green: not in 8m watercourse buffer</p>
SA8. Reduce the risk of flooding	<p><u>Flooding (minerals and waste - incl. CC allowances)</u> Red: Zone 2-3 Amber: Zone 2 Green: Zone 1</p> <p><u>Flooding (minerals)</u> Green: sand gravel extraction (water compatible)</p>
SA9. Minimise negative impacts of waste management facilities and mineral extraction on people and local communities	<p><u>Dwellings and amenities</u> Red: <100m Amber: =100-250 m Green: >250m</p> <p><u>Airport safeguarding zones</u> Amber: within Green: outside</p>

<p>SA10. Minimise the impact of the transportation of aggregates and waste products on the local and strategic transport network</p>	<p><u>Significant uncongested road junction</u> Red: junction >2k Green: junction <2km</p> <p><u>Transportation</u> Amber: road Green: water and rail accessed</p> <p><u>SRN</u> Red: SRN >1km Green: SRN <1km</p>
<p>SA11. Support sustainable extraction, re-use and recycling of mineral and aggregate resources</p>	<p><u>Support production of recycled/secondary aggregate</u> Green: Yes Blank: No</p> <p><u>Extension of existing mineral extraction</u> Green: Yes Blank: No</p>
<p>SA12. Contribute towards moving up the waste hierarchy in the Plan area</p>	<p>Red: landfill (waste) Green: recycling (waste/minerals), composting (green waste), recovery (waste/minerals – inert backfill).</p>
<p>SA13. Enable the Plan area to be self-sufficient in its waste management and provide an adequate supply of minerals to meet its local needs.</p>	<p><u>Increased waste management / processing capacity</u> Green: Yes Blank: N/A</p> <p><u>Minerals extraction or wharf or rail depot</u> Green: Minerals extraction Green: Wharf and rail depots Blank: N/A</p> <p><u>Helps with production of secondary / recycled aggregate</u> Green: Yes Blank: N/A</p>
<p>SA14. Support the Plan area's economic growth and reduce disparities across the area</p>	<p><u>Employment</u> Amber: mineral (temporary development) Green: waste (potentially permanent development)</p> <p><u>Deprivation</u> Green: not located within deprived area Amber: unknown Red: located within a deprived area</p>
<p>SA15. Enhance networks of green and blue infrastructure and enable safe access to countryside and greenspace.</p>	<p><u>PRoW</u> Red: onsite Amber: <50m Green: >50m</p> <p><u>Proposed restoration</u> Green: green and/or blue infrastructure network improvement (minerals site) Amber: Restoration to previous (minerals site) Blank/? : waste site</p>

Appendix B: Summary of Main Comments and Responses

This table provides the comments made by statutory agencies, adjacent local authorities and other key stakeholders to an informal consultation of the first draft of the SA Scoping and Baseline Reports in June 2021.

Comments received from:	Summary of comments received	How comments have been incorporated
<p>Bracknell Forest Council (25/06/2021)</p>	<p>SA Scoping Report and SA Baseline Report</p> <p>The Scoping Report and Baseline Reports seem to be comprehensive, well written documents that appear to cover the relevant aspects of the SA/SEA regulations and guidance and the likely effects of the plan. A few additional comments follow, below.</p> <p>One area that should be given consideration (both through the SA and HRA) is the potential for air quality effects on biodiversity, in particular habitats sites. It may be that this can be screened out but should be considered. Natural England will be able to advise further. This is already considered in SA2, although not in the baseline information.</p> <p>The scoping report refers to the increasing pressure on water resources in the plan area, water quality and the potential for minerals and waste development having the potential to significantly impact the water environment through pollution and impact on hydrogeological regimes. As the plan moves forward, it will be important for the SA to consider the cumulative nature of these effects.</p> <p>SA objectives (and associated site appraisal categories in Appendix A): SA1 – the appraisal criteria focus on the causes of climate change, it may be appropriate to expand these to cover the adaptation to climate change (although this is covered to some extent by consideration of flood risk in SA8 – so perhaps limit the scope of the objective itself to the causes of climate change). SA2 – the draft performance criteria in Appendix A only considers AQMAs which are typically tightly defined to the road network, hence the site appraisal criteria in Appendix A is unlikely to be very useful in differentiating between sites (existing roads are unlikely to be dug up to extract minerals). It may be more appropriate to consider transport routes to sites in relation to AQMAs and also expand the categories to consider air quality effects on biodiversity. SA4 – is it appropriate to rate a site as red based on one TPO being on site, the same was as if the site is within a designated landscape or the Green Belt?</p> <p>SA3 – the potential indicators includes 'distance to nearest designated sites'. Using a similar approach to that for SA4 would be more robust, e.g. 'proximity and relationship of proposals to designated sites'</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Agreed and additional text added to the HMWP Partial Update SA Revised Baseline Report September 2022.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Agree. Transportation mode and flooding performance indicators have been replicated for this SA Objective 1.</p> <p>Agreed. Performance criterion for proximity to air quality sensitive ecological receptors added.</p> <p>Good point. However, red colour for TPO on-site, simply flags this as a sustainability issue and is not weighted. This feeds into the holistic 'Net Effect' score, which is used to quantify Plan performance against this SA Objective.</p> <p>Distance criteria for nature conservation sites is a standard approach for this type of SA/SEA. The HRA will look at</p>

