Lincolnshire County Council
Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review

Sustainability Appraisal (SA): Scoping Report

Non-Technical Summary

June 2022

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Glossary of Acronyms

AA	Appropriate Assessment
ALC	Agricultural Land Classification
AQMA	Air Quality Management Area
DCLG	Department for Communities and Local Government
DPD	Development Plan Document
EA	Environment Agency
EC	European Commission
EU	European Union
Ha	Hectare
HE	Historic England
HRA	Habitats Regulations Assessment
LAA	Local Aggregate Assessment
LB	Listed Building
LCA	Landscape Character Assessment
LPA	Local Planning Authority
MPA	Minerals Planning Authority
MSA	Minerals Safeguarding Area
NE	Natural England
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
OA(H)N	Objectively Assessed (Housing) Need
PDL	Previously Developed Land
NPPG	National Planning Practice Guidance
PRoW	Public Right of Way
SA	Sustainability Appraisal
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SEA	Strategic Environmental Assessment
SM	Scheduled Monument
SPA	Special Protection Area
SSSI	Site of Specific Scientific Interest
SuDS	Sustainable Drainage System
UK	United Kingdom
WPA	Waste Planning Authority

1. Introduction

1.1 Background

On behalf of Lincolnshire County Council (LCC), consultants Place Services have been commissioned to undertake an independent Sustainability Appraisal (SA), incorporating Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) for the LCC Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review.

1.2 The LCC Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review

A Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review (referred to hereafter as 'the Plan review') is being undertaken by LCC. The Town and Country Planning Regulations 2017 sets out that reviews at least every five years are a legal requirement for all local plans. This is supported by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF).

The Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (LMWLP) was adopted in June 2016 and provides planning policies for minerals development and waste management in Lincolnshire until 2031. It sets a policy framework within which the best possible use of finite resources can be made and ensures that the most viable approach to managing waste is taken, through the allocation of sites for both future mineral extraction and waste management.

1.2.1 The Review Process to Date

The Plan review initially focuses on determining whether the policies of the adopted Local Plan (in 2016) need updating. The review process will subsequently conclude either that the policies do not need updating, or that one or more policies do need updating, (and publishing the reasons for this alongside evidence).

The Plan review was published in February 2021 and justifies some changes to the adopted policies. The review sets out:

- An overview of the national guidance and policy requirements that have changed since 2016; and
- The review of each policy within the 2016 Plan, providing each with a performance rating based against relevant indicators of success.

2. Sustainability Appraisal (SA)

2.1 The Requirement for Sustainability Appraisal

2.1.1 Local Plans

All Local Plans are required to be accompanied by a SA. The aim of the SA is to identify potentially significant effects that may or will be created as a result of the implementation of the Local Plan on issues such as:

> 'biodiversity, population, human health, fauna, flora, soil, water, air, climatic factors, material assets, cultural heritage including architectural and archaeological heritage, landscape and the interrelationship between the above factors.'

The SA also examines the effects of in a wider context, taking into account economic, social and environmental considerations in order to promote sustainable development.

2.1.2 The Requirement Concerning the Minerals and Waste Local Plan Review

The adopted LMWLP was subject to SA as required. Carrying out SA work throughout the plan preparation has ensured that the sustainability considerations identified were addressed in the adopted Local Plan in 2016. An SA is also required of the Plan review at this stage, since the Plan review process to date (in February 2021), has concluded that there is scope to further review and amend its policies.

This SA work will inform and justify revisions to the Local Plan alongside reasonable alternative approaches if required.

2.2 The Sustainability Appraisal Process

The methodology adopted for the SA of the Plan review at this stage follows that of the Sustainability Appraisal process. This follows five stages that should be undertaken alongside relevant stages in the plan-making process (i.e. those undertaken by the Council in formulating the LMWLP). These stages are:

- Stage A – This stage sets out the context and objectives of the SA, establishes baseline (i.e. the state of the environment), and decides on the scope of the appraisal, including the formulation of frameworks against which the LMWLP can be appraised. The principal output at this stage is a 'SA Scoping Report'.
- Stage B – This stage represents the first draft appraisal (SA) of the LMWP. It assesses the effects of the LMWP as drafted and made available for consultation. The appraisal includes alternative approaches to the Plan's content, which have been set out and their identification justified. The output at this stage is an 'Interim SA Report' which is made available alongside the Regulation 18 Local Plan.
- Stage C – This stage represents the publication of the final SA Environmental Report, which will be made available for consultation alongside the Regulation 19 version of the LMWLP.

- Stage D – This stage involves extensive consultation with the public, as mentioned above in Stage C, as well as other statutory bodies. Stage D also includes the submission of the SA Environmental Report alongside the submission version of the LMWLP for independent examination, the examination itself, and subsequent adoption of the LMWLP.
- Stage E – This stage corresponds to the post-Adoption Statement, which sets out how the SA process and ensured sustainability themes have been factored into the LMWLP, and also the indicators for monitoring the effects of the LMWLP once adopted.

2.3 The Aim and Structure of this Report

The aim of this Report (the Scoping Report) is to respond to Stage A of the SA process. This Report:

- Identifies other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives
- Collects baseline information
- Identifies sustainability issues and problems
- Develops the Sustainability Framework
- Consults the consultation bodies on the scope of the Sustainability Appraisal report

3. Sustainability and Environmental Context, Baseline and Objectives

3.1 Introduction

The SA of the Plan review is required to set the scope for the assessment of options and Plan content relevant to the Plan area. Stage A of the SA process sets out how the context and the objectives of the SA should be set, whilst establishing the baseline relevant to the Plan area. This involves:

- Identifying other relevant policies, plans and programmes, and sustainability objectives;
- Collecting baseline information;
- Identifying sustainability issues and problems; and
- Developing the SA frameworks (formulating relevant criteria against which the Plan's policy content and site allocations will be assessed).

The following section outlines the relevant plans and programmes and the baseline information profile for the Plan review area and where relevant beyond.

3.2 Policies, Plans and Programmes

Any amendment to the LMWLP must have regard to existing policies, plans and programmes at national and regional levels and strengthen and support other plans and strategies. It is therefore important to identify and review those policies, plans and programmes which are likely to influence the Plan review at an early stage. These plans and programmes are set out in the table below, and they are looked at in more detail within Appendix 2 of the main Scoping Report.

Table 1: Other relevant policies, plans and programmes

Relevant Plans and Programmes
International plans and programmes
European Landscape Convention (Florence, 2002)
European Union Water Framework Directive 2000 (Directive 2000/60/EC)
European Union Nitrates Directive 1991 (91/676/EEC)
European Union Environmental Noise Directive 2002 (2002/49/EC)
European Union Floods Directive 2007 (2007/60/EC)

Relevant Plans and Programmes
European Union Air Quality Directive 2008 (2008/50/EC) and previous directives (96/62/EC; 99/30/EC; 2000/69/EC and 2002/3/EC)
European Union Directive on the Conservation of Wild Birds 2009 (2009/147/EC)
European Union Directive on the Conservation of Natural Habitats and of Wild Fauna and Flora 1992 (92/43/EEC)
European Union Biodiversity Strategy for 2030
United Nations Kyoto Protocol
World Commission on Environment and Development 'Our Common Future' 1987
The World Summit on Sustainable Development Johannesburg Summit 2002
Environmental Assessment of Plans and Programmes Regulations 2004 (the SEA Regulations).
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2019
The Industrial Emissions Directive 2010 (2010/75/EU)
European Convention on the Protection of the Archaeological Heritage (Valletta, 1992)
European Union Mining Waste Directive (2006/21/EC)
European Union Groundwater Directive (2006/118/EC)
European Union Waste Framework Directive (2008/98/EC)
European Union Landfill Directive (99/31/EC)
European Union Soil Strategy for 2030, 2021
Ramsar Convention on Wetlands of International Importance especially as Waterfowl Habitat, UNESCO, 1971
National Plans and Programmes
The Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations, 2019
Safeguarding our Soils: A Strategy for England (Defra, 2009)
National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW, 2014)
National and Regional Guidelines for Aggregates Provision in England 2005 - 2020

