

**Worcestershire Mineral and Waste Local  
Development Framework**

**Annual Monitoring  
Report**

**April 2014 – March 2015**

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# Executive Summary

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

## **Waste**

Performance against the majority of waste indicators is adequate.

Many of the areas which are currently below target are likely to improve following the adoption of the Validation Document in February 2015 and progress will be monitored to ensure this is the case.

One of the main areas where targets are not being met which will not be improved by the Validation document is delivery of waste management facilities in accordance with the Waste Core Strategy's Geographic Hierarchy. Only 50% of the new permitted waste development for new reuse, recycling, storage, sorting and transfer was located at level 1 or 2 of the geographic hierarchy in this monitoring year, against a target of 100%. This was an improvement in comparison to the previous monitoring period where 0% were located in the top 2 levels of the geographic hierarchy. However, further analysis shows that the development permitted at lower levels was demonstrated to be at the highest appropriate level and was therefore in accordance with Waste Core Strategy policy.

Particularly strong performance is being seen against indicators which monitor planning permissions for sustainable waste developments contributing to the County's natural resources, environmental, cultural and economic assets, the character and amenity of the local area and the health and wellbeing of local people.

Strong progress is also being seen in driving waste up the waste hierarchy. The proportion of waste managed in Worcestershire being disposed of in landfill has continued to decline, with only 24% of household, commercial and industrial waste being landfilled in 2014. Whilst re-use, recycling and other recovery rates for Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) remain low as a result of losing access to spare capacity at an energy-from-waste site outside the county, construction of the Energy from Waste Plant at Hartlebury is well under way and due to be operational in 2017. Recycling and recovery rates for Household, Commercial and Industrial waste are currently exceeding the milestones set out. However, a lack of reliable data still prevents effective monitoring of re-use, recycling and recovery of construction and demolition waste.

Good progress has also been seen towards achieving equivalent self-sufficiency for all waste streams, and landfill capacity remains adequate for the life of the Waste Core Strategy.

## **Minerals**

Performance against some minerals indicators is adequate. Many of the areas which are currently below target are likely to improve following the adoption of the Validation Document in February 2015 and progress will be monitored to ensure this is the case. However, developing and adopting the new Minerals Local Plan will be key to improving performance in most areas, as well as establishing appropriate targets and indicators.

In particular, the provision of aggregate minerals is below target. The new Minerals Local Plan will help to address this by identifying specific sites and preferred areas. It will provide an up to date policy framework to give the minerals industry greater certainty and confidence to bring sites forward.

## **Statement of Community Involvement (SCI)**

The SCI was updated in February 2015 and new indicators developed and reported on in this Annual Monitoring report.




No information was available to monitor satisfaction with the Development Plan process/service in this monitoring period, but future consultations will outline the consultation methods used and ask an additional question during the consultation process to establish whether these are satisfactory or whether other methods could be used.

Response rates to planning policy consultations were considered satisfactory.

















Satisfaction levels with the planning application process/service were also considered satisfactory, with no complaints being upheld by the ombudsman, court decisions against the council or, appeals upheld. However the Council has invested in a software package which will assist with workflow monitoring and highlight at an early stage if there are delays in responding to complaints.

# Summary of Performance

Monitoring indicators have been defined according to the following convention:

-  Indicator showing target has been achieved
-  Indicator showing target has not been achieved
-  Either a) an indicator has been monitored to set a baseline but progress towards the target is not monitored; b) There are currently no targets set out to monitor progress against; c) data is not currently available to monitor this indicator; d) no relevant applications were received during the monitoring period; or e) target is not applicable

**Table 0.1: Summary of performance**

Indicator		Current performance
	Compliance with Regulation 34 (1) Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012	
<b>Waste Core Strategy (WCS) for Worcestershire Indicators</b>		
W1	Permissions for waste management development granted contrary to the EA advice on flooding [M1] <sup>1</sup> .	
W2	Permissions for waste management development granted contrary to the EA advice on water quality [M2].	
W3	Permissions for waste management development that include measures for energy efficiency.	
W4	Permissions for waste management development with a gross floor space of over 1000m <sup>2</sup> gaining at least 10% of energy supply annually from renewable energy supplies.	
W5	Permissions for waste management development that include measures for water efficiency.	
W6	Permissions for new landfill capacity that include landfill gas management systems.	
W7	Permissions for new built waste management development that include provision for biodiversity enhancement [M3].	
W8	Permissions that have an unacceptable adverse impact on landscape character, scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, battlefields or registered historic parks and gardens [M4].	
W9	Permission for new waste management granted in the Malvern Hills or Cotswolds AONB [M5].	
W10	Permissions for new waste management development take into account local characteristics [M6].	
W11	Permissions for new waste management development take into account amenity considerations [M7].	
W12	Permission for new waste management development on Greenfield sites	
W13	Permission for new waste management development in the Green Belt.	
W14	Permissions granted in accordance with highways advice [M8].	
W15	Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in re-use and	

<sup>1</sup> Where Waste Indicators correspond directly to Minerals Indicators, the number of the corresponding Minerals Indicator is denoted in square brackets.



	recycling: increasing % of waste recycled.	
W16	Waste sent to landfill.	
W17 a <sup>2</sup>	Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of LACW waste.	
W17 b	Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of C&I waste.	
W17 c	Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of C&D waste.	
W18	Adoption of appropriate policies regarding managing waste arisings from all new developments in City, Borough and District DPDs.	
W19	Development permitted within 250 meters of a waste management facility against County Council advice.	
W20	Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in re-use and recycling capacity based on headline delivery milestones in the Waste Core Strategy	
W21	Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in 'other recovery' capacity based on headline delivery milestones in the Waste Core Strategy	
W22	Maintain equivalent self-sufficiency in 'sorting and transfer'	
W23	Maintain equivalent self-sufficiency in disposal and landfill.	
W24	Applications for Waste Management Development determined within 13 weeks [M10].	
W25	Number of Waste Management proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage [M11].	
W26	Permitted applications for waste management which include a Consultation Statement [M19].	
W27	Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision [M20].	
W28	Increase in GVA in Worcestershire from waste management development	
W29	Permitted 'other recovery' and disposal (excluding landfill) capacity at each level of the geographic hierarchy	
W30	Permitted re-use, recycling, storage, and sorting and transfer capacity at each level of the geographic hierarchy.	
<b>Minerals Indicators<sup>3</sup></b>		
M1	Permissions for minerals development granted contrary to the EA advice on flooding [W1] <sup>4</sup> . ( <i>NPPF and WCS</i> )	
M2	Permissions for minerals development granted contrary to the EA advice on water quality [W2]. ( <i>NPPF and WCS</i> )	
M3	Permissions for new mineral operations that include provision for biodiversity enhancement [W7]. ( <i>NPPF and WCS</i> )	
M4	Permissions that have an unacceptable adverse impact on landscape character, scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, battlefields or registered historic parks and gardens [W8]. ( <i>NPPF and WCS</i> )	

<sup>2</sup> Please note that Indicators W17a, W17b and W17c were monitored as one item in previous years. Rationale for the split is explained in the analysis section.

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

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

M5	Permission for new minerals development granted in the Malvern Hills or Cotswolds AONB [W9]. <i>(NPPF and WCS)</i>	
M6	Permissions for new minerals development take into account local characteristics [W10]. <i>(NPPF and WCS)</i>	
M7	Permissions for new minerals development take into account amenity considerations [W11]. <i>(NPPF and WCS)</i>	
M8	Permissions granted in accordance with highways advice [W14]. <i>(NPPF)</i>	
M9	Production of secondary and recycled aggregates. <i>(NPPF, WCS and LAA)</i>	
M10	Applications for Minerals Development determined within 13 weeks [W24]. <i>(National Policy)</i>	
M11	Number of minerals proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage [W25]. <i>(WCS)</i>	
M12 <sup>a</sup>	Annual production of primary land won aggregates: Sand and Gravel. <i>(NPPF and LAA)</i>	
M12 <sup>b</sup>	Annual production of primary land won aggregates: Crushed rock. <i>(LAA)</i>	
M13	Landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves. <i>(NPPF and LAA)</i>	
M14	Landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves. <i>(NPPF and LAA)</i>	
M15	Landbank of permitted clay reserves. <i>(NPPF)</i>	
M16	Sufficient productive capacity for sand and gravel supply. <i>(NPPF)</i>	
M17	Sufficient productive capacity for crushed rock supply. <i>(NPPF)</i>	
M18	Sufficient productive capacity for clay supply. <i>(NPPF)</i>	
M19	Permitted applications for minerals development which include a Consultation Statement [W26]. <i>(WCS)</i>	
M20	Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision [W27]. <i>(WCS)</i>	
M21	New permitted mineral development in 'preferred areas'. <i>(Minerals Local Plan saved policies superseded by MLP)</i>	
<b>Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) Indicators<sup>6</sup></b>		
SCI1	Satisfaction levels with the Development Plan process/service	
SCI2	Response rates to planning policy consultations	
SCI3	Satisfaction levels with the planning application process/service	

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

<sup>6</sup> The Statement of Community Involvement was revised during the monitoring but does not set specific targets. .

# 0. Introduction and background

## Purpose of the report

- 0.1. This Annual Monitoring Report (AMR) covers the period from 1st April 2014 to 31st March 2015.
- 0.2. The County Council is required to produce an Annual Monitoring Report<sup>7</sup> (AMR) of the Minerals and Waste Development Framework. The purpose of the AMR is to:
- review the progress of implementing the County's Mineral and Waste Local Development Scheme (LDS), particularly whether the Council is meeting the timetables and milestones set out in the Scheme;
  - provide realistic and useful indicators, targets and information to assess the effectiveness and impacts of the policies being implemented; and
  - assess whether the policies in the County's Development Plan Documents need to be adjusted or replaced.
- 0.3. The AMR assesses the Minerals and Waste policy framework, which during the monitoring year consisted of saved policies from the County of Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan 1994-2004, and the Waste Core Strategy for Worcestershire 2012-2027.
- 0.4. The AMR also monitors progress in the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan as set out in the Local Development Scheme and provides an annual update on the Local Aggregates Assessment (LAA) in Annex 1: LAA.
- 0.5. Borough, City and District Council Local Development Documents are assessed in the AMRs prepared by the responsible authorities.

## ***Community Involvement***

- 0.6. In 2013 the County Council engaged with the six district councils and the Worcestershire Local Enterprise partnership (LEP) to develop the Planning Charter<sup>8</sup> which sets out Worcestershire's ambitions for a streamlined and effective planning and development culture which supports future prosperity. This document is accompanied by the Memorandum of Understanding which defines the specific commitments that planning services across the county and the LEP have made, and aims to coordinate efficient and effective engagement through timely decision-making and the promotion of development through strategic policy documents. The goal of this framework is to establish a business friendly planning system.

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

<sup>8</sup> The Planning Charter and the Memorandum of Understanding are available online from: [http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/planning/planning\\_policy\\_strategy/memorandum\\_of\\_understanding.aspx](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/cms/planning/planning_policy_strategy/memorandum_of_understanding.aspx)

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

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

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

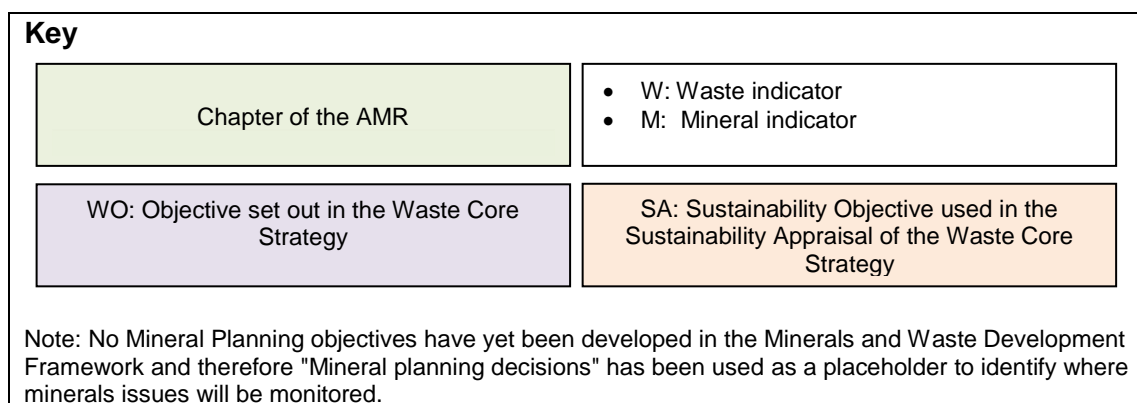
Marianne Joynes  
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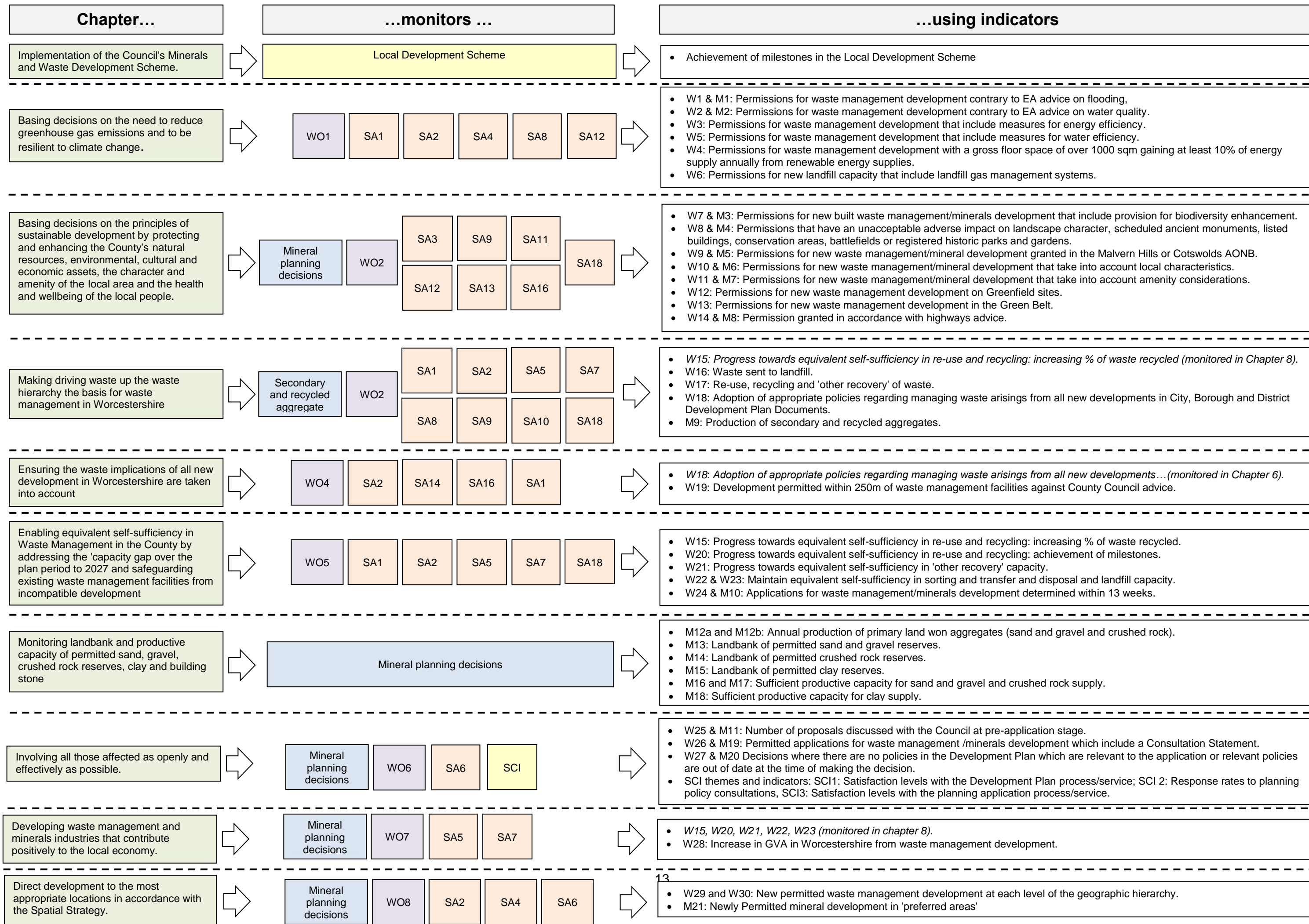
Email: [minerals@worcestershire.gov.uk](mailto:minerals@worcestershire.gov.uk)  
Phone: 01905 766374 or 07921 309855