	<p>(for example a proposal may be further from a designated site but hydrogeological connected to it, or a transport route may go past a designated site). This approach would require a change to the draft performance categories for site appraisals in Appendix A (such as by also adding a qualitative appraisal).</p> <p>SA6 – support the inclusion of consideration of historic landscapes within the appraisal criteria as these are often overlooked.</p> <p>SA15 – definitions of green and blue infrastructure (including that in the glossary) typically extend beyond access networks that are considered within this objective to include biodiversity networks and multifunctional green space, etc. Habitat connectivity is already covered by the biodiversity objective. Wider effects/enhancements may occur as a result of the plan than is considered within this objective, for example a restoration project may provide new recreational facilities.</p> <p>In general, the site appraisal criteria should be checked against the SA objectives and their associated appraisal criteria in Table 3 to check that all those relevant to sites are included.</p>	<p>International sites and their component SSSI Units in much more detail, the site appraisal table and these indicators also include proximity to SSSI Impact Zones and >5 km is a precautionary principle zone (clarification for Bat SAC influence zones added to indicator).</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Agreed. Additional performance indicator added to measure intended restoration form against the green and blue infrastructure component of the SA15.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
<p>Natural England (28/06/2021)</p>	<p>Consultation: Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan: Partial Update. Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Scoping & Baseline Report and Habitats Regulation Assessment Baseline & Methodology Report.</p> <p>Thank you for your consultations on the above documents which were received on the 1st June 2021.</p> <p>Natural England is a non-departmental public body. Our statutory purpose is to ensure that the natural environment is conserved, enhanced, and managed for the benefit of present and future generations, thereby contributing to sustainable development.</p> <p>SA Scoping and Baseline Report</p> <p>Relevant Plans and Programmes</p> <p>Natural England has not reviewed the plans within the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report. However, we advise that the following types of plans relating to the natural environment should be considered where applicable to your plan area;</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Green infrastructure strategies • Biodiversity plans • Rights of Way Improvement Plans • Shoreline management plans • Coastal access plans • River basin management plans • AONB and National Park management plans • Relevant landscape plans and strategies <p>Designated Sites</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p> <p>The SA Scoping and Baseline Reports consider the listed types of plans relating to the natural environment.</p>

	<p>At this stage we cannot identify particular sites which may be significantly affected by the Local Plan but suggest that the following designations, amongst others, are taken in to consideration when creating any future site allocations:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI) • Special Area of Conservation (SAC) • Special Protection Area (SPA) • Ramsar Site • National Park • Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty • Site of 20 ha or more of best and most versatile agricultural land <p>Objectives and Indicators</p> <p>We particularly emphasise the importance of considering the enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and landscapes, as well as its protection and that of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land. Natural England is supportive of the appraisal criteria under SA3 and SA5 for these purposes. The monitoring indicators for SA3 could go further to reflect these criteria e.g. including the number of permitted applications which generate adverse effects on sites of environmental importance and those which contribute to an enhancement to the ecological network/habitat connectivity.</p> <p>We note that the proposed monitoring indicators under SA15 may not reflect all potential impacts to the quality and extent of existing recreational assets which could be considered further, e.g. through considering informal footpaths and accessible spaces which may not be a Right of Way or in a current green/blue infrastructure strategy.</p>	<p>All of the listed designations have been considered in the SA Scoping and Baseline Reports.</p> <p>Protection, enhancement and restoration of biodiversity and landscapes and that of Best and Most Versatile agricultural land has been appropriately considered in the SA Scoping and Baseline Reports.</p> <p>Natural England's support of the appraisal criteria under SA3 and SA5 for these purposes is noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
