

Committee:	<b>Lead Cabinet Member for Transport and Environment</b>
Date:	<b>19 December 2016</b>
Report By:	<b>Director of Communities, Economy and Transport</b>
Title of Report:	<b>Waste and Minerals - Monitoring Report 2015/16 and Local Aggregate Assessment 2016</b>
Purpose of Report:	<b>To approve East Sussex County Council's Monitoring Report on Waste and Minerals for publication and adopt the Local Aggregate Assessment 2016</b>

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**RECOMMENDATIONS:** The Lead Member is recommended to:

- (1) Approve the Waste and Minerals Monitoring Report 2015/16; and**
  - (2) Adopt the Local Aggregate Assessment 2016 for publication.**
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## **1. Background Information**

1.1 The production of a Monitoring Report on waste and minerals policies is a statutory requirement of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (P&CPA) (as amended by the Localism Act 2011). The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) states that mineral planning authorities should prepare an annual Local Aggregate Assessment (LAA) to plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregates. Full copies of both the proposed documents are available in the Members Room.

## **2. Supporting Information**

2.1 To meet legislative requirements, the Monitoring Report covers the following:

- The extent to which policies in the Waste and Minerals Plan (WMP) and Saved Policies in the Minerals Local Plan (MLP) and the Waste Local Plan (WLP) are being achieved; and
- Progress on producing the Policy Documents within the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS) – the main document being the Waste and Minerals Sites Plan.
- The Monitoring Report must be in respect of a period which is not longer than 12 months.

2.2 The Executive Summary of the Monitoring Report 2015/16 is enclosed in Appendix 1. Following approval, the full document will be published on the County Council's website and hard copies will be made available on request. Monitoring data is published for the whole WMP Area covering East Sussex, part of the South Downs National Park and Brighton & Hove. The key findings in this year's report are as follows:

### *Waste*

- In 2015/16, 40% of local authority collected waste (LACW) was recycled (including composted) which is below the 2015/16 WMP target of 45%, but represents an increase from the 2014/15 outturn of 38%.
- In 2015/16, 95% of local authority collected waste (LACW) was recycled (including composted) and recovered which is just below the 2015/16 WMP target of 98%. The figure for 2014/15 was 97%.
- In 2015/16, 5% of LACW was sent for land disposal. This has decreased from 40% in 2010/11. In 2015, 36,000 tonnes of waste was sent for land disposal. This was a marked reduction from 2010 when 533,000 tonnes of waste were disposed of to land.
- A recalculation of one of the methods used to estimate Commercial and Industrial Waste (C&I) arisings has been undertaken. Initial results indicate that during the recession C&I fell significantly, but as of 2014 returned to pre-recession levels. No new information relating to Construction Demolition and Excavation Waste has become available.

### *Minerals*

- Aggregate supply to the Plan Area continues to be heavily dependent on imports by road and sea (and rail to a lesser extent), with some extraction of land-won sand and gravel in the east of the county.

- Available data indicates production of aggregates in 2014 and 2015 continues to be significantly higher than the anticipated rate.
- Clay and gypsum continued to be extracted at levels that support brick and tile production, and also plasterboard and cement production.

2.3 The NPPF requires that the LAA considers all supply options (land-won, marine, secondary and recycled material), and be based on a rolling average of 10 years sales data and other relevant local information. The Executive Summary of the Draft LAA is enclosed in Appendix 2.

### **3. Analysis**

3.1 East Sussex County Council continues to work jointly with the South Downs National Park Authority and Brighton & Hove City Council (The Authorities) preparing the Waste and Minerals Sites Plan. The preparation of this Plan has involved working closely with the Districts and Boroughs within East Sussex. The Authorities actively participate in regional fora such as the South East Waste Planning Advisory Group and the South East England Aggregates Working Party.

3.2 The Draft Waste and Minerals Sites Plan was the subject of public consultation in 2014. This was followed by a Pre-submission consultation period, which began on 28 October 2015 and closed on 23 December 2015. The Plan was submitted to Government on 14 April 2016 which commenced a Public Examination. Public Hearings were held between 2 and 4 August. On the 7 November 2016 the Inspector issued his report, in which he found the Plan both 'sound' and legally compliant. The Authorities will consider adoption of the Plan early in 2017.

3.3 With regard to waste, the Authorities continue to monitor progress against targets.

3.4 With respect to aggregate minerals, Policy WMP11 requires the Authorities to maintain provision for land won aggregates at a rate of 0.1m tonnes per annum, and a landbank of permissions of at least 7 years supply. Previous LAAs have not accepted that the past 10 years sales data are used as forecast of the demand for aggregates, as it is too volatile and have instead used the Apportionment figure in the Adopted WMP as a surrogate figure. The Authorities have been committed however to closely monitor the situation in relation to any decision to review the minerals policy in the Adopted WMP.

3.5 During the Waste and Minerals Site Plan Hearings the supply of aggregates was a matter considered by the Inspector, arising from a representation proposing an extension to Lydd Quarry. This was put forward on the basis that there would be insufficient reserves to cover the Plan period to 2026.

3.6 Whilst the Authorities did not accept the objector's position, they did commit to re-examining the situation, with the benefit of new survey data and any new information on future demand. This information would enable a review of the relevant adopted minerals policies and in particular assess the future contribution from land-won aggregates. The Inspector's report endorsed the need for the policy review to commence as soon as possible. This position is reflected in the draft 2016 LAA.

3.7 Consultations have been carried out on the draft LAA. The South East England Aggregates Working Party supports the current approach in the LAA.

### **4. Conclusion and Reason for Recommendations**

4.1 It is therefore recommended that the Monitoring Report 2015/16 and the Local Aggregates Assessment 2016 should be adopted and published. These reports recognise that the Authorities will continue to work together on these matters and that the position on waste and minerals will be closely monitored.

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#### **LOCAL MEMBERS**

All

#### **BACKGROUND DOCUMENTS**

Waste and Minerals Plan (2013)

Submission Draft Waste and Minerals Sites Plan (2015)

Inspector's Report into the East Sussex, South Downs and Brighton & Hove Waste and Minerals Sites Plan (2016)

Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (February 2016)