



Norfolk County Council

Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan

Equality Impact Assessment Findings and Recommendations

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Equality impact assessments enable decision-makers to consider the impact of proposals on people with protected characteristics.



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List of Abbreviations

ADHD	Attention deficit hyperactivity disorder
AOS	Areas of Search
AQMA	Air Quality Management Areas
ASD	Autistic Spectrum Disorder
CD&E	Construction, Demolition & Excavation
CPA	County Planning Authority
DPD	Development Plan document
EHO	Environmental Health Officer
ELV	End-of-Life Vehicle
EqIA	Equality Impact Assessment
HGV	Heavy Goods Vehicle
HWRC	Household Waste Recycling Centre
IMD	Index of Multiple Deprivation
LACW	Local Authority Collected Waste
LSOA	Lower Layer Super Output Areas
MRF	Materials Recycling Facilities
NA	Not Available
NM&WLP	Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
NPPG	National Planning Policy Guidance
ONS	Office for National Statistics
RWTF	Residual waste treatment facilities
SPA	Special Protection Area
SAC	Special Area of Conservation
SOA	Super Output Areas
VME	Visible Minority Ethnic
WEEE	Waste electrical and electronic equipment

Glossary

Air Quality Management Areas: Areas designated by local authorities because they are not likely to achieve national air quality objectives by the relevant deadlines.

Lower Super-Output Areas: This is one of two layers of Super Output Areas (see below). The lower layer consists of a minimum population of 1000 and mean population of 1500. Lower super output areas consist of a number of Output Areas.

Super Output Areas: A Super Output Area is a geographical area used for statistical analysis (such as information gathered through the 2011 census). They are based on population sizes to enable comparisons of statistics from similar sized populations. There are two layers of Super Output Areas (lower layer and middle layer).

1. The proposal [Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan (NM&WLP)]

- 1.1 This Equality Impact Assessment (EqIA) has been prepared to satisfy all relevant legal and policy requirements for the assessment, as it relates to the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan (NM&WLP). It has been completed in line with the County Council's own guidance for undertaking EqIAs. The Equality and Human Rights Commission has also published detailed guidance on the Equalities Act 2010 and how public bodies can comply with it. An EqIA is required because the NM&WLP is a spatial land use policy document which covers the whole of Norfolk, and therefore could affect significant numbers of residents. The EqIA will evidence whether there are any equality issues to address.
- 1.2 Norfolk County Council, as the County Planning Authority (CPA), is responsible for planning for the provision of a steady and adequate supply of minerals and the management of waste. It has a statutory duty to produce and maintain an up-to-date Minerals and Waste Local Plan which forms the basis for determining any relevant planning applications that are lodged with the authority. The NM&WLP also forms part of the Development Plan for Norfolk which means it is a consideration in the determination of planning applications lodged with Local Planning Authorities (LPA's) within the district councils, where there is the potential for those proposals to impact safeguarded mineral resources, safeguarded mineral sites or waste management facilities.
- 1.3 The existing Norfolk Minerals and Waste Development Plan Documents cover the period to 2026 and consist of the following adopted documents:
 - The Norfolk Core Strategy and Minerals and Waste Development Management Policies Development Plan Document (DPD) (the 'Core Strategy') (adopted in 2011).
 - The Norfolk Waste Site Specific Allocations DPD (adopted 2013).
 - The Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD (adopted 2013, amended in 2017 following adoption of the Single Issue Silica Sand Review).
- 1.4 As these DPDs were adopted over five years ago, the NM&WLP Review process is being carried out to ensure that the Local Plan policies remain up to date, to extend the Plan period to 2038 and to consolidate the three DPDs into one Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan (NM&WLP). Annex 1 sets out the NM&WLP process and stages.
- 1.5 There have been two six-week Regulation 18 Consultations on the NM&WLP; the Initial Consultation in 2018 and the Preferred Options Consultation in 2019. The consultations have been open to all members of the public, statutory consultees, parish councils, local planning authorities and other organisations and stakeholders and undertaken in accordance with Norfolk County Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement and the Town and Country Planning (Local Planning) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended). The consultation responses are available to view on Norfolk County Council's Local Plan consultation website: <https://norfolk.oc2.uk/>. Annex 2 sets out how and when the consultations took place in more detail.

2. Legal context

- 2.1 Public authorities are required by the Equality Act 2010 to give due regard to equality when exercising public functions. This is called the 'Public Sector Equality Duty'. The Equality Act states that public bodies must pay due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment and victimisation; advance equality of opportunity between people who share a relevant 'protected characteristic' and people who do not share it; and foster good relations between people who share a protected characteristic and people who do not share it.
- 2.2 The purpose of an equality impact assessment is to consider the potential impact of proposals or service changes on people with protected characteristics (see Annex 3 for information about the different protected characteristics).
- 2.3 If the assessment identifies any detrimental impact, this enables mitigating actions to be developed.
- 2.4 It is not always possible to adopt the course of action that will best promote the interests of people with protected characteristics. However, equality assessments enable informed decisions to be made that take every opportunity to minimise disadvantage.

3. Information about the people affected by the proposal

The NM&WLP Pre-submission (Regulation 19) document is being assessed, which includes minerals and waste planning policies, and allocated mineral extraction sites. The implementation of policies within the NM&WLP, through the determination of planning applications, could potentially impact on everyone who lives, works, learns in and visits Norfolk, particularly those who are situated near or adjacent to mineral extraction sites or waste management sites.

It is considered that the location of any specific sites and the implementation of policies within the NM&WLP will not have any differential impacts on the following characteristics: marriage and civil partnership, pregnancy and maternity, gender reassignment and sexual orientation. Therefore, these characteristics are not discussed further in the EqIA. The EqIA focusses on the potential impact of the NM&WLP on the following characteristics: race, religion, disability, age and gender.

This section gives an overview of the distribution of people with protected characteristics in county of Norfolk, which the NM&WLP covers. The Office of National Statistics (ONS) 2011 Census data has been used, unless otherwise identified, which provides the most recent available data on groups with protected characteristics in Norfolk.

3.1 Racial Groups

3.1.1 Visible Minority Ethnic Population

The 'visible minority ethnic' (VME) group as defined by the Office of National Statistics (ONS) is made up of groups of the population other than those self-classifying as 'white'.

As shown in Table 1, Norfolk has a low level of population diversity, with the percentage of those classification within the VME group being significantly lower than both the East of England and England.

In 2011 the VME group represented 3.6% of the total population of Norfolk. By comparison, in the East of England the VME group represented 9.1% in 2011. In England, the percentage of the VME group represented 14.5% of the total population in 2011.

At district level there are significant differences in the percentage of the population within Norfolk which are self-classifying as part of the VME group. The smallest percentage of the district population within the VME group occurs in North Norfolk (1.4%). Norwich City has the greatest concentration of people within the VME group (9.1%).

3.1.2 'White Other' Ethnic Population

The largest minority group within Norfolk's population is the 'White Other' group. This group is a sub-set of the 'white' group and comprises Europeans and those people of a European descent who do not fall within the groups 'White British, 'White Irish' or 'White Gypsy or Irish Traveller'.

In 2011 the 'white other' group comprised 3.5% of the total population of Norfolk. By comparison, in the East of England the 'white other' group represented 4.5% of the total population. In England, the percentage of the 'white other' group represented 4.6% of the total population in 2011.

The districts in 2011 show differences in the percentage of the population within this group from the lowest in Broadland (1.4%) to the highest in Breckland (5.6%).

3.1.3 'White' Ethnic Population – Gypsy or Irish Traveller

In Norfolk, there are 0.1% of people who identify themselves as Gypsy or Traveller and are recognised as having a protected characteristic under the Equality Act. The 2011 Census analysis (Bradford, 2014) confirms the new Gypsy or Irish Traveller tick box was located under the 'White' heading as this was where most people from the 'Gypsy or Irish Traveller' group wrote their response in 2001. Note this doesn't include and is a separate ethnic group and classification to 'Roma.'

