



Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Development Scheme

February 2026

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1. Introduction

- 1.1 Lincolnshire County Council is the planning authority for minerals and waste matters within Lincolnshire and is required to produce a Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (MWDS)¹ which must specify all the planning documents that the council intends to prepare as of part of the local development plan for minerals and waste matters throughout Lincolnshire. These planning documents are known as Development Plan Documents (DPDs) and make up part of the development plan known as the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan.
- 1.2 This MWDS presents the County Council's timetable to produce minerals and waste-related local development plan documents for the administrative area of Lincolnshire over the next three years (2025-2028). This document replaces the previous MWDS produced in 2021 and the updated programme provided in the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan preferred approach consultation (July 2024).
- 1.3 This MWDS sets out:
 - the main stages in the preparation of development plan documents (Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan) and supplementary planning documents;
 - the broad content and scope of the plan, including the geographical area it covers;
 - the work programme (including key milestones and stages) of the plan preparation process;
 - the risks associated with preparing the plan;
 - the resources needed to make sure the plan is produced on time and in a consistent manner;
 - the steps required to check and monitor the plan; and
 - details on the progress of the plan, as it is prepared.
- 1.4 This scheme will continue to be reviewed on a regular basis to make sure the timetable remains realistic and achievable, in line with government guidance and legislation.
- 1.5 Separate local development schemes are maintained by the City Council, and the district/borough planning authorities in Lincolnshire to reflect their various local plan making responsibilities.

¹ Under Sections 15 and 16 of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004 (as amended)

2. Adopted Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents

- 2.1 The development plan is at the heart of the planning system with a requirement set in law that planning decisions must be taken in line with the development plan unless material considerations indicate otherwise².
- 2.2 A development plan includes adopted local plans, neighbourhood plans that have been made and published spatial development strategies, together with any regional strategy policies that remain in force.³
- 2.3 Lincolnshire County Council, as the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority for the county, is responsible for preparing development plan documents for minerals and waste planning, to guide the future planning of minerals extraction, restoration and waste management across Lincolnshire.
- 2.4 The current adopted Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan comprise:
 - Core Strategy and Development Management Policies (adopted June 2016)
 - Site Locations (adopted December 2017)
- 2.5 The Core Strategy and Development Management Policies document sets out the key principles to guide the future winning and working of minerals and the form of waste management development in the County up to 2031. It also sets out the development management policies against which planning applications for minerals and waste development will be considered.
- 2.6 The Site Locations Document includes specific proposals and policies for the provision of land for mineral and waste development.

Supplementary planning documents

- 2.7 Supplementary planning documents (SPD) can provide further detail to the policies in the Minerals and Waste Local Plan. While they do not have the same legal status as development plan documents, supplementary planning documents are a material consideration in decision making.
- 2.8 There are currently no SPDs in place in the county in relation to minerals and waste, and none are currently proposed.

² Section 70(2) of the Town and Country Planning Act and section 38(6) of the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act

³ NPPF 2024 - Glossary.

3. Monitoring and review

3.1 Regular monitoring will help decide how and when the policies need to be updated in the adopted plan, whether in whole or in part. This will ensure that policies remain consistent with the requirements set out in national planning policies and legislation.

Authority Monitoring Report

3.2 The County Council is required to produce an Authority Monitoring Report that evaluates and measures⁴:

- the effectiveness and performance of existing planning policies in the adopted Minerals and Waste Local Plan;
- progress against the timetable set out in this document; and
- the actions we have taken to foster constructive engagement with other authorities and public bodies, including collaboration on the preparation of local plans in line with the ‘duty to cooperate’.

3.3 The adopted Minerals and Waste Local Plan includes monitoring targets that are linked to specific indicators to measure the effectiveness and progress of its policies. The authority monitoring report will identify what action needs to be taken if policies need to be replaced.

Local Aggregate Assessment

3.4 The County Council as the minerals and waste authority is also required to produce an annual local aggregate assessment for Lincolnshire, which contains an assessment of the demand for and supply of aggregates in a mineral planning authority’s area. The local aggregate assessment is a monitoring tool and provides a prompt to address issues of a shortage or a surplus of supply.

Local Plan Review

3.5 Under regulation 10A of The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2012 (as amended), the Council is also required to undertake a more in depth review of the local plan within five years from its date of adoption. This needs to take into account the findings of the Authority Monitoring Reports and any changing circumstances that may affect the relevance and effectiveness of the policies⁵.

3.6 In 2021, a thorough review of the existing adopted plan: Core Strategy and Development Management Policies and Site Locations⁶ was undertaken. The review concluded that the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan should be updated in full.

⁴ Section 113 of the Localism Act 2011

⁵ Regulation 10A of the 2012 Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (as amended)

⁶ [Review of the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan](#) (February 2021)

4. Updating the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan

4.1 Following the findings of the review, work started to produce a new and up-to-date plan within a single framework as outlined on our [Minerals and Waste webpages](#).