## Structure of the report

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

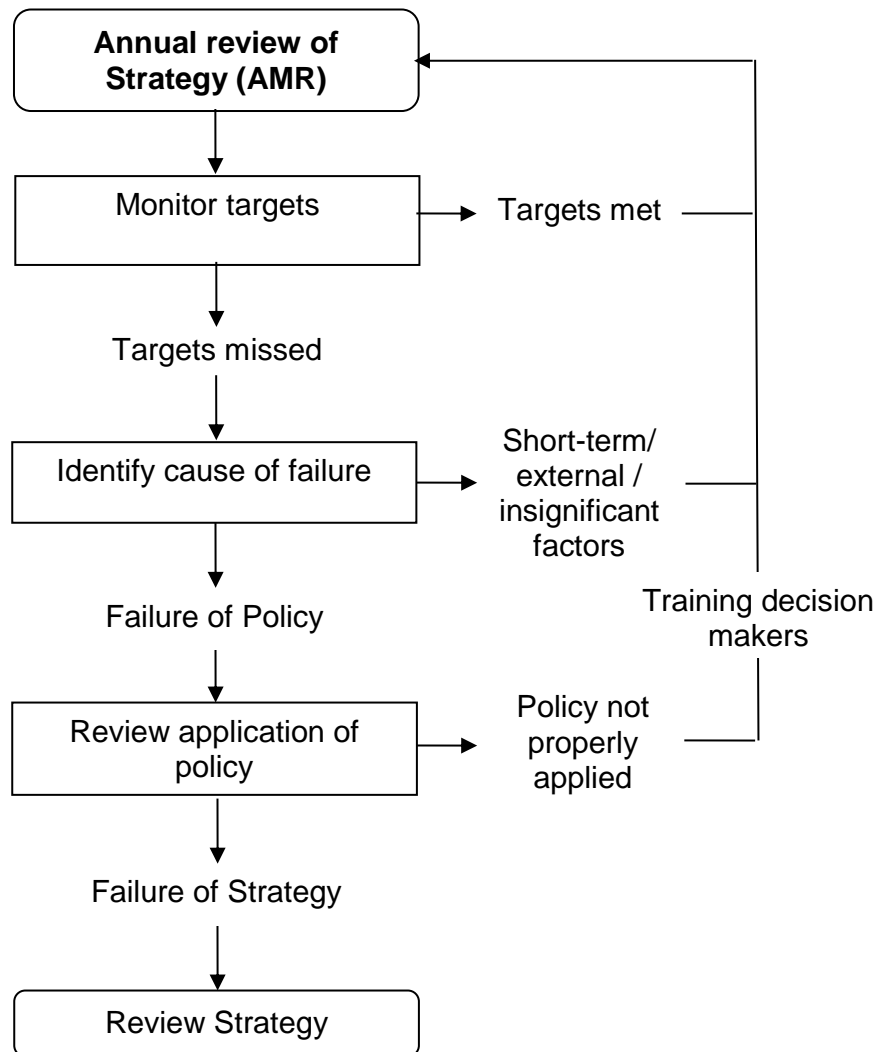
**Figure 0.1. Structure of the AMR 2015**





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

**Figure 0.2: Policy review process**



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

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

Local Plan. The SCI indicators have been updated following the adoption of the new SCI in 2015.

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

## Section Summary

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

Indicators:

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

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

## Background

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

## Monitoring progress

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



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

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

■ = Milestone target  
 ✓ = Milestone achieved

**Progress against the targets**

- 1.4. The first stage of the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan took place in Winter 2012-2013 meeting the Local Development Scheme target. The Second Stage Consultation (Reg 19 Issues consultation) was programmed to take place during Q2/Q3 of 2013. This actually commenced in Q4 and ran until Q1 of 2014. The Draft Plan consultation did not take place within the monitoring year, although an unscheduled "call for sites" consultation took place in summer 2014.
  
- 1.5. A significant factor in this delay was that the assessment of the county's mineral resources proved more difficult than originally anticipated and required much more time than scheduled. This assessment is fundamental to the development of the plan. The original timetable assumed that the evidence used to develop the current Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan (H and WMLP) (1997) would be sufficient, subject to fact checking. In practice the British Geological Survey have produced substantially updated data and the information they now provide digitally is significantly different from the plans on which the Hereford and Worcester MLP was based. The iterative development of the MLP has shown that the limited number of resource assessments and the level of detail undertaken for the Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan was not sufficient for the kind of plan now being developed, which is not only different in kind but will be subject to "soundness" tests at Examination which are very different from those for the earlier plan. The assessments of the mineral resources in the county undertaken for the Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan were not published and so were not subject to public scrutiny. As the MLP currently being prepared needs to be based on robust and transparent information it was necessary to undertake a thorough and consistent assessment of resources across the county and present it in a format that could be published for public comment.

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

### *Action*

- 1.9. The programme for the Minerals Local Plan preparation has been reviewed to take into account the current timescales, staff capacity and complexity of the development process. An updated Local Development Scheme came into effect just outside this monitoring year on 24<sup>th</sup> April 2015.

## **Other statutory planning documents**

### ***Worcestershire Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS)***

- 1.10. The LFRMS is a statutory document and the County Council is required by the Flood and Water Management Act to produce this document. The Strategic Planning Team is leading on the development of the 'emerging' LFRMS in Worcestershire
- 1.11. As Lead Local Flood Authority (LLFA) for Worcestershire, the county council needs to 'develop, maintain, apply and monitor' a Local Flood Risk Management Strategy (LFRMS) to address local flood risk in the county, which is defined a flood risk arising from surface water, groundwater and ordinary watercourses. The Strategy must be consistent with the Environment Agency's National Flood Risk Management Strategy for England.
- 1.12. The Strategy will be the primary method through which the LLFA discharges its role to provide leadership and co-ordinate flood risk management on a day to day basis. It will act as a focal point for integrating a range of flood risk related outcomes across the county.

- 1.13. The LFRMS is subject to Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) scoping and Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) screening and these have also been undertaken in house by the Strategic Planning and Environmental Policy Teams. The statutory agencies have been consulted on the SEA and HRA in October/November 2013 alongside a draft Issues and Options document.
- 1.14. The Issues and Options document has been consulted on with partner Risk Management Authorities. A targeted consultation on the draft strategy is scheduled for summer 2015.

### ***Worcestershire Surface Water Management Plan (SWMP)***

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

### ***Sustainable Drainage Systems Approval Body (SAB)***

- 1.18. Schedule 3 of the Flood and Water Management Act (yet to be commenced) requires Lead Local Flood Authorities (LLFAs) to establish a SuDS Approval Body (SAB) to carry out regulatory activities related to the approval of drainage consent for development. For Worcestershire, the County Council is the LLFA and as such will be required to establish a SAB once commencement of this section of the act takes place.
- 1.19. The Strategic Planning team is currently leading on the establishment of the SAB. A SAB co-ordinating group has been meeting throughout 2014/15 to prepare for implementation and a series of Task and Finish groups were established to start exploring issues for delivery.
- 1.20. Defra has recently consulted on alternative proposals for the management of surface water through amendments to the nPPG and to no longer enact the legislation to implement the SAB. The proposals could fundamentally change the role of the planning system in the consideration of SuDS with a potential commencement in Spring 2015. The Strategic Planning team is leading on responses to this consultation and advising the LLFA and partners.

## ***Statement of Community Involvement***

- 1.21. The Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) aims to make sure that everyone has a chance to be informed, get involved and be consulted in the appropriate way during the planning process, whether for planning policy or a planning application. Its vision is to create genuine opportunities for all interested members of the community to have a stake in the decisions that will influence minerals, waste and county matters planning within Worcestershire.
- 1.22. Since the SCI was first adopted in 2006, the Government has introduced substantial changes to the planning system through the introduction of the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), Localism Act and Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (England) Order 2010. As a result, the SCI was updated and published in February 2015.
- 1.23. As part of this work the former SCI indicators were reviewed. To ensure that the SCI is fostering community engagement new indicators have been developed to evaluate:
- Satisfaction levels with the Development Plan process/service
  - Response rates to planning policy consultations
  - Satisfaction levels with the planning application process/service
- 1.24. This and subsequent AMRs will monitor targets to evaluate community engagement. Should performance fall below the target level it will trigger a need for review to establish if the SCI is no longer delivering its objectives. The SCI objectives are monitored in section 8.

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

### ***Validation Document***

- 1.25. The County Council, as the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority, is responsible for the processing and determination of planning applications for minerals and waste management developments and for its own developments such as schools, roads, railway stations and libraries.
- 1.26. As part of the County Council's wider 'Open for Business' agenda, the Development Management team updated the Council's Planning Validation Document in February 2015. This document will enable the council to accept and validate planning applications in a more timely and efficient manner, thereby reducing delays that would otherwise occur in the processing of applications. The Validation Document provides applicants and their agents with guidance on the information required by us when submitting a planning application. If an applicant fails to submit an application in accordance with the requirements set out in the Validation Document the council will be entitled to declare the application invalid.

- 1.27. The Validation Document will be subject to regular review and as a minimum it will be reviewed every two years to ensure it stays valid.

### ***Landscape Character Assessment supplementary guidance***

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

### ***Natural resources strategy***

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

### ***Planning for Soils Technical Research Paper***

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

### ***Planning for Water Technical Research Paper***

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

### ***Renewable Energy Strategy***

- 1.33. A Worcestershire County Council Renewable Energy Strategy is being prepared that aims to reduce the controversy around renewable energy

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

## ***Climate Change***

- 1.34. The *Planning for Climate Change in Worcestershire Technical Research Paper* was adopted in May 2008 and is not currently scheduled for revision.
- 1.35. The paper identified the need for further work to fully embed climate change into policy making. This further work included investigating the potential for a County-wide Green Infrastructure network which is detailed below.
- 1.36. Another issue identified in the Planning for Climate Change paper was the need to look at ways of restoring exhausted mineral sites in light of climate change. A concept paper setting out the proposed contents of this paper underwent internal consultation in November 2012 and a draft was developed. It was subsequently circulated for further internal and stakeholder consultation in spring 2013. The document is currently being finalised in preparation for further public consultation.
- 1.37. The paper aims to set out guidance for the operation and restoration of mineral sites in Worcestershire for biodiversity gain. Measures advocated include habitat reconnection and the importance of flood alleviation and surface water control. The paper itself will focus on strategic restoration aspirations of Worcestershire's riverine terrace corridor; aiming to create and reconnect wetland habitats such as wet grassland, wet woodland, reedbeds and standing water which will contribute towards Worcestershire's climate change amelioration/mitigation and adaptation responses.
- 1.38. The technical paper on mineral site restoration will form part of the evidence base to support the development of the Minerals Local Plan.
- 1.39. The Council expects these papers to be used as part of the evidence base in DPD preparation by all of the LPAs in the county.

## ***Infrastructure Planning***

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

development and overcome market blockages, and a range of future working models. Work on this commenced in early 2015.

### ***Sub-regional Green Infrastructure Planning***

- 1.42. Worcestershire County Council have been working with partners including the Environment Agency, Natural England, Forestry Commission and Worcestershire Wildlife Trust to develop a multi-disciplinary approach to environmental planning across the county at a range of spatial scales.
- 1.43. They have prepared the Worcestershire Green Infrastructure Strategy which was published during the winter 2013. The Strategy established a vision and priorities for green infrastructure provision in the county. It set out county-scale principles to inform plans and strategies being developed by partner organisations and to enable a coherent approach to delivery across a range of initiatives.
- 1.44. Currently, a Green Infrastructure Implementation Plan is also being prepared. The document will identify a number of projects to deliver the priorities outlined in the Strategy and will establish a spatial focus for collective action on green infrastructure in Worcestershire. The initial document was completed in autumn 2014, and is updated regularly as schemes are completed and new schemes developed.
- 1.45. The Strategy has been informed by four evidence base documents:
- 1.46. GI Framework document 1 (November 2008) provides an introduction to the concept of green infrastructure and also identifies the need for the strategic planning of green infrastructure and the policy drivers that support the planning of green infrastructure at differing spatial scales.
- 1.47. GI Framework document 2 (July 2012) provides an introduction to the natural environment data sets of landscape, biodiversity and historic environment and develops the concept of Green Infrastructure Environmental Character Areas based on the quality and quantity of these natural environment assets.
- 1.48. GI Framework document 3 (May 2013) identifies the functionality, and supply of strategic recreational assets in Worcestershire and the potential of these assets to support further recreational demand. It explores the potential need for new recreational assets, identifies areas of search for strategic assets and potential funding mechanisms for new facilities.
- 1.49. GI Framework document 4 (September 2014) investigates the socio-economic role of GI including climate change, economy, health and well-being benefits.
- 1.50. A research paper on the viability of green infrastructure on new development is also being currently prepared. This paper aims to provide a support in implementation of the green infrastructure schemes by developers, land owners and other stakeholders. The document is expected to be finalised in winter 2015.

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

### Section Summary

Indicators:

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

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

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

Target: None (zero)

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



Analysis:

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

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Waste Management Development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Minerals Development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	N/A*	0
<b>Regulation 3 Development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	0	None

\*Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during the 2013-14 monitoring year.

**Table 2.2: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Waste management development	✓	✓	No permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice
Minerals development	✓	✓	No permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice
Regulation 3 Development	✓	✓	No permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice

Action

This indicator has been achieved and no action is required.

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

Target: None (Zero)

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

Analysis:

**Table 2.3: Number of planning permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice on water quality grounds**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Waste Management Development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	0	None
<b>Minerals Development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	N/A*	0
<b>Regulation 3 Development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	0	0

\*Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during the 2013-14 monitoring year.

**Table 2.4: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Waste management development	✓	✓	No permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice
Minerals development	✓	✓	No permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice
Regulation 3 Development	✓	✓	No permissions granted contrary to Environment Agency advice

Action

This indicator has been achieved and no action is required.