<p>Historic England (02/07/2021)</p>	<p>Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan: Partial Update Sustainability Appraisal (Incorporating Strategic Environment Assessment) Scoping Report</p> <p>Thank you for inviting Historic England to comment on the above document. As the government's adviser on the historic environment, Historic England is keen to ensure that protection of the historic environment is fully taken into account at all levels and stages of the local planning process.</p> <p>We do not support the approach to sensitivity testing as set out in Appendix A for Objective SA 6, because it relies only on distance-based assessment. The historic environment is too complex to assess in this way and it is highly likely that the use of this method would not produce an accurate or useful assessment of impacts on the historic environment. We would urge you to revisit this element of the scoping report and we suggest you use professional assessments carried out by heritage officers instead. We discuss this further below.</p> <p>The rest of the scoping report is of a high standard, but we suggest a few additions in respect of relevant plans, policies and programmes.</p> <p>Relevant Plans, Policies and Programmes</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments.</p> <p>It should be noted that professional assessments by heritage specialists have been used in conjunction with the distance based performance categories/criteria to determine the net effect of all proposed sites against the SA Objective. This has included desk based assessment with recourse to the HER and site based assessment, where necessary. All of the heritage assessments have been compiled into the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan: Partial Update Heritage Statement, which the SA has utilised.</p>

	<p>In addition to the plans, policies and programmes you have already identified, we recommend considering the following:</p> <p>International</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • UNESCO World Heritage Convention <p>National</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Protection of Wrecks Act 1973 • Ancient Monuments & Archaeological Areas Act 1979 • Planning (Listed Buildings & Conservation Areas) Act 1990 • Marine and Coastal Areas Access Act 2009 • Planning Practice Guidance • Sustainability Appraisal and Strategic Environmental Assessment, Historic England Advice Note 8 <p>Local</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conservation area character appraisals and management plans <p>Baseline Information</p> <p>The baseline information adequately describes the current and likely future condition of the historic environment in terms of its significance, sensitivity and capacity to accommodate change, proportionate to this scale.</p> <p>Key sustainability issues</p> <p>The scoping report correctly identifies the relevant sustainability issues in terms of the historic environment of the plan area.</p> <p>SA objectives and decision-making criteria to evaluate the impact of the plan</p> <p>Appropriate objectives and decision-making criteria to evaluate the impact of the plan have been identified in the report.</p> <p>Assessment approach</p> <p>Historic England does <u>not support the proposed approach</u>. The Draft Performance categories (Site Appraisal), as set out in Appendix A: Draft Site-Based Assumptions for Objective SA6, is not appropriate. This is because a scoring system based on distance alone is proposed (Red: heritage asset on site/Amber: heritage asset 250m). The key to a successful assessment is assessing impact of proposed development on the significance of heritage assets. This cannot usually be done solely on the basis of distance from a heritage asset. Many factors come into play when making such assessments, such as the topography and any buildings between the site and the heritage asset, whether any long-distance views are important to the significance of the asset, or the type and grade of asset involved.</p> <p>Our position is that this assessment should be done by a suitable heritage professional (e.g. your authority's conservation officers and archaeologists). The assessment should be detailed enough to make a fair assessment of the relative impacts of sites being considered and to identify any likely impacts which may warrant further investigation.</p>	<p>The additional plans/policies/programmes have been added except for the UNESCO World Heritage Convention as there are no World Heritage Sites in the Plan area.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>It should be noted that professional assessments by heritage specialists have been used in conjunction with the distance based performance categories/criteria to determine the net effect of all proposed sites against the SA Objective. This has included desk based assessment with recourse to the HER and site based assessment, where necessary. All of the heritage assessments have been compiled into the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan: Partial Update Heritage Statement, which the SA has utilised.</p>