4.2 The new plan will consolidate the two adopted DPDs into one Local Plan, for a plan period to the end of 2042. This MWDS provides the up-to-date timescale and programme for the process up until adoption.

4.3 Once adopted, it will form part of Lincolnshire's development plan and replace the existing Minerals and Waste Local Plan (Core Strategy and Development Management Policies and Site Locations).

4.4 Table 1 below summarises the process of preparing this plan.

Table 1: Summary of main stages in preparing the Minerals and Waste Local Plan (development plan document)

Stage	Tasks	Nature of stage	Regulation
Pre-production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Background studies and collation of evidence base 	Informal	18
Production	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Consult and engage the public and stakeholders on the scope and content of the plan. Publish the final draft plan (subject to a statutory 6-week consultation) 	Informal Formal	18 19
Submission	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Submit the plan and relevant supporting information (including consultation feedback from the Regulation 18 stage) to the Secretary of State 	Formal	22
Examination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Secretary of State will appoint an independent planning inspector to examine the content of the plan (soundness) and the way it has been prepared (legal compliance) Consultation if modifications proposed to the plan 	Formal	24
Adoption	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Inspector will issue a final report following the examination Council adopts the local plan 	Formal	25

4.5 Further details about the stages of the plan process and associated procedures are found in various government publications, such as:

- National Planning Policy Framework;
- National Planning Practice Guidance; and

- The Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations (2012).

Consultation

4.6 Further details on the consultation methods and publicity arrangements in the local plan preparation process are outlined in the [Lincolnshire Statement of Community Involvement](#)

4.7 The proposed scope and content of the new Minerals and Waste Local Plan is summarised in Table 2.

Table 2: Scope of the proposed Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan

Scope of the document	Commentary
Spatial portrait	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Summarises the key characteristics of the county and how these are likely to change over the plan period
Our vision and objectives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Shapes the overall direction of the plan, setting out the long-term objectives to guide the delivery of sustainable minerals and waste development up to 2042.
Strategic policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Make provision for and guide the scale, type and location of minerals and waste development in Lincolnshire, to deliver the vision and strategic objectives of the plan.
Allocation of sites and/or areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Allocates specific sites, preferred areas and/or areas of search for minerals and waste development (where both a need and suitable sites/areas have been identified)
Development management policies	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Provides detailed policies to guide decisions on planning applications to minimise impacts on the environment and amenity, and where appropriate, secure environmental gains.

Local Plan Stage

4.8 The list below sets out the revised timetable for the production of the new Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (based on the preparation stages set out in the regulations). These are provided in a pictorial form at Figure 1.

4.9 Completed consultations:

- **Issues and Options (Regulation 18)** – 6 week consultation including call for sites. Summer 2022
- **Preferred Approach to Minerals and Waste (Regulation 18)** – 8 week consultation on preferred approach draft plan including call for sites. Summer 2024.