Relevant Plans and Programmes
The Countryside and Rights of Way (CRoW) Act, 2000
Future Water: The Governments water strategy for England (2008)
Flood and Water Management Act, 2010
The Environment Agency's approach to groundwater protection (2018)
Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Ancient Monuments and Archaeological Areas Act 1979
The Governments Statement on the Historic Environment for England (2010)
National Heritage Protection Plan Framework (2012)
The Air Quality Strategy for England, Scotland, Wales and Northern Ireland, 2007
(National) Planning Practice Guidance (updated 2021)
National Planning Policy Framework (July 2021)
Natural Environment and Rural Communities Act (2006)
Wildlife and Countryside Act (1981)
Biodiversity 2020: A strategy for England's wildlife and ecosystem services (2011)
UK Geodiversity Action Plan: A framework for enhancing the importance and role of geodiversity
National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy for England (2020)
Air Pollution: Action in a Changing Climate (2010)
Climate Change Act (2050 Target amendment) (2008) Order 2019
The Waste (Circular Economy)(Amendments) Regulations (2020)
Waste Management Plan for England (2021)
The Hazardous Waste (England and Wales) Regulations (2005)
The Waste Incineration (England and Wales) Regulations (2002)
Household Waste Recycling Act (2003)
Environment Act, 2021

Relevant Plans and Programmes
Flood Risk Regulations, 2009
A Green Future: Our 25 Year Plan to Improve the Environment, Defra, 2018
Net Zero Strategy: Build Back Greener, 2021
Clean Air Strategy, 2019
Land Use: Reducing emissions and preparing for climate change, Climate Change Committee, 2018
National Quality Mark Scheme for Land Contamination Management, 2017
Our Waste, Our Resources: A Strategy for England, 2018
UK Climate Change Risk Assessment, Committee on Climate Change, 2022
Water Abstraction Plan, Defra, 2011
Meeting our Future Water Needs: A National Framework for Water Resources, 2020
National Flood and Coastal Erosion Risk Management Strategy, 2020
County and Regional Plans and Programmes
Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (2016)
Lincolnshire Local Aggregate Assessment (2020)
Lincolnshire Waste Needs Assessment (2021)
The Review of the Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan (LMWLP) (2021)
Lincolnshire Minerals and Waste Development Scheme (2021)
Lincolnshire Biodiversity Action Plan (2011 – 2020)
Lincolnshire Flood Risk and Water Management Strategy 2019-2050
Greater Lincolnshire Geodiversity Strategy (2017-2021)
The Lincolnshire County Council Corporate Plan
The Lincolnshire County Council Green Master Plan
The Lincolnshire Local Transport Plan
The Waste Strategy for Lincolnshire

Relevant Plans and Programmes
Draft Drought Plan 2022, Anglia Water, March 2021
The Emerging Water Resources Regional Plan for Eastern England, Water Resources East – Safeguarding a sustainable supply of water
Anglian River Basin District Draft Flood Risk Management Plan 2021-27
Humber River Basin District Draft Flood Risk Management Plan 2021-27
District level Plans and Programmes
Central Lincolnshire Local Plan Review (Emerging)
South Kesteven District Council Local Plan (2011 – 2036) (adopted 2020)
Southeast Lincolnshire Local Plan (2011 – 2036) (adopted 2019)
East Lindsey Local Plan Core Strategy (2016-2031) (adopted 2018)

3.3 Collecting Baseline Information

This sub-section details the Baseline Information profile for the Plan Review area and those neighbouring areas that are considered relevant to the content of the Plan review. The following section outlines a summary of the key baseline information and therefore the current state of the environment for the Plan review area. It also identifies 'key issues' regarding sustainability for Lincolnshire relevant to the content of the Plan.

Table 2: Key Sustainability Issues

General Theme	Focused Themes	Description and Supporting Evidence
Biodiversity	Ecological designations and the effects of minerals activities Restoration for biodiversity net gains	Lincolnshire contains a range of sites with ecological designations, including Habitats Sites (Ramsar sites, Special Protection Areas (SPAs), and Special Areas of Conservation(SACs)), Sites of Special Scientific Interest (SSSIs) and National and Local Nature Reserves (NNRs and LNRs). In addition, a number of Biodiversity Action Plans and Habitat Action Plans are in place, with the aim of conserving and increasing nationally and locally important habitats and species in the county. Aside from the need to protect these designations in the first instance through locational criteria for new minerals and waste sites, both mineral extraction sites and landfill

		sites can ensure cumulatively significant gains in biodiversity through their restoration. Although minimum policy requirements exist in regard to biodiversity net gain, there are opportunities for larger gains through restoration schemes that primarily focus on gains.
Water quality	Risk of contamination	There are potential issues with disrupting groundwater flows from minerals activities. Risk of contamination of surface and groundwater and siltation of watercourses: - pollution from the working of previously contaminated land, including the reworking of mineral waste tips for secondary aggregates and post-restoration uses, e.g. use of fertilisers, surface water run-off - by suspended sediment from mineral working and tipping of mineral waste - pollution from natural contaminants and fuels, oils and solvents.
Water resources	Water stress	Lincolnshire lies within an area of high water stress, and policies should seek to minimise demand on water resources where possible.
The Best and Most Versatile Agricultural Land (BMVAL)	A need for preservation Restoration to agricultural use	The Agri-Food Sector is a major industry in Lincolnshire . A large amount of Grade 1 Agricultural Land (the best and most versatile in the County and nationally) is located in the south east of the County. In Lincolnshire most of the land is Grade 1, Grade 2 or Grade 3. Grade 3 is further subdivided into Sub Grades 3A and 3B, with the former being classed as BMVAL. As a result a very high proportion of land in Lincolnshire is likely to be BMVAL and this should be protected through locational criteria or as part of restoration schemes. Restoration to after-uses that safeguard BMVAL should be ensured, and where relevant proposals should demonstrate that they would be restored back to agricultural land of a comparable quality. This can ensure that mineral and waste activities are not detrimental to the local Agri-Food economy.

General Theme	Focused Themes	Description and Supporting Evidence
Soil	Sustainable use and protection	All soil stripped from land (regardless of agricultural grade) should be used sustainably and where possible conserved through after-use. This does not necessarily mean it has to be used on the restoration of the same piece of land or for agricultural purposes, as biodiversity gains can be enabled through lower quality soils (for instance the growth of wildflowers). The protection of soils should be sought through restoration schemes to biodiversity where soils are cared for in a sustainable manner, enabling habitat creation in addition to soil preservation for future agricultural needs. Mineral operations also need to have regard to: - Degradation of soil stored during period of mineral working - Risk of land contamination - Fragmentation of agricultural holdings - Land take and permanent loss of soils - Land instability during mining operations and reclamation. There is similarly a risk of subsidence or instability from sub-surface working, tipped land or hydrological changes as a result of minerals activities.
Landscape	Restoration for landscape benefits	Many mineral deposits in Lincolnshire lie close to or in sensitive landscapes. An Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB) is also located within the County. The Lincolnshire landscape and its relationship with historic settlements form an important component of the historic environment contributing to place making and local distinctiveness. The backfilling of quarries as landfill sites through restoration can extend the time for restoration. Landscape restoration and management opportunities should be maximised in relation to minerals and landfill operations and after-use.
Historic environment	Minimising and avoiding effects on assets	The County includes large numbers of recorded archaeological sites, listed buildings and conservation areas, as well as scheduled monuments. Many of these assets lie in close proximity to mineral deposits. The NPPF requires a positive strategy for the conservation of the

		historic environment.
Flooding	Drainage and disturbance Restoration for flood storage or alleviation benefits	Throughout the County there is a need for flood and surface water management which has implications regarding the location, longevity and viability of minerals operations. Proposed minerals developments must ensure they do not impede drainage in any way, and that mineral processing plants are not at risk of flood damage. Similarly, any proposed minerals and waste developments should not impact any flood infrastructure or unreasonably affect water discharge rates / flows. In general, the following risks relate to: - Disturbance or removal of surface features such as watercourses or flood storage - Increased risk of groundwater flooding from low level restoration - Some minerals development increasing flows in the receiving water courses (where water is discharged) - Effects of long-term pumping on other abstractors and wetland habitats Nevertheless, restoration opportunities exist to increase flood storage post-extraction. This supports an increased emphasis in the NPPF on the effects of climate change. The restoration of mineral workings and landfill sites provide significant opportunities for mitigation and adaptation in this regard, and the LMWLP should continue to promote measures such as habitat creation and increased flood storage capacity.
Transport	Congestion and road usability	Parts of the strategic road network pass through towns and villages creating potential issues for local communities in terms of air quality, amenity and road usability which can be heavily impacted by increases in Heavy Goods Vehicle (HGV) trips - particularly in sensitive rural areas and designated Air Quality Management Areas (AQMAs). Minerals and waste development may lead to changes in local travel patterns that may intensify existing issues such as congestion or road safety.

