

Worcestershire Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme (July 2022 – June 2025)

This scheme has been prepared in compliance with the Planning & Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended)

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1. Purpose of the Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme

- 1.1. The County Council is the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority for Worcestershire and is responsible for all minerals and waste planning matters in the county.
- 1.2. The Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme (MWDS or LDS) sets out the Council's priorities for producing planning policy documents over the coming three-year period. It is a requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended) that each Local Planning Authority should produce an LDS, which must include any Development Plan Documents it intends to publish, their area of coverage, subject matter and a timetable indicating the main milestones of production and revision.
- 1.3. The LDS is updated periodically¹ to reflect changes to timetables to ensure it provides a useful source of information for interested parties and meets the requirements of the aforementioned Act. There are four main intentions of this revised LDS:
 - to report the progress made since the publication of the previous LDS;
 - to inform interested parties of the timetable for adoption of the Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan;
 - to inform interested parties of the timetable for the development, examination and adoption of the Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document; and
 - to provide a schedule for the early stages of the review and revision of the Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire.
- 1.4. The revised schedule presented in this Local Development Scheme came into effect on 1st July 2022. It covers the period July 2022 – June 2025 and replaces the previous LDS dated September 2021.
- 1.5. The Local Development Scheme is available on the Worcestershire County Council website at: www.worcestershire.gov.uk/lDs. A printed copy is also available on request.
- 1.6. If you have any questions about the LDS or how to access it, please contact the Mineral and Waste Planning Policy Team by e-mail: minerals@worcestershire.gov.uk or wcs@worcestershire.gov.uk or telephone 01905 766374.

¹ Worcestershire County Council Cabinet resolved on 24th September 2020 that during the period 2020-2023, the Strategic Director of Economy and Infrastructure be delegated authority, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy and Infrastructure, to approve updates to the Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme, subject to call-in, and that an updated Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme be returned to Cabinet for approval in 2023.

2. The Development Plan in Worcestershire

2.1. The Development Plan for Worcestershire currently (June 2022) consists of the documents set out in Table 1:

Table 1. The Development Plan for Worcestershire

Development Plan Document	Detail
"Saved" policies in the County of Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan.	Five policies in the adopted County of Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan were "saved" by The Secretary of State for Communities and Local Government in exercise of the power conferred by paragraph 1(3) of Schedule 8 to the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 in a direction later dated 7 September 2007. The "saved" policies will remain part of the Development Plan until superseded (on adoption of the new Minerals Local Plan) but the weight given to them in decision making will depend upon their conformity with national planning policy.
Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire: Adopted Waste Local Plan 2012 – 2027, adopted November 2012	The Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy Local Plan sets out how the County plans for waste management facilities in Worcestershire.
Local Plans and Development Plan Documents produced by Bromsgrove District Council	<p>The adopted Local Plans and Development Plans produced by Bromsgrove District Council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Bromsgrove District Plan 2011-2030 adopted January 2017 • Longbridge Area Action Plan adopted April 2009 <p>Bromsgrove District Council is also revising its Local Plan but this is not yet formally adopted as part of the Development Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bromsgrove District Plan Review – consultation on “Preferred Options” is scheduled in Bromsgrove District Council’s Local Development Scheme to take place in summer 2022 ahead of publication and submission of the plan for examination in 2023.

Development Plan Document	Detail
Local Plans and Development Plan Documents produced by Redditch Borough Council	<p>The adopted Local Plans and Development Plans produced by Redditch Borough Council are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Borough of Redditch Local Plan No 4 (2011 – 2030) adopted January 2017
Local Plans and Development Plan Documents produced by Wyre Forest District Council	<p>The adopted Local Plan produced by Wyre Forest District Council is:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wyre Forest Local Plan (2016-2036) adopted April 2022
Local Plans and Development Plan Documents produced by the South Worcestershire Councils (Malvern Hills District, Worcester City, Wychavon District)	<p>The adopted Local Plans and Development Plans produced by the South Worcestershire Councils are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The South Worcestershire Development Plan adopted February 2016. <p>South Worcestershire Councils are also revising their Local Plan and developing new Development Plan Documents, but these are not yet formally adopted as part of the Development Plan:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • South Worcestershire Development Plan Review – The Preferred Options consultation on the SWDP Review took place in November-December 2019. Publication and submission of the plan for examination is scheduled in the three South Worcestershire Councils' Local Development Schemes for late 2022. • South Worcestershire Traveller and Travelling Showpeople - Site Allocations Development Plan Document – Revised Preferred Options consultation took place May-July 2021. Publication and submission of this document for examination is scheduled in the three South Worcestershire Councils' Local Development Schemes for late 2022.
<p>The Neighbourhood Plans which have been “made” (formally adopted) and therefore form part of the Development Plan in Worcestershire:</p> <p>In Bromsgrove district:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alvechurch (February 2019) 	<p>Other neighbourhood areas have been designated and are developing neighbourhood plans. This includes the following Neighbourhood Plans which are at an advanced stage:</p> <p>In Wychavon district:</p>