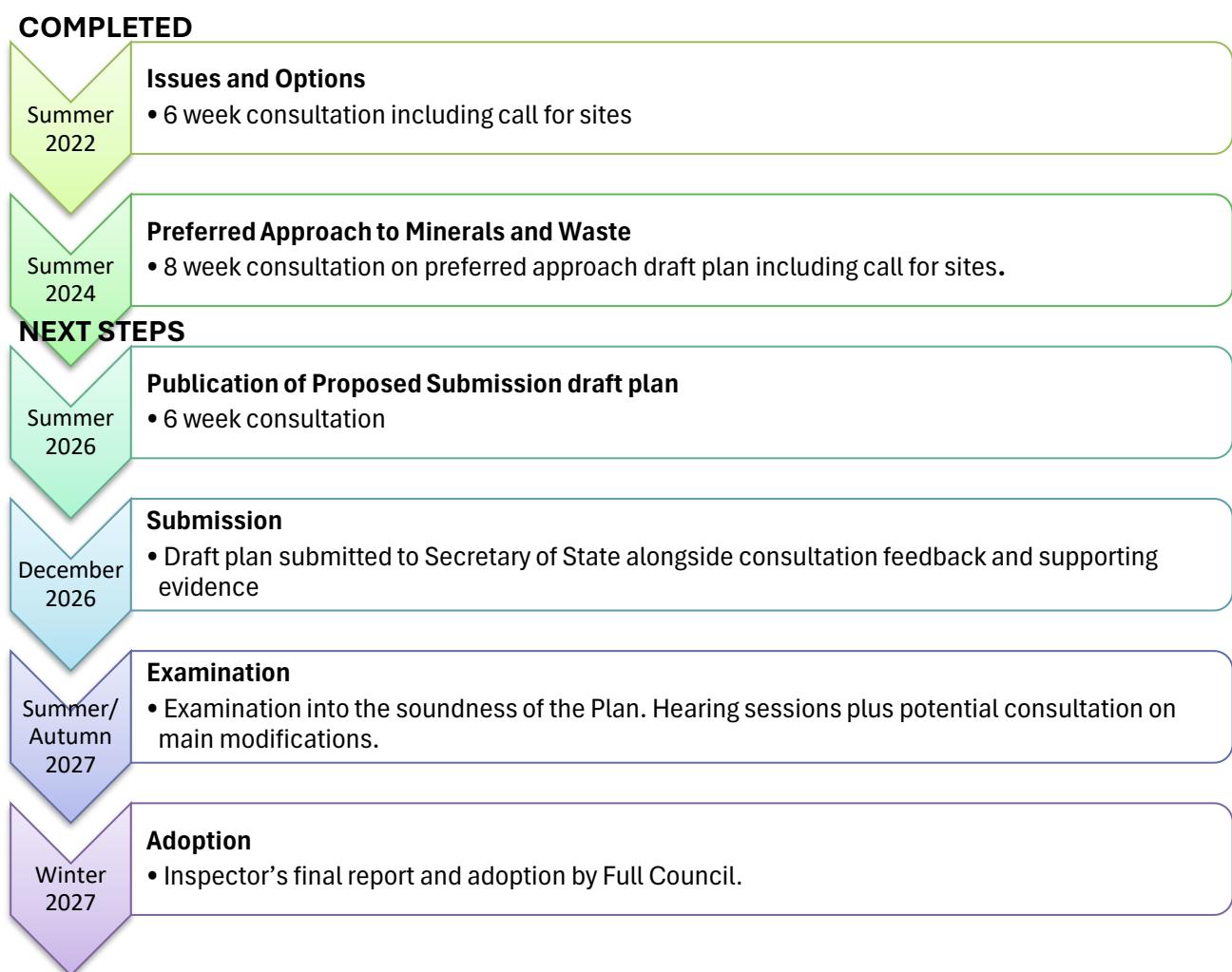
4.10 Next Steps:

- **Publication of Proposed Submission draft plan (Regulation 19)** – 6 week consultation. Summer 2026.
- **Submission (Regulation 22)** – Final draft of plan submitted to Secretary of State alongside consultation feedback and supporting evidence. December 2026.

- **Examination** – Examination into the soundness of the Plan. Hearing sessions plus potential consultation on main modifications. Summer/Autumn 2027.
- **Adoption** – Inspector's final report and adoption by Full Council – Winter 2027.

4.11 The preparation of the updated Minerals and Waste Local Plan and the council's compliance with the timetable will be monitored regularly through the Authority Monitoring Reports which are published by the County Council. This Minerals and Waste Development Scheme will also be maintained and revised periodically to reflect any changes to the above timetable, and where necessary, to incorporate any further details in relation to the new Plan as it is developed.

Figure 1: Minerals and Waste Local Plan revised timetable



5. Relationship to other plans

5.1 The Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan must take account of other plans, strategies and programmes prepared at the regional and sub regional level. This includes:

- blue-green infrastructure strategies (including the Greater Lincolnshire Nature Recovery Strategy⁷);
- district-wide local plans (especially with respect to housing and economic growth targets, which are indicators of the potential level of future aggregate and waste demand);
- local transport plans and strategies (including Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan);
- relevant waste management strategies (for instance, the Lincolnshire Joint Municipal Waste Management Strategy will inform the waste policies in the plan⁸).

5.2 Lincolnshire County Council is a member of two regional working parties: East Midlands Resource Technical Advisory Body (EMRTAB) and the East Midlands Aggregates Working Party (EMAWP) which promote information sharing and the duty to co-operate between neighbouring authorities in relation to waste and minerals matters respectively.

6. Managing risk and uncertainty

6.1 The potential risks to the delivery of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan include:

- unexpected delays caused by changes in national policy and guidance;
- significant public objections slowing down the preparation process;
- staffing and resourcing difficulties;
- ability of third parties to resource input to process (e.g. Planning Inspectorate);
- legal challenges;
- land allocated in the plan not coming forward;
- detailed proposals not addressing planning issues; and
- greater reliance on land banking.

7. Resources and contingency planning

7.1 The preparation, review and updating of the plan is the responsibility of Lincolnshire County Council's Policy Team. This team forms part of the planning service within the County Council's Place Directorate.

7.2 The team work closely with other officers dealing with development management, highways, heritage, economic development, waste disposal, flood risk management,

⁷ [Greater Lincolnshire Local Nature Recovery Strategy](#)

⁸ [Waste Strategy for Lincolnshire](#)

landscape, public health and natural environment to ensure the integration between plans and strategies.

7.3 It will be a priority to ensure sufficient staff resources are in place to meet required timescales set out in this scheme.

8. Further information

8.1 For further information on the Minerals and Waste Local Plan, please contact us:

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