General Theme	Focused Themes	Description and Supporting Evidence
Minerals development	Safeguarding resource	There is a strong need to safeguard mineral resources, including through increased use of secondary and recycled materials. There is similarly a need to ensure that mineral resources are both adequately supplied and also viable from an economic viewpoint. This is also the case for wider minerals and waste industries.
Minerals development	Meeting demand and growth needs	At the Local Planning Authority level, growth requirements are at an unprecedented level, and house building is needed to meet a housing shortage. Without a plan-led system, a steady and adequate supply of building materials might not be forthcoming to facilitate forecasted development needs. Further to housebuilding, infrastructure projects both independent and ancillary to housing growth, such as roads, requires mineral resource. This is a key driver of change in identifying and ensuring a steady and adequate supply of sand and gravel, as well as other aggregates.
Minerals and waste development	Safeguarding infrastructure	There is an identified need to ensure both that there is a steady and adequate supply of minerals, and the treatment of waste through various waste management facility types. This is the remit of the Plan, and pertinent to consider at the LMWLP review stage, in order to both cover a period going beyond the adopted LMWLP plan period date, and the possibility that neighbouring authorities may fail to make adequate provision for a steady and adequate supply of sand and gravel from their own indigenous deposits. As the Plan Review document sets out, this may have implications for the level of provision that the LMWLP will need to make. To that extent, the need to safeguard existing infrastructure is justified and mechanisms exist for safeguarding against development that would unnecessarily sterilise minerals sites and infrastructure or prejudice or jeopardise their use by creating incompatible land uses nearby. Similarly is there a need to safeguard existing and allocated waste management facilities from redevelopment to a non-waste use and, or the encroachment of incompatible development. These are included within existing LMWLP policies, yet often rely on the district planning authorities formally consulting the County Council on relevant

		applications.
Waste development	Meeting demand and growth needs	Similarly to a need to provide minerals to respond to and enable growth, there is a need to ensure that the waste derived from an increase in population is suitably and sustainably managed. This will require a range of facility types and scales across the waste hierarchy, including disposal.
Waste development	Bird strike	The Royal Air Force (RAF) operate a number of important bases in the County including Waddington and Coningsby. These are a significant factor when considering restoration schemes, particularly if water bodies are involved, as the creation of wetland habitats and the subsequent presence of birds can pose a significant hazard to airplanes in flight. The Plan and this SA needs to have regard to the need to protect flight paths for both civilian airports (outside the County) and military airbases (both within and outside the County). Inappropriate development has the potential to negatively affect the viability of airbases, the closure of which could have a significant impact on the local economy. Safeguarding and consultation mechanisms can ensure the prevention of bird strike hazards, relevant to wider themes of health and safety.
Climate Change	Adapting to climate change Reducing carbon emissions	Climate change and its correlation with sustainable waste management and mineral development is well established, in adhering to the waste and minerals hierarchies, which seek to reduce waste going to landfill. In line with the Government's new Net Zero Strategy (October, 2021) there is a need to reduce emissions from the treatment and disposal of waste and landfill, including emissions from incineration not used to generate energy (e.g. incineration of chemical waste). Although an operational matter in many respects, there is scope for the Local Plan to reinforce policies that seek to ensure promote carbon neutrality from new development.
Health	Human health and pollution	Potential impacts on health, well-being and quality of life should be taken into account in identifying suitable sites for minerals sites and waste facilities. The potential impact of

	Restoration to a recreation after-use	noise, dust, vibration, lighting and water pollution generated by ongoing operations needs to be considered. There lies an opportunity to restore mineral extraction sites to a recreation or sport after use. In response to a growing population, it is possible that such after-uses can offer wider social health and wellbeing benefits to local areas in the long term, and these opportunities can be explored holistically at the Plan level or otherwise on a case-by-case basis at the development management stage.

3.4 Identifying the SA Objectives

The SA objectives are those that are relevant to the Plan, the Plan area, and the themes of sustainability that are required to be covered by the SA. The SA objectives identified for the Plan review are included in the table below.

Table 3: The Sustainability Appraisal (SA) Objectives

SA Objective
1) To conserve and where possible enhance biodiversity and geodiversity designations, as well as natural habitats and protected species
2) To conserve and where possible enhance the quality and character of landscapes and landscape features
3) To conserve and where possible enhance the historic environment (both above and below ground), built and cultural heritage, and their settings
4) To maintain and where possible improve the quality and sustainable use of ground and surface water resources
5) To maintain and where possible improve air quality
6) To ensure that, where possible, new development is carbon neutral
7) To ensure that minerals and waste activities do not lead to an increase in flood risk and are prepared for the impacts of climate change
8) To minimise any impacts deriving from waste management and, or mineral extraction in regard to human health and wellbeing

SA Objective
9) To minimise any impacts on local amenity resulting from minerals or waste activities (noise, dust, vermin, odour)
10) To minimise minerals and waste miles, ensure there is suitable transport infrastructure, and promote the sustainable transportation of minerals and waste
11) To ensure a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet identified needs and avoid the sterilisation of minerals resources.
12) To promote the sustainable use of minerals.
13) To ensure the effective restoration and appropriate after-use of mineral extraction sites
14) To move the management of waste up the waste hierarchy (prevention, re-use, recycling, other recovery, disposal)
15) To ensure a mix of types and scales of waste management facilities, and ensure adequate provision is made for waste disposal
16) To protect and improve soil quality, in particular the County's best and most versatile agricultural land
17) To promote economic growth and diversity across the County through opportunities arising from minerals and waste activities

3.5 The Approach to Assessing the Plan Review

3.5.1 The SA Framework devised to assessing the Plan's policies

The SA is required to assess the impacts of the Plan review's content and any reasonable alternatives. For this purpose, a broad SA Framework has been devised for the Plan's policy content. The SA Framework takes the SA Objectives identified previously and expands and elaborates on each objective in turn with a series of criteria or 'key questions' to aid the assessment of the Plan review's content in more detail.

The table below sets out the SA Framework against which the Plan review can be assessed.