Table 1: Ethnicity of usual resident population (2011 census) %

	White: British	White: Irish	White: Gypsy or Irish Traveller	White: Other	Mixed: White and Black Caribbean	Mixed: White and Black African	Mixed: White and Asian	Mixed: Other mixed	Asian: Indian	Asian: Pakistani	Asian: Bangladeshi	Asian: Chinese	Asian: Other Asian	Black: African	Black: Caribbean	Black: Other black	Other: Arab	Other: any other ethnic group
Breckland	91.2	0.5	0.2	5.6	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.1	0	0.1
Broadland	95.9	0.3	0	1.4	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.1	0	0.1	0.1
Great Yarmouth	92.8	0.4	0.1	3.6	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.1	0	0.2	0.4	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.2
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	92.2	0.4	0.2	4.5	0.2	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.1	0	0.3	0.4	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
North Norfolk	96.6	0.3	0	1.7	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.1	0.1	0	0	0.1
Norwich	84.7	0.7	0.1	5.4	0.5	0.5	0.7	0.6	1.3	0.2	0.4	1.3	1.3	1.3	0.2	0.1	0.5	0.4
South Norfolk	95.2	0.4	0.1	1.9	0.3	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.1	0	0.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0	0.1	0.1
Norfolk	92.4	0.4	0.1	3.5	0.3	0.2	0.3	0.3	0.5	0.1	0.1	0.4	0.5	0.4	0.1	0.1	0.1	0.1
East of England	85.3	1	0.1	4.5	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	1.5	1.1	0.6	0.6	1	1.2	0.6	0.2	0.2	0.3
England	79.8	1	0.1	4.6	0.8	0.3	0.6	0.5	2.6	2.1	0.8	0.7	1.5	1.8	1.1	0.5	0.4	0.6

Source: Norfolk Insight (2011 census)

3.2 Religion

The 2011 census provides the most complete picture of religion within Norfolk. The largest percentage of the population in Norfolk, who gave an answer to this question, stated Christianity (61%); this is slightly above the figure given for the East of England (59.7%) or for England (59.4%). In Norfolk, the next largest percentage of the population stated no religion (24.8%), slightly below the figures for the East of England (27.9%) but slightly higher than the percentage for England (24.7%). For the individual religions other than Christianity, the largest percentage of the population for Norfolk who gave an answer specified that they were Muslim (0.6%); this is significantly lower percentage than for the East of England (2.5%) or England (5%).

For all other specified religions Norfolk has a lower percentage than both the East of England and England. In Norfolk, the number of people who stated that they defined themselves as another religion other than those defined was 0.5%, higher than both the East of England (0.4%) or England (0.4%).

Table 2: Religion by district in 2011 (% of usual resident population)

Area	Christian	Buddhist	Hindu	Jewish	Muslim	Sikh	Other religion	No religion	Not stated
Breckland	63.8	0.2	0.1	0.1	0.3	0	0.5	27.6	7.4
Broadland	63.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	0.1	0.4	28	7.4
Great Yarmouth	61	0.2	0.3	0.1	0.5	0	0.3	30.3	7.2
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	66.4	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.4	0.1	0.4	24.8	7.4
North Norfolk	66	0.3	0.1	0.1	0.2	0	0.5	25.2	7.6
Norwich	44.9	0.7	0.8	0.2	2	0.1	0.7	42.5	8.2
South Norfolk	62.3	0.3	0.2	0.1	0.3	0	0.4	28.7	7.7
Norfolk	61	0.3	0.3	0.1	0.6	0.1	0.5	29.6	7.6
East of England	59.7	0.4	0.9	0.6	2.5	0.3	0.4	27.9	7.3
England	59.4	0.5	1.5	0.5	5	0.8	0.4	24.7	7.2

Source: Norfolk Insight (census 2011)

The districts show significant variations in religion. The highest proportion of Norfolk residents stating they are Christian is in King's Lynn and West Norfolk (66.4%) and the lowest is in Norwich (44.9%). The proportion of the population self-defining as Muslim also shows significant variances between districts, the highest proportion of the population being resident in Norwich (2%) and the lowest in North Norfolk (0.2%).

The census data indicates a higher proportion of residents practising a religion other than Christianity within those districts (see Table 2) which have greater proportions of their populations from a visible minority ethnic group.

Within the wards that contain site allocations for mineral extraction in the Publication version of the NM&WLP, there are only small variations between the proportions of the population that defined themselves as a specific religion. All wards containing a site allocation had a population of less than 0.5% Buddhist, less than 1% Hindu, less than 0.3% Jewish, less than 0.3% Muslim, less than 0.2% Sikh and less than 1% other religion. These percentages were therefore similar to the Norfolk averages and the district averages. The percentage of the population self-defining as Christian within each ward varied between 69.3% and 62.2% whilst the percentage of the population with no religion varied between 29.9% and 21.8%.

3.3 Disability

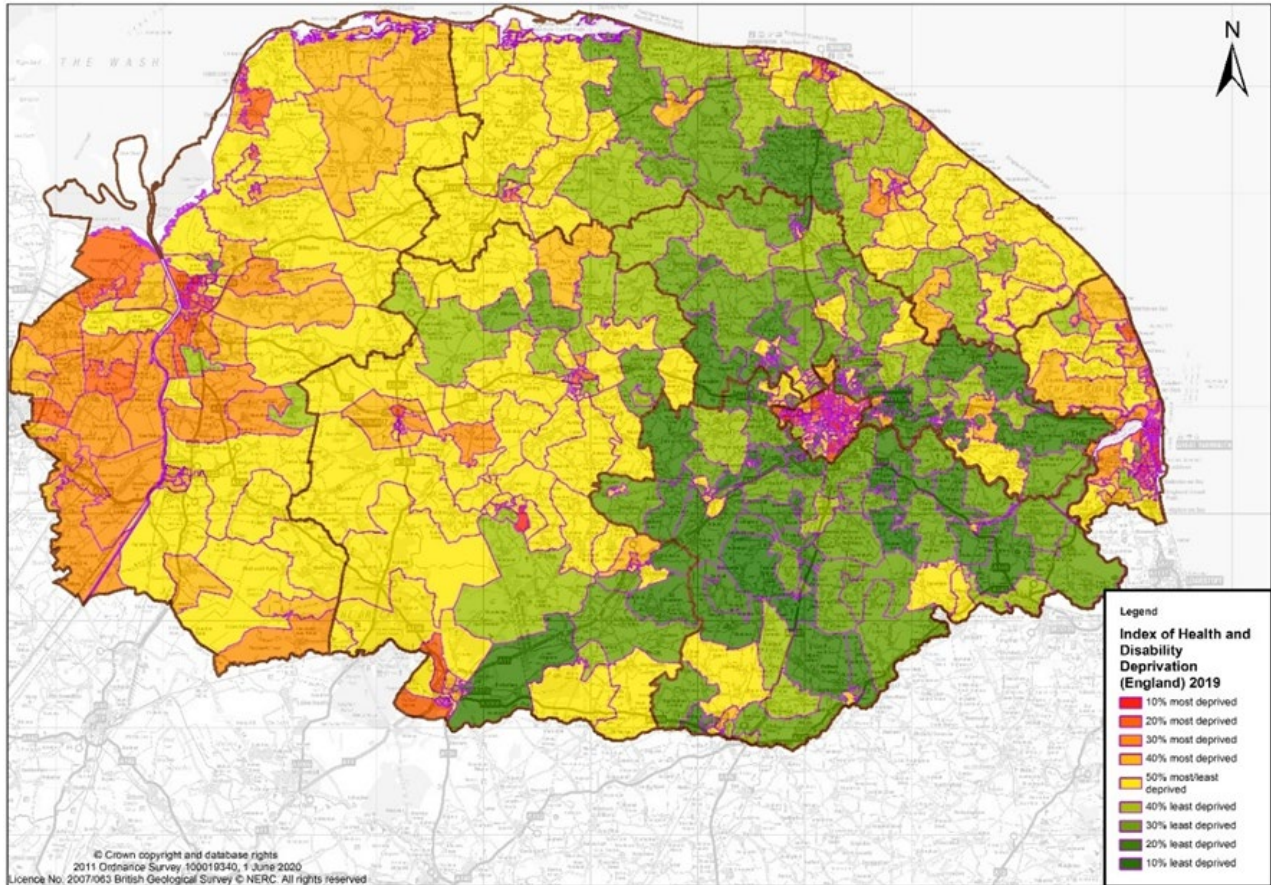
The following data is from the English Index of Multiple Deprivation (IMD) which was published on 26 September 2019; previous versions were published in 2015, 2010, 2007, 2004 and 2000. The IMD uses Lower Super Output Areas (LSOAs) as an area of geography. LSOAs consist of an area containing approximately 1,500 residents or 650 households. As a relative measure the index of deprivation ranks LSOAs compared to all other LSOAs in England. Each LSOA is ranked across the 32,844 LSOAs in England, with a rank of 1 for the most deprived LSOA in England and a rank of 32,844 for the least deprived LSOA. The boundaries of the LSOAs were redefined for the 2011 Census and the number of areas increased from 32,482 in the previous versions. There are 577 LSOAs within Norfolk.