Development Plan Document	Detail
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Catshill and North Marlbrook (November 2021) • Lickey & Blackwell and Cofton Hackett (January 2020) <p>In Malvern Hills district:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Abberley (July 2021) • Broadwas and Cotheridge (September 2019) • Clifton upon Teme (November 2017) • Hallow (July 2021) • Kempsey (November 2017) • Martley, Knightwick & Doddenham (February 2018) • Hanley Castle (January 2019) • Malvern Town (June 2019) <p>In Redditch borough:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A <p>In Worcester city:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • N/A <p>In Wychavon district:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bredon, Bredon's Norton and Westmancode (Bredon Parish) (July 2017) • Cleve Prior (February 2018) • Drakes Broughton and Wadborough with Pirton (July 2017) • Eckington (February 2020) • Harvington (September 2019) • Honeybourne (April 2020) • North Claines (April 2017) • Norton-juxta-Kempsey (December 2021) • Ombersley and Doverdale (October 2021) • Pebworth Parish (September 2019) <p>In Wyre Forest district:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Chaddesley Corbett (September 2014) • Churchill and Blakedown (July 2017) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Broadway (second submitted Neighbourhood Plan consultation ran from 7 January to 18 February 2022) ○ Sedgeberrow (draft Neighbourhood Plan consultation ran from 18 September to 30 October 2021) <p>In Malvern Hills district:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Leigh and Bransford Neighbourhood Plan (submitted Neighbourhood Plan consultation ran from 8 April to 20 May 2022) • Welland Neighbourhood Plan (consultation on draft Neighbourhood Plan ran from 24 September 2021 to 7 November 2021) <p>In Worcester City:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Warndon Neighbourhood Plan (consultation on draft Neighbourhood Plan ran from 10 May to 21 June 2021)

3. Progress made since the previous LDS and reasons for review

- 3.1. Progress has been made since the publication of the LDS in September 2021, as outlined below.
- 3.2. The Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act allows the Council discretion to revise the LDS “at such time as they consider appropriate” (S15 (8)), but Government guidance² suggests that the LDS is expected to be reviewed and updated at least annually and may need updating more frequently if there are any significant changes in the timescales or the plans being prepared.³
- 3.3. The LDS has therefore been updated to reflect the remaining steps towards the adoption of the Minerals Local Plan, as well as to make some adjustments to the milestones for the development of the Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD), and the review and revision of the Waste Core Strategy.

Minerals Local Plan

- 3.4. Since the September 2021 LDS came into effect, the following progress has been made on the Examination of the Minerals Local Plan:
 - Consultation on proposed main modifications to the Minerals Local Plan, consequential changes to the policies map, and accompanying assessments was undertaken from August to October 2021.
 - Representations were provided to the Inspectors for their consideration on 5th November 2021.
 - Receipt of the Inspectors’ Report on the Examination of the Minerals Local Plan on 6th May 2022.
- 3.5. The independent examination of the Minerals Local Plan was scheduled in the September 2021 LDS to continue until Q1 2022, with receipt of the Inspectors’ report on the examination of the plan anticipated in Q4 2021 or Q1 2022, and subsequently adoption of the plan anticipated in Q2 2022.
- 3.6. Receiving the Inspectors’ report marks the end of the formal period of independent examination. There were delays in receiving the report from the Planning Inspectorate, meaning that the examination continued into Q2 of 2022. This meant that the Plan could not be returned to full Council for adoption in Q2 as anticipated in the September

² Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, Planning Practice Guidance: “Plan-making” Paragraph: 035 Reference ID: 61-035-20190723, Revision date: 23 07 2019

³ Worcestershire County Council’s Cabinet resolved on 24th September 2020 that during the period 2020-2023, the Strategic Director of Economy and Infrastructure be delegated authority, in consultation with the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy and Infrastructure, to approve updates to the Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme, subject to call-in, and that an updated Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme be returned to Cabinet for approval in 2023.

2021 LDS. It is now due to be considered by full Council in July 2022, i.e. in Q3 of 2022. The schedule in Table 5 (Appendix 1) has been amended accordingly.

Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document (DPD)

- 3.7. Progress has been continuing on assessing sites and on the preparation of the draft Mineral Site Allocations DPD following consultation on the Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report from 28th June 2021 to 9th August 2021.
- 3.8. The September 2021 LDS anticipated that consultation on the “preferred options” version of the Mineral Site Allocations DPD would take place in Q2-Q3 2022 once the Minerals Local Plan had been adopted by full Council.
- 3.9. However, as the Mineral Site Allocations DPD will provide site-specific policies which need to be read alongside the strategic policies set by the Minerals Local Plan and need to be compatible with those policies, the delays to receipt of the report on the examination of the Minerals Local Plan and consequent lack of certainty about the exact Main Modifications which would be recommended by the Inspectors has had consequent impacts on the timescales for developing the wording of the Mineral Site Allocations DPD. In addition, there has been a need to gather evidence in relation to site-specific issues.
- 3.10. The revised schedule set out in Table 6 in Appendix 1 therefore takes this into account and builds from this the anticipated timescales for the development and examination of the Mineral Site Allocations DPD. This includes ensuring that consultations do not take place on the Mineral Site Allocations DPD during sensitive pre-election “Purdah” periods to ensure that there is no risk of a consultation improperly affecting the democratic electoral process.
- 3.11. Consultation on the “preferred options” version of the Mineral Site Allocations DPD is now anticipated in Q2-Q3 2023.
- 3.12. It remains the case that there are significant uncertainties inherent in this timetable. It is difficult to estimate the scale of consultation comments which might be received at each stage, although high levels of local interest might be anticipated as the document seeks to allocate individual sites. In addition, there is potential for significant reforms to planning legislation and policy through the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill which was put before parliament in May 2022, but it is not yet known what the implications of this might be for the timescales of developing and adopting the Mineral Site Allocations DPD. It is very likely that the LDS will need to be revised during the course of the development of the Mineral Site Allocations DPD.

Review of the Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire: Adopted Waste Local Plan

- 3.13. The Waste Core Strategy was adopted in 2012.
- 3.14. Under Regulation 10A of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), local planning authorities must review local plans at least once every five years from their adoption date to ensure that policies remain relevant and effectively address the needs of the local community. This does not

necessarily mean that wholesale revision will be required, but the government anticipates that most plans are likely to require revising in whole or in part at least every five years. Reviews should be proportionate to the issues, and Authority Monitoring Reports will play a significant role in determining whether there is a need to undertake a partial or full revision of a plan.

- 3.15. The Authority Monitoring Report published in July 2020 included a statement on the review of the Waste Core Strategy. This concluded that although the majority of the objectives of the Waste Core Strategy are being delivered, there are some areas which need to be addressed through policy revisions. More detailed review of the evidence will guide whether only parts of the plan need to be revised, or whether full revision is required. When the Waste Core Strategy is reviewed and revised, Worcestershire County Council intends to call the revised document the “Waste Local Plan”, to more closely reflect current terminology.
- 3.16. The September 2021 LDS anticipated that work on the detailed review of the Waste Core Strategy to establish the scope and purpose of a revision would be undertaken in Q1 2022 to Q1 2023, with preparatory work and development of “Issues and Options” consultation documents being undertaken from Q1 2023 to Q2 2024.
- 3.17. The submission and examination of the Minerals Local Plan and the preparation of the Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document were given priority in the July 2018 LDS, September 2020 LDS and September 2021 LDS. This is maintained in the revised schedule in Table 7 in Appendix 1, with consequent changes to the timetable for commencing this work due to the delays to the Minerals Local Plan and Mineral Site Allocations DPD. This is as soon as practicable given the need to progress the Minerals Development Plan Documents within existing staffing resources, and is considered to be an appropriate means of securing compliance with review requirements.
- 3.18. Prior to an Issues and Options Consultation taking place under Regulation 18, a period of time is required to gather and analyse evidence, and develop policy options.
- 3.19. There is potential for significant reforms to planning legislation and policy through the Levelling Up and Regeneration Bill which was put before parliament in May 2022, but it is not yet known what the implications of this might be for the timescales for the review and revision of the Waste Core Strategy/Waste Local Plan.