Table 4: SA Framework for Assessing the Plan Review (Policies)

Proposed 2022 SA Objective	Key Questions and Assessment Criteria (Does the policy…)	Potential Indicators
1) To conserve and where possible	Ensure a determination of 'no likely significant' (alone or in-combination) on Habitats Sites?	Change in number and area of designated

Proposed 2022 SA Objective	Key Questions and Assessment Criteria (Does the policy…)	Potential Indicators
enhance biodiversity and geodiversity designations, as well as natural habitats and protected species	(As identified within the Habitats Regulations Assessment (HRA) of the Local Plan as it emerges) Seek appropriate mitigation or offsetting where necessary? Have an identified effect on any designation of national, regional or local importance? Avoid damage to sites, protected species and habitats? Maintain and improve biodiversity and geodiversity, avoiding irreversible losses? Restore full range of characteristic habitats and species to viable levels? Lead to biodiversity net gains? Conserve or enhance species diversity and avoid harm to internationally and nationally protected, scarce and rare species? Provide for positive management of existing habitats? Assist species to adapt to the anticipated effects of climate change? (i.e. through connecting habitats and, or providing greenspace)? Expand the spatial extent of priority habitat within Lincolnshire? Conserve or enhance geological SSSIs? Create, extend or enhance Local Geological Sites? Ensure current ecological networks are not compromised and future improvements in habitat connectivity are not prejudiced?	ecological sites. Development proposals affecting protected species outside protected areas. Achievement of Habitat Action Plan targets. Achievement of Species Action Plan targets. Development proposals affecting habitats outside protected areas. Bird survey results. Reported condition of ecological SSSIs. Number of planning permissions that generated any adverse impacts on sites of acknowledged biodiversity importance. Percentage of major developments generating overall biodiversity enhancement. Hectares of biodiversity habitat delivered through site allocations or through policy approaches.
2) To conserve and where possible enhance the quality and character of landscapes and landscape features	Protect and enhance the landscape everywhere and particularly in designated areas? Improve landscape and townscape character of the county and help to minimise adverse impacts to local amenity and overall landscape	Changes in landscape of designated landscape (landscape conditions attached to new permissions) Number of Tree

	character? Conserve and enhance landscape character, quality and distinctiveness, paying particular regard to the AONB and other designated areas of high landscape and, or historic sensitivity or value? Contribute to an adverse cumulative impact of development on protected landscapes? Provide for the restoration of land to an appropriate after-use and landscape character? Reduce the amount of derelict, degraded and underused land? Provide opportunities for the creation of accessible greenspace where restoration is planned?	Preservation Orders (TPOs) affected Number or extent of field boundaries affected Light pollution Amount of new development in AONB (and other designations) Percentage of population having access to a natural greenspace within 400 metres of their home. Length of greenways constructed Hectares of accessible open space per 1,000 population
3) To conserve and where possible enhance the historic environment (both above and below ground), built and cultural heritage, and their settings	Have an adverse effect on any designated or non-designated or potential heritage assets or their settings? Seek to ensure no loss, or erosion, of the historic character of the landscape? Have an adverse effect on known archaeological deposits? Change the condition of known or potential archaeological monuments and, or the ability to record unknown buried archaeology? Protect designated areas- nationally, regionally and locally? Protect areas of high archaeological potential? Suggest measures to conserve and enhance the local character and distinctiveness of historic townscapes and landscapes? Identify and protect the relationship between historic settlements and the wider landscape?	Number of listed buildings at risk Area of historic parks and gardens Size, condition and number of Conservation Areas Areas of significant archaeological and paleo-environmental potential Number of conservation area appraisals completed, and enhancement schemes implemented Buried archaeology as listed in the NMR or HER or considered to be likely within a particular site by the County Archaeologist

		and, or Historic England. Minerals and Waste applications submitted and refused due to adverse impact to the Historic Environment Minerals and Waste applications submitted and allowed with conditions relating to the Historic Environment Site allocations supported or opposed by Historic England
4) To maintain and where possible improve the quality and sustainable use of ground and surface water resources	Seek to sustain the highest water quality? Take into account the Water Framework Directive and proposed development impacts? Seek to prevent pollution from field run off or other sources? Likely to change the general quality assessment grades of surface and ground water quality? Avoid adverse effects on existing patterns of groundwater flow and, or surface water flow? Protect or enhance the quantity and quality of ground and surface waters? Does the Plan seek to address the potential issues with the removal of part of an aquifer and disrupting groundwater flows? Change potable and, or non-potable abstraction resources or disrupt aquifer continuity? Maintain water availability for water dependant habitats? Affect rates of abstraction and water use? Affect grey water recycling? Seek the introduction of natural systems which	Water quality in rivers Groundwater quality Potential effect on groundwater source protection zones Condition of water bodies (Water Framework Directive) Water use figures from water supplier(s) Resource availability status for units of groundwater in Catchment abstraction Use of recycled water on waste sites.

	can improve surface water runoff into water courses? Seek to ensure proposals enhance biodiversity in water courses?	
5) To maintain and where possible improve air quality	Take into account proposed development impacts within any AQMAs and their relevant Action Plans Account for locations where air pollution levels are approaching the National Objectives thresholds Improve air quality? Affect levels of the 7 National Objective pollutants for local air quality (SO2, NO2, PM10, benzene, 1,3-butadene, CO, Pb).	Achievement of emission limit values Number of AQMAs and dwelling affected Number of days of air pollution Operational impact on air quality
6) To ensure that, where possible, new development is carbon neutral	Ensure carbon neutrality? Encourage on-site energy improvements? Help to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance energy efficiency? Affect methane levels? Seek to generate or recover energy from waste?	Consumption of electricity - Domestic use per consumer and total commercial and industrial use. Consumption of energy. Use of low carbon technologies. Location to maximize tonnes per miles. Opportunities for utilizing renewable or low-carbon energy supply systems Number of applications granted and refused Environment Agency (EA) permit(s)
7) To ensure that minerals and waste activities do not lead to an increase in flood risk and are prepared	Ensure that minerals and waste developments are not at risk of flooding? Ensure no increased risk of flooding elsewhere?	Flood Risk – Planning applications approved against Environment Agency advice.

Proposed 2022 SA Objective	Key Questions and Assessment Criteria (Does the policy…)	Potential Indicators
for the impacts of climate change	Mitigate the potential effects of fluvial flooding and reduce overall flood risk? Mitigate the potential of surface water flooding and reduce overall flood risk? Mitigate the potential for coastal flooding and reduce overall risk? Mitigate the potential for groundwater flooding and reduce overall risk? Minimise the risks and impacts of flooding having taken into account climate change? Ensure that development requiring water to be discharged does not lead to flood risk regarding the receiving water courses? Seek to eliminate biodegradable waste going to landfill? Seek to ensure that restoration can sequester carbon from the atmosphere? Seek to reduce carbon emissions from transport / freight movements? Seek to reduce emission from the treatment and disposal of waste and landfill, including emissions from incineration not used to generate energy (e.g. incineration of chemical waste)?	Properties at risk of flooding from rivers. Incidence of fluvial flooding (properties affected). Incidences of surface water flooding Incidences of coastal flooding Incidences of groundwater flooding Strategic Flood Risk Assessment (SFRA) results.
8) To minimise any impacts deriving from waste management and, or mineral extraction in regard to human health and wellbeing	Avoid or minimise adverse impacts on human health and safety to acceptable levels? Seek to site waste facilities away from residential properties (distances by facility type as appropriate)? Seek appropriate buffers or distances between mineral extraction sites and residential areas? Promote the use of landscaping and attenuation bunds to reduce the impact of noise-creating activities? Minimise traffic volumes? Reduce the impact of road traffic, in particular HGV trips, on local communities?	Human health and safety – complaints to environmental health regarding minerals or waste management activities Play and open space quality, quantity and accessibility Percentage of residents who are happy with their neighbourhood as a place to live Diversion of public rights