To aid interpretation of LSOAs, the indices also include deprivation 'deciles' dividing LSOAs into 10 equal groups from the 10% most deprived to the 10% least deprived.

IMD is the official measure of relative deprivation for small areas. When the indices are used as a comparison between different sets of data over time, it is important to note that these do not show absolute levels of deprivation, but the area's relative levels of deprivation compared with the other areas within England, so if an area has reduced levels of deprivation, but at a slower rate than similar areas its ranking in terms of levels of deprivation will have increased even though absolute levels of deprivation may have reduced.

There are seven domains of deprivation within the Index of Multiple Deprivation and Figure 1 shows the data for the domain of health and disability deprivation across Norfolk. This is a measure of premature health and the impairment of quality of life by poor health. The LSOAs within the 10% most deprived are shown in red and 10% least deprived in dark green. It can be seen that the 10% most deprived areas occur either partially or wholly within the urban areas, in particular Norwich, King's Lynn, Thetford, Great Yarmouth, and also Hunstanton.

Figure 1 – Health and disability deprivation (2019)



In 2019, 40 LSOAs (6.9%) were in the 10% most health deprived nationally; these are principally concentrated in the urban areas of Norwich, Great Yarmouth, and King's Lynn, with other smaller areas in Cromer, Hunstanton and Watton. When the next decile is also included (10-20% most deprived) the number of LSOAs increases to 96 (16.7%). These are still concentrated within the urban areas mentioned above; however, there are isolated LSOAs within the towns of Dereham, North Walsham, Thetford, and Swaffham. There are also rural LSOAs within the 20% most deprived nationally within the area west of King's Lynn at Heacham, Snettisham, Terrington St. Clement, Tilney St. Lawrence, Walsoken and one at Hemsby, north of Great Yarmouth. Outside the main urban areas, the greatest concentration of LSOAs within the most deprived deciles are at the western and eastern extents of the county. This is clearly displayed on the maps; with the red, orange and yellow shading (representing the most health deprived LSOAs).

There are 20 LSOAs in the 10% least health deprived nationally (3.5%), these are all within the Greater Norwich area. When the next decile of 10-20% least health deprived LSOAs are included, there are a total of 69 LSOAs (12%) in these two deciles, these are also concentrated within the Greater Norwich area, with only 5 LSOAs being outside this area. Therefore, by comparison, the general trend shows the least health deprived areas to be the rural LSOAs, surrounding Norwich with the majority of the most health deprived areas being in the urban areas and pockets of significant health deprivation in parts of Hunstanton, Heacham and rural areas to the east of Wisbech.

While the general pattern shows a rural / urban divide in terms of health deprivation, there are areas of health deprivation within the rural areas. For example, as well as

rural West Norfolk, the coastal areas of Sheringham, Cromer and Hustranton have higher levels of health deprivation.

Table 3 shows all the sites allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP, the parishes they are in and whether the LSOA's within the parish are within the most of least 20% health deprived areas. Of the 19 sites that are to be allocated, one is within an LSOA within the least deprived 20%. None of the allocated sites affect any LSOAs within the most 20% health deprived areas.

Table 3: Site allocations and whether the LSOA's within 250m are within the most or least 20% health deprived areas

Policy / site	Site location parish	Number of LSOAs within 250m	No. of LSOAs within 20% most health deprived	No. of LSOAs within 20% least health deprived
MIN 12	Beetley	1	0	0
MIN 51 & MIN 13 & MIN 08	Beetley	1	0	0
MIN 200	Carbrooke	1	0	0
MIN 202	Attlebridge	1	0	0
MIN 37	Frettenham & Buxton with Lammas	2	0	0
MIN 64	Horstead with Stanninghall	2	0	0
MIN 65	Horstead with Stanninghall	2	0	0
MIN 96	Spixworth, Horsham St Faith & Newton St Faith	2	0	0
MIN 6	Middleton	2	0	0
MIN 206	Tottenhill	1	0	0
MIN 40	East Winch	1	0	0
SIL 01	Bawsey	1	0	0
MIN 69	Aylmerton	3	0	0
MIN 115	North Walsham	1	0	0
MIN 207	Edgefield	2	0	0
MIN 208	East Beckham	1	0	0
MIN 25	Haddiscoe	2	0	0

Data on disability is also available from the 2011 census when people were asked to assess whether their daily activities were limited a lot or a little by a long-term health problem or disability, or whether their daily activities were not limited at all. A long-term health problem or disability is one that limits a person's day-to-day activities, and has lasted, or is expected to last, at least 12 months. This includes problems that are related to old age.

Table 4 shows that the two districts with the highest proportion of population have their day-to-activities limited a lot by a long-term health condition or disability are Great Yarmouth and North Norfolk.

Table 4: Impact of long-term health conditions in Norfolk

Area	Day-to-day activities limited a lot (%)	Day-to-day activities limited a little (%)	Day-to-day activities not limited (%)
Breckland	8.8	10.8	80.3
Broadland	8.1	10.6	81.3
Great Yarmouth	10.9	11.6	77.5

Area	Day-to-day activities limited a lot (%)	Day-to-day activities limited a little (%)	Day-to-day activities not limited (%)
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	9.8	11.5	78.7
North Norfolk	10.3	13	76.7
Norwich	8.6	9.8	81.6
South Norfolk	7	11	82
Norfolk	9.1	11	79.9
England	8.3	9.3	82.4

Table 5 shows all the wards that contain a site allocation in the Publication version of the NM&WLP. Eight of the wards in which there are allocated sites have a higher proportion of the population that the Norfolk average where their day-to-day activities are not limited by a long-term health condition or disability. Four of the wards have a similar proportion to the Norfolk average (between 79 and 80%) where their day-to-day activities are not limited by a long-term health condition or disability. Only one ward (North Walsham West) has a lower proportion than the Norfolk average where their day-to-day activities are not limited by a long-term health condition or disability (76.3%) and therefore a higher proportion of the population than the Norfolk average, whose activities are limited a lot or a little by a long-term health condition or disability (23.7%).

Table 5: Impact of long-term health conditions in wards containing a specific site allocation in the NM&WLP

Site reference	Ward	Day-to-day activities limited a lot (%)	Day-to-day activities limited a little (%)	Day-to-day activities not limited (%)
MIN 12, MIN 51, MIN 13, MIN 08	Lincoln	8.8	10.8	80.4
MIN 200	Saham Toney	8.8	11.3	79.8
MIN 202	Great Witchingham	6.1	10.3	83.6
MIN 37	Buxton	7.4	10.7	82
MIN 64, MIN 65	Coltishall	10	10.8	79.2
MIN 96	Spixworth with St. Faiths	7.3	10.5	82.2
MIN 6	West Winch	9.2	11.5	79.3
MIN 206	Watlington	6.7	9.8	83.5
MIN 40, SIL 01	Gayton & Grimston	9	11.2	79.8
MIN 69, MIN 208	Gresham	7.5	12.1	80.4
MIN 115	North Walsham West	10.4	13.3	76.3
MIN 207	Stody	8.5	11	80.5
MIN 25	Thurlton	7.9	10.6	81.5

3.4 Age

Table 6 shows the spatial distribution of the population by age, across Norfolk. Norfolk has an aging population with a higher-than-average proportion of the population in the over 45 age groups compared to England. North Norfolk has the lowest proportion of the population aged 14 or under (12.7%) and South Norfolk has the highest population (17%). North Norfolk has the highest proportion of the

population aged 65 and over (33.5%), whilst Norwich City has the lowest (15.1%), this is compared with a Norfolk average of 24.7%.