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<p>West Sussex County Council (06/07/2021)</p>	<p>Please find below Officer Level comments regarding the HMWP Partial Update SA Baseline Report June 2021:</p> <p>Table 2 page 43:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The wording in column one states “West Sussex Minerals and Waste Plan”. WSCC have prepared separate minerals and waste plans. This could be changed to reference “Minerals and Waste Plans” or state the full names of each plan, being the Joint Minerals Local Plan and the Waste Local Plan. The wording states “The West Sussex Minerals Local Plan was formally adopted in July 2018, with further revisions on soft sand being adopted in March 2021”. We now reference the Joint Minerals Local Plan as follows; West Sussex Joint Minerals Local Plan (July 2018, partial review March 2021). This wording could be changed to state “The Joint Minerals Local Plan (July 2018, partial review March 2021) was jointly prepared by West Sussex County Council and the South Downs National Park. <p>Table 2 page 44:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The current Local Aggregate Assessment dashboard has up-to-date figures, regarding landbank reserves and capacities. Regarding the Waste Local Plan, this should just be referred to as the Waste Local Plan, and not the Joint Waste Local Plan. <p>Other comments</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Table 3: The West Sussex Local Transport Plan may be of relevance. West Sussex County Council are due to consult on a new West Sussex Local Transport Plan in the coming weeks. <p>We have no comments on the Scoping Report.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p> <p>Noted and text updated.</p> <p>Noted and text updated.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
<p>Highways England (09/07/2021)</p>	<p>Thank you for your e-mail of 1st June 2021 inviting Highways England to comment on the above consultation and indicating that a response is required by 13th July 2021.</p> <p>Highways England has been appointed by the Secretary of State for Transport as strategic highway company under the provisions of the Infrastructure Act 2015 and is the highway authority, traffic authority and street authority for the strategic road network (SRN). The SRN is a critical national asset and as such Highways England works to ensure that it operates and is managed in the public interest, both in respect of current activities and needs as well as in providing effective stewardship of its long-term operation and integrity. We will therefore be concerned with proposals that have the potential to impact the safe and efficient operation of the SRN, in this case the M3, M27, A303, A34, A3, A36 and A27.</p> <p>We would be concerned if any material increase in traffic were to occur on the SRN as a result of planned growth without careful consideration of mitigation measures. It is important that the Minerals and Waste Local Plan provides the planning policy framework to ensure development cannot progress</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

	<p>without the appropriate infrastructure in place. When considering proposals for growth, any impacts on the SRN will need to be identified and mitigated as far as reasonably possible. We in general, will support proposals that consider sustainable measures which manage down demand and reduces the need to travel. Infrastructure improvements on the SRN should only be considered as a last resort.</p> <p>The transportation of waste and minerals has the potential to generate a significant number of heavy goods vehicle (HGV) trips, a large proportion of which are likely use the SRN. Although individual sites might not have a significant impact, cumulatively, developments could still have the potential to impact the SRN, particularly to road safety. In general we would be concerned with an increase in slow moving HGVs accessing the SRN and the resulting potential impact to the safe and efficient SRN. We strongly support the promotion of alternatives to road based movement of materials such as rail and waterways. We support HMWP policies to ensure the sufficient assessment of the transport impacts of any proposed new development. This may be through a technical notes, Transport Statements or Transport Assessments depending on the size and potential impact of the proposed site. We strongly support the approach for new developments to produce travel plans to support the use of sustainable modes of travel for staff and visitors to any proposed site. The SA Scoping Report acknowledges that actions arising from the HMWP have the potential to affect key transport routes, infrastructure and traffic behaviour.</p> <p>Draft Site-Base Assumptions included within the SA Scoping Report draw a direct link between the distance of the network from the SRN and the potential effect of Policy SA10 – <i>'Minimise the impact of transportation of aggregates and waste products on the local and strategic network'</i>. This indicates that the SRN will play a role in the delivery if the HMWP and as such, potential impacts should be assessed and mitigated in consultation with Highways England and in line with all relevant policy, as set out above.</p>	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