4. Documents to be prepared July 2022 – June 2025

4.1. Over the next three years Worcestershire County Council aims to:

- consider the adoption of the Minerals Local Plan for Worcestershire at full Council,
- develop, submit and commence the examination in public of the Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document, and
- commence the review (and revision) of the Waste Core Strategy (Waste Local Plan).

4.2. Table 2, Table 3, and Table 4 below set out the content and timetable for producing these development plan documents. Further detail of the key tasks at each stage are set out in Appendix 2. All references to Regulations in this section refer to The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

Table 2. Summary and Timetable for the Development and Adoption of the Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan

Item	Detail
Status:	Minerals Local Plan (Development Plan Document) to supersede the saved policies in the County of Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan. Independent examination has been undertaken and the plan has been found to be legally compliant and “sound” subject to recommended Main Modifications. Due to be considered for adoption by full Council in July 2022.
Role and content:	Set out the strategic policies for mineral development and restoration in the county, including a vision, objectives, spatial strategy, development management policies and monitoring schedule. This includes a strategy for the delivery of a steady and adequate supply of minerals and locational criteria for development.
Geographical coverage:	Whole of the county of Worcestershire.
Chain of conformity:	Consistent with National Planning Policy Framework, part of the Development Plan for Worcestershire.
Stages of development:	Initial consultations (Regulation 18) - COMPLETED: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Stage Consultation (October 2012 – January 2013) • Second Stage Consultation (November 2013 – January 2014) • First call for sites (July 2014 – August 2014) • Second call for sites and call for resources and infrastructure (July 2015 – September 2015)

Item	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Third Stage Consultation including Third call for sites (December 2016 – March 2017) • Fourth call for sites (September 2017 – January 2018) • Fourth Stage Consultation (December 2018 – February 2019) <p>Publication (Regulation 19 & 20 – COMPLETED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Publication (pre-submission) Consultation (August 2018 – September 2019) <p>Submission (Regulation 22) – COMPLETED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submitted to Secretary of State (December 2019) <p>Independent Examination (Regulation 24) – COMPLETED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commenced December 2019 • Progress delayed due to Covid-19 • Public hearing sessions November-December 2020 • Consultation on main modifications August-October 2021 • Examination concluded May 2022 <p>Receipt of Inspector’s Report (Regulation 25) - COMPLETED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Report on examination of the Minerals Local Plan received 6 May 2022 <p>Adoption (Regulation 26):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated Q3 2022

Table 3. Summary and Timetable for the Development and Adoption of the Worcestershire Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document

Item	Detail
Status:	Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document Under development
Role and content:	To provide policies to allocate specific sites and preferred areas for mineral extraction, to supplement the strategic policies in the Minerals Local Plan and assist with the delivery of a steady and adequate supply of minerals.
Geographical coverage:	Sites within the county of Worcestershire.
Chain of conformity:	Consistent with National Planning Policy Framework, sits alongside the Minerals Local Plan as part of the Development Plan for Worcestershire.
Stage of development:	Initial consultation (Regulation 18) - COMPLETED: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First call for sites (July 2014 – August 2014) • Second call for sites (July 2015 – September 2015) • Third call for sites (as part of the Third Stage Consultation on the Minerals Local Plan) (December 2016 – March 2017) • Fourth call for sites (September 2017 – January 2018)