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

Target: 100%

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

Analysis:

**Table 2.5: Planning permissions granted for proposals that include measures for energy efficiency**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15*
<b>Waste management development (including waste water treatment)</b>					
Permissions Granted	3 (23%)	0	0	0	0
<b>Minerals development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	N/A <sup>†</sup>	0
<b>Regulation 3 development</b>					
Permissions Granted	18(32%)	0	5 (15%)	4 (16%)	4 (40%)

<sup>†</sup> Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during the 2013-14 monitoring year.

\* Please note, in accordance with the actions implemented in the 2014 Annual Monitoring Report, this year only includes data for new built development.

Although none of the waste applications included proposals for energy efficiency, there were three Regulation 3 applications permitted which included energy efficiency measures. Two of these measures were renewable energy regeneration using photovoltaic arrays located on school roofs.

**Table 2.6: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Waste management development	✗	✗	Less than 90% of permissions have complied in the last 5 years
Minerals development	✗	✗	Less than 90% of permissions have complied in 4 of the last 5 years
Regulation 3 Development	✗	✗	Less than 90% of permissions have complied in the last 5 years

Action

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

Policy WCS 11 states that:

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

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

The Validation Document was adopted towards the end of this monitoring period in February 2015, therefore it is unlikely it has had any significant influence on the figures this year. However, it is anticipated that it will help ensure that this issue is addressed at an early stage in the application process.

The 2013-2014 AMR suggested that a checklist would be developed for use at pre-application meetings in order to ensure issues such as energy efficiency are flagged up at an early stage. Rather than develop a specific pre-application checklist, applicants are now directed towards the validation checklist at pre-application stage.

No further action is required at this time as the results in following years will indicate whether this action has been successful in addressing the failure in performance.

***Indicator W4: Permissions for waste management development with a gross floor space of over 1000m<sup>2</sup> to gain at least 10% of energy supply annually from renewable energy supplies***

Target: 100%

Review trigger: One permission granted that does not comply.

Analysis:

**Table 2.7: Percent of new built waste management development and significant alterations to buildings with a gross floor space of over 1000 sq m to gain at least 10% of energy supply annually from renewable energy supplies**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Permissions Granted	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received

**Table 2.8: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Waste management development	N/A	N/A	No relevant applications received

Action

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

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

Target: 100%

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

Analysis

**Table 2.9: Percent of new built waste management development (including waste water treatment) that include measures for water efficiency**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Permissions Granted	0	0	3 (27%)	2 (13%)	0

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

**Table 2.10: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Waste management development	✘	✘	Less than 90% of permissions have complied in each of the last 5 years

Action

This target is not currently being met. This year, for the first time since 2011/12, no waste management applications were determined which included measures for water efficiency. This is in part due to the nature of the applications which have largely not proposed any new or variations to, existing buildings or structures.

Policy WCS 11 states that:

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

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

The Validation Document was adopted towards the end of this monitoring period in February 2015, therefore it is unlikely it has had any significant influence on the figures this year. However it is anticipated that it will help ensure that this issue is addressed at an early stage in the application process.

The 2013-2014 AMR suggested that a checklist would be developed for use at pre-application meetings in order to ensure issues such as energy efficiency are flagged up at an early stage. Rather than develop a specific pre-application checklist, applicants are now directed towards the validation checklist at pre-application stage.

No further action is required at this time as the results in following years will indicate whether this action has been successful in addressing the failure in performance.

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

Target: 100%

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

Analysis:

**Table 2.11: Permissions for new landfill capacity that include landfill gas management systems**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Permissions Granted	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received	No relevant applications received

**Table 2.6.2: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Landfill capacity	N/A	N/A	No relevant applications received

No applications for new landfill capacity including landfill gas management systems were determined during this monitoring period.

Two applications involving landfilling were approved, but these were for limited landfilling where landfill gas management systems would not be practicable. One of them was for the disposal of soil at land west of Alvechurch station, and the second application was for improvements to existing agricultural land by infilling a steep valley.

Comments and recommendations:

No proposals for new landfill capacity where landfill gas management systems would be practicable were determined during the monitoring year.

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

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

#### Section Summary

#### Indicators:

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

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



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

Target: 100%

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

Analysis:

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

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Waste management development</b>					
Permissions Granted	3 (23%)	7 (44%)	5 (45%)	5 (62%)	5 (38%)
<b>Minerals development</b>					
Permissions Granted	None	1 (100%)	1 (100%)	N/A <sup>†</sup>	1 (50%)

\* Please note that for the 2014-15 monitoring period the the way in which this indicator is monitored has been amended to apply only to new built development.

<sup>†</sup> Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during the 2013-14 monitoring year.

**Table 3.2: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Waste management development	✘	✘	All of the last 5 years have failed to meet the target
Minerals development	✘	✘	3 out of the last 5 years have failed to meet the target

The target is not currently being met for waste management development. Despite the increase in the proportion of waste management permissions including provision for biodiversity enhancement in 2013/14 following the adoption of the Waste Core Strategy in November 2012, this has fallen below pre-adoption levels in this monitoring year.

The target has not been met for minerals development in this monitoring year. However only two applications were determined, and the one which did not include provision for biodiversity enhancement was an application to vary conditions on an existing permission to allow the continued use of a haul road. As such biodiversity enhancements were not within the limited scope of the application.

Action:

The Validation Document was adopted towards the end of this monitoring period in February 2015, therefore it is unlikely it has had any significant influence on the figures this year. However it is anticipated that it will help ensure that this issue is addressed at an early stage in the application process.

The 2013-2014 AMR suggested that a checklist would be developed for use at pre-application meetings in order to ensure issues such as energy efficiency are flagged up at an early stage. Rather than develop a specific pre-application checklist, applicants are now directed towards the validation checklist at pre-application stage.

No further action is required at this time as the results in following years will indicate whether this action has been successful in addressing the failure in performance.

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

Target: None (zero)

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

Analysis:

**Table 3.3: Permissions having an unacceptable adverse impact on landscape character, scheduled ancient monuments, listed buildings, conservation areas, battlefields or registered historic parks and gardens**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Waste management development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Minerals development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	N/A	0
<b>Regulation 3 development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	0	0

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during the 2013-14 monitoring year.

**Table 3.4: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Waste management development	✓	✓	All of the last 5 years have met the target
Minerals development	✓	✓	All of the last 5 years have met the target
Regulation 3 development	✓	✓	All of the last 5 years have met the target

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

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

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

Review trigger: One permission with an unacceptable adverse impact.

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

Analysis:

**Table 3.5: Permissions granted in the Malvern Hills or Cotswold AONB**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Waste management development (not including waste water treatment<sup>9</sup>)</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Minerals development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	N/A	0
<b>Regulation 3 development</b>					
Permissions Granted	0	0	0	0	0

Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during the 2013-14 monitoring year.

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

**Table 3.6: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Waste management development	✓	✓	All of the last 5 years have met the target
Minerals development	✓	✓	All of the last 5 years have met the target except 2013-14 when no applications were received
Regulation 3 development	✓	✓	All of the last 5 years have met the target

Action:

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

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

Target: No unacceptable adverse impact on local characteristics.

Review trigger: One permission with an unacceptable adverse impact.

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

Analysis:

**Table 3.7: Number of permissions granted for new waste management/minerals development with unacceptable adverse impact on local characteristics.**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Permissions granted with unacceptable adverse impact on local characteristics</b>	Not monitored during this period	Not monitored during this period	0	0	0

**Table 3.8: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Permissions granted	✓	✓	The target has been met each year since monitoring began

Action:

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

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

Target: No unacceptable adverse impact on amenity.

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

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

Analysis:

**Table 3.9: Permissions for new waste management and minerals development that take into account amenity considerations**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Waste management development</b>					
Permissions granted	13 <sup>10</sup> (100%)	16 (100%)	11 (100%)	8 (100%)	13 (100%)
<b>Minerals development</b>					
Permissions granted	1 (100%)	1 (100%)	1 (100%)	N/A*	2 (100%)

\* Please note that there were no planning applications for minerals development during the 2013-14 monitoring year.

**Table 3.10: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Waste management development	✓	✓	All of the last 5 years have met the target
Minerals development	✓	✓	All of the last 5 years have met the target except 2013-14 when no applications were received.

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

Action:

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

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

Target: None (zero)

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

Analysis:

**Table 3.11: Permissions for new waste management development on Greenfield sites (not including landfill, composting or waste water treatment)**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Permissions granted	0	0 <sup>11</sup>	1 (9%)	0	0

**Table 3.12: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Waste management development on Greenfield sites	✓	✓	The target has been met for 4 of the last 5 years

Action:

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

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

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

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

Analysis:

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

<sup>11</sup> Wrongly reported as "not monitored" during the previous monitoring period

The County Council approved all four applications as they did not pose any significant impact on the openness of the Green Belt either due to their size or nature. The three approved applications were: a reed bed and septic tank at Blackgreves Farm House, Birmingham; a reed bed treatment system at the existing Hartlebury Landfill Site; and the erection of a kiosk to support the existing sewage pumping station at Field House Barns, Clent. All of these were considered not to be inappropriate in the green belt. The final application was a retrospective proposal to vary approved planning permission restoration levels at Chadwich Lane Quarry, Bromsgrove which was also granted permission.

**Action:**

Permissions for waste management development in the Green Belt will be recorded in each AMR and a full review of the impact of these permissions will be undertaken every 5 years, the first of which will be in 2018 (five years after the adoption of the Waste Core Strategy).

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

**Target:** 100%

**Review trigger:** One permission granted contrary to advice from the County Council's Highways department or Highways England<sup>12</sup>.

**Analysis:**

**Table 3.13: Permissions granted contrary to highways advice**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Permissions granted</b>	0	0	0	0	0

**Table 3.14: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Permissions granted in accordance with highways advice.	✓	✓	No permissions were granted contrary to advice from the County Council's Highways department or Highways England.

**Action:**

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

<sup>12</sup> Previously known as the Highways Agency.

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

## Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator	Current performance
W15 <i>Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency.</i>	Green
W16 Waste sent to landfill.	Green
W17a Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of LACW waste.	Red
W17b Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of C&I waste.	Green
W17c Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of C&D waste.	Grey
W18 Adoption of appropriate policies regarding managing waste arisings from all new developments in City, Borough and District DPDs.	Grey
M9 Production of secondary and recycled aggregates.	Grey

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

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

See Chapter 6 for full discussion of this indicator.



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

Target: Decrease in % waste managed sent to landfill.

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

Analysis:

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

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

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

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

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Actual (tonnes)</b>	443,205	463,585	398,533	252,748	191,153
<b>Percentage of all waste managed in Worcestershire that goes to landfill</b>	59%	49%	35%	29%	24%

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

**Table 4.2: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Decrease in % waste managed sent to landfill	✓	✓	The % of waste managed in Worcestershire that goes to landfill has decreased in each of the last 5 years

Action:

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

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

In previous years, indicator W17 was monitored as one indicator. It has now been split to monitor each waste stream separately due to the different data available for each stream.

### **Indicator W17a: Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of LACW waste**

Target:

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

Review trigger:

Milestone target not met.

Analysis:

LACW<sup>13</sup> figures are robust and recycling and recovery rates can be calculated by looking at the Defra *Local Authority Municipal Waste Statistics* which give total tonnages for LACW waste managed through landfill, incineration with energy from waste (recovery), incineration without energy from waste and recycling/composting.

**Table 4.3: Recycling and recovery rates**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Recycling	45%	46%	46%	47%	43%
Recovery	7%	6%	5%	5%	8%
<b>MSW/LACW<sup>14</sup></b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>51%</b>

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

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

**Table 4.4: Recycling/recovery targets and baseline**

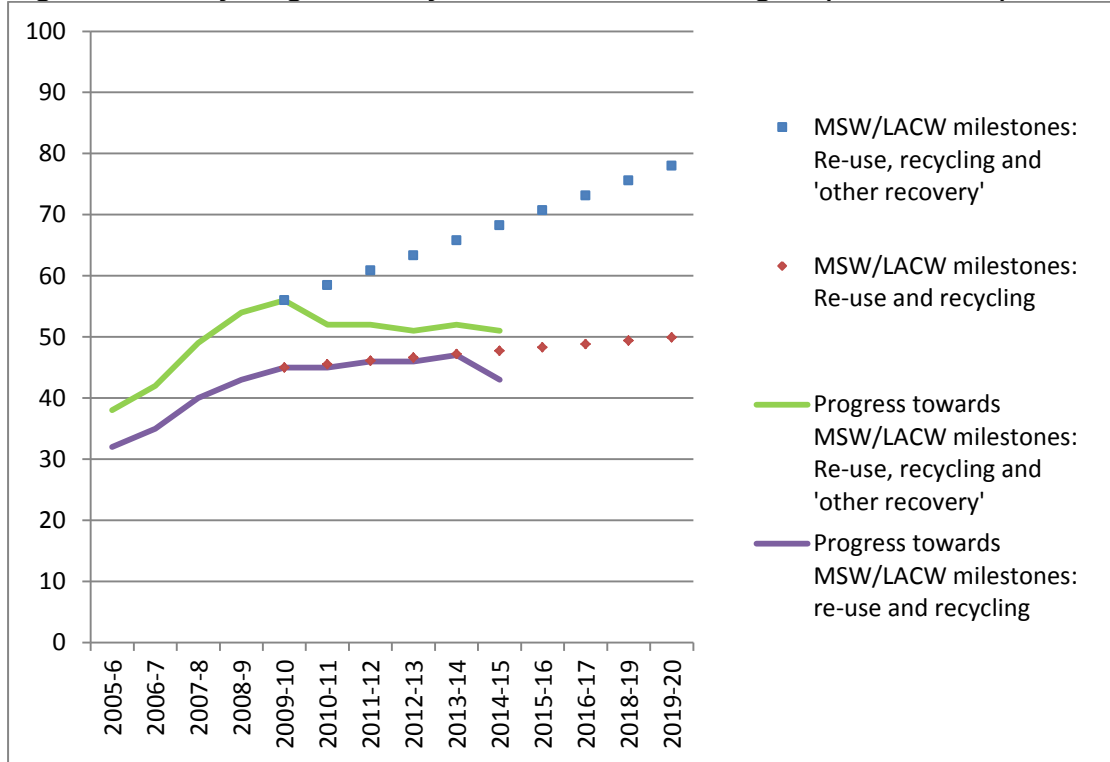
	2008-9	2009-10	2014-15	2019-20
<b>LACW (total)</b>	<b>54% (actual)</b>	<b>56% (baseline)</b>	65.8%	78%
<b>All waste</b>	<b>36% (baseline)</b>	38%	46.5%	75%

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

<sup>13</sup> Local Authority Collected Waste

<sup>14</sup> Please note that there was a terminology change during the 2011-12 monitoring year. "Municipal Solid Waste" is now referred to as "Local Authority Collected Waste".

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



**Table 4.5: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
LACW milestone	✘	✘	The 2014-2015 milestone has not been met

**Action:**

Recycling rates for LACW are slightly lower in 2014-15 than in previous years. A 4% reduction in recycling rate is not considered significant at this stage, but will be closely monitored and action proposed should the trend continue in subsequent years.