<p>Environment Agency (09/07/2021)</p>	<p>Thank you for consulting the Environment Agency on the SA Scoping Report and SA Baseline report for the partial update of your plan.</p> <p>Due to workload pressures at this time I have only reviewed the scoping report. If there is outstanding data that is required from the Environment Agency then a separate data request may need to be made.</p> <p>In terms of the scoping report I have the following comments to make;</p> <p>Table 2: Rationale for scoping – it is not clear why a WFD assessment has been scoped out. As you have recognised it is important that the HMWP will need to consider whether any sites will lead to adverse impacts on the waterbodies within the Plan area. It is essential that baseline information on WFD status etc is included as baseline data so that any potential impact can be measured. It may be that you plan to do this in another way that is not a formal WFD assessment which is fine, but it needs to be clarified/made clearer. As it currently stands it potentially looks like this issue may not be given the necessary weight and it also seems quite confused. The line above on water resources also seems to be looking at issues such as hydrological regimes and aquifers, that would also need to be considered in terms of the Water Framework Directive. It may be worth looking at them in a more</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p> <p>Noted, Text amended accordingly.</p>

	<p>holistic way. In my opinion further consideration should be given to how this will be dealt with as it is a key element that needs consideration.</p> <p>In terms of flood risk please note that new climate change allowances have been developed since the plan was adopted and these will need to be taken into account when assessing any flood risk of any proposed sites. Coastal allowances were released in December 2019. Fluvial and Peak rainfall allowances are due to be released this month. Updated guidance on the climate change allowances will be published on 20th July. I will forward this on to you as soon as it becomes available to enable you to take account of it in the HMWP update.</p> <p>We have no comments to make on the main messages from the baseline and agree with what is included here.</p> <p>In terms of the draft sustainability indicators and objectives I have the following comments;</p> <p>SA7 – Potential plan indicators seem muddled. I am unsure as to why source protection zones, abstraction licences and SuDS are all incorporated into the same indicator and then a separate indicator related to discharges to water. There should also be specific mention of SPZ1c's that are of particular relevance for minerals and waste planning. I think the intention is correct with these but they need to be clearer and more specific about what you are actually trying to measure. Again some sort of reference to the WFD might work here, especially in relation to the last bullet on surface water status. Some suggestions include maybe an indicator that looks for no impact or no deterioration of a WFD waterbody? And instead of distance from public water supply (which will be linked to SPZ's as their purpose is to protect water supplies) maybe something relating to ensuring no impact instead.</p> <p>SA8 – The appraisal criteria for this objective should be strengthened. Whilst I recognise that minerals sites have to be where the minerals there is no reason why for waste sites the flood risk hierarchy should not be considered. In terms of appraisal criteria waste sites should be avoiding areas of greatest flood risk in the first instance. Minerals sites should reduce/manage flood risk and ensure that there is no increase in flood risks to others from any proposal or policy.</p> <p>In terms of the indicators I think that site area permitted in FZ 2/3 is a better measure than the number of sites as this gives a better indication of the scale. I also do not think that incidences of flood warning will add anything as a measure as this is a way of managing flood risk on sites that exist and also relies on whether users are signed up to the service. I think the delivery of beneficial outcomes from restoration is a really positive criteria to include, there may be some thinking about how multifunctional benefits (not just flood risk) of this can be captured as it may also be a good indicator for other objectives such as SA7, as there is potential for the improvement of water quality through such restoration work.</p> <p>It is essential that climate change and its link to flood risk is taken into account in this objective somewhere.</p>	<p>Noted. This will be picked up in the Draft Plan's SFRA.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Proximity of SPZ is simply a way of raising a flag in relation to the sustainability of a proposed site.</p> <p>Performance indicators need to be measurable at this proposal stage without the benefit of the level of detail submitted with a planning application.</p> <p>The Draft Plan SFRA will play a role here. In the SA, the 'flooding (waste)' performance criteria has been expanded to include minerals proposals as the potential to increase flood risk if located in a flood zone relates to minerals extraction sites even if this is water compatible development.</p> <p>Using proximity, rather than are makes the SA more sensitive to flagging up potential concerns.</p> <p>The Draft Plan does not have the benefit of detailed restoration information at this stage.</p> <p>The flooding performance indicators have been replicated for SA Objective 1.</p>