	Ensure the provision of any related mitigation measures? Maximise the benefits of appropriate restoration and after-use of sites for the community? Ensure that any public rights of way or bridleways are either protected, or diversion is justified? Ensure suitable mechanisms to ensure operations do not conflict with a military or civil airfield safeguarding area (regarding bird strike hazards)?	of way Diversion of bridleways
9) To minimise any impacts on local amenity resulting from minerals or waste activities (e.g. noise, dust, vermin, odour)	Ensure that a Statutory nuisance is not caused under the Environmental protection Act 1990, in terms of dust? Ensure that a Statutory nuisance is not caused under the Environmental protection Act 1990 by reference to BS4142 "Method for Rating industrial noise affecting mixed residential and industrial sources"? Promote a decrease in noise levels in sensitive locations? Ensure odour level compliance? Ensure the provision of any related mitigation measures? Affect fly tipping in the County?	Noise levels Dust levels Number of human receptors Complaints relating to noise, dust and odour (Districts Environmental Health officers and SCC) Fly tipping statistics (SCC) Light pollution maps
10) To minimise minerals and waste miles, ensure there is suitable transport infrastructure, and promote the sustainable transportation of minerals and waste	Reduce the vehicle kilometres travelled for the transportation of minerals and waste? Support and encourage the use of sustainable modes of transport? Support and encourage the use of low emission vehicles for the transportation of waste and minerals? Encourage a decrease in road dependency? Encourage easy access to A-Roads (as	Location to maximize tonnes per miles Transport movements No of developments where a green travel plan is submitted or is a condition of development

	identified in the Lincolnshire Freight Strategy)?	
11) To ensure a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet identified needs and avoid the sterilisation of minerals resources.	Allow for a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet the needs of the society in accordance with national policy? Seek to ensure mechanisms exist for the protection of mineral resources from non-minerals related development? Where practicable seek to secure the prior extraction of minerals where this would prevent sterilisation of the minerals due to non-minerals development?	Supply of minerals Number of planning permissions granted for non-minerals development within safeguarded areas Minerals resources within the county and extend of sterilisation
12) To promote the sustainable use of minerals.	Encourage the use of recycled goods and aggregates? Minimise the use of virgin materials and allow for the use of local, reused or recycled materials? Help to reduce land contamination? Protect best and most versatile agricultural land? Promote sustainable waste management principles?	Minerals resources consumption Protection of best and most versatile agricultural lands Soil contamination
13) To ensure the effective restoration and appropriate after-use of mineral extraction sites	Promote effective restoration and after use of sites for social, environmental or economic benefit?	Restoration and after use of minerals sites
14) To move the management of waste up the waste hierarchy (prevention, re-use, recycling, other recovery, disposal)	Increase prevention, recycling and reuse measures? Increase other recovery (useful purposes for waste generated)? Reduce waste to landfill or for disposal? Encourage energy recovery?	Tonnage of household waste produced and recycled

Proposed 2022 SA Objective	Key Questions and Assessment Criteria (Does the policy…)	Potential Indicators
15) To ensure a mix of types and scales of waste management facilities, and ensure adequate provision is made for waste disposal	Does it seek to provide for an adequate supply of facilities to meet waste forecasts? Does it address capacity gap needs? Does it seek to minimise the amount of waste transported out of the County for treatment or disposal?	Capacity gap analysis for all waste types
16) To protect and improve soil quality, in particular the County's best and most versatile agricultural land	Minimise risk of soil contamination? Safeguard soil and protect quality and quantity? Encourage the de-contamination and, or re-use of soils? Reduce the capacity of the soil to hold carbon? Minimise the loss of greenfield land to development? Minimise loss of the best and most versatile agricultural? Affect the amount of contaminated land? Lead to remediation of contaminated land?	Map or data showing soil quality Area (hectares) of contaminated land returned to beneficial use Number and percentage of new development completed on greenfield land. No. of waste management sites on greenfield land. Waste management sites or developments on best agricultural land.
17) To promote economic growth and diversity across the County through opportunities arising from minerals and waste activities	Encourage rural diversification? Encourage inward investment? Support the development and growth of the local economy and generate employment opportunities? Encourage innovation and competitiveness within the minerals and waste industries? Impact on long-term investment in waste management infrastructure? Ensure no conflict with other investment opportunities?	Number and percentage of businesses by industry type in key sectors. Number or percentage employed in minerals and waste sector Value of minerals and waste development industry within the county Investment in innovation technologies within waste and minerals industry Amount of waste treated

		within county Employment land availability Amount of waste exported

3.5.2 The SA Frameworks devised for assessing minerals and waste sites

In addition to the appraisal of the Plan review's policy content within the SA, any new site allocations or options (alternatives) are required to be assessed to identify any significant effects on the SA Objectives.

Two SA Frameworks have been devised, one for minerals sites and one for waste management sites. There is a need for distinction between the two, as mineral extraction sites and waste management facilities often have different locational criteria and differing factors that determine their sustainability. The following tables outline the SA frameworks proposed for the appraisal of minerals sites and waste sites in turn.

Table 5: SA Framework for the assessment of site allocation options – proposed minerals sites

SA Objective	Significant Positive Effects	Positive Effects	Uncertain Effects	Neutral Effects or No Effect	Negative Effects	Significantly Negative Effects
1) To conserve and where possible enhance biodiversity and geodiversity designations, as well as natural habitats and protected species	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration in regard to biodiversity net gains.	Proposals would lead to minimum policy standards (as established in the LWMLP) in regard to biodiversity value.	No statutory habitat sites within 250m but potential impacts on designations that would need further assessment.	No statutory habitat sites within 250m	Effects on nature conservation designations, but mitigation possible.	Likely significant effects on a Habitats Site (as identified in the Habitats Regulations Assessment including any Appropriate Assessment) or SSSI Or Sites that include or are adjacent to a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
2) To conserve and where possible enhance the quality and character of landscapes and landscape features	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration regarding	Proposals would lead to minimum policy standards through restoration regarding	No specific landscape designation, however, has important landscape features and mitigation	Where relevant in specific circumstances	No specific landscape designation, however, has important landscape features and mitigation not	The site is located within or adjacent to the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

	landscape.	landscape.	possible		considered possible	
3) To conserve and where possible enhance the historic environment (both above and below ground), built and cultural heritage, and their settings [1]	It is not considered possible for significant positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the conservation of assets in the first instance.	It is not considered possible for positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the conservation of assets in the first instance.	There is considered to be the potential for an impact on the significance of a designated or non-designated historic environment asset, although mitigation is possible.	No impact on any designated or non-designated historic environment assets.	There is considered to be an impact on a designated or non-designated historic environment asset or its setting, but mitigation is possible. Potential impacts have been highlighted that might require preservation in situ.	There is considered to be an impact that could affect the significance of a designated or non-designated historic environment asset or its setting with no mitigation suitable. Or The site includes or is adjacent to a site or building with a nationally recognised designation (Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Registered Historic

[1] Site Appraisals to be undertaken by Place Services Historic Environment specialists

						Battlefields and Registered Parks and Gardens) or includes or is adjacent to Ancient Woodland
4) To maintain and where possible improve the quality and sustainable use of ground and surface water resources	It is not considered possible for significant positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the conservation of water in the first instance.	It is not considered possible for positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the conservation of water in the first instance.	The site is partly within a Source Protection Zone. Or The site is outside groundwater protection zones (SPZs) but sits above principle or secondary aquifers. Or More detailed assessment required.	There are no known constraints regarding surface or groundwater.	The site is located within a ground water Source Protection Zone. Or There are known constraints regarding surface water.	The site is located within a ground water Source Protection Zone. And There are known constraints regarding surface water.
5) To maintain and where possible improve air quality	It is not considered possible for significant	It is not considered possible for positive impacts	Where relevant.	There are no Air Quality Management Areas in the immediate	The site is within close proximity to an Air Quality	The site is within an Air Quality Management Area and will result in

	positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the maintenance of air quality in the first instance.	to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the maintenance of air quality in the first instance.		area.	Management Area.	additional road transport movements.
6) To ensure that, where possible, new development is carbon neutral	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	All proposals - no impact identified at this stage as impacts would only be identifiable at the planning application stage and in adherence to relevant Plan policies.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
7a) To ensure that minerals and waste activities do not lead to an increase in flood risk and are prepared for the impacts of climate change – flooding from	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration, regarding flood	Proposals would lead to minimum policy standards (as established in the LWMLP) in regard to flood risk.	The site is partially within Flood Risk Zone 2 Or Water bodies present on site, but	The site is within Flood Risk Zone 1 or otherwise 'water compatible'.	The site is partially within Flood Risk Zone 3 (a or b) and an 'exception test' would be required Or	The site is predominantly within Flood Risk Zone 3a and identified as 'highly vulnerable'