Table 6: Norfolk age structure estimates (% of total population) 2020

Location	0-14	15-29	30-44	45-64	65-79	80+
Breckland	16.3	14.8	16.6	27.1	18.3	7.0
Broadland	15.3	14.0	16.6	28.4	18.5	7.5
Great Yarmouth	16.7	15.7	16.3	26.5	18.3	6.5
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	16.5	13.8	16.0	27.3	19.0	7.2
North Norfolk	12.7	12.3	13.1	28.4	24.0	9.5
Norwich	15.8	29.2	19.7	20.5	10.7	4.4
South Norfolk	17.0	14.2	17.2	27.6	17.4	6.7
Norfolk	15.8	16.5	16.6	26.4	17.8	6.9
England	18.1	18.3	19.6	25.7	13.5	5.1

Source: Norfolk Insight population estimates (ONS data)

<https://www.norfolkinsight.org.uk/population/>

As shown in Table 7, many of the wards containing proposed mineral site allocations have a greater proportion of the population aged above 65 than the Norfolk average (24.7%). The only three wards containing a proposed mineral site allocation where the percentage of the population aged above 65 is below the Norfolk average are Saham Toney (MIN 200), Buxton (MIN 37) and Watlington (MIN 206). All the wards containing a proposed site allocation have a population percentage aged 45-64 greater than the Norfolk average, except for North Walsham West (MIN 115).

In all the wards containing a proposed mineral site allocation the percentage of the population aged 15-29 and 30-44 is below the Norfolk average, except for Watlington (MIN 206). The only three wards containing a proposed mineral site allocation where the proportion of the population aged 14 and under is above the Norfolk average are Saham Toney (MIN 200), West Winch (MIN 6) and Watlington (MIN 206). Therefore, most of the wards containing proposed site allocations have an older population than the Norfolk average. However, this is not a deliberate result of the allocations process, but because mineral extraction usually takes place in the countryside, and the rural areas of Norfolk contain a higher proportion of older people than is found in the urban areas, possibly because of retirement to rural areas.

Table 7: Age structure (% of population) of Wards in 2020 containing specific site allocations

Site reference	Ward	0-14 (%)	15-29 (%)	30-44 (%)	45-64 (%)	65-79 (%)	80+ (%)
MIN 12, MIN 51, MIN 13, MIN 08	Lincoln	14.8	14.6	12.9	26.7	21.9	9.2
MIN 200	Saham Toney	17.8	15.1	16.6	28.0	17.6	5.0

Site reference	Ward	0-14 (%)	15-29 (%)	30-44 (%)	45-64 (%)	65-79 (%)	80+ (%)
MIN 202	Great Witchingham	13	12.7	16.4	29.9	21.8	6.2
MIN 37	Buxton	15.3	14.8	15.7	30.9	17.8	5.5
MIN 64, MIN 65	Coltishall	15.7	12	16	28.9	19.6	7.9
MIN 96	Spixworth with St. Faiths	14.2	13.0	15.4	30.5	20.3	6.7
MIN 6	West Winch	16.6	11.5	15.6	28.1	20.7	7.7
MIN 206	Watlington	17.3	14.8	16.8	28.5	16.9	5.7
MIN 40, SIL 01	Gayton & Grimston	15.2	11.2	13.2	32	21.7	7.1
MIN 69, MIN 208	Gresham	15.3	11.2	12.7	29.8	22.7	8.1
MIN 115	North Walsham West	15.6	15.2	15.1	24.9	19.8	9.3
MIN 207	Stody	14.2	10.9	15.3	30.7	22.7	6.1
MIN 25	Thurlton	13.6	12.2	13.6	33.4	20.9	6.3

Source: Norfolk insight population estimates (ONS data)

3.5 Gender

Generally, gender is not spatially diverse to any great degree. Approximately 49% of Norfolk's population is male. There are minor variations across districts and urban areas, but these variations are generally within the range of less than one percent and are not felt to be significant. Generally, the highest variation in the proportion of male to female tend to be within area with the highest proportion of people above retirement age, where the proportion of women tends to be higher, which is likely to be due to the comparatively greater life expectancy of women.

Table 8: Gender of population estimates (% of population) in 2019

Area	Male Population estimate	Male %	Female Population estimate	Female %
Breckland	69,305	49.51	70,663	50.49
Broadland	63,742	48.74	67,041	51.26
Great Yarmouth	49,101	49.45	50,235	50.55
King's Lynn and West Norfolk	74,026	48.90	77,357	51.10
North Norfolk	51,064	48.71	53,773	51.29
Norwich	69,722	49.60	70,851	50.40
South Norfolk	68,736	48.79	72,144	51.21
Norfolk	445,696	49.10	462,064	50.90
East of England	3,072,499	49.27	3,163,573	50.73
England	27,827,831	49.44	28,459,130	50.56

Source: Norfolk Insight (www.norfolkinsight.org.uk)

Office for National Statistics

(<https://www.ons.gov.uk/peoplepopulationandcommunity/populationandmigration/populationestimates/datasets/populationestimatesforukenglandandwalesandnorthernireland>)

3.6 Summary of data

The data has shown that Norfolk does have some spatial variation in the distribution of some equality groups. The broad picture shows differences between urban and rural locations, in terms of age, ethnic groups, religion and health deprivation

Urban areas of Norfolk are more diverse, with a greater range of ethnic and religious groups. Urban areas also tend to hold younger populations, whilst higher proportions of older populations tend to occur in rural areas.

In terms of health deprivation, urban areas also have the highest levels of deprivation, but there are rural areas which also exhibit high levels of health deprivation, principally in parts of Borough Council areas of West Norfolk and Great Yarmouth. In West Norfolk, the higher levels of health deprivation may be as a result of the higher than average proportion of older residents, who may have age-related health conditions. No site allocations are within an area affecting groups with high levels of health deprivation.

In terms of accessibility, rural locations have greater difficulties as they are less well served by public transport and services may be more sparsely located.

While the 2011 census found that there is a higher proportion of the minority ethnic population in urban areas, the rural areas are not homogenous, and therefore differential impacts to minority ethnic groups are unlikely to be caused by mineral extraction and waste sites in rural areas. During the Local Plan consultations, all properties within 250m of a proposed site were notified in writing of the consultation.

Policies WP2 and MP2 contain the spatial strategies for waste management facilities to be in locations close to, or well related to, the larger urban areas and the main market towns. However, minerals can only be extracted where resources exist in commercially viable quantities and locations. Waste management facilities have fewer factors affecting their location and they are often located on industrial land which tends to be on the urban fringe. Having examined the spatial distribution of people with protected characteristics, and the spatial direction given in policies WP2 and MP2 it is unlikely that significant differential impacts would be caused to people with protected characteristics as a result of these locational policies.

The parishes containing the specific sites for mineral extraction generally have a similar or higher proportion of older residents than the Norfolk average, and average levels of health deprivation, although there are pockets of high deprivation in both urban and some rural areas. None of the allocated sites are in an area of high deprivation. However, the accessible mineral resource occurs mainly in rural areas and can only be extracted where they are found. Further analysis will be conducted to assess any potential impacts caused by the specific site allocations and planning policies.

4. Potential impact

4.1 Introduction to assessment of potential impact

Based on the evidence available, this proposal is likely to have a neutral impact on people with protected characteristics, as there are a number of processes and policies which require equality to be assessed in the planning application process. The NM&WLP itself contains policies which require the impacts of development to be acceptable.

The NM&WLP vision is that both mineral development and waste management facilities will be located, designed and operated without unacceptable adverse impacts on the amenity of local communities, the natural, built and historic environment, the landscape and townscape of Norfolk. Opportunities to enhance such features will be supported and all developments will provide biodiversity net gains.

The potential impacts of all the policies in the NM&WLP on each of the protected characteristics detailed in section 3 will be assessed. Relevant issues raised at the consultation stages are summarised in sections 4.2 and 4.3 and the policy assessment is in section 4.5.

The NM&WLP contains a vision and objectives. It also contains general policies relevant to both minerals and waste management developments, as well as policies specific to minerals and policies specific to waste management. There are no waste site allocations, but there are minerals site allocations which each have an associated policy detailing requirements to be satisfied at the planning application stage.