Overall recycling/recovery rates for LACW remain low as a result of losing access to spare capacity at an energy-from-waste site outside the county. The reuse/recycling/other recovery rate for LACW is 14.8 percentage points below the 2014-15 milestone. However planning permission has been granted for an Energy from Waste facility at Hartlebury Trading Estate in Worcestershire and construction is well under way. The plant will manage both Worcestershire and Herefordshire`s LACW. It is anticipated that this facility will become operational during 2017 and will have a significant impact on recovery rates once operations are on stream.

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

## **Indicator W17b: Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of C&I waste**

### Target:

By 2020: C&I (and Hazardous) waste: 75%

### Review trigger:

Milestone target not met.

### Analysis:

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

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

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

The following interpretation will be used to measure this indicator:

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

**Table 4.6: Recycling and recovery rates for Household, Commercial and Industrial wastes**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Household and Commercial and Industrial wastes</b>	41%	47%	62%	58%	71%

*Note: This data is validated and made publically available by the Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator (WDI) which is published annually. WDI figures are for January – December. The most recent WDI data currently available is for 2014*

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

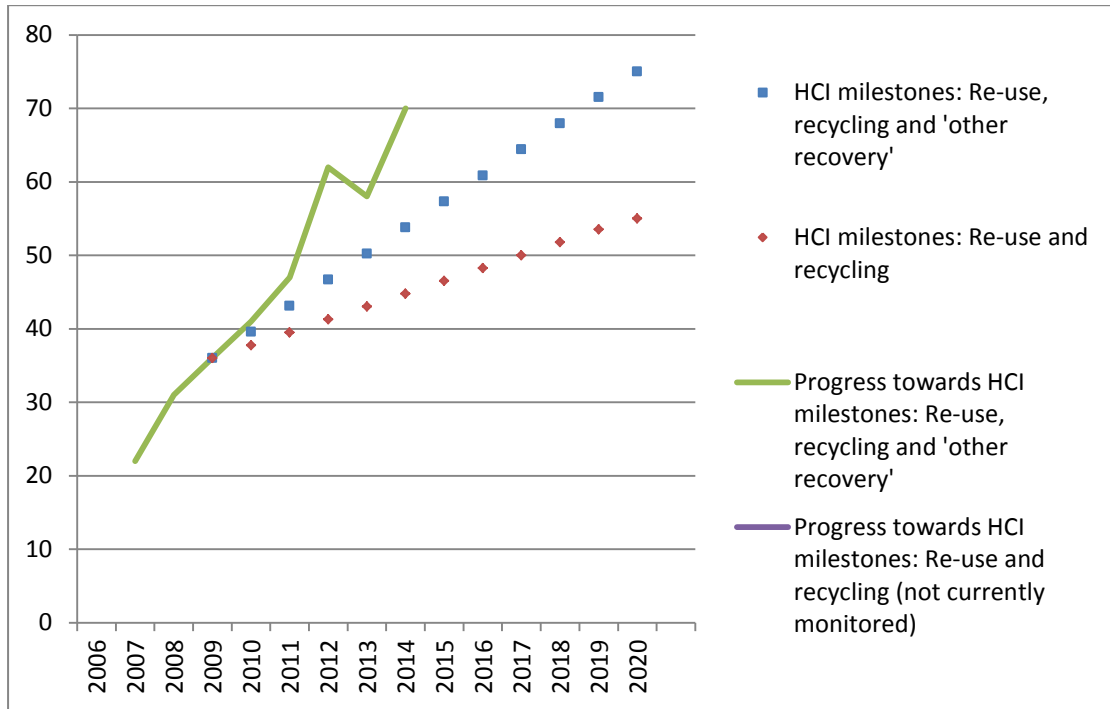
**Table 4.7: Recycling/recovery targets and baseline**

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

*Baseline: Defra Municipal Waste Statistics 2009-10 and Waste Data Interrogator 2009.*

Bold shows actual figures. Those in normal type face are the targets.

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



**Table 4.8: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
C&I (and Hazardous) waste milestone	✓	✓	The 2014-2015 milestone has been exceeded since 2011

Action:

Recycling/Recovery rates for Household, Commercial and Industrial waste are currently exceeding the milestones set out and good progress towards the targets set out in indicator W17 is being achieved. No action required.

**Indicator W17c: Re-use, recycling and 'other recovery' of C&D waste**

Target:

By 2020: C&D waste: 75%

Review trigger:

Milestone target not met.

Analysis:

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

Action:

75% recycling and recovery will be retained as a target for C&D waste and this will be monitored if better data becomes available in the future, but at present it is not possible to monitor this effectively.

**Indicator W18: Adoption of appropriate policies regarding managing waste arisings from all new development in City, Borough and District Councils' Development Plan Documents<sup>15</sup>**

Target:

Adopted by all City, Borough and District Councils.

Review trigger:

One relevant DPD adopted without appropriate policies.

Analysis:

**Table 4.9: Adoption of appropriate policies in City, Borough and District Councils' DPDs**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>DPDs adopted?</b>	Wyre Forest Core Strategy	None adopted <sup>16</sup>	None adopted	None adopted	None adopted
<b>Relevant policy included</b>	Yes	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

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

Please refer to Annex 2: Duty to Cooperate for a list of comments on policies and DPDs of adjoining County and District Councils during the monitoring period.

<sup>15</sup> Within Worcestershire

<sup>16</sup> Excluding the Waste Core Strategy

**Table 4.10: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Relevant policy in Adopted DPDs	N/A	N/A	No relevant DPDs were adopted in this monitoring year

Action:

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

**Indicator M9: Production of secondary and recycled aggregates**

Target:

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

Review trigger:

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

Analysis:

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

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

In autumn 2013, conflicting reports from two reputable sources were published. The first was a report from Defra titled "Forecasting 2020 Waste Arisings and Treatment Capacity: Revised February 2013, published October 2013". This report sets out the analysis used to forecast levels of biodegradable municipal waste arisings and treatment in England in 2020. It intends to establish whether England is on target to meet the EU Landfill Directive targets for waste diversion. The second paper is the CIWM Report 2013 "Commercial and Industrial Waste in the UK and Republic of Ireland", which describes C&I waste as the "final piece of the puzzle in the rapidly developing waste infrastructure landscape in the UK"<sup>17</sup>.

While the reports ostensibly have different foci, they both emphasise the lack of good data on Commercial and Industrial arisings. However, their analysis of that data is very different: the Defra report forecasts declining C&I arisings to 2020 while the CIWM report forecasts a stable level of C&I waste generation over the same period. The Defra report projects a mean surplus capacity of between 2.4

<sup>17</sup> CIWM (2013) "Commercial and Industrial Waste in the UK and Republic of Ireland: Executive Summary" [online] Available from: [www.ciwm-journal.co.uk](http://www.ciwm-journal.co.uk) Accessed 28.10.2013

and 2.7 million tonnes in 2020<sup>18</sup> whereas the CIWM report states that based on their analysis, "future available waste treatment capacity in the UK will not be enough to manage the volumes of arising waste from household, commercial and industrial sources"<sup>19</sup>. Both reports identify the lack of data as a key challenge for policy making. The Waste Core Strategy forecasting was based on the assumptions in the national waste plan of continued growth in arisings over the plan period. If this trend of declining arisings and lower volumes continues, there will be impacts on the WCS that will need to be addressed.

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<sup>18</sup> Defra (2013) "Forecasting 2020 Waste Arisings and Treatment Capacity: Revised February 2013 report" [online] Available from: [www.gov.uk/defra](http://www.gov.uk/defra) Accessed 24.10.2013

<sup>19</sup> CIWM (2013) "Commercial and Industrial Waste in the UK and Republic of Ireland: Executive Summary" [online] Available from: [www.ciwm-journal.co.uk](http://www.ciwm-journal.co.uk) Accessed 28.10.2013



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

### Section Summary

Indicators:

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

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

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

See Chapter 4 for a full discussion of this indicator.

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

##### Target:

None (zero)

##### Review trigger:

One permission granted against County Council advice.

##### Analysis:

#### **Applications made during previous monitoring periods:**

During the 2013-14 monitoring period the Council was consulted on an application for a 400 berth marina in Stourport-on-Severn (Wyre Forest application reference 13/0553/EIA). The applicant has identified that the proposed development site is less than 250m from a waste management facility

(OSS Oil Recovery Depot) and such Policy WCS 16 is considered relevant to this application.

The County Council recommended that the applicant should provide an assessment of the implications of the proximity of the application to the existing OSS site to demonstrate that the proposed development would not be unacceptably adversely affected by bio aerosols or other emissions from the waste management operation, and without this the District Council would be expected to refuse permission on the grounds that it would compromise the achievement of the Waste Core Strategy.

This application has yet to be determined and will be reported on in the next AMR.

**Applications made during this monitoring period:**

During this monitoring period the Council was consulted on two strategic applications within 250 meters of a waste management facility:

- **Malvern Hills application reference 14/01231/OUT**

The first of these was an application for the erection of up to 110 dwelling houses and means of access in Malvern. The council advised that Policy WCS 16 should be considered when determining this application as the proposed development site is within 250m of the Newland Household Recycling Centre and outlined the issues which needed to be addressed.

This application has yet to be determined and will be reported on in the next AMR.

- **Wychavon application reference 14/01244**

The second application was for a solar farm on land at Defford Airfield, Defford. In this case the applicant confirmed that the proposed development would not be adversely affected by operations at the existing Croome Farm composting site. For this reason the County Council was satisfied no further requests for information or conditions were needed to be imposed on this application.

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

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Permissions granted against WCC advice</b>	Not applicable	Not applicable <sup>20</sup>	No relevant applications received	0	0

<sup>20</sup> This should read "No relevant applications approved against WCC advice."

**Table 5.2: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Permissions granted against WCC advice	✓	✓	No permissions have been granted against WCC advice. Those pending decision will be reported on again in future AMRs.

**Action:**

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

The County Council will continue to monitor whether permissions are granted or refused for strategic scale applications within 250 meters of a waste management facility.

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

### Section Summary

Indicators:

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

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

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

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

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

### Targets:

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

### Review triggers:

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

### **a) Change in % of waste recycled [W15]**

#### Analysis:

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

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Recycling	45%	46%	46%	47%	43%
Recovery	7%	6%	5%	5%	8%
<b>MSW/LACW<sup>21</sup></b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>52%</b>	<b>51%</b>

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

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Household and Commercial and Industrial wastes</b>	41%	47%	62%	58%	71%

*Note: This data is validated and made publically available by the Environment Agency Waste Data Interrogator (WDI) which is published annually. WDI figures are for January – December. The most recent WDI data currently available is for 2014.*

<sup>21</sup> Please note that there was a terminology change during the 2011-12 monitoring year. "Municipal Solid Waste" is now referred to as "Local Authority Collected Waste".

**Table 6.2: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Decrease in % waste being re-used or recycled	✓	✓	Overall recycling rates have increased for 4 years out of the last 5.

**Action:**

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

**b) Capacity Gap [W20, W21, W22 and W23]****Analysis:****Table 6.3: Estimated Capacity gap and delivery milestones (as set out in Table 5, Policy WCS 2)**

	2010/11	2015/16	2020/21	2025/26
<b>Capacity gap (total)</b>	<b>631,500</b>	<b>654,000</b>	<b>728,000</b>	<b>782,000</b>
Re-use and recycling	391,000	400,500	460,000	498,500
'Other recovery'	240,500	253,500	268,000	283,500
Sorting and transfer	0	0	0	0
Landfill and disposal	0	0	0	0

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

The current waste management capacity in Worcestershire is set out in Table 6.4<sup>22</sup>.

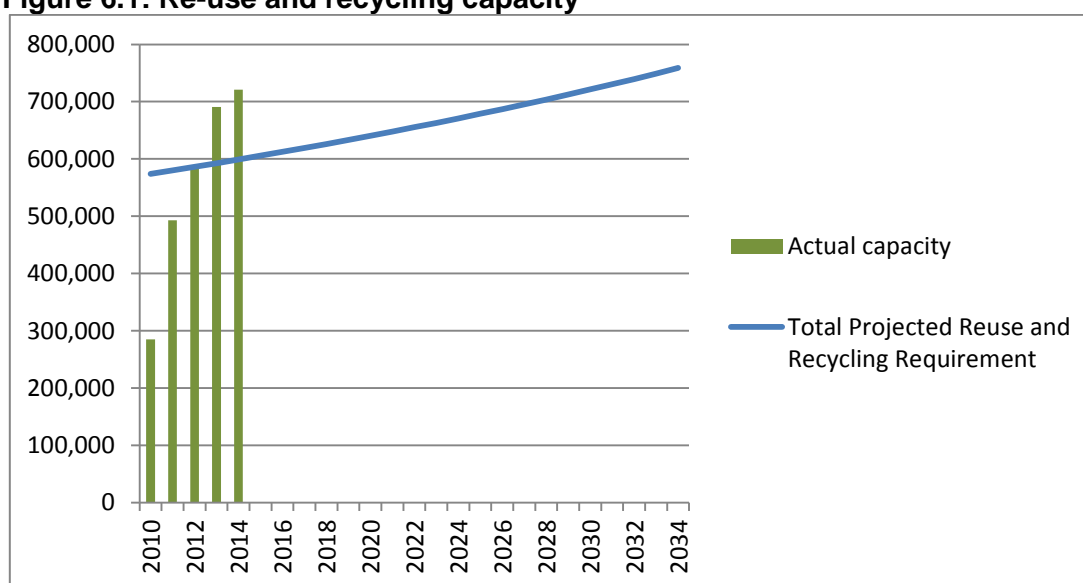
<sup>22</sup> Calculated using the highest annual throughput for each individual site over the last 5 years. This is based on EA data where it exists, but where the site operates entirely or predominantly under an exemption, this data has been supplemented by information collected in a WCC survey published in the Waste Core Strategy Background Document Waste Sites in Worcestershire. For this AMR it is based on current available data for 2008 – 2013.

**Table 6.4: Current capacity: all waste streams (tonnes)**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
<b>Re-use, recycling and other recovery</b>	<b>293,832</b>	<b>501,691</b>	<b>598,558</b>	<b>723, 258*</b>	<b>753,560</b>
<i>Re-use and recycling</i>	284,832	492,691	588,558	690,650	720,952
<i>Other recovery</i>	9,000	9,000	10,000	32,608	32,608
<b>Sorting and Transfer</b>	<b>1,054,127</b>	<b>903,597</b>	<b>690,975</b>	<b>933,955</b>	<b>953,644</b>

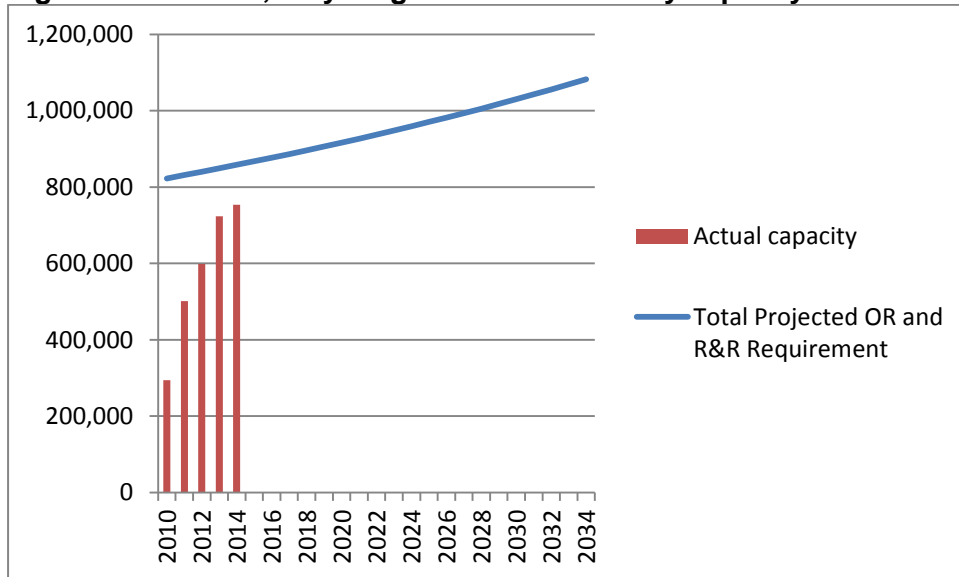
\*Please note, the 2013 re-use, recycling and other recovery figure was previously incorrectly recorded as 661,598 in this table.