SA Objective	Significant Positive Effects	Positive Effects	Uncertain Effects	Neutral Effects or No Effect	Negative Effects	Significantly Negative Effects
rivers and sea	water storage or alleviation.		the site is within Flood Risk Zone 1.		The site is predominantly within Flood Risk Zone 2 an 'exception test' would be required.	Or The site is within Flood Zone 3b and either 'highly vulnerable', 'more vulnerable' or 'less vulnerable' (i.e. development should not be permitted)
7b) To ensure that minerals and waste activities do not lead to an increase in flood risk and are prepared for the impacts of climate change – surface water flood risk	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration, regarding flood water storage or alleviation.	Proposals would lead to minimum policy standards (as established in the LWMLP) in regard to flood risk.	Proposal can avoid areas of any risk / mitigation can offset impacts from operational activities	Site is predominantly within an area of 'low risk'	Site is predominantly within an area of 'medium risk'	Site is predominantly within an area of 'high risk'
8a) To minimise any impacts deriving from waste management and, or mineral extraction in regard to human health and wellbeing – public	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration	Restoration proposal would lead to small benefits through restoration regarding	A PRoW(s) or and, or bridleway and, or byway(s) borders the proposal site.	There is no conflict between the proposal and any PRoW(s) or bridleway(s) or	The proposal would require the diversion of a PRoW(s) and, or bridleway(s) and, or	The proposal would lead to the loss of multiple PRoWs or bridleways or byways.

amenity	regarding accessible open space or recreation or sports provision.	accessible open space or recreation or sports provision.		byway(s).	byway(s) Or The proposal would lead to the loss of a PRoW(s) or bridleway(s) or byway(s).	
8b) To minimise any impacts deriving from waste management and, or mineral extraction in regard to human health and wellbeing – bird strike hazard	It is not considered possible for significant positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the prevention of impacts in the first instance.	It is not considered possible for positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the prevention of impacts in the first instance.	Where applicable, such as where there is a lack of submitted or known information for the proposal	Restoration proposals unrelated to bird strike (e.g. would not increase the presence of birds)	Restoration proposal is for biodiversity gains that could increase the presence of birds, and is located on a known flightpath	Restoration proposa is for biodiversity gains that will increase the presence of birds (e.g. wetland creation), and is located on a known flightpath
9) To minimise any impacts on local amenity resulting from minerals or waste activities (e.g. noise, dust, vermin,	It is not considered possible for significant positive impacts	It is not considered possible for positive impacts to be ensured, as	Properties within 250m of the proposed and impacts can be mitigated	No properties within 250m of the site	Properties within 250m of the site and impacts cannot be easily mitigated	Any properties within 250m of the site with no capability of mitigation

odour)	to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the minimisation of related impacts in the first instance.	the criterion is focused on the minimisation of related impacts in the first instance.				
10) To minimise minerals and waste miles, ensure there is suitable transport infrastructure, and promote the sustainable transportation of minerals and waste	The proposal will see the movement of materials by sustainable means (appropriate connection to a rail depot or transhipment site, and, or appropriate connection to a wharf.)	The proposal has no objection from the County Highways Authority and access is directly onto an A-Road (as identified in the Lincolnshire Freight Strategy)	The proposal has no objection from the County Highways Authority, but access is not directly onto an A-Road (as identified in the Lincolnshire Freight Strategy) Or Access is directly onto a B-Road	Not Applicable	The proposal has an objection from the County Highways Authority regarding access arrangements however capability of being suitable.	The site, or proposal would conflict with identified transport infrastructure improvements or existing commitments
11) To ensure a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet identified needs and	The site significantly contributes to meeting mineral	The site is for mineral extraction not considered significant in	The site is for mineral extraction, however the proposal has issues	All other proposals	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

avoid the sterilisation of minerals resources.	supply needs	meeting mineral supply needs	with policy compliance (of the adopted LMWLP and emerging policies) or previous proposals have been refused planning permission (planning history).			
12) To promote the sustainable use of minerals.	The proposal is for an extension to an existing site for minerals extraction	The proposal is a new site for mineral extraction	Not Applicable	All other proposals	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
13) To ensure the effective restoration and appropriate after-use of mineral extraction sites	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration (including but not limited to: biodiversity net	Proposals would lead to minimum policy standards (as established in the LWMLP) in regard to (e.g.) biodiversity value or to social and, or economic	Further information required	Proposals that do not require or involve a need for restoration	Restoration scheme is considered unsuitable.	It is considered that the nature of proposals would be deemed capable of having the potential significant negative impacts.

	gain, green infrastructure, recreation, flood water storage or the storage of water for agriculture or industry gain).	gains.				
14) To move the management of waste up the waste hierarchy (prevention, re-use, recycling, other recovery, disposal)	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	All proposals	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
15) To ensure a mix of types and scales of waste management facilities, and ensure adequate provision is made for waste disposal	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	All proposals	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
16) To protect and improve soil quality, in particular the County's	The proposal is not on land in agricultural use or	The proposal is not on land in agricultural use or	Where relevant in specific	The proposal is not on land in agricultural use	Grade 3 ALC	Grade 1 ALC Or

SA Objective	Significant Positive Effects	Positive Effects	Uncertain Effects	Neutral Effects or No Effect	Negative Effects	Significantly Negative Effects
best and most versatile agricultural land	has no intrinsic value (Grade 4 or 5 ALC) And, where relevant Restoration proposals intended to improve original (ALC) soil quality grading.	has no intrinsic value (Grade 4 or 5 ALC) And, where relevant Restoration proposals intended to reinstate original (ALC) soil quality grading.	circumstances	and, or has no intrinsic value (Grade 4 or 5 ALC)		Grade 2 ALC
17) To promote economic growth and diversity across the County through opportunities arising from minerals and waste activities	It is considered that no single site or proposal would lead to a significant positive effect on employment opportunities.	The proposal will lead to job creation or retention on site	The site could conflict with neighbouring employment uses. Or Employment numbers not provided.	No proposal is unrelated to activities associated with job creation or retention.	The site is proposed for an alternative employment use within a Local Plan or there is an unimplemented permission for an employment use.	The site is existing or safeguarded employment land in the relevant district Local Plan or has planning permission for employment use.

Table 6: SA Framework for the assessment of site allocation options – proposed sites for waste management facilities

Proposed 2022 SA Objective	Significant Positive Effects	Positive Effects	Uncertain Effects	Neutral Effects or No Effect	Negative Effects	Significantly Negative Effects
1) To conserve and where possible enhance biodiversity and geodiversity designations, as well as natural habitats and protected species	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration in regard to biodiversity net gains.	Proposals would lead to minimum policy standards (as established in the LWMLP) in regard to biodiversity value.	No statutory habitat sites within 250m but potential impacts on designations that would need further assessment.	No statutory habitat sites within 250m	A temporary site with impacts on nature conservation designations, but mitigation possible.	Likely significant effects on a Habitats Site (as identified in the Habitats Regulations Assessment, including any Appropriate Assessment) or SSSI Or Sites that include or are adjacent to a Site of Special Scientific Interest (SSSI)
2) To conserve and where possible enhance the quality and character of landscapes and landscape features	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration regarding landscape.	The site is for landfill of an existing void that is required for restoration.	No specific landscape designation, however, has important landscape features but mitigation is possible.	Where relevant in specific circumstances	The site is within the AONB but is a temporary facility (such as landfill which is required for landscape restoration of an existing mineral void)	The site is located within or adjacent to the Lincolnshire Wolds Area of Outstanding Natural Beauty (AONB).