Item	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on site selection methodology (December 2018-February 2019) • Fifth call for sites (January – March 2020) <p>Interim consultation – COMPLETED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sustainability Appraisal Scoping Report (June – August 2021) <p>Initial consultation (Regulation 18) – ANTICIPATED:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preferred Options Consultation: scheduled Q2-Q3 2023 <p>Publication (Regulation 19 & 20):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated Q3-Q4 2024 <p>Submission (Regulation 22):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated Q1-Q2 2025 <p>Independent Examination (Regulation 24):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated Q1-Q2 2025 and beyond the period of this LDS <p>Receipt of Inspector’s Report (Regulation 25):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated beyond the period of this LDS <p>Adoption (Regulation 26):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated beyond the period of this LDS

Table 4. Summary and Timetable for the Review and Revision of the Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy (Waste Local Plan)

Item	Detail
Status:	Local Plan (Development Plan Document) – Adopted November 2012
Role and content:	Set out the strategic policies for waste management development in Worcestershire, including a vision, objectives, spatial strategy, development management policies and monitoring schedule. This includes identifying waste management capacity requirements for the county and setting out locational criteria for development.
Geographical coverage:	Whole of the county of Worcestershire.
Chain of conformity:	Consistent with National Planning Policy Framework and National Planning Policy for Waste, part of the Development Plan for Worcestershire.
Stage of review and revision:	<p>Plan review (Regulation 10A)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review statement included within Authority Monitoring Report for monitoring periods 2016 and 2017 (published July 2020) • Commence detailed review, establishing scope and purpose of revision of Waste Core Strategy Q2 2023 – Q2 2024

Item	Detail
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Preparatory work and development of Issues and Options consultation documents Q2 2024 – Q2 2025 and beyond the period of this LDS <p>Initial consultation (Regulation 18):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Issues and Options Consultation: Anticipated beyond the period of this LDS • Preferred Options Consultation: Anticipated beyond the period of this LDS <p>Publication (pre-submission) consultation (Regulation 19 & 20):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated beyond the period of this LDS <p>Submission (Regulation 22):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated beyond the period of this LDS <p>Independent Examination (Regulation 24):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated beyond the period of this LDS <p>Receipt of Inspector’s Report (Regulation 25):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated beyond the period of this LDS <p>Adoption (Regulation 26):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated beyond the period of this LDS

5. Resources and Risk Assessment

Resources

- 5.1. The Council's existing Minerals and Waste Planning Policy team will lead on the remaining tasks associated with the adoption of the Worcestershire Minerals Local Plan, as well as the development of the Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document and supporting evidence. The timescales set out in Table 4 above (and Table 7 in Appendix 1) for the review and revision of the Waste Core Strategy are based on additional resources being in place early in financial year 2023/2024.
- 5.2. This will be supported as required through existing staff and expertise from the wider Planning unit (Strategic Planning, Development Management, and Environmental Policy) as well as from the Council's Archive and Archaeology, Highways Development Management and Strategy, Sustainability, Countryside and Flood Risk Management teams.
- 5.3. Support and specialist expertise from outside consultants will be required to undertake statutory assessments of the plans as they progress (Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment) and may also be required to provide other technical support or specialist expertise. Contracts will be managed by staff in the Minerals and Waste Planning Policy, Strategic Planning, or Environmental Policy teams (as most appropriate) to ensure delivery of specified outputs and outcomes.

Procedures for Member Approval

- 5.4. In order to develop the Minerals Local Plan in a timely and efficient manner the Cabinet authorised⁴ the Strategic Director of Economy and Infrastructure⁵ in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills⁶ to agree the production, publication of and consultation on the documents prepared during the course of developing the Minerals Local Plan, without the need for further approval by Cabinet during the pre-publication stages of plan preparation (governed under regulations 18 and 19).
- 5.5. Similarly, Cabinet authorised⁷ the Strategic Director of Economy and Infrastructure⁸ in consultation with the Cabinet Member for Economy, Infrastructure and Skills⁹ to approve the preparation of the draft Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document and the preparation of a new draft Waste Local Plan, carry out informal preliminary consultations on them in accordance with the LDS, and make any

⁴ Cabinet meeting of 27 September 2012, Minute 1414.