**Figure 6.1: Re-use and recycling capacity**



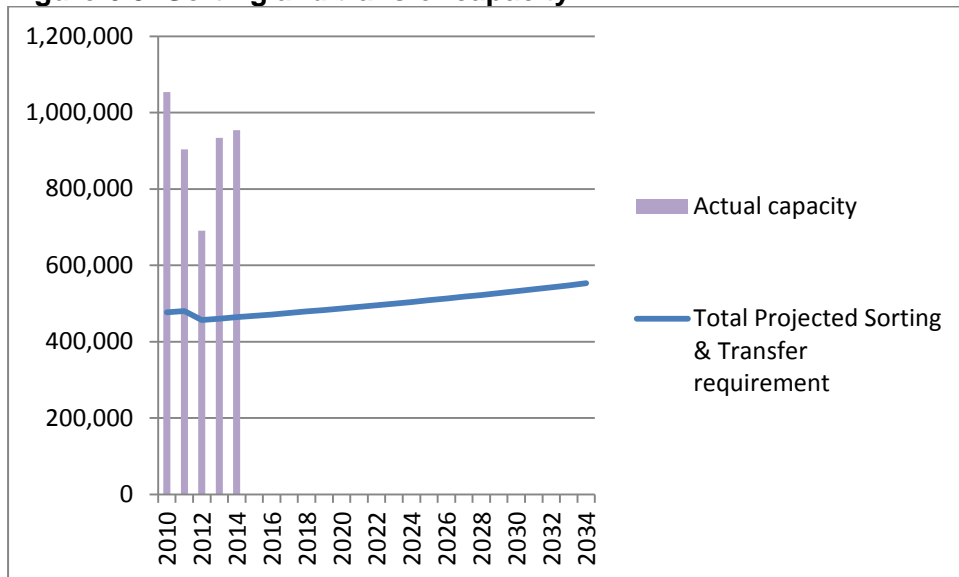
The data shows that, in comparison with the projected requirements set out in the Waste Core Strategy, the capacity for re-use and recycling has already exceeded the 2015/16 milestone.

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



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

**Figure 6.3: Sorting and transfer capacity**



Although sorting and transfer capacity has slightly decreased overall since 2010 it is still above projections of requirements and therefore it is considered that indicator W22 is being achieved.



**Table 6.5: Analysis of the current and past performance of these indicators**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
[W20] Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in re-use and recycling capacity	✓	✓	Review trigger year is 2015/16, but milestone already exceeded.
[W21] Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in 'other recovery' capacity	N/A	✓	Review trigger year is 2015/16. Some progress has been made towards meeting the milestone.
[W22] Maintain equivalent self-sufficiency in sorting and transfer capacity	✓	✓	No capacity gap identified for sorting and transfer.

### Accuracy of the projections

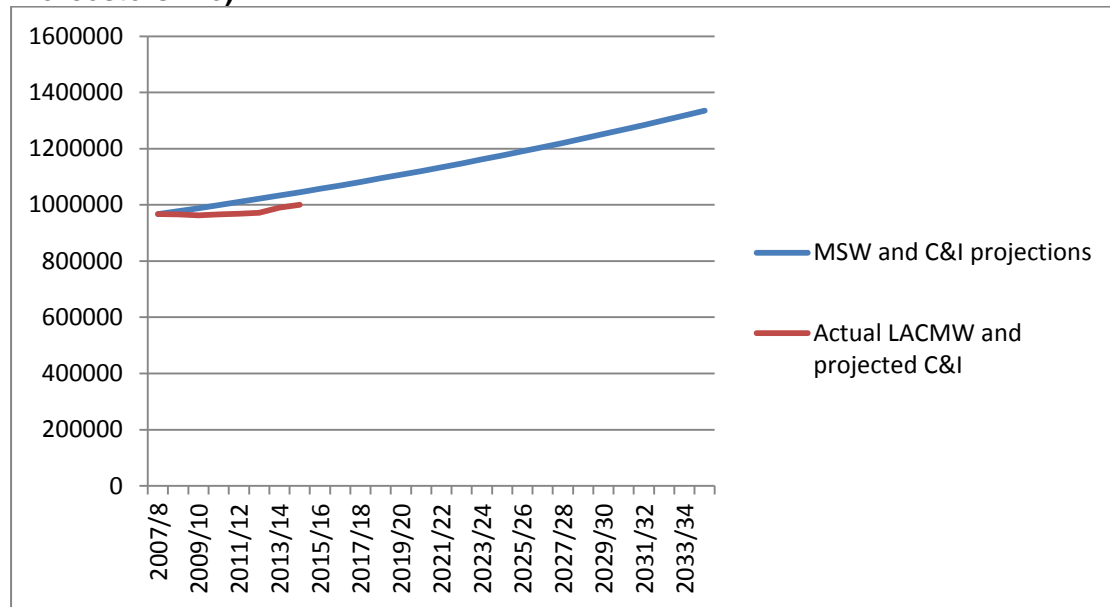
In addition to considering changes in capacity, the accuracy of the projections must also be monitored in order to properly assess progress towards (and maintenance of) equivalent self-sufficiency. It is possible to monitor LACW (now LAMCW) projections as set out below, however there is currently no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

To ensure the accuracy of these projections, it would be beneficial to repeat the survey of waste sites in the county. However, this has significant resource implications, and at present the Council's focus is on preparing the Minerals Local Plan. The waste site survey will be repeated as soon as resources are available.

**Table 6.6: Projected and actual LA(M)CW arisings (Herefordshire and Worcestershire)**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015/16	2020/21	2025/26
Projected LA(M)CW arisings	405,100	408,474	411,810	415,145	418,481	421,817	438,496	455,175
Actual LA(M)CW arisings	372,000	367,000	362,000	372,000	374,000			

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

Target: No capacity gap for disposal or landfill

Review trigger:

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

Analysis:

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

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

Each is addressed separately below.

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

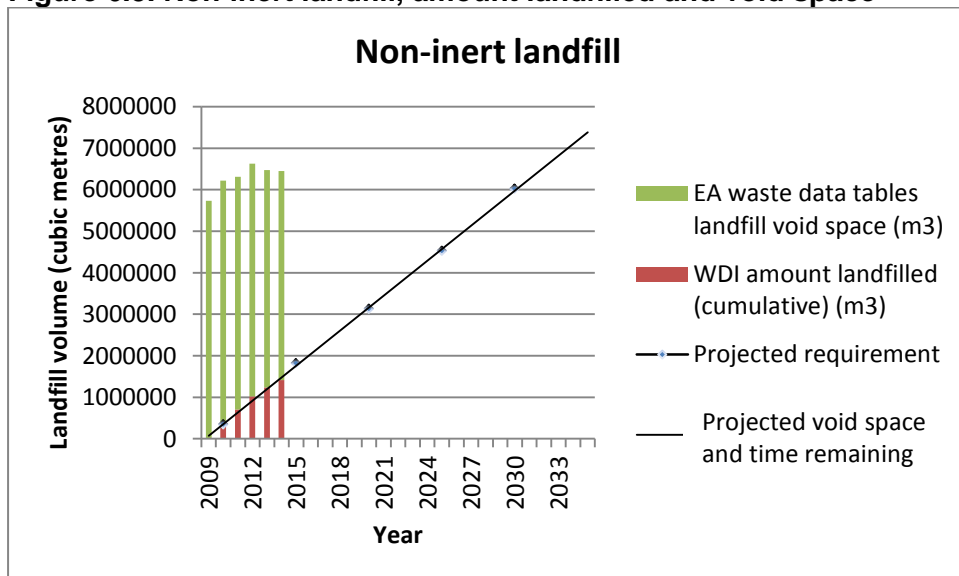
**Non-inert landfill**

Table 6.7 shows the cumulative amount of non-inert waste that has been disposed of to landfill and the remaining void space. Figure 6.5 illustrates how this compares to projected requirements for non-inert landfill.

**Table 6.7 Non-inert landfill, amount landfilled and void space**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
WDI amount landfilled (cumulative) (m3)	348,622	703,607	1,020,506	1,236,446	1,411,664
EA waste data tables landfill void space (m3)	5,872,249	5,606,419	5,609,217	5,233,320	5,041,202

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



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

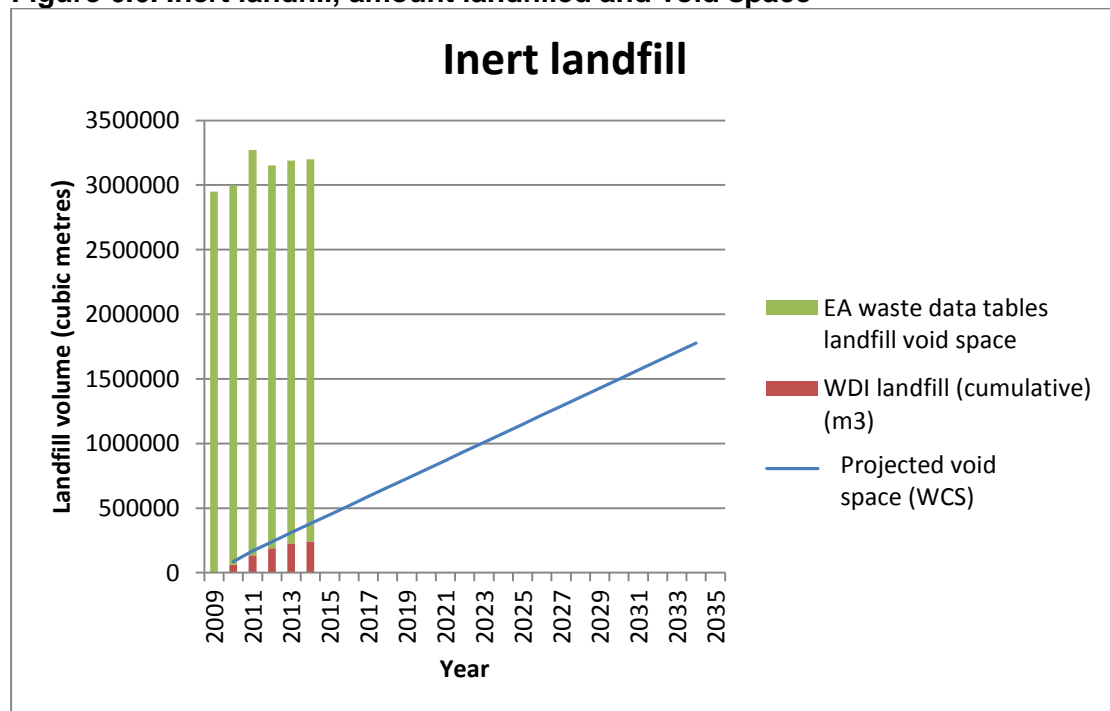
### Inert landfill

Table 6.8 shows the cumulative amount of inert waste that has been disposed of to landfill and the remaining void space. Figure 6.6 illustrates how this compares to projected requirements for non-inert landfill.

**Table 6.8 Inert landfill, amount landfilled and void space**

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014
WDI amount landfilled (cumulative) (m3)	63,043	135,443	189,866	226,674	242,608
EA waste data tables landfill void space (m3)	2,932,670	3,134,542	2,962,000	2,964,000	2,957,850

**Figure 6.6. Inert landfill, amount landfilled and void space**

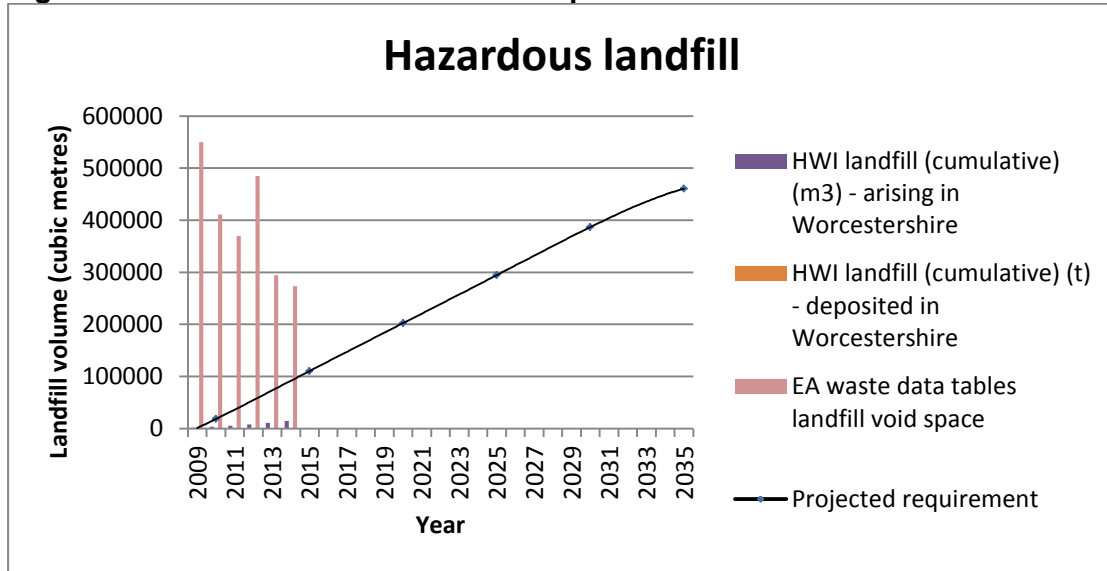


The cumulative amount landfilled is approximately 36% below the projections made in the Waste Core Strategy. Environment Agency data indicates that void space has also not declined at the same rate. This is not uncommon as a result of re-assessments of void space by the Environment Agency or the creation of new voids, as mineral workings with planning permission to be restored by landfilling are excavated. This means that there is more inert landfill capacity remaining at this stage in the Waste Core Strategy than was projected. This is not considered to be a problem, but will be kept under review.

### Hazardous landfill

Environment Agency data<sup>23</sup> indicates that a very small amount (87.4 tonnes) of hazardous waste was landfilled in Worcestershire in 2014. Figure 6.7 shows the cumulative amount of hazardous waste that has arisen in Worcestershire. The majority of this has been disposed of to landfill outside the county.

**Figure 6.7. Hazardous landfill and void space**



Actual levels of hazardous waste produced in Worcestershire disposed of to landfill are currently approximately 20% of that projected. Void space<sup>24</sup> has also significantly decreased in this monitoring year, probably as result of being used for the disposal of non-hazardous waste.