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	<p>I also just have a couple of thoughts on Appendix A.</p> <p>SA7 – Are these categories too broad maybe? Should/could it be split more into SPZ 1/2/3? Should SPZ1c be specifically mentioned or is this captured? These zones can stretch to quite an extent but are important considerations for minerals and waste development.</p> <p>SA8 – It needs to be clear whether or not this includes climate change? Are your categories based on current day flood zones? I think it is important that the impact of climate change on the extent of the flood zones and what this then means for waste sites, is considered.</p>	<p>Please refer to comment above.</p> <p>It has been made clear in this document and will be made clear in the SA/SEA Interim Report and the final Environmental Report that the use of Flood Zones incorporates Environment Agency climate change allowances.</p>
<p>Portsmouth Water (09/07/2021)</p>	<p>HMWP Partial Update - SA Scoping Report and SA Baseline Report Consultation</p> <p>We have reviewed the following documents and have the following comments to make:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • HMWP Partial Update: SA Scoping Report June 2021 • HMWP Partial Update: SA Baseline Report June 2021 <p>In support of the requirements to safeguard water quality and water resources, the plans, policies and programme are deemed to be currently satisfactory.</p> <p>The baseline information presented in the report is also satisfactory. However we do recommend that the Environment Agency guidance on the approach to groundwater protection is referred to in more detail in the document, particularly the Groundwater Protection Position Statements within Sections A, B, E, F & N. https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/groundwater-protection-position-statements</p> <p>Apart from the above, no additional key sustainability issues to recommend and we agree that the SA Framework is appropriate and include a suitable set of objectives.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Reference to the document and relevant position statements has been added to Table 2.2 in the HMWP SA Revised Baseline Report September 2021.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
<p>Marine Management Organisation (12/07/2021)</p>	<p>Please consider these further comments regarding the Hampshire Minerals and Waste Plan Partial Update - SA Scoping Report and SA Baseline Report consultation documents.</p> <p>We advise that you take note of any relevant policies within the South Marine Plan documents in regard to areas within the Draft Reports that may impact upon the marine environment. For example, in the Baseline Report you may wish to include references within the Coastal / Marine, Flooding, and, Marine, Sand & Gravel sections, as well as Section 2, Table 2 – Relevant National Policies, Plans, Programmes and Legislation.</p> <p>Some examples of policies that may be relevant include: Climate Change, Seascape, Biodiversity, Water Quality, Heritage Assets, Marine Protected Areas, Aquaculture, Co-existence, Aggregates, and, Dredging and Disposal. These are provided only as a recommendation and we suggest you make your own determination of which are relevant. Our policies can be referred to as a guide, demonstrating your regard to the marine plans, under the Marine and Coastal Access Act, 2009. It is important to note that marine plan policies do not work in isolation, and decision-makers should consider a whole-plan approach.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p> <p>Details of the South Marine Plan added to Table 2.2 of the HMWP Partial Update SA Revised Baseline Report September 2021.</p> <p>Noted.</p>

	<p>Should you require Marine Licences, please consider signposting to the Coastal Concordat. The Coastal Concordat requires each council to be signed up by 2021, as per the 25-Year Environment Plan:</p> <p>“The government’s 25 Year Environment Plan includes a commitment for all local authorities with a coastal interest in England to be signed up to the coastal concordat by 2021. The concordat will be periodically reviewed, as was done in 2018 and 2019 to monitor the progress of this commitment.”</p> <p>Many thanks for the opportunity to comment.</p> <p>I hope that previously you received our MMO standard response? If not, please see below:- (standard response received)</p>	Noted.
Gosport Borough Council (12/07/2021)	I am emailing to confirm that Gosport Borough Council have reviewed this material and have no comments to make.	Noted. Thank you for your comment.