⁵ Formerly the Director of Business, Environment and Community

⁶ Formerly the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy and Infrastructure

⁷ Cabinet meeting of 12 July 2018, Minute 1863.

⁸ Formerly the Director of Business, Environment and Community

⁹ Formerly the Cabinet Member with Responsibility for Economy and Infrastructure

amendments to them to create a final draft, without the need for further formal approval by Cabinet.

- 5.6. However, the statutory Local Authorities (Functions and Responsibilities) (England) Regulations 2000 (as amended) require that the plans must be approved by Cabinet and Council before submission to the Secretary of State for Examination and subsequently approved by them for adoption. The Minerals Local Plan has therefore been considered by Cabinet¹⁰ for a recommendation to full Council¹¹ for adoption (regulation 26). Both the draft Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document and new draft Waste Local Plan will be submitted to Cabinet and Council for approval before they are formally published for public representations and submitted to the Secretary of State for examination.
- 5.7. In addition all of the Council's Members will be consulted as part of every formal consultation (regulation 18 and 19) and will be contacted as appropriate to inform them of any specific matters which might affect their division.

Risk Assessment

- 5.8. The Council recognises that there are risks in delivering the documents set out in this Local Development Scheme. Some of these risks are within the Council's control and some are not. Some have the potential to cause a plan to fail tests of soundness or legal compliance, whilst others could cause delays to timescales.
- 5.9. The main areas of risk are set out below, and their impacts and the ways to overcome them have been considered in developing the programme in this Local Development Scheme so that the timetable is as robust as possible.
- Changes in external context (national policy and guidance, legislation, or other parts of the Development Plan)
 - Unexpected issues or major objections raised through public consultation
 - Statutory assessments (such as Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment)
 - Unexpected staffing and resourcing issues
 - Timescales for decision making and political processes, including pre-election "purdah"
 - Ability of stakeholders (particularly statutory consultees) to participate and provide advice on policy development outside statutory stages
 - Capacity of the Planning Inspectorate
 - Legal challenges.

¹⁰ Cabinet meeting of 26 May 2022.

¹¹ Council meeting of 14 July 2022.

- 5.10. These risks will be monitored, and any major impacts on the development of the documents may require the Local Development Scheme to be revised.

6. Monitoring and Review

- 6.1. It is a statutory requirement that the Council prepares an Authority Monitoring Report¹² (AMR) to assess progress in the implementation of the Local Development Scheme and the extent to which the objectives of Worcestershire County Council's adopted development plan documents are being achieved or are still relevant.
- 6.2. In relation to each document included within the LDS, monitoring must be carried out on:
 - The timetable included for that specific document;
 - The stage that the document has reached in the production process; and
 - If the document is behind the timetable set out in the LDS, the reasons for this.
- 6.3. The AMR will be published as soon as practical after the relevant data becomes available. The AMR both informs the council's own work and feeds into the preparation of Local Development Documents produced by the County, District and Borough Councils. As well as progress in plan-making, this will be the opportunity to report on the monitoring indicators in adopted Local Plans to assess policy performance. The AMR will provide the evidence to consider whether there is a need to review the Development Plan Documents adopted by Worcestershire County Council prior to the date of review set in those documents.
- 6.4. A full review of the LDS will be undertaken if changes impact on the milestones in Table 2, Table 3, or Table 4 (see also Appendix 1).

¹² Formally called the "Minerals and Waste Local Development Scheme Authority Monitoring Report". Available at www.worcestershire.gov.uk/amr.