					Or No specific landscape designation, however, has important landscape features and mitigation not considered possible	
3) To conserve and where possible enhance the historic environment (both above and below ground), built and cultural heritage, and their settings [2]	It is not considered possible for significant positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the conservation of assets in the first instance.	It is not considered possible for positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the conservation of assets in the first instance.	There is considered to be the potential for an impact on the significance of a designated or non-designated historic environment asset, although mitigation is possible.	No impact on any designated or non-designated historic environment assets.	There is considered to be an impact on a designated or non-designated historic environment asset or its setting, but mitigation is possible. Potential impacts have been highlighted that might require preservation in situ.	There is considered to be an impact that could affect the significance of a designated or non-designated historic environment asset or its setting with no mitigation suitable. Or The site includes or is adjacent to a site or building with a

[2] Site Appraisals to be undertaken by Place Services Historic Environment specialists

						nationally recognised designation (Scheduled Monuments, Conservation Areas, Listed Buildings, Registered Historic Battlefields and Registered Parks and Gardens) or includes or is adjacent to Ancient Woodland
4) To maintain and where possible improve the quality and sustainable use of ground and surface water resources	It is not considered possible for significant positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the conservation of water in the first instance.	It is not considered possible for positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the conservation of water in the first instance.	The site is partly within a Source Protection Zone. Or The site is outside groundwater protection zones (SPZs) but sits above principle or secondary aquifers. Or More detailed	There are no known constraints regarding surface or groundwater.	The site is located within a ground water Source Protection Zone. Or There are known constraints regarding surface water.	The site is located within a ground water Source Protection Zone. And There are known constraints regarding surface water.

			assessment required.			
5) To maintain and where possible improve air quality	It is not considered possible for significant positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the maintenance of air quality in the first instance.	It is not considered possible for positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the maintenance of air quality in the first instance.	There are potential air quality issues associated with bioaerosols.	There are no Air Quality Management Areas in the immediate area.	The site is in close proximity to an Air Quality Management Area Or There are identified air quality issues associated with bioaerosols.	The site is within an Air Quality Management Area and will result in additional road transport movements.
6) To ensure that, where possible, new development is carbon neutral	Not Applicable	The proposal would lead to the generation of energy from waste	Proposal has potential for energy from waste through type of waste management facility, however no proposal for energy from waste submitted.	All other proposals.	Not Applicable (Impacts would only be identifiable at the planning application stage and in adherence to relevant Plan policies.)	Not Applicable (Impacts would only be identifiable at the planning application stage and in adherence to relevant Plan policies.)

7a) To ensure that minerals and waste activities do not lead to an increase in flood risk and are prepared for the impacts of climate change – flooding from rivers and the sea	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration, regarding flood water storage or alleviation.	Proposals would lead to minimum policy standards (as established in the LWMLP) in regard to flood risk.	The site is partially within Flood Risk Zone 2 Or Water bodies present on site, but the site is within Flood Risk Zone 1.	The site is within Flood Risk Zone 1 or otherwise 'water compatible'.	The site is partially within Flood Risk Zone 3 (a or b) and an 'exception test' would be required Or The site is predominantly within Flood Risk Zone 2 an 'exception test' would be required.	The site is predominantly within Flood Risk Zone 3a and identified as 'highly vulnerable' Or The site is within Flood Zone 3b and either 'highly vulnerable', 'more vulnerable' or 'less vulnerable' (i.e. development should not be permitted)
7b) To ensure that minerals and waste activities do not lead to an increase in flood risk and are prepared for the impacts of climate change – surface water flood risk	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration, regarding flood water storage or	Proposals would lead to minimum policy standards (as established in the LWMLP) in regard to flood risk.	Proposal can avoid areas of any risk / mitigation can offset impacts from operational activities	Site is predominantly within an area of 'low risk'	Site is predominantly within an area of 'medium risk'	Site is predominantly within an area of 'high risk'

	alleviation.					
8a) To minimise any impacts deriving from waste management and, or mineral extraction in regard to human health and wellbeing – public amenity	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration regarding accessible open space or recreation or sports provision.	Restoration proposal would lead to small benefits through restoration regarding accessible open space or recreation or sports provision.	A PRoW(s) or and, or bridleway and, or byway(s) borders the proposal site.	There is no conflict between the proposal and any PRoW(s) or bridleway(s) or byway(s) Or For landfill proposals – no sensitive receptors (housing, schools, health, community uses) within 250m of the site	The proposal would require the diversion of a PRoW(s) and, or bridleway(s) and, or byway(s) Or The proposal would lead to the loss of a PRoW(s) or bridleway(s) or byway(s). Or For landfill proposals –sensitive receptors (housing, schools, health, community uses) within 250m of the site, but mitigation possible or proposed (e.g. through buffers)	The proposal would lead to the loss of multiple PRoWs or bridleways or byways.

8b) To minimise any impacts deriving from waste management and, or mineral extraction in regard to human health and wellbeing – bird strike hazard	It is not considered possible for significant positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the prevention of impacts in the first instance.	It is not considered possible for positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the prevention of impacts in the first instance.	Where applicable, such as where there is a lack of submitted or known information for the proposal	Restoration proposals unrelated to bird strike (e.g. would not increase the presence of birds)	Restoration proposal is for biodiversity gains that could increase the presence of birds, and is located on a known flightpath	Restoration proposal is for biodiversity gains that will increase the presence of birds (e.g. wetland creation), and is located on a known flightpath
9) To minimise any impacts on local amenity resulting from minerals or waste activities (e.g. noise, dust, vermin, odour)	It is not considered possible for significant positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the minimisation of related impacts in the first instance.	It is not considered possible for positive impacts to be ensured, as the criterion is focused on the minimisation of related impacts in the first instance.	Properties within 250m of the proposed and impacts can be mitigated	No properties within 250m of the site Or For landfill proposals - site is not within a military or civil airfield safeguarding area (regarding bird	Properties within 250m of the site and impacts cannot be easily mitigated	Any properties within 250m of the site with no capability of mitigation Or Bioaerosols will be emitted through the proposal with no capability of mitigation Or

				strike hazards).		For landfill proposals - site is within a military or civil airfield safeguarding area (regarding bird strike hazards).
10) To minimise minerals and waste miles, ensure there is suitable transport infrastructure, and promote the sustainable transportation of minerals and waste	The proposal will see the movement of materials by sustainable means (appropriate connection to a rail depot or transhipment site, and, or appropriate connection to a wharf.)	The proposal has no objection from the County Highways Authority and access is directly onto an A- Road (as identified in the Lincolnshire Freight Strategy)	The proposal has no objection from the County Highways Authority, but access is not directly onto an A-Road (as identified in the Lincolnshire Freight Strategy) Or Access is directly onto a B-Road	Not Applicable	The proposal has an objection from the County Highways Authority regarding access arrangements however capability of being suitable.	The site or proposal would conflict with identified transport infrastructure improvements or existing commitments
11) To ensure a steady and adequate supply of minerals to meet identified needs and	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	All proposals	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

avoid the sterilisation of minerals resources.						
12) To promote the sustainable use of minerals.	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	All proposals	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
13) To ensure the effective restoration and appropriate after-use of mineral extraction sites	Restoration proposal would lead to outstanding benefits through restoration (including but not limited to: biodiversity net gain, green infrastructure, recreation, flood water storage or the storage of water for agriculture or industry gain).	Proposals would lead to minimum policy standards (as established in the LWMLP) in regard to (e.g.) biodiversity value or to social and or economic gains.	Further information required	Proposals that do not require or involve a need for restoration	Restoration scheme is considered unsuitable.	It is considered that the nature of proposals would be deemed capable of having the potential significant negative impacts.