**Table 6.9: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Capacity gap for disposal or landfill	✓	✓	No capacity gap has been identified for disposal or non-inert, inert or hazardous landfill.

**Action:**

No capacity gap has been identified for disposal. Non-inert and inert landfill rates are in line with or lower than predictions and remaining capacity remains sufficient for the life of the Waste Core Strategy. No action is required in these areas.

For hazardous landfill, the rate of hazardous waste arisings being deposited in landfill (within or beyond the county) is significantly lower than predicted.

<sup>23</sup> Environment Agency's Hazardous Waste Interrogator

<sup>24</sup> Environment Agency Waste Data Tables "non-hazardous with SNRHW cells". The Waste Core Strategy assumed that that half the "non-hazardous with SNRHW cells" void space might be available for hazardous waste.

Nonetheless, there has been a significant decrease in void space. The council will continue to monitor this data closely to gain a more robust understanding of the trends. The situation will be re-assessed in next year's AMR.

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

## Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator	Current performance
M12a <sup>25</sup> Annual production of primary land won aggregates: Sand and Gravel.	
M12b Annual production of primary land won aggregates: Crushed Rock	
M13 Landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves.	
M14 Landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves	
M15 Landbank of permitted clay reserves	
M16 Sufficient productive capacity for sand and gravel supply	
M17 Sufficient productive capacity for crushed rock supply	
M18 Sufficient productive capacity for clay supply	

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

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

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

<sup>25</sup> Please note that this indicator was monitored as a single item in previous years. Rationale for this decision is explained in the analysis section below.

## **Indicators M12a and M12b: Annual production of primary land won aggregates**

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

### *a) Sand and Gravel*

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

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

#### Analysis:

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

The sand and gravel sales figures for 2012<sup>26</sup> are only published for Worcestershire in combination with Herefordshire due to long-standing confidentiality agreements that prevent data being published when there are less than 3 operational units in a Minerals Planning Authority. The Council intends to explore the opportunity to publish this data for Worcestershire alone in subsequent years.

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

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

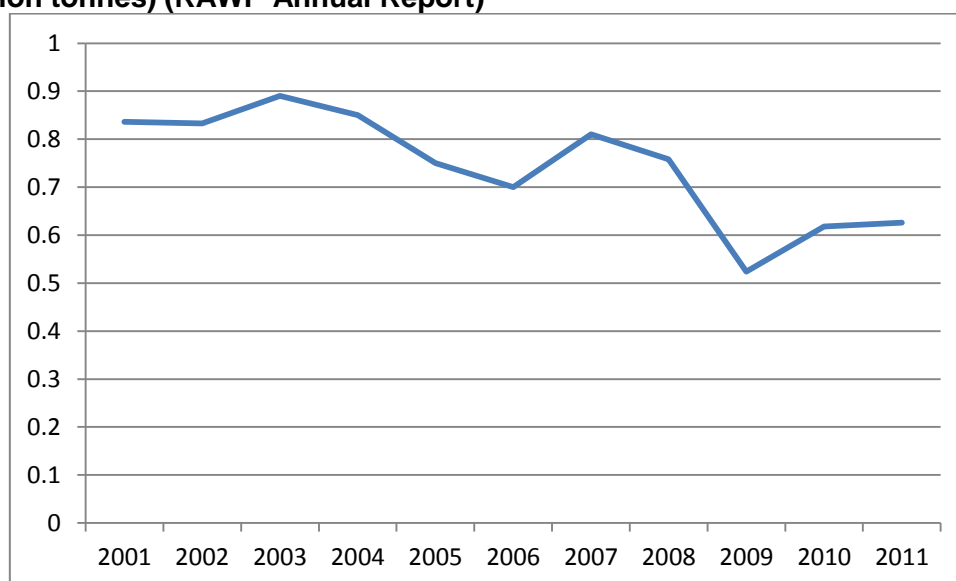
Source: West Midlands Aggregates Working Party 2011 & 2012 Annual Report (2014).

# Figures combined with Herefordshire due to reasons of confidentiality

<sup>26</sup> The latest available data is for 2012. The West Midlands Aggregates Working Party Annual Report for 2013 has not yet been published due to a hiatus in AWP Secretariat contracts.



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



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

**Table 7.2: Sand and Gravel Production [M12a]**

Sand and Gravel Apportionment - % of Regional production	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Worcestershire	9.1% <sup>27</sup>	8.4%	10.4%	10.4%	
Herefordshire and Worcestershire					10.7%

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

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

**Table 7.3: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Production below the regional apportionment %	✘	✔	Production has been above the regional apportionment % for 3 years out of the last 5.

**Action:**

Supply has been above the target for 3 years in the last 5. The development of the Minerals Local Plan<sup>28</sup> will consider this in detail and will seek to address any issues.

<sup>27</sup> Please note, there was an error in the 2009-2010 AMR, this figure should have read 9.1%.

The regional apportionment is becoming out of date and there is no indication that there will be an update to the national guidelines on which it was based. Local Aggregates Assessments have replaced the apportionment mechanism, and future AMRs will reconsider how sand and gravel production should be monitored.

### *b) Crushed Rock*

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

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

#### Analysis:

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

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

For reasons of confidentiality figures for crushed rock sales in Worcestershire were combined with those in Herefordshire until 2011. In 2012<sup>29</sup> there were no crushed rock quarries currently operating in Worcestershire.

**Table 7.4: Crushed rock sales for aggregate purposes (million tonnes) (RAWP)**

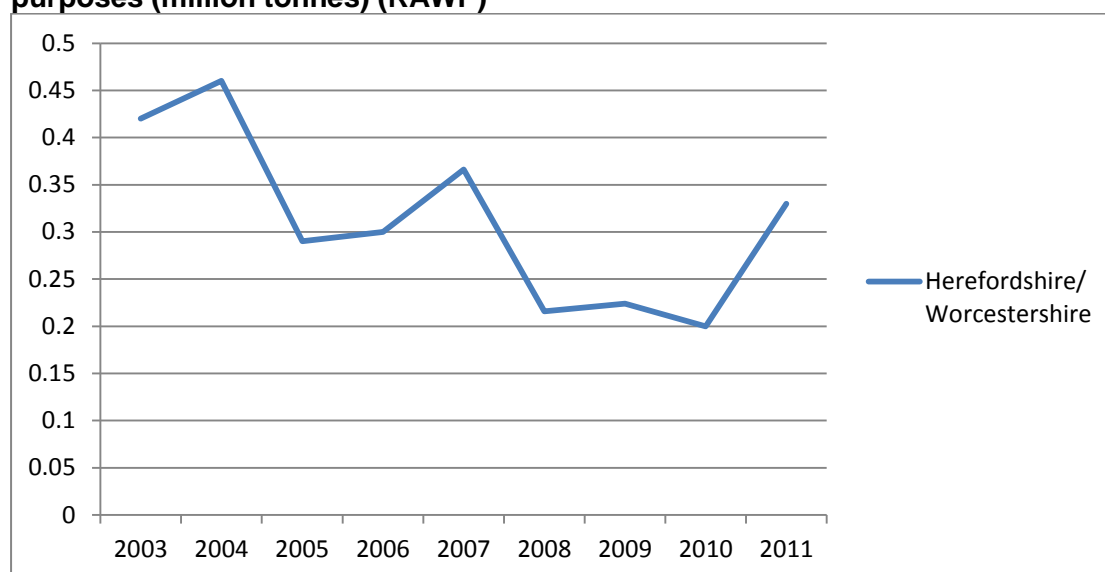
<b>Crushed rock</b>	<b>2008</b>	<b>2009</b>	<b>2010</b>	<b>2011</b>	<b>2012</b>
Herefordshire/Worcestershire	0.216	0.224	0.2	0.33	
Worcestershire					0
Regional Total	3.436	3.03	2.8	2.47	3.12

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<sup>28</sup> Please note that in previous AMRs this document was referred to as the 'Minerals Development Framework'. National requirements have led to the terminology change, but the content and intent of the document remains unchanged.

<sup>29</sup> The latest available data is for 2012. The West Midlands Aggregates Working Party Annual Report for 2013 has not yet been published due to a hiatus in AWP Secretariat contracts.

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



**Table 7.5: Crushed rock production [M12b]**

<i>Crushed rock apportionment 2.8% Regional production</i>	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-2012
Worcestershire	Confidential Below 2.8%	Confidential Below 2.8%	Confidential Below 2.8%	Confidential Below 2.8%	0

**Table 7.6: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Production below the regional apportionment %	✘	✘	Production has been below the regional apportionment % each of the last 5 years and production has ceased in the county.

**Action**

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

The regional apportionment is becoming out of date and there is no indication that there will be an update to the national guidelines on which it was based. Local Aggregates Assessments have replaced the apportionment mechanism, and future AMRs will reconsider how crushed rock production should be monitored.

## **Indicator M13: Landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves**

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

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

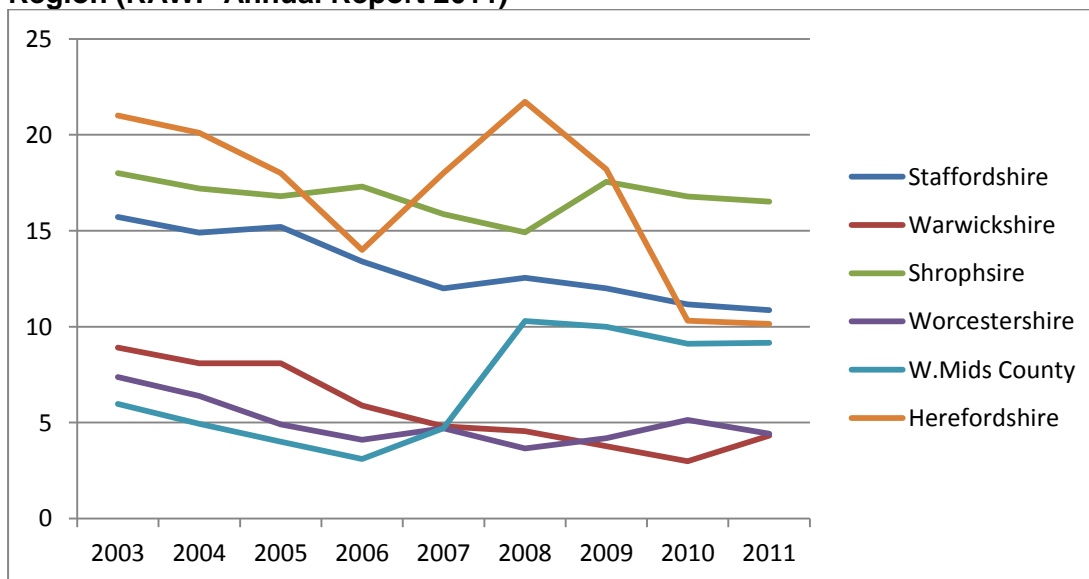
### **Analysis:**

Permitted reserves in Worcestershire are listed in Appendix 2: Operational minerals sites and extant permissions within Worcestershire 1st April 2014 – 31st March 2015.

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

Sand and Gravel landbank	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012
Worcestershire	3.65	4.19	5.15	4.42	-
Herefordshire & Worcestershire	-	-	-	-	5.7

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



The County's landbank at 31/12/2011 was 4.42 years. This was below the 7 years recommended in government policy. In 2012<sup>30</sup> the data was combined with Herefordshire and stated to be 5.7 years. This is still below the 7 years recommended in government policy. The Council is exploring the potential to publish figures for Worcestershire in subsequent years.

No planning applications which would increase the landbank for sand and gravel were determined by the County Council during the monitoring period.

<sup>30</sup> The latest available data is for 2012. The West Midlands Aggregates Working Party Annual Report for 2013 has not yet been published due to a hiatus in AWP Secretariat contracts.

Two applications remained undetermined during the previous monitoring year. One of these, the proposed extraction of 403,000 tonnes of sand and gravel at Manor Farm, Holdfast was withdrawn in July 2014. The other remained undetermined during the monitoring year:

- **Proposed Sand and Gravel Quarry at Land Adjacent to Strensham Water Treatment Works, Mill Lane, Upper Strensham (430,000 tonnes).** The application was validated in January 2010 and sent out for consultation in February 2010. Several statutory consultees and the County Council requested additional information from the applicant (Cemex UK Materials Limited). Furthermore, the Highways Agency opposed the proposed private means of access onto the motorway interchange, and directed that planning permission not be granted for an indefinite period of time. They submitted further information in response to the first consultation and this was consulted upon in June 2011. However, in July 2011 the Highways Agency confirmed that they opposed the private means of access onto the motorway interchange and reaffirmed their previous comments. The applicant is seeking to overcome the Highways Agency's objection.

**Table 7.7: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves	✘	✘	The landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves is below 7 years.

Action:

The development of the Minerals Local Plan commenced in autumn 2012 and will seek to address the shortfall in the landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves.

In previous years, the landbank has been calculated based on the regional apportionment. This is becoming out of date and there is no indication that there will be an update to the national guidelines on which it was based. Local Aggregates Assessments have replaced the apportionment mechanism, and future AMRs will reconsider how the sand and gravel landbank should be monitored.

**Indicator M14: Landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves**

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

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

Analysis:

There are no permitted reserves in Worcestershire.

**Table 7.8: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves	✘	✘	The landbank of permitted sand and gravel reserves is below 10 years.

**Action:**

The development of the Minerals Local Plan commenced in autumn 2012 and will seek to address the shortfall in the landbank of permitted crushed rock reserves.

In previous years, the landbank has been calculated based on the regional apportionment. This is becoming out of date and there is no indication that there will be an update to the national guidelines on which it was based. Local Aggregates Assessments have replaced the apportionment mechanism, and future AMRs will reconsider how the crushed rock landbank should be monitored.

***Indicator M15: Landbank of permitted clay reserves***

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

**Review trigger:** A landbank of less than 25 years.

**Analysis:**

Clay is worked in Worcestershire at two sites in Hartlebury, at New House farm and Waresley (both owned by Wienerberger); together these brickworks are capable of producing over 2 million bricks per week. The operator is the largest brick producer in Europe and the brickworks in Worcestershire their largest in the UK. The county's stock of permitted reserves is approximately 71 to 78 years based on past sales estimates<sup>31</sup>.

**Table 7.9: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Landbank of permitted brick clay reserves	✔	✔	The landbank of permitted brick clay reserves is above 25 years.

<sup>31</sup> 71 years estimate based on correspondence with Wienerberger (02.12.2014) and 78 years estimate based on sales average (Mineral Extract: Great Britain Reports 2002 – 2011) and Wienerberger estimate of permitted resource (02.12.2014).

Action:

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

## **Other Non-Aggregate Minerals**

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

Analysis:

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

At present, clay and silica sand are the only non-aggregate materials produced in the county. Building stone has not been produced since the closure of Fish Hill Quarry near Broadway. It is unlikely that the extraction of oil, gas or coal will be commercially viable in the Worcestershire.