This report identifies any people with protected characteristics who may be impacted by each policy. Issues which could affect Norfolk's population from mineral extraction and associated development and waste management activities, include health and amenity problems such as noise, dust, odour, traffic and visual intrusion. Therefore, the location, design and operation of minerals and waste management development is an important way to avoid and mitigate potential adverse amenity impacts to local residents. This assessment considers the differential impact on people with protected characteristics only, not the wider population.

If any detrimental impact exists, the policy has been subject to further consideration, and a proposal to monitor the impact is suggested.

4.2 Relevant issues raised in the Initial Consultation Stage

At the Initial Consultation (Regulation 18) stage the following issues were raised during public consultations with statutory and non-statutory consultees, including members of the public. All residents within 250m of a proposed site allocation were consulted with a written letter sent in the post. Emails were sent out to interested parties, both statutory and non-statutory consultees, and the consultation was publicised in the local regional newspaper. Any comments received regarding protected groups or the potential for any of the policies to be discriminatory have been included in Table 9 below.

Table 9: comments received in response to the Initial Consultation regarding protected groups or the potential for any of the policies to be discriminatory

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Initial Consultation stage
Vision and Strategic Objectives	Concerns raised about the wording of objective MS06. Suggested more explicit wording to include 'while developing policies to assess the impact upon the environment and human health'.
MW1: Presumption in favour of sustainable development	None
MW2: Development Management Criteria	Concerns raised about the risk to human health from locating waste management facilities close to populated areas. Concerns raised over the generic use of the term "health", specific wording should be identified such as air quality, noise, dust and pollution.
MW3: Transport	None
MW4: Climate change adaption and mitigation	None
MW5: The Brecks protected habitats and species	None
MW6: Agricultural Soils	None
WP1: Waste management capacity to be provided	None
WP2: Spatial strategy for waste management facilities	Concerns raised about the risk to human health from locating waste management facilities close to populated areas.
WP3: Land uses potentially suitable for waste management facilities	Concerns raised about health risks to residents from locating waste management facilities close to populated areas.
WP4: Recycling or transfer of inert and CD&E waste	None
WP5: waste transfer stations, MRFs, ELV facilities and WEEE recovery facilities	None
WP6: Transfer, storage, processing and treatment of hazardous waste	None
WP7: Household waste recycling centres	None
WP8: Composting	None
WP9: Anaerobic digestion	None
WP10: Residual waste treatment facilities	Concerns raised that the public should be protected from harmful emissions and effects and facilities should not be situated within populated urban areas.

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Initial Consultation stage
WP11: Disposal of inert waste by landfill	None
WP12: Non-hazardous and hazardous waste landfill	None
WP13: Landfill mining and reclamation	None
WP14: Water recycling centres	None
WP15: Whitlingham water recycling centre	None
WP16: Design of waste management facilities	None
WP17: Safeguarding waste management facilities	None
MP1: Minerals extraction	None
MP2: Spatial strategy for minerals extraction	None
MP3: Borrow pits	None
MP4: Agricultural or potable water reservoirs	None
MP5: Core river valleys	None
MP6: Cumulative impacts and phasing of workings	None
MP7: Progressive working, restoration and after-use	None
MP8: Aftercare	None
MP9: Concrete batching and asphalt plants	None
MP10: Safeguarding of facilities	None
MP11: Mineral safeguarding Areas and Mineral Consultation Areas	None
MP12: Energy minerals	None <i>Policy not included in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 12: Beetley	Objections raised regarding the noise and dust pollution from the site affecting the health and quality of life of local residents.
MIN 51 & 13: Beetley	Objections raised regarding the noise from the site affecting the health and quality of life of local residents.
MIN 08: Beetley	Objections raised regarding the noise from the site affecting the health and quality of life of local residents.
MIN 23: Beeston with Bittering	Objections raised regarding the noise, dust and other pollutants from the site affecting the health and quality of life of local residents. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 200: Carbrooke	None
MIN 116: Cranworth	Objections raised regarding the noise and dust pollution from the site affecting the health and quality of life of local residents. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 35: Quidenham	Objections raised on the grounds of noise and smells or other pollutants from the site affecting health and quality of life of local residents. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Initial Consultation stage
MIN 102: Snetterton	None. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 201: Snetterton & Quidenham	None. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 55: Attlebridge	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 202: Attlebridge	None
MIN 48: Felthorpe	Objections raised on the grounds of noise and smells or other pollutants from the site affecting health and quality of life of local residents. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 37: Frettenham & Buxton with Lammas	Objection raised on the grounds of unavoidable noise and dust impact on local residents. <i>The site was granted planning permission on 18/06/2021</i>
MIN 64: Horstead with Stanninghall	Objections raised on the grounds of the proximity to residential properties and the impact from dust and noise pollution, also the impact on the mental well-being of residents. <i>The site was granted planning permission on 13/05/2021</i>
MIN 65: Horstead with Stanninghall	Objection raised on the grounds of noise pollution and dust pollution on local residents. <i>The site was granted planning permission on 05/08/2021</i>
MIN 96: Spixworth, Horsham St Faith & Newton St Faith	Objection raised on the grounds of the proximity to residential properties and noise and dust issues.
MIN 203: Burgh Castle	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 38: Fritton and St Olaves	Objection raised on the grounds of unavoidable noise and dust and pollution to drinking water impact on the health of local residents. Objections raised concerning the loss of Waveney Forest for the mental and physical health of local residents. Objections raised concerns regarding the health and safety of pedestrians at Decoy public house and impacts on emergency services reaching local residents. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 6: Middleton	None
MIN 45: East Rudham	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 204: Feltwell	Comment raised regarding the requirement of a dust assessment and mitigation measures to deal with health impacts. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 19 & MIN 205: Pentney	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 74: Tottenhill	Objection raised on the grounds of the proximity to residential properties and noise and dust issues. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 76: Tottenhill	Objection raised on the grounds of the proximity to residential properties and noise and dust issues <i>The site was granted planning permission on 18/04/2019.</i>
MIN 77: Tottenhill	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Initial Consultation stage
MIN 206: Tottenhill	Comment raised regarding the requirement of a dust assessment and mitigation measures to deal with health impacts. Objection raised on the grounds of the proximity to residential properties
MIN 32: West Dereham	None
MIN 40: East Winch	None
SIL 01: Bawsey	None <i>The site was granted planning permission on 05/08/2021</i>
AOS E: Wormegay, Shouldham, Marham & Shouldham Thorpe	Objections raised on the grounds of the proximity to residential properties and the impact from dust, light and noise pollution of local residents particularly the elderly population, children and those with pre-existing breathing difficulties. Objections raised on health concerns to respiratory diseases and silicosis particularly on the elderly and young highlighting the age demographic of the area. Objections raised concerns regarding the impact on children's education and their studies of wildlife, rivers and history, including the benefits to the mental health of both adults and children. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
AOS F: Runcton Holme & Stow Bardolph	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
AOS I: Runcton Holme, Shouldham Thorpe & Tottenhill	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
AOS J: Tottenhill & Wormegay	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MP13: Areas of Search for silica sand extraction	None <i>The Publication version of the NM&WLP does not include Areas of Search for silica sand extraction</i>
SIL 02: Marham & Shouldham	Comments raised that a dust assessment and a programme of mitigation measures would be required to deal with health impacts. Objections raised on the grounds of the proximity to residential properties and the impact from dust, light and noise pollution of local residents. Objections raised on health concerns to respiratory diseases and silicosis particularly on the elderly and young highlighting the age demographic of the area. Objections raised concerns regarding the impact on children's education and their studies of wildlife, rivers and history, including the benefits to the mental health of both adults and children. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 69: Aylmerton	Objections raised on the grounds of noise impact on a nearby special school for children with autism spectrum disorder (ASD), health risk to local residents and the local school from increased traffic, air pollutants and dust. <i>Part of the site (1 million tonnes) was granted planning permission on 23/10/2020.</i>
MIN 71: Holt	Objections raised on the grounds of noise and dust pollution for the health of local residents and the nearby school especially for the already vulnerable. Concerns raised over the proximity of nearby residents. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 115: North Walsham	None