Proposed 2022 SA Objective	Significant Positive Effects	Positive Effects	Uncertain Effects	Neutral Effects or No Effect	Negative Effects	Significantly Negative Effects
14) To move the management of waste up the waste hierarchy (prevention, re-use, recycling, other recovery, disposal)	The nature of the proposal diverts waste from being landfilled (recycling or re-use).	The nature of the proposal diverts waste from being landfilled (other recovery).	The proposal is for disposal (potential effects and justification addressed through narrative in the appraisal).	Not Applicable	The restoration proposal requires the importation of materials.	No potential proposals have been deemed capable of having significant negative impacts.
15) To ensure a mix of types and scales of waste management facilities, and ensure adequate provision is made for waste disposal	The site significantly contributes to meeting waste management capacity needs	The site is for a waste management facility not considered significant in meeting waste management capacity needs	The site is for a waste management facility, however the proposal has issues with policy compliance (of the adopted LMWLP and emerging policies) or previous proposals have been refused planning permission (planning history).	All other proposals	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
16) To protect and improve soil quality, in particular the County's	The proposal is not on land in agricultural use or	The proposal is not on land in agricultural use or	Where relevant in specific	The proposal is not on land in agricultural use or	Grade 3 ALC	Grade 1 ALC Or

Proposed 2022 SA Objective	Significant Positive Effects	Positive Effects	Uncertain Effects	Neutral Effects or No Effect	Negative Effects	Significantly Negative Effects
best and most versatile agricultural land	has no intrinsic value (Grade 4 or 5 ALC) And, where relevant Restoration proposals intended to improve original (ALC) soil quality grading.	has no intrinsic value (Grade 4 or 5 ALC) And, where relevant Restoration proposals intended to reinstate original (ALC) soil quality grading.	circumstances	has no intrinsic value (Grade 4 or 5 ALC)		Grade 2 ALC
17) To promote economic growth and diversity across the County through opportunities arising from minerals and waste activities	It is considered that no single site or proposal would lead to a significant positive effect on employment opportunities.	The proposal will lead to job creation on site	The site could conflict with neighbouring employment uses. Or Employment numbers not provided.	No increase in employment opportunities on site.	The site is proposed for an alternative employment use within a Local Plan or there is an unimplemented permission for an employment use.	The site is an existing or safeguarded employment land in the district Local Plan or has planning permission for employment use.

3.6 The Approach to Identifying Effects

The SA of the Plan review aims to assess the sustainability effects of the Plan following implementation. The assessment will look at:

- Temporal effects;
- Secondary, Cumulative and Synergistic effects;
- The assessment of Reasonable Alternatives; and
- Proposed mitigation measures and recommendations.

These, and 'significant effects' are further described in the following sub-sections.

3.6.1 Description of 'Significant Effects'

The strength of impacts can vary dependant on the relevance of the policy content to certain SA Objectives or themes. Where the policies have been appraised against the SA Objectives the basis for making judgements is identified within the following key:

Possible impact	**Basis for judgement**
++	Strong prospect of there being significant positive impacts
+	Strong prospect of there being minor positive impacts
?	Possibility of either positive or negative impacts, or general uncertainty where there is a lack on current information (to be elaborated in commentary in each instance)
0	No impact or neutral effects
-	Strong prospect of there being minor negative impacts, however mitigation would be possible, or issues can be rectified
- -	Strong prospect of there being significant negative impacts with mitigation unlikely to be possible (pending further investigation) or further work is needed to explore whether issues can be rectified
Not Applicable	Not Applicable to the scope or context of the assessed content

3.6.2 Description of 'Temporal Effects'

The assessment of the Plan review's content should recognise that impacts may vary over time. The SA Environmental Report will highlight where effects may change over time in those instances

where evidence exists to support such judgements. Should no evidence exist, then temporal effects will be based on reasonable assumptions, which will also be highlighted and signposted within the SA Environmental Report.

3.6.3 Description of 'Secondary, Cumulative and Synergistic Effects'

In addition to those effects that may arise indirectly (secondary effects), relationships between different elements of the Plan review will be assessed in order to highlight any possible strengthening or weakening of impacts from their implementation together. Cumulative effects respond to impacts occurring directly from two different elements together, and synergistic effects are those that offer a strengthening or worsening of more than one element of the Plan that is greater than any individual impact. Additionally, any cumulative impacts with other plans or projects will be highlighted within the assessment.

3.6.4 Description of 'Alternatives Considered'

Planning Practice Guidance (PPG) states that reasonable alternatives are the different realistic options considered by the plan-maker in developing the policies in its plan. They must be sufficiently distinct to highlight the different sustainability implications of each so that meaningful comparisons can be made. The alternatives must be realistic and deliverable.

3.6.5 Description of 'Proposed Mitigation Measures and Recommendations'

Negative or uncertain impacts may be highlighted. As such, mitigation measures may be needed, and these will be highlighted in this section for each policy where relevant. In addition to this, this section will also include any recommendations that may maximise sustainability benefits.

4. Next Steps

4.1 Consulting on this Scoping Report

This SA Scoping Report has been consulted on with the statutory consultees, those being:

- The Environment Agency
- Historic England
- Natural England

The comments and recommendations received through this consultation exercise can be found in Appendix 3 of the main Scoping Report, and the majority of the recommendations have been factored into that Report and this Non-Technical Summary.

Further consultation is to be undertaken on the Plan and the SA Scoping Report with the public and other relevant and interested bodies. The 'scope' covers all of the elements within this Scoping Report and comments will be welcomed regarding:

1. Have all of the key Plans and Programmes (relevant to minerals planning) been identified and are they are relevant?
2. Is the level of baseline information collected suitable, and are there any gaps (relevant to minerals planning)?
3. Are there any additional environmental problems within the Plan area (relevant to minerals planning) that have not been identified?
4. Are the SA Objectives and 'key questions (criteria)' (the SA framework) appropriate?
5. Are the Minerals and Waste site assessment SA Frameworks appropriate?

4.2 Developing and refining alternatives and assessing effects

Once the 'scope' of the SA has been consulted on, and any required or suggested amendments made, the process of assessing the Plan review can begin. As set out within Stage B of the SA process, this will comprise of six key processes as outlined in the sub-sections below.

4.2.1 Testing the Plan objectives against the SA Objectives

The Plan review will likely include a number of key objectives. This section of the Plan review will represent the key aims that the plan-makers wish to achieve in formulating the Plan review document.

Although findings will be presented to the plan-makers at an early stage, the SA will explore whether the objectives are compatible and whether they need to be expanded to ensure that the Plan review seeks to minimise any possible environmental effects and maximise those that are positive. A narrative will be provided that will make any such recommendations.

4.2.2 Developing strategic alternatives

A key part of the SA process is the identification of all 'reasonable' alternatives to the Plan review's content. 'Reasonable' alternatives need to be fully considered by the plan-makers and assessed within the SA. They must be realistic, achievable and sufficiently distinct from the preferred strategy to warrant separate assessment.

4.2.3 Predicting the effects of the draft Plan including alternatives

It is integral that all elements of the Plan review that may give rise to any environmental, social or economic effects are assessed within the SA Environmental Report, as well as the alternative approaches as required. Commonly, this includes all policies and site allocation options.

4.2.4 Evaluating the effects of the draft Plan, including alternatives

An evaluation of the effects of the Plan review and alternatives is required of the SA process. This will be presented in the form of a narrative that explains the various pros and cons of the Plan Review.

4.2.5 Considering ways of mitigating adverse effects

This stage will consider whether the effects identified can be mitigated. This will be presented in the form of recommendations. This stage will also include recommendations for maximising positive effects, where possible.

4.2.6 Proposing measures to monitor the environmental effects of Plan implementation

The SA will include a list of possible indicators that can be collected to monitor any effects highlighted. These will include suggested data sources relevant for all of the SA Objectives and 'key questions (criteria)' included within this Scoping Report.

4.3 Preparation of an Environmental Report

This stage presents the above tasks into a coherent report (the 'SA Environmental Report') that outlines the findings of the assessment and where the requirements of the SA process are met. The SA Environmental Report will also be accompanied by a Non-Technical Summary that outlines the key findings from the assessment of the Plan and those reasonable alternatives identified.

4.4 Consulting on the draft Plan and the SA Environmental Report

The SA Environmental Report will again be subject to consultation from the statutory consultees, as well as the public. The SA Environmental Report will be made available alongside the Plan review for the Pre-submission consultation (Regulation 19).

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