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

Action:

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

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

Target: There are currently no national policy targets but the NPPF stresses the need for mineral Planning authorities to ensure a "steady and adequate" supply and to ensure that large landbanks bound up in a few sites do not stifle competition. This will be considered through the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan. The Competition Commission has undertaken a market investigation of parts of the industry which could inform this indicator. A final report was published in January 2014. This report found that there were no features giving rise to adverse effects on competition in the supply of aggregates or ready-mix concrete, but did find that a combination of structural and conduct features gave rise to adverse effects on competition in the cement market.

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

Analysis:

**Table 7.10: Productive Capacity: Sand and Gravel**

Productive Capacity: Sand and Gravel	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Productive Units	6	6	6	6	6

**Table 7.11: Productive Capacity: Crushed rock**

Productive Capacity: crushed rock	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Productive Units	1	0	0	0	0

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

As part of the development of the Minerals Local Plan, interest has been expressed by landowners, operators and agents for new or extended sand and gravel workings. No sites have been proposed for working crushed rock.

Action:

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

**Indicator M18: Sufficient productive capacity for clay supply**

Target and review trigger: There are currently no national policy targets but the NPPF stresses the need for mineral Planning authorities to ensure a "steady and adequate" supply and to take account of the need for provision of brick clay from a number of different sources to enable appropriate blends to be made.



Weinerberger's site at Hartlebury appears to function adequately at present. This will be considered through the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan. This indicator is being monitored to establish a baseline.

Analysis:

**Table 7.8: Productive Capacity: Brick Clay**

Productive Capacity: Clay	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Units	2	2	2	2	2

Action:

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

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

### Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator	Current performance
W25 <i>Number of waste development proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage.</i>	
M11 <i>Number of minerals proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage.</i>	
W26 <i>Permitted applications for waste management which include a Consultation statement.</i>	
M19 <i>Permitted applications for minerals development which include a Consultation statement.</i>	
W27 <i>Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date.</i>	
M20	
SCI1 Satisfaction levels with the Development Plan process/service	
SCI2 Response rates to planning policy consultations	
SCI3 Satisfaction levels with the planning application process/service	

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

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

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

**[Indicators W27 and M20: Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision<sup>32</sup>.](#)**

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

<sup>32</sup> This indicator did not have an analysis section in previous AMRs.

## **Statement of Community Involvement**

As outlined in Chapter 1, the Council's Statement of Community Involvement (SCI) was updated in February 2015.

To ensure that the new SCI is fostering community engagement new indicators have been developed to evaluate:

- Satisfaction levels with the Development Plan process/service
- Response rates to planning policy consultations
- Satisfaction levels with the planning application process/service

### **Indicator SCI1: Satisfaction levels with the Development Plan process/service**

Previously, satisfaction with the Development Plan process was measured by sending satisfaction surveys to contacts on the consultation database. The council found that these surveys were not useful as there was often confusion between the Development Plan process and the planning application process, as well as between district and county level Development Plan consultations.

Target: Satisfaction with consultation methods employed

#### Analysis:

A limited "call for sites" consultation was undertaken during the monitoring year in summer 2014. The new monitoring indicator was not in place until late 2015, therefore there is currently no information to assess satisfaction with the Development Plan process/service.

**Table 8.1: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Satisfaction with Development Plan process	N/A	N/A	No information to assess this new indicator.

#### Action

In future, rather than surveying to ask for satisfaction levels separately from Development Plan consultations, we will outline the consultation methods used and ask an additional question during the consultation process to establish whether these are satisfactory or whether other methods could be used.

### **Indicator SCI2: Response rates to planning policy consultations**

Target: The SCI does not set specific targets.

Review Trigger: Identifying that action is required

Analysis:

Whilst response rates are relatively easy to measure, they do not necessarily indicate satisfaction with the Development Plan or consultation process. A low response rate could indicate general satisfaction with proposals, or it could indicate that consultation methods have not been satisfactory in engaging interest in the process. A high response rate may indicate a good level of positive involvement, or a high level of dissatisfaction, or increased interest due to a particular development proposal.

For these reasons, response rates will continue to be reported but no specific target has been set. Responses will be analysed and action taken if required.

During preparation of the Minerals Local Plan the consultation database was refreshed and the number of consultees registered for Minerals Local Plan updates is lower than those who were registered for the preparation of the Waste Core Strategy. As such the absolute numbers of people contacted at each stage are not directly comparable. We have therefore presented the response rates below in order to facilitate comparison.

**Table 8.1: Waste Core Strategy consultation response rates**

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

**Table 8.2: Minerals Local Plan responses rates**

	<b>Minerals Local Plan – 1<sup>st</sup> stage</b>	<b>Minerals Local Plan – 2<sup>nd</sup> stage</b>	<b>Minerals Local Plan 'Call for Sites' 2014</b>
Total number contacted	682 (432 letters, 250 emails)	507 (113 letters, 394 emails)	727 (173 letters, 554 emails)
Responses received	39	66	18
<b>Consultation response rates</b>	<b>5.7%</b>	<b>8.9%</b>	<b>2.5%</b>

As part of the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan, the first 'Call for Sites' took place during this monitoring year. This was a limited consultation which ran between 14<sup>th</sup> July 2014 and 22<sup>nd</sup> August 2014. The low response rate for this consultation underlines the limited nature of this consultation.

Action:

A low response rate for the limited "call for sites" consultation was anticipated. No action required.

**Table 8.2: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Response rates to planning policy consultations	N/A	✓	Response rate as expected, no action required.

***Indicator SCI3: Satisfaction levels with the planning application process/service***

Target: Zero complaints upheld by the ombudsman, court decisions against the council or, appeals upheld.

Review trigger: One appeal, complaint to the ombudsman, or the high court upheld.

Analysis:

**Appeals**

One appeal was lodged under Section 78 of the Town and Country Planning Act 1990 on 20<sup>th</sup> March 2014. The appeal was for the erection of a steel framed building for use as a Waste Transfer Station and the extension of an existing storage area for waste (part retrospective), new access, car parking and landscaping at Clevedon Farm, Icknield Street, Beoley, Redditch, Worcestershire. The application was refused by Members of the Planning and Regulatory Committee on 14 February 2014 (application reference 13/000062/CM) in accordance with officers' recommendations. This appeal was determined during this monitoring year: the Planning Inspector agreed with the County Planning Authority and dismissed the appeal.

**Complaints to the Ombudsman**

One complaint to the ombudsman was received during the monitoring period. This was a complaint that the County Council had failed to stop neighbouring land being used as a waste transfer station and that the County Council had failed to properly monitor the site or take account of the local resident's evidence. The Ombudsman partly upheld the complaint because there was some minor fault, as the Council failed to promptly respond to the complainant but, overall, the Ombudsman concluded that the Council had acted correctly (Complaint reference: 13 020 242).

**High Court Decisions**

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

**Table 8.3: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Satisfaction with planning application process	✓	✓	No complaints or appeals upheld and no high court decisions against the council.

Action

There were no court decisions against the council or appeals which were upheld during the monitoring period.

In relation to the single complaint to the Ombudsman, despite the Ombudsman's overall conclusion that the Council had acted correctly, the Council acknowledges that there was a failure to respond promptly. Whilst we consider that this was due to an isolated failure of internal communication mechanisms, we will closely monitor whether any similar complaints arise in future. The Council has invested in a software package which will assist with workflow monitoring and highlight at an earlier stage if there are delays in responding to complaints.

***Other issues to be monitored in Chapter 8: Duty to Cooperate***

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

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

The activities undertaken by the Council in line with the Duty to Co-operate on the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan during 2014-2015 are detailed in Annex 2: Duty to Cooperate.

Responses received to the first Call for Sites were given unique reference numbers and all points have been addressed in a *Call for Sites Response Document* which can be downloaded from the Emerging Minerals Local Plan webpages at [www.worcestershire.gov.uk/minerals](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/minerals).

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

## Section Summary

Indicators:

Indicator	Current performance
W15 <i>Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in re-use and recycling (% recycled)</i>	
W20 <i>Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in re-use and recycling (delivery milestones)</i>	
W21 <i>Progress towards equivalent self-sufficiency in 'other recovery'</i>	
W22 <i>Maintain equivalent self-sufficiency in 'sorting and transfer'</i>	
W23 <i>Maintain equivalent self-sufficiency in disposal and landfill</i>	
W28 Increase in GVA in Worcestershire from waste management development	

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

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

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

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

Target: Increase

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

#### Analysis

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

**Table 9.1: Waste management and minerals GVA**

	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	% change (2009-2013)
Waste management and minerals GVA <sup>33</sup> (£m)	81.0	78.9	119.9	130.0	115.6	+43%
Worcestershire GVA (£m)	9,091	9,616	10,055	10,432	10,818	+19%
% contribution from waste management and minerals	0.89%	0.82%	1.19%	1.25%	1.07%	

Source: Annual Business Inquiry/Business Register and Employment Survey

Please note that the ONS revises GVA figures each year as new data and information becomes available and as methods change, due to this data shown in the table for previous years may not match that reported in previous AMRs.

The GVA from waste management and minerals is only a small part of Worcestershire's GVA, but this increased between 2010 and 2013, despite a fall between 2012 and 2013. This overall rise is due to an increase of approximately 600 employees in the sectors. In addition GVA from waste management and minerals increased, whilst overall GVA for Worcestershire also increased.

**Table 9.2: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Increase in GVA from waste management	<b>x</b>	<b>✓</b>	GVA increased 3 years out of last 5.

**Action:**

Despite this indicator failing the target this year, it passes the review trigger as GVA has increased for 3 years out of the last 5. In addition, provisional data for 2014 shows that the GVA in Worcestershire is increasing, therefore no action is required at this time.

<sup>33</sup> The following sectors are included:

07: Mining of metal ores

08: Other mining and quarrying

09: Mining support service activities

37: Sewerage

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

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



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

## Section Summary

Indicators:

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

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

***Indicators W29: New permitted waste management development ("other recovery" and disposal) at each level of the geographic hierarchy.***

***Target:*** 100% of new "other recovery" and disposal (except landfill) at level 1 and 2<sup>34</sup>.

***Review trigger:*** One permission for "other recovery" or disposal (except landfill) granted at level 3, 4 or 5 of the geographic hierarchy.

***Analysis:***

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

	New permitted "other recovery" facilities 2014-15	New permitted disposal (except landfill) facilities 2014-15
<b>Level 1</b>	1	0
<b>Level 2</b>	0	0

<sup>34</sup> This indicator does not monitor applications that do not include new facilities (ie. Change of use or variation of conditions).

<b>Level 3</b>	0	0
<b>Level 4</b>	0	0
<b>Level 5</b>	1	0

**Table 10.2: New permitted facilities at each level of the geographic hierarchy**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Level 1 or 2	Not monitored during this period	N/A	N/A	N/A	50%

**Table 10.3: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Other recovery	✘	✘	One permission granted at level 5 of the geographic hierarchy

There were two applications during the monitoring year for new development classed as "other recovery":

- Proposed installation of a plant for recovery of energy from wood by-products at Beech House, Stourport (Level 1)
- Proposed installation of an EfW plant AT Midlands Reclamation & Waste Limited, Long Marston (Level 5)

Whilst the plant at AT Midlands Reclamation & Waste Ltd was permitted within Level 5 of the geographic hierarchy, the applicant demonstrated that the proposed development could not reasonably be located in levels 1 or 2 as the proposed EfW plant was ancillary to the existing waste site, and therefore the proposed location was considered to satisfy the policy criteria of being at the highest appropriate level of the geographic hierarchy.

**Action:**

The "other recovery" facility granted permission at level 5 of the geographic hierarchy was demonstrated to be at the highest *appropriate* level, having been justified as being ancillary to an existing waste management site. No action required.

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

**Target:** Over 50% of new re-use, recycling, storage, sorting and transfer capacity at levels 1 and 2<sup>35</sup>.

**Review trigger:** less than 50% over a three year period.

<sup>35</sup> This indicator does not monitor applications that do not include new facilities (ie. Change of use or variation of conditions).

Analysis:

**Table 10.4: New permitted facilities at each level of the geographic hierarchy**

	New permitted Re-use, recycling, storage, sorting and transfer <sup>36</sup> facilities 2014-15
Level 1	1
Level 2	0
Level 3	0
Level 4	1
Level 5	1

**Table 10.5: New permitted facilities at each level of the geographic hierarchy**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Level 1 or 2	Not monitored during this period	40%	44%	0%	33%

**Table 10.6: Analysis of the current and past performance of this indicator**

	Has the set target been met this year?	Passes review?	
Re-use, recycling, storage, sorting and transfer	✘	✘	Less than 50% permitted in level 1 and 2 each of the past 3 years.

There were three applications during the monitoring year for new re-use, recycling, storage, sorting or transfer development:

- Continued use of land as a metal reclamation yard at Blackpole Trading Estate, Worcester (Level 1)
- Household Recycling Centre, Tenbury Wells (Level 4)
- Green waste composting at Honeybourne airfield (Level 5)

The Waste Core Strategy recognised that the previous Household Recycling Centre in Tenbury Wells did not include the range and quality of services available at other Household Recycling Centres and that it would need to be improved during the life of the Strategy. This development was therefore considered to be required in this location and was at the highest appropriate level of the geographic hierarchy.

Policy WCS3 allows facilities that enable re-use and recycling of waste to be permitted at all levels of the geographic hierarchy where demonstrated that the location is at the highest appropriate level. The green waste composting facility at Honeybourne airfield was considered to satisfy these policy criteria despite being in Level 5 due to the requirement to be at least 250m from sensitive receptors in accordance with the Environment Agency's Position Statement: 'composting and potential health effects from bioaerosols: our interim guidance for permit applicants'.

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

**Action:**

Whilst the target has not been met in this or previous monitoring years, it is clear from the analysis above that the facilities permitted at lower levels of the geographic hierarchy were fully justified in accordance with Policy WCS3. However, we will continue to monitor this indicator and will analyse whether the target and review trigger are appropriate or whether any action is required in implementation of the policy.

***Indicator M21: New mineral development in 'preferred areas'.***

**Target:** 100% of new planning permissions for the winning and working of aggregate minerals to be granted for locations in Preferred Areas identified in the Adopted Hereford and Worcester Minerals Local Plan or in accordance with saved policy 2 or 7 in the plan.

**Review trigger:** One permission granted outside these areas.

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

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

***Other issues: WCS Annex A - Areas of Search***

During 2015, an application near to Top Barn Business Park highlighted that there was an error in Annex A of the Waste Core Strategy, with Top Barn Business Park being listed as being in Level 1 of the Geographic Hierarchy in the Worcester Zone. In considering the application, it was clear that Top Barn Business Park was in fact in Level 5 of the Geographic Hierarchy.

We have therefore reviewed the table in Annex A of the Waste Core Strategy. Table 10.7 below shows the table as published in the Waste Core Strategy but with an additional column to confirm whether or not the Area of Search is listed in the correct level.