Southern Water (13/07/2021)	<p>Thank you for your email below, inviting Southern Water to comment on the Hampshire’s draft Sustainability Appraisal Scoping and Baseline reports.</p> <p>With reference to the Baseline Report, we have looked specifically at Section 9 Water Environment, and support the intention in paragraph 9.25 ‘to ensure that drinking water quality, groundwater and human health are protected when formulating policies and allocating minerals and waste sites.’ This aligns with Southern Water’s aims to ensure that groundwater sources are protected, both in terms of quality and quantity of supply sources. See Water for Life – Hampshire (southernwater.co.uk) for more information.</p> <p>With reference to paragraph 9.30, we agree that ‘there is a need to improve the management and sourcing of water supply in an area of severe water stress’, particularly in south Hampshire where recent abstraction licence reductions have meant Southern Water needs to invest in alternative sources of supply. One of the options we are currently exploring is the potential to use recycled water to help make up the shortfall in supplies as outlined in our Water for Life – Hampshire programme. Water recycling uses advanced treatment techniques including ultra-filtration that allows us to recycle water that was already in our network, in order to avoid the need to take additional water from the environment. See Water recycling (southernwater.co.uk) for more information.</p> <p>The Hampshire programme is progressing through a gated regulatory process overseen by the Regulators’ Alliance for Progressing Infrastructure Development (RAPID), comprising Ofwat, the Environment Agency and the Drinking Water Inspectorate. We will present our preferred solution/solutions to RAPID on September 27, 2021.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p> <p>Noted.</p>
New Forest District Council (13/07/2021)	<p>Thank you for consulting with New Forest District Council (NFDC) on the SA documentation.</p> <p>The SA Baseline Report and Scoping Report provide a sound overview of the Hampshire context and issues at play.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p> <p>Noted.</p>

	<p>During the preparation of the now adopted NFDC Local Plan Part One (2020) there was discussion at the examination relating to prior extraction on strategic sites. The SA documentation could usefully provide some commentary on the balance required between identified housing need on the one hand and the objective for prior extraction (where viable) on the other. This would aid Local Authorities in preparing future Local Plans and the need to deliver sustainable development that is also in line with the HMWP.</p> <p>In addition, there are a few omissions that NFDC would like to draw to your attention in the HMWP SA Baseline Report:-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Page 55 – With reference to the list of NFDC strategic sites – we note that SS2 & SS15 are omitted, and assume that this is because they either already have existing mineral extraction permissions that are due to be fully realised in the next few years or have been worked previously? (and therefore is not directly relevant to future HMWP strategies). With regard to SS11 & SS14 the omission is presumably based on there being no underlying minerals? The table on page 55 could benefit from explaining this to the reader for the sake of completeness. • Page 81 – A Strategic Flood Risk Assessment was carried out for NFDC in 2018 but it is not listed in the table. The SFRA can be found on the council's evidence base for the Local Plan (see website). • Page 87 – The New Forest Landscape Character Assessment (2000) is omitted from the table - this also can be found on the council's website (Report / Map). 	<p>Noted.</p> <p>Agreed and text added to Table 2.3 in the HMWP Partial Update SA Revised Baseline Report September 2021.</p> <p>Added to the Table 2.3.</p> <p>Added to the Table 2.3.</p>
Dorset Council (15/07/2021)	<p>Thank you for the extension of time to allow Dorset Council to review the <i>Sustainability Appraisal (Incorporating Strategic Environment Assessment) Baseline Report</i> and the <i>Sustainability Appraisal (Incorporating Strategic Environment Assessment) Scoping Report of the Hampshire Minerals & Waste Plan: Partial Update</i>.</p> <p>The documents are very comprehensive, and I have no comments apart from noting that there is no reference to the <i>Bournemouth, Christchurch, Poole and Dorset Mineral Sites Plan 2019</i> in the section on neighbouring minerals and waste planning authorities. I would be happy to provide further information on this Plan if you wish.</p>	<p>Thank you for your comments</p> <p>Noted and text added to Table 2.3 in the HMWP Partial Update SA Revised Baseline Report September 2021.</p>

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