Appendix 1: Minerals and Waste Development Framework Project Plan Schedules

Table 5. Schedule for the Minerals Local Plan

Key	C	Completed
	S	Scheduled

Activity	Q3 - 2021	Q4 - 2021	Q1 - 2022	Q2 - 2022	Q3 - 2022	Q4 - 2022	Q1 - 2023	Q2 - 2023	Q3 - 2023	Q4 - 2023	Q1 - 2024	Q2 - 2024	Q3 - 2024	Q4 - 2024	Q1 - 2025	Q2 - 2025	Beyond the period of this LDS
Independent examination (Reg 24)	C	C	C	C													
Receipt of Inspectors' Report (Reg 25)				C													
Adoption (Reg 26)					S												
5 year review through Authority Monitoring Report (Reg 10A)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS

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Table 6. Schedule for the Mineral Site Allocations Development Plan Document

Key	C	Completed
	S	Scheduled

Activity	Q3 - 2021	Q4 - 2021	Q1 - 2022	Q2 - 2022	Q3 - 2022	Q4 - 2022	Q1 - 2023	Q2 - 2023	Q3 - 2023	Q4 - 2023	Q1 - 2024	Q2 - 2024	Q3 - 2024	Q4 - 2024	Q1 - 2025	Q2 - 2025	Beyond the period of this LDS
Preparation of Preferred Options consultation documents	C	C	C	C	S	S											
Undertake statutory assessments of Preferred Options documents						S	S										
Consultation on Preferred Options document (Reg 18)								S	S								
Consideration of representations									S	S							
Preparation of Publication documents											S	S					
Undertake statutory assessments of Publication documents												S	S				
Pre-submission Publication consultation (Reg 19)													S	S			
Preparation for submission														S	S		
Submission (Reg 22)															S	S	
Independent examination (Reg 24)															S	S	Task likely to continue beyond the period of this LDS
Receipt of Inspector's Report (Reg 25)																	Task likely to be achieved beyond the period of this LDS
Adoption (Reg 26)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
5 year review through Authority Monitoring Report (Reg 10A)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS

Worcestershire Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme (July 2022 – June 2025)

Table 7. Schedule for the Review and Revision of the Waste Core Strategy (Waste Local Plan)

Key	C	Completed
	S	Scheduled

Activity	Q3 - 2021	Q4 - 2021	Q1 - 2022	Q2 - 2022	Q3 - 2022	Q4 - 2022	Q1 - 2023	Q2 - 2023	Q3 - 2023	Q4 - 2023	Q1 - 2024	Q2 - 2024	Q3 - 2024	Q4 - 2024	Q1 - 2025	Q2 - 2025	Beyond the period of this LDS
5 year review through Authority Monitoring Report (Reg 10A)																	
Detailed review, establishing scope and purpose of revision of Waste Core Strategy								S	S	S	S	S					
Preparatory work and development of Issues and Options consultation documents												S	S	S	S	S	Task likely to continue beyond the period of this LDS
Undertake statutory assessments of Issues and Options documents																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Consultation on Issues and Options (Reg 18)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Consideration of representations																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Preparation of Preferred Options consultation documents																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Undertake statutory assessments of Preferred Options documents																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Consultation on Preferred Options (Reg 18)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Consideration of representations																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Preparation of Publication documents																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS

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Activity	Q3 - 2021	Q4 - 2021	Q1 - 2022	Q2 - 2022	Q3 - 2022	Q4 - 2022	Q1 - 2023	Q2 - 2023	Q3 - 2023	Q4 - 2023	Q1 - 2024	Q2 - 2024	Q3 - 2024	Q4 - 2024	Q1 - 2025	Q2 - 2025	Beyond the period of this LDS
Undertake statutory assessments of Publication documents																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Pre-submission Publication consultation (Reg 19)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Preparation for submission																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Submission (Reg 22)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Independent examination (Reg 24)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Receipt of Inspector's Report (Reg 25)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
Adoption (Reg 26)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS
5 year review through Authority Monitoring Report (Reg 10A)																	Task to be scheduled in a future LDS

Appendix 2: Key tasks and stages in planning policy development

All references to Regulations in this section refer to The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended).