**Table 10.7: Review of WCS Table 16 Identified Areas of Search**

Geographic Hierarchy Level 1			Correct level?
Kidderminster zone	Birchen Coppice Trading Estate	DY11 7PT	✓ Level 1
	Cursley Distribution Park	DY10 4DU	✓ Level 1
	Finepoint Business Park	DY11 7FB	✓ Level 1
	Foley Business Park	DY11 7PT	✓ Level 1
	Foley Industrial Estate	DY11 7DH	✓ Level 1
	Former British Sugar Site	DY11 7QA	✓ Level 1
	Gemini Business Park	DY11 7QL	✓ Level 1

	Greenhill Industrial Estate	DY10 2RN	✓ Level 1
	Hartlebury Trading Estate	DY10 4JB	✓ Level 1
	Hoo Farm Industrial Estate	DY11 7RA	✓ Level 1
	Ikon Trading Estate	DY10 4EU	✓ Level 1
	Oldington Trading Estate	DY11 7QP	✓ Level 1
	Vale Industrial Estate	DY11 7QU	✓ Level 1
<b>Redditch zone</b>	East Moons Moat	B98 0RE	✓ Level 1
	Kingfisher Enterprise Park	B98 8LG	✓ Level 1
	Lakeside Industrial Estate	B98 8YW	✓ Level 1
	Park Farm Industrial Estate	B98 7SN	✓ Level 1
	Pipers Road Park Farm	B98 0HU	✓ Level 1
	Ravensbank Business Park	B98 9EX	✓ Level 1
	Washford Industrial Estate	B98 0DH	✓ Level 1
	Weights Farm Business Park	B97 6RG	✓ Level 1
<b>Worcester zone</b>	Area 7 Industrial Park, Norton	WR5 2AU	✓ Level 1
	Ball Mill Top Business Centre	WR2 6PD	✗ Level 5
	Berkeley Business Park*	WR4 9FA	✓ Level 1
	Buckholt Business Centre*	WR4 9ND	✓ Level 1
	Diglis Industrial Estate*	WR5 3BX	✓ Level 1
	Great Western Business Park*	WR4 9PT	✓ Level 1
	Newtown Road Industrial Estate*	WR5 1HA	✓ Level 1
	Sherriff Street Industrial Estate*	WR4 9AB	✓ Level 1
	Shire Business Park*	WR4 9FA	✓ Level 1
	Shrub Hill Industrial Estate*	WR4 9EE	✓ Level 1
	Top Barn Business Centre	WR6 6NH	✗ Level 5
	Venture Business Park	WR2 4BD	✓ Level 1
	Warndon Business Park*	WR4 9NE	✓ Level 1
Weir Lane Industrial Estate*	WR2 4BD	✓ Level 1	
<b>Geographic Hierarchy Level 2</b>			
<b>Bromsgrove zone</b>	Bromsgrove Technology Park	B60 3AL	✓ Level 2
	Buntsford Gate Business Park	B60 4JE	✓ Level 2
	Buntsford Hill Industrial Estate	B60 3AR	✓ Level 2
	Silver Birches and Basepoint Business Parks	B60 3EU	✓ Level 2
<b>Droitwich Spa zone</b>	Berry Hill Industrial Estate	WR9 9AU	✓ Level 2
	Stonebridge Cross Business Park	WR9 0LW	✓ Level 2
	Hampton Lovett Industrial Estate	WR9 0NX	✓ Level 2
	North Street Industrial Estate	WR9 8JB	✓ Level 2
	Rushock Industrial Estate	WR9 0NR	✓ Level 2
<b>Geographic Hierarchy Level 3</b>			
<b>Evesham zone</b>	Bennetts Hill Business Park	WR11 8TB	✓ Level 3
	Four Pools Industrial Estate	WR11 1XJ	✓ Level 3
	Vale Business Park	WR11 1TD	✓ Level 3
<b>Malvern zone</b>	Blackmore Business and Technology Park	WR14 3LF	✓ Level 3
	Enigma Business Park	WR14 1GD	✓ Level 3
	Link Business Centre	WR14 1UQ	✓ Level 3
	Merebrook Industrial Estate	WR13 6NP	✗ Level 5
	Spring Lane Industrial Estate	WR14 1AL	✓ Level 3
<b>Pershore zone</b>	Keytec7 Business Park	WR10 2JN	✓ Level 3
	Pershore Trading Estate	WR10 2DD	✓ Level 3
	Racecourse Road Trading Estate	WR10 2EY	✓ Level 3
<b>Geographic Hierarchy Level 4</b>			
<b>Bewdley zone</b>	(No areas identified)		
<b>Tenbury Wells zone</b>	Tenbury Business Park.	WR15 8FA	✓ Level 4
<b>Upton-upon-Severn zone</b>	Upton Business Centre, Welland Road	WR8 0SW	✗ Level 5

The areas of search were included in the Waste Core Strategy as being potentially suitable for most waste management facilities and were used to assess the deliverability of the Strategy. They were not promoted as sites which should be developed and were not given any policy weight.

We therefore consider that the four errors shown above do not have a critical impact on the Waste Core Strategy.

# 11. Development Management

## Section Summary

Indicators:

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

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

## Summary of Applications determined by the County Council, 2014-2015

The County Council determined 37 planning applications between 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 and 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015. Permission was granted for 37 applications.

**Table 11.1: Planning applications determined by the County Council**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Waste management development</b>					
<i>Permitted</i>	17	16	11	9	13
<i>Refused</i>	1	1	0	2	0
<i>Withdrawn</i>	(0)	(0)	(0)	(2)	(0)
Sub-total	18	17	11	13	13
<b>Minerals development</b>					
<i>Permitted</i>	2	1	1	0	2
<i>Refused</i>	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Withdrawn</i>	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Sub-total	2	1	1	0	2
<b>Regulation 3 development</b>					
<i>Permitted</i>	56	31	33	26	14

<i>Refused</i>	0	0	0	0	0
<i>Withdrawn</i>	(9)	(1)	(0)	(0)	(0)
Sub-total	56	31	33	26	14
<b>Total</b>	<b>70</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>Sewage Treatment*</b>					
<i>Permitted</i>			16	10	8
<i>Refused</i>			1	1	0
<i>Withdrawn</i>			(0)	(0)	(0)
Sub-total			17	10	8
<b>Total</b>			<b>62</b>	<b>49</b>	<b>37</b>

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

### **Indicators W24 and M10: Applications for Waste Management and Minerals Development determined within 13 weeks.<sup>37</sup>**

Target: 100%

WCS Review trigger:

One application not determined within 13 weeks.

Amended Review trigger

One application not determined within 13 weeks (16 weeks for EIA development) or beyond an agreed extension of time.

Following the adoption of the Waste Core Strategy in 2012, new criteria for assessing performance of planning authorities has been introduced by Government, as set out in the document titled "Improving Planning Performance" (DCLG, 2014). This amended review trigger has been developed to ensure consistency with national indicators. This alteration is not detrimental to the original objective of the review trigger.

#### Analysis

**Table 11.2: Applications determined within specified time limit**

	2010/11	2012/13	2013/14**	2014/15
All applications <sup>38</sup>	67%	47%*	55%	74%
Minerals applications	-	0%	-	100%
Waste applications	33%	0%	48%	95%

\* 2012-13 is the first year to include applications for sewage treatment

<sup>37</sup> Applications determined during the monitoring year.

<sup>38</sup> This includes County Matters and all other applications determined by the County Council.



*\*\*Since 2013-14 this includes applications where an extension of time was agreed*

The proportion of waste management applications determined by the County Planning Authority within the specified time limit, including those which had agreed time extensions, is a significant improvement compared to previous years and may be a result of: increased pre-application discussions, for which the County Council does not currently charge; the adoption of the updated Statement of Community Involvement (February 2015); and the greater certainty provided by the adoption of the Worcestershire Waste Core Strategy, which encourages pre-application discussions and pre-application public consultation.

It is anticipated that these figures will continue to improve, as the recently adopted Validation Document (February 2015) is embedded into the culture and working practices of the Planning Development Management team.

**Indicators W25 and M11: Number<sup>39</sup> of proposals discussed with Worcestershire County Council at pre-application stage.**

Target: Increase

Review trigger: Decrease

Analysis:

**Table 11.3: Waste and Minerals planning applications determined in 2014-15 that were discussed with Worcestershire County Council at the pre-application stage**

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Waste management development (including waste water treatment)</b>						
Actual	Not monitored during this period	1 (8%)	6 (37%)	9 (81%)	16 (76%)	11 (85%)
<b>Minerals development</b>						
Actual	Not monitored during this period	None	None	1 (100%)	None	1 (50%)
<b>Regulation 3 development</b>						
Actual	Not monitored during this period	19 (34%)	31 (100%)	33 (100%)	26 (100%)	10 (71%)

<sup>39</sup> Though this indicator refers to the "number of proposals", the target is to achieve an increase in the percentage of proposals determined during the monitoring period that were discussed with the Worcestershire County Council at the pre-application stage.

Trends are positive for waste management development with an increase in the percentage of applications that were subject to pre-application consultation.

Only 50% of minerals development applications in this monitoring period were subject to a pre-application consultation. This is down from 100% in 2012-13, but only constitutes a single application without pre-application consultation.

Pre-application consultation on Regulation 3 developments dropped below 100% for the first time since 2010-11 however the number of applications has also dropped significantly since that year. This is thought to be largely due to structural changes in the organisation responsible for submitting the majority of Regulation 3 applications.

Action:

No action required with regard to waste management development. The merits of encouraging pre-application discussion with the council is being considered as part of the preparation of the Minerals Local Plan.

Relationships are being re-established with the restructured organisation responsible for submitting the majority of Regulation 3 applications.

**Total number of pre-application meetings held during the monitoring year.**

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

**Table 11.4: Total number of pre-application meetings held**

	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
Pre-application meetings held	39	36	86 <sup>40</sup>	91	118

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

<sup>40</sup> Includes pre-application discussions on Regulation 3 applications. Numbers for previous years may not be directly comparable due to changes in the way these meetings are recorded.

Action:

Trends are encouraging and no action is required at present.

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

Target: 100%

Review trigger:

One permission granted without a consultation statement.

Analysis:

**Table 11.5: Planning permissions granted for proposals that include a Consultation Statement**

	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15
<b>Waste management development (including waste water treatment)</b>						
Actual	Not monitored during this period	1 (8%)	3 (19%)	5 (45%)	9 (39%)	6 (29%)
<b>Minerals development</b>						
Actual	Not monitored during this period	0	0	0	N/A	0
<b>Regulation 3 development</b>						
Actual	Not monitored during this period	19 (34%)	5 (17%)	15 (36%)	15 (58%)	5 (36%)

Please note there were no minerals development applications during the 2013-14 monitoring year.

Currently the number of consultation statements submitted depends on the scale of the scheme and the attitude of the developer. There has been a slight decrease in the rate for waste management development and Regulation 3 applications accompanied by a consultation statement.

Action:

The Validation Document was adopted towards the end of this monitoring period in February 2015, therefore it is unlikely it has had any significant influence on the figures this year. However, it is anticipated that it will help ensure that this issue is addressed at an early stage in the application process.

No further action is required at this time as the results in following years will indicate whether this action has been successful in addressing the failure in performance.

***Indicators W27 and M20: Decisions where there are no policies in the Development Plan which are relevant to the application or relevant policies are out of date at the time of making the decision<sup>41</sup>.***

Target: None

Review trigger: One decision approved

Analysis:

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

Action:

We are aware that our policies in relation to minerals development are deficient, and a new Minerals Local Plan is being developed to assess this.

With regard to waste management development, no decisions have highlighted a policy gap and the Waste Core Strategy is considered to cover all requirements at present. We will continue to monitor whether any decisions highlight a policy gap for waste management development.

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<sup>41</sup> This indicator did not have an analysis section in previous AMRs.

# Appendix 1: Operational waste sites and extant permissions within Worcestershire

In previous Annual Monitoring Reports, this appendix contained a list of operational waste sites, extant permissions not yet implemented, and the sites and notional capacity granted during the monitoring year.

The Council considers that this is no longer as useful as it previously was, as waste sites can now be viewed on the web-map accompanying the Waste Core Strategy by following the link from the Waste Core Strategy webpage [www.worcestershire.gov.uk](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk).

However, we have identified that action is required to ensure the web-map is kept up to date by removing any sites whose permissions have never been implemented or which have ceased to be operational and are unlikely to recommence.

Much of the data used to inform the waste indicators in the Annual Monitoring Report comes from the Environment Agency's Waste Data Interrogator. A list of the sites recorded as receiving waste in the county has been passed to the council's monitoring and enforcement officer to ensure appropriate planning permissions are in place.

# Appendix 2: Operational minerals sites and extant permissions within Worcestershire 1<sup>st</sup> April 2014 – 31<sup>st</sup> March 2015

**Table A2.1: Permitted Reserves in Worcestershire (and operational status during the financial year 2014-15)**

Site	Location	Operator	Status	Designation	Aggregate sales 2014	Reserves at 31/03/15
Permitted Sand and Gravel Reserves						
Church Farm South/Ball Mill Quarry	Ball Mill, Grimley, Worcester	Tarmac	Active	none	Yes	Yes
Church Farm West (part of Church Farm)	Ball Mill, Grimley	Tarmac	Active	none	Yes	Yes
Clifton	Clifton Arles Wood Off A38, Severn Stoke, Worcester, WR8 9JE	Tarmac	Active	none	No	Yes
Ripple	Ripple, TEWKESBURY, Worcester	Cemex	Active	none	Yes	Yes
Ryall <sup>42</sup>	Ryall, Upton-upon-Severn, Worcestershire	Cemex	Active	none	N/A	N/A
Sandy Lane	Sandy Lane, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove, Worcester, B61 0QT	Veolia	Active	Green Belt	No	Yes
Wildmoor/ Cinetic Sands	Sandy Lane, Wildmoor, Bromsgrove, Worcester, B61 0QR	Salop Sand and Gravel	Active	Green Belt	No	Yes
Chadwich Lane	Chadwich Lane Quarry, Chadwich Lane, Madeley Heath, Bromsgrove, Worcester	Salop Sand and Gravel	Being Restored	Green Belt	No	No
Land adj. to Chadwich Lane (part of Chadwich Ln.)	Chadwich Lane Quarry, Chadwich Lane, Madeley Heath, Bromsgrove,	Salop Sand and Gravel	Not yet started	Green Belt	-	Yes

<sup>42</sup> Ryall is the processing site associated with the Ripple quarry. Material is extracted from Ripple and shipped by boat up the river to Ryall. Ryall was once, but is no longer an extraction site.

Site	Location	Operator	Status	Designation	Aggregate sales 2014	Reserves at 31/03/15
	Worcester					
Permitted Crushed Rock Reserves (limestone)						
Broadway/ Fish Hill	Fish Hill, Broadway Worcestershire, WR12 7LL	Smith & Son Bletchington	Part Restored	AONB	Yes Aggregates and non-aggregates	No
Permitted Clay Reserves (clay and shale)						
New House Farm	Hartlebury, Kidderminster, Worcestershire	Baggeridge Brick	Active	Green Belt	Yes	Yes
Waresley/ Baggeridge Brick	Hartlebury Trading Estate Hartlebury Industrial Estate, Kidderminster, Worcestershire, DY10 4JB	Baggeridge Brick	Active	Green Belt	Yes	Yes

# Annex 1: LAA

See separate file at

[http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/download/264/annual\\_monitoring\\_report](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/download/264/annual_monitoring_report).

# Annex 2: Duty to Cooperate

See separate file at

[http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/download/264/annual\\_monitoring\\_report](http://www.worcestershire.gov.uk/downloads/download/264/annual_monitoring_report).