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Initial Consultation stage
MIN 207: Edgefield	None <i>This site was granted planning permission on 15/08/2019.</i>
MIN 208: East Beckham	Objection raised on the grounds of health concern to local residents from air pollutants and increased noise from the proposed site and increased traffic.
MIN 209: Earsham	Objection raised on the grounds of health concern to local residents from air pollutants including dust and increased noise from the proposed site and increased traffic. <i>The site was granted planning permission on 09/11/2020</i>
MIN 210: Earsham	Objections raised on the grounds of noise, dust and other pollutants as well as increased traffic impacting the health of local residents. <i>The site was granted planning permission on 09/11/2020</i>
MIN 211: Earsham	Objections raised on the grounds of noise, dust and other pollutants as well as increased traffic impacting the health of local residents <i>The site was granted planning permission on 09/11/2020</i>
MIN 25: Haddiscoe	Objections raised on the grounds of noise, dust and other pollutants as well as increased traffic impacting the health of local residents
MIN 92: Heckingham	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 212: Mundham	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 79: Swainsthorpe, Swardeston & Stoke Holy Cross	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 80: Swardeston	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP – this site has been withdrawn from the NM&WLP process.</i>

4.3 Relevant issues raised in the Preferred Options Consultation Stage

At the Preferred Options (Regulation 18) stage the following issues were raised during public consultations with statutory and non-statutory consultees, including members of the public. All residents within 250m of a proposed site allocation were consulted with a written letter sent in the post, and there was also at least one site notice erected at the proposed site itself. Emails were sent out to interested parties, both statutory and non-statutory consultees, and the consultation was publicised in the local regional newspaper. Any comments received regarding protected groups or the potential for any of the policies to be discriminatory have been included in Table 10 below.

Table 10 - comments received in response to the Preferred Options Consultation regarding protected groups or the potential for any of the policies to be discriminatory

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Preferred Options Consultation stage
The consultation process	Objections raised over the language used in the document making it inaccessible for certain citizens as well as lack of notification to residents outside the 250m boundary, particularly those disadvantaged and minorities.

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Preferred Options Consultation stage
Vision and Strategic Objectives	None Objections raised concerning MSO7 regarding the health implications including risks of respiratory problems as well as certain cancers and mental health impacts.
MW2: Development Management Criteria	Concerns were raised about vibrations, odour and air quality; it is suggested that air quality/noise assessments should consider and include mitigation measures to deal with any potential health impacts. Concerns raised regarding the wording of para 8.9 that there should be no impact on human health due to King's Lynn's dense population.
MW3: Transport	None
MW4: Climate change adaption and mitigation	None
MW5: The Brecks protected habitats and species	None
MW6: Agricultural Soils	None
WP1: waste management capacity to be provided	None
WP2: Spatial strategy for waste management facilities	Objection raised on the grounds that waste facilities should be located away from populated areas to be at a safe distance for human health.
WP3: Land potentially suitable for waste management facilities	None
WP4: Recycling or transfer of inert CD&E waste	None
WP5: waste transfer stations, MRFs, ELV facilities and WEEE recovery facilities	None
WP6: Transfer, storage, processing and treatment of hazardous waste	None
WP7: Household waste recycling centres	None
WP8: Composting	None
WP9: Anaerobic digestion	None
WP10: Residual waste treatment facilities	Objections raised on the grounds of risk to human health and well-being from incinerator emissions including air pollution, PM2.5s, oxides of nitrogen, heavy metals, dioxins and furans.
WP11: Disposal of inert waste by landfill	None
WP12: Non-hazardous and hazardous waste landfill	None
WP13: Landfill mining and reclamation	None
WP14: Water recycling centres	None
WP15: Whitlingham water recycling centre	None
WP16: Design of waste management facilities	None
WP17: Safeguarding waste management facilities	None

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Preferred Options Consultation stage
MP1: Minerals extraction	None
MP2: Spatial strategy for minerals extraction	Objections on the grounds that a zone of 250m metres around residential dwellings is not sufficient to protect residents from respiratory silica sand dust particulates.
MP3: Borrow pits	None
MP4: Agricultural or potable water reservoirs	None
MP5: Core river valleys	None
MP6: Cumulative impacts and phasing of workings	None
MP7: Progressive working, restoration and after-use	Objections raised on the grounds of loss of amenity for the local community during the period of mineral extraction
MP8: Aftercare	None
MP9: Concrete batching and asphalt plants	None
MP10: Safeguarding of facilities	None
MP11: Mineral safeguarding Areas and Mineral Consultation Areas	None
MP12: Energy minerals	Objections on the grounds of health and well-being impacts from air pollution, fear and distress due to earth tremors. <i>Energy Minerals policy is not included in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 12: Beetley	Objections made on the grounds of adverse noise, dust and air quality impacts, amenity impacts and quality of life impacts on local residents.
MIN 51 & 13: Beetley	None
MIN 08: Beetley	None
MIN 23: Beeston with Bittering	Objections on the grounds of increased noise, dust and pollution from the proposed site and a negative impact on the wellbeing and quality of life of local residents. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 200: Carbrooke	None
MIN 116: Cranworth	Objections on the grounds of: noise, dust and air pollution impacts on local residents, negative health and well-being impacts from respirable particles of dust, traffic pollution and reduction in air quality for local residents and young children, greater health impact from respirable dust particles on those on immune suppressant drugs, loss of local amenity use of the public right of way, increased traffic very hazardous for local residents including the elderly and small children, detrimental effect on pupils at Kingsbrook School from noise, dust and increased heavy traffic – Kingsbrook School is a specialist school for children aged 11-19 with social, emotional and mental health difficulties. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 35: Quidenham	Objections on the grounds of dust impacts detrimental to health and noise impacts. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Preferred Options Consultation stage
MIN 102: Snetterton	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 201: Snetterton & Quidenham	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 55: Attlebridge	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 202: Attlebridge	None
MIN 48: Felthorpe	None
MIN 37: Frettenham & Buxton with Lammas	None <i>The site was granted planning permission on 18/06/2021</i>
MIN 64: Horstead with Stanninghall	None <i>The site was granted planning permission on 13/05/2021</i>
MIN 65: Horstead with Stanninghall	Objections made on the grounds of: dust exacerbating existing health conditions, dust emissions and air quality impacts to young children and babies, dust/pollution impacts to residents, respiratory health impacts, noise impacts and mental health impacts due to noise of quarry workings close to people's homes. <i>The site was granted planning permission on 05/08/2021</i>
MIN 96: Spixworth, Horsham St Faith & Newton St Faith	Objection made on the grounds of materially significant disturbance and nuisance by the generation of dust, particulates, noise and vibration by the site operations and associated transport which will impact on people's health and quality of life.
MIN 213: Stratton Strawless	Objections on the grounds of dust, particulates, noise, vibrations and associated transport affecting local residents' health. The lack of footways proposes a risk to the health of pedestrians and cyclists as well as the general proximity of the site to local residents.
MIN 203: Burgh Castle	EHO comment that noise and dust assessments would be required at the planning application stage in order to design appropriate mitigation. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 38: Fritton and St Olaves	Objections on the grounds of: noise pollution, dust pollution, air pollution, health impacts on the community from PM2.5 particles from quarrying, adverse impacts on residents with health problems especially respiratory / breathing problems exacerbated by air borne quarry dust, loss of local woodland amenity which has mental and physical health benefits. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 6: Middleton	EHO comment that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. EHO would expect a planning application to include noise and dust assessments and mitigation measures where appropriate to deal with any health and amenity impacts, and for a transport assessment to include air quality impacts from transportation on local residents.