Table 8. Key tasks at each stage of plan development

Stage	Key tasks
Initial stages of plan development or revision, prior to first consultation	<p>Establish purpose and scope of plan development or revision, based on:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Analysis of evidence, develop documented evidence base • Consideration of national policy and guidance • Consideration of key strategic matters with other authorities and bodies under Duty to Cooperate <p>Develop document for consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outline the issues arising from evidence base, national policy and strategic matters which the plan intends to address • Develop broad options for vision & objectives, policies and monitoring framework, setting out pros and cons of the various options • Develop draft site selection criteria and undertake “call for sites”, if appropriate • Develop consultation questions <p>Once consultation document is fully drafted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake statutory assessments, including Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment
Issues and Options Consultation (Regulation 18)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on whether all relevant issues have been included, whether additional evidence needs to be considered, and what options should be taken forward • Minimum of 6 week consultation period • Consultation in line with Statement of Community Involvement
Tasks to develop from Issues and Options stage to Preferred Options stage	<p>Take stock:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider consultation responses • Consider recommendations from statutory assessments • Consider any changes to national policy and guidance • Update evidence base • Undertake further consideration of key strategic matters with other authorities and bodies under Duty to Cooperate <p>Assess sites:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Develop robust site selection methodology

Stage	Key tasks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Undertake site visits and assessments (such as Strategic Flood Risk Assessment, landscape, historic environment, transport, biodiversity and amenity assessments) • Further calls for sites may be necessary if sufficient options are not available to meet the level of need over the life of the plan <p>Refine document for consultation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refine vision, objectives, policies and monitoring framework into a “preferred option”, setting out why this option is preferred • Develop consultation questions <p>Once consultation document is fully drafted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document design and printing • Undertake further iteration of statutory assessments, including Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment
Preferred Options Consultation (Regulation 18)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation on all aspects of the document • Minimum of 6 week consultation period • Consultation in line with Statement of Community Involvement
Tasks to develop from Preferred Options stage to Pre-submission Publication stage	<p>Take stock:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consider consultation responses • Consider recommendations from statutory assessments • Consider any changes to national policy and guidance • Update evidence base • Undertake further consideration of key strategic matters with other authorities and bodies under Duty to Cooperate <p>Refine document for submission:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Refine vision, objectives, policies and monitoring framework into a final version which the Council intends to submit to the Secretary of State • Prepare pre-submission questions and guidance notes in line with legislative requirements <p>Once consultation document is fully drafted:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Document design and printing • Undertake further iteration of statutory assessments, including Sustainability Appraisal, Habitats Regulations Assessment, Equality Impact Assessment
Pre-submission Publication Consultation (Regulation 19)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consultation only on whether the plan meets the tests of soundness set out in national policy¹³, and whether it is legally compliant (i.e. the document and the way it

¹³ Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government (July 2021) *National Planning Policy Framework*. Paragraph 35 states that plans are “sound” if they are positively prepared, justified, effective, and consistent with national policy.

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Stage	Key tasks
	<p>has been prepared meet all requirements set in relevant legislation)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Minimum of 6 week consultation period • Consultation in line with legislative requirements
<p>Tasks to be completed before the plan can be submitted to the Secretary of State</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Appoint a Programme Officer • Consider pre-submission representations • Collate pre-submission representations • Compile submission document library
<p>Submission (Regulation 22)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Submit the document to the Secretary of State, who will appoint an independent Planning Inspector from the Planning Inspectorate
<p>Examination (Regulation 24)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Respond to the Inspector's Matters, Issues and Questions in formal written statements • Public hearing sessions are usually required • Participate in public hearing sessions to answer Inspector's questions • Undertake any further work or develop any modifications necessary to address Inspector's concerns about soundness or legal compliance • Undertake Sustainability Appraisal (and potentially other appraisals or assessments) of modifications • Public consultation on any necessary modifications - Minimum of 6 week consultation period • Participate in any further hearing sessions which the Inspector may require following the responses to consultation on the modifications
<p>Receipt of Inspector's Report (Regulation 25)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This marks the end of the examination • The Inspector's Report will recommend either: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ that the plan should be adopted, ○ that it should be adopted with modifications, or ○ that it should not be adopted. • Publish the Inspector's report
<p>Adoption (Regulation 26)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The plan will be returned to Council with the Inspector's recommendation for the Council to decide whether to adopt the plan. • As soon as possible after adopting the plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Publish the adopted Plan ○ Publish an Adoption Statement ○ Publish the Sustainability Appraisal report
<p>After adoption: monitoring (Regulation 34) and review (Regulation 10A)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring of the implementation of the plan via the Authority Monitoring Report • Complete a review every five years from the date of adoption to determine whether policies remain relevant and effectively address the needs of the local community