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Preferred Options Consultation stage
MIN 45: East Rudham	<p>EHO comment that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. EHO would expect a planning application to include a dust assessment along with appropriate mitigation measures to address health and amenity concerns and for a transport assessment to include air quality impacts from transportation on local residents.</p> <p><i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i></p>
MIN 204: Feltwell	<p>EHO comment that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. EHO would expect a planning application to include noise, dust and air quality assessments and mitigation measures to minimise harmful emissions to air and address appropriately any human health and amenity impacts; and for a transport assessment to take into account air quality implications for local residents.</p> <p><i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i></p>
MIN 19 & MIN 205: Pentney	<p>EHO comment that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. EHO would expect a planning application to include a dust impact assessment and mitigation measures where necessary to protect human health.</p> <p><i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i></p>
MIN 74: Tottenhill	<p>EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise, dust and air quality assessments and mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any health amenity impacts; and for a transport assessment to take into account air quality implications for local residents.</p> <p>Objections on the grounds of noise and dust pollution impacting the health of nearby residents in relation to respiratory problems linked to silica sand particles. Objections also raised over traffic and wellbeing concerns alongside the lack of footpaths for the children of Wormegay School.</p> <p><i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i></p>
MIN 77: Tottenhill	<p>EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise, dust and air quality assessments and mitigation measures to minimise harmful emissions to air and deal appropriately with any human health or amenity impacts; and for a transport assessment to take into account air quality implications for local residents.</p> <p>Objections on the grounds of: pollution, noise and dust impacts on local residents – most of the people living here are elderly, noise and dust would impact on the health and wellbeing of the local residents, our villages have higher levels of respiratory problems and reduced respiratory functions – these conditions will be exacerbated by particles in the air.</p> <p><i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i></p>

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Preferred Options Consultation stage
MIN 206: Tottenhill	<p>EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise, dust and air quality assessments and mitigation measures to minimise harmful emissions to air and deal appropriately with any human health or amenity impacts; and for a transport assessment to take into account air quality implications for local residents.</p> <p>Objections on the grounds of: pollution, vibration, noise and dust impacts on local residents – most of the people living here are elderly, noise and dust would impact on the health and wellbeing of the local residents, our villages have higher levels of respiratory problems and reduced respiratory functions – these conditions will be exacerbated by particles in the air.</p>
MIN 32: West Dereham	<p>EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise, dust and air quality assessments and mitigation measures to minimise harmful emissions to air and deal appropriately with any human health or amenity impacts; and for a transport assessment to take into account air quality implications for local residents.</p> <p>Objections on the grounds of noise and pollution.</p> <p><i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i></p>
MIN 40: East Winch	<p>EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise, vibration, dust and air quality assessments and mitigation measures to minimise harmful emissions to air and deal appropriately with any human health or amenity impacts. There is the potential for air quality impacts on residential amenity including air pollution emission from transportation.</p> <p>Objections on the grounds of noise and dust pollution.</p>
SIL 01: Bawsey	<p>EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise and dust assessments to identify whether mitigation measures are required. The conveyor route should, if necessary, include mitigation measures to limit disamenity and health impacts from noise, dust and vibrations. A transport assessment should take into account air quality impacts.</p> <p><i>The site was granted planning permission on 05/08/2021</i></p>

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Preferred Options Consultation stage
AOS E: Wormegay, Shouldham, Marham & Shouldham Thorpe	<p>EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise, vibration, dust and air quality assessments and mitigation measures to minimise harmful emissions to air and deal appropriately with any human health or amenity impacts. There is the potential for air quality impacts on residential amenity including air pollution emission from transportation.</p> <p>Objections on the grounds of noise, dust and air pollution as well as the impact on physical and mental health due to the loss of green space for all ages. It is noted that green space is utilised to promote resilience to stress, encourage healthier lifestyles (currently 1 in 5 children that leave primary school are obese), increased mobility, higher cognitive functioning and observation skills, reduction in Type2 diabetes and depression. Those with learning disability or ADHD also experience positive outcomes from being outdoors and closer to nature. Other concerns included the loss of access to environment rich in microorganisms that have positive health benefits such as microbiota that live in the gut. According to Public Health Profile 2018, the villages have higher levels of respiratory problems and reduced respiratory function (Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease, Asthma), concerns raised that silica particles will exacerbate these conditions.</p> <p><i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i></p>
AOS F: Runcton Holme & Stow Bardolph	<p>EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise and dust assessments and mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any human health or amenity impacts. A transport assessment should include air quality impacts.</p> <p>Objections raised regarding the impact to the West Norfolk Riding for Disabled Association for the wellbeing and mental health of those using the service and the loss of woodland.</p> <p>Objections raised on the grounds of noise and dust pollution.</p> <p><i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i></p>
AOS I: Runcton Holme, Shouldham Thorpe & Tottenhill	<p>EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise and dust assessments and mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any human health or amenity impacts. A transport assessment should include air quality impacts.</p> <p>Objections on the grounds of dust and noise pollution as well as the loss of the woodland and lack of footpaths. Concerns raised over the mental health of local residents due to the proximity of the site.</p> <p><i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i></p>

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Preferred Options Consultation stage
AOS J: Tottenhill & Wormegay	EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the amenity and health of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise and dust assessments and mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any human health or amenity impacts. Objections on the grounds of noise, dust and traffic concerns as well as mental health concerns due to loss of natural spaces. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MP13: Areas of Search for silica sand extraction	None
SIL 02: Marham & Shouldham	EHO comments that the site has the potential to cause emissions of PM10 and PM2.5 which can affect the health and amenity of local residents. The EHO would expect a planning application to include noise and dust assessments and mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any human health or amenity impacts. Objections on the grounds of health & wellbeing, noise, dust and air pollution, loss of green space impacting obesity and mental health, the proximity of local residents and school, noise, vehicle pollution and traffic implications. Health concerns raised about silica dust linked to silicosis and respiratory diseases (including asthma). General health concerns raised specifically for the elderly. Exposure to forests and trees boosts the immune system; lowers blood pressure; reduces stress; improves mood; increases ability to focus, including in children with ADHD; accelerates recovery from surgery or illness; increases energy level, improves sleep. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 69: Aylmerton	None
MIN 71: Holt	Objections on the grounds of noise, pollution and dust as well as the proximity to Holt Primary School and Gresham's pre-prep schools. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 115: North Walsham	Objections on the grounds of noise, pollution and dust.
MIN 207: Edgefield	<i>None</i> <i>This site was granted planning permission on 15/08/2019</i>
MIN 208: East Beckham	None
MIN 209: Earsham	Objection on the grounds of noise impact on the nearby residential area. <i>The site was granted planning permission on 09/11/2020</i>
MIN 210: Earsham	None <i>The site was granted planning permission on 09/11/2020</i>
MIN 211: Earsham	None <i>The site was granted planning permission on 09/11/2020</i>
MIN 25: Haddiscoe	Objections on the grounds of noise, pollution, dust and traffic concerns.
MIN 92: Heckingham	Objection on the grounds of noise nuisance for neighbours. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
MIN 212: Mundham	None

Policy / site	Relevant issue raised at Preferred Options Consultation stage
Site WS1: Carbrooke	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
Site WS2: Snetterton & Quidenham	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
Site WS3: Weston Longville & Morton-on-the-Hill	Objections on the grounds of noise and air pollution <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
Site WS4: Ludham	None <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
Site WS5: Middleton	EHO comment regarding need for noise, air quality, odour and lighting assessments at the planning application stage with details of mitigation measures to reduce amenity and health impacts on nearby receptors. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>
Site WS6: Crimplesham & West Dereham	EHO comment regarding need for noise, air quality, odour and lighting assessments at the planning application stage with details of mitigation measures to reduce amenity and health impacts on nearby receptors. Objection on the grounds of noise pollution and dust. <i>Not allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP</i>

4.4 Diversity of respondents to the consultation

Information was not gathered on the diversity of respondents to the consultations on the Minerals and Waste Local Plan. We received 1,518 responses to the Initial Consultation stage from 47 organisations (including statutory consultees) and the rest from individuals. We received 5,674 responses to the Preferred Options Consultation stage from 54 organisations (including statutory consultees) and the rest from individuals.

4.5 Assessment of policies in the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan on people with protected characteristics

This section assesses the potential impacts on people with protected characteristics from the implementation of each policy and each site allocation policy in the NM&WLP. Only sites allocated in the Publication version of the NM&WLP have been assessed.

Policy MW1: Development Management Criteria

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not include any locational criteria. This general development management policy details the principal issues that will be taken into account when reaching a decision on a planning application to ensure that permitted sites represent sustainable development. It includes a range of criteria that a proposal should demonstrate that development would not have an unacceptable (or a cumulative) impact upon. Of particular relevance to the EQIA, this policy also states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration). It requires developments to incorporate good design.

The policy requires minerals and waste development to not generate unacceptable impacts to the safety and capacity of the road and any other transport network.

As this policy is designed to protect residents from unacceptable impacts, inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need are not expected from this policy. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Planning decisions on planning applications also are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Whilst the policy does not specifically require developments to be inclusive with regards to design and accessibility, the NPPF is clear Local Plans do not need to repeat or reformulate existing national policy. The NPPF Paragraph 130f requires planning policies and decisions to create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users. However, the NPPG Paragraph 210(g) recognises that some noisy short-term activities, which may otherwise be regarded as unacceptable, are unavoidable to facilitate minerals extraction.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MW2: Transport

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not include any locational criteria. The policy requires the assessment of the potential for non-HGV transportation of materials to and from facilities, principally by rail or water and take up these sustainable transport opportunities where available. Proposals using HGV transportation movements should not generate unacceptable risks to the safety of road users and pedestrians, unacceptable impacts on the capacity or efficiency of the highway network, unacceptable impacts on air quality or unacceptable physical impacts on the highway network.

The policy also requires planning applications that generate an increase in traffic movements or traffic impact to demonstrate the consideration of other road users and appropriate measures to reduce car travel to site. The content of this policy is based on and therefore very similar to existing Policies CS15 'Transport' and DM10 'Transport' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

As such, inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet needs are not expected from this policy. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MW3: Climate change adaption and mitigation

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not include any locational criteria. The policy requires proposals to take a proactive approach to mitigating and adapting to climate change, taking into account the long-term implications for flood risk, coastal change, water supply, biodiversity and landscapes, and the risk of overheating from rising temperatures through their design, construction and operation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MW4: The Brecks protected habitats and species

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

Development will only be permitted where sufficient information is submitted to demonstrate that the proposal will not adversely affect the integrity of the Breckland Special Protection Area (SPA) and/or Breckland Special Area of Conservation (SAC). This policy is very similar to the 'Breckland SPA' part of existing policy CS14 'Environmental Protection' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, but provides additional detail.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MW5: Agricultural soils

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy is regarding protection of the best and most versatile agricultural land where development is proposed on it, and therefore this policy does not apply to urban areas. The majority of Norfolk is classed as grade 3 agricultural land, with large areas of grade 1 and 2 agricultural land in the west of Norfolk and smaller areas elsewhere in Norfolk. There are only minimal differences between this policy and existing policy DM16 'Soils' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP1: Waste management capacity to be provided

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not include any locational criteria and is to provide, through the policies for specific waste management facility types, for sufficient waste management capacity to meet the expected arisings of Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW), commercial & industrial waste (C&I), inert waste and hazardous waste. Any potential amenity, quality of life and health impacts from the development of waste management facilities will be addressed by the Development Management Criteria Policy MW1. This policy is an updated version of existing Policy CS5 'waste management capacity to be provided' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP2: Spatial strategy for waste management facilities

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy includes locational criteria for waste management facilities, which (with some exceptions) are required to be located within five miles of one of Norfolk's urban areas or three miles of one of the main towns and be accessible via appropriate transport infrastructure. This policy is based on, and similar to, the existing Policy CS5 'general location of waste management facilities' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy. The likely location of waste sites on industrial areas on the urban fringe means that there is unlikely to be disproportionate impacts on any equality group due to geographic differences in their distribution. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP3: Land suitable for waste management facilities

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy details the types of land on which waste management facilities will be acceptable in line with the National Planning Policy for Waste. The types of land listed are generally more likely to be found in and around urban areas, however, some rural land (unused and underused agricultural and forestry buildings and their curtilages and existing mineral workings and landfill sites) are also acceptable in certain circumstances. The policy states that proposals must also comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. This policy is based on, and similar to, the existing Policy CST 'general waste management considerations' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy. Therefore, no indications of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need are expected from this policy.

As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP4: Recycling or transfer of inert CD&E waste

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy sets out the circumstances within which proposals for the recycling or transfer of inert construction, demolition and excavation (CD&E) waste will be acceptable. Without mitigation measures, there is the potential for these types of operations to adversely impact on quality of life and health from noise emissions and dust emissions, which could affect more vulnerable groups if not managed and mitigated appropriately. However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration). This policy also contains requirements to limit the circumstances and time periods when inert CD&E waste recycling would be acceptable at existing sand and gravel workings.

Noise and vibration, and dust emissions from the operation of a waste management facility would be controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and monitored by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP5: Waste transfer stations, materials recycling facilities, ELV facilities and WEEE recovery facilities

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy sets out the circumstances within which proposals for waste transfer stations, materials recycling facilities, end-of-life vehicle (ELV) facilities and waste electrical and electronic equipment (WEEE) recovery facilities will be acceptable. Without mitigation measures, there is the potential for these types of operations to adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example, from noise, odour and emissions to air, which could affect more vulnerable groups if not managed and mitigated appropriately. However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

Policy WP5 also states that these facilities will only be acceptable within purpose designed or suitably adapted facilities on the types of land identified within Policy WP3.

Noise and vibration, emissions to air, land or water, and odour from the operation of a waste management facility would be controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and monitored by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP6: Transfer, storage, processing and treatment of hazardous waste

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

The policy sets out the types of land suitable for hazardous waste facilities, principally within existing or allocated industrial areas, brownfield land and small-scale facilities within existing non-hazardous waste sites. Without mitigation measures, there is the potential for these types of operations to adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example, from noise, odour and emissions to air, which could affect more vulnerable groups if not managed and mitigated appropriately.

However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

Noise and vibration, emissions to air, land or water, and odour from the operation of a waste management facility would be controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and monitored by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP7: Household waste recycling centres

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

The policy does not contain any locational criteria. The policy states that Household waste recycling centres may be acceptable within purpose designed or suitably adapted facilities on the types of land identified within Policy WP3 and consistent with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. The policy states a HWRC must be accessible to the public. This policy will replace existing Policy DM6 'household waste recycling centres' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

Without mitigation measures, there is the potential for HWRC's to adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example, from noise, odour and emissions to air, which could affect more vulnerable groups if not managed and mitigated appropriately. However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

Noise and vibration, emissions to air, land or water, and odour from the operation of a waste management facility would be controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and monitored by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

In addition, HWRCs are a facility for the use by local residents and to bring waste from their own home for recovery, recycling, composting, reuse or disposal. The provision of new facilities or improvements to existing facilities are expected to improve facilities and increase the accessibility of the sites for local residents.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP8: Composting

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

The policy states that composting facilities will only be acceptable on the types of land identified in Policy WP3. Proposals for open air composting or in-vessel composting will not be approved unless they are accompanied by a site-specific risk assessment which shows that bio-aerosol levels can be maintained throughout the life of the operations, at appropriate levels at dwellings or workplaces within 250m of a facility. Appropriate schemes for the management of odours and dust will also be required. This policy is based on, and similar to, existing Policy CS7 'recycling, composting, anaerobic digestion and waste transfer stations' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, but with additional requirements.

Without mitigation measures, there is the potential for composting facilities to adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example, from noise, odour and emissions to air, which could affect more vulnerable groups if not managed and mitigated appropriately. However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

Noise and vibration, emissions to air, land or water, and odour from the operation of a waste management facility would be controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and monitored by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP9: Anaerobic digestion

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

The policy states that anaerobic digestion facilities will only be acceptable on the types of land identified in Policy WP3 and must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1.

Without mitigation measures, there is the potential for anaerobic digestion facilities to adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example, from noise, odour and emissions to air, which could affect more vulnerable groups if not managed and mitigated appropriately. However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

Noise and vibration, emissions to air, land or water, and odour from the operation of a waste management facility would be controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and monitored by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP10: Residual waste treatment facilities

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

The policy states that residual waste treatment facilities will be acceptable where the proposed facility is on the types of land identified in Policy WP3 and comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. This policy will replace existing Policy CS8 'residual waste treatment facilities' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

Without mitigation measures, residual waste treatment facilities (RWTF) could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example, from noise, odour and emissions to air. These impacts may affect more vulnerable groups if not appropriately mitigated. However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

Noise and vibration, emissions to air, land or water, and odour from the operation of a waste management facility would be controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and monitored by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP11: Disposal of inert waste by landfill

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not include any locational criteria. This policy sets out the circumstances in which additional void space for the disposal of inert waste would be acceptable. Proposals for the disposal of inert waste by landfill must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. This policy also states that any new proposals will need to demonstrate that on restoration there will be improvements to biodiversity, landscape, the historic environment and/or amenity, when compared to the baseline prior to landfill. This policy will replace existing Policy CS9 'inert waste landfill in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

Therefore, without mitigation measures, inert waste landfill sites could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example, from noise and dust. These impacts may affect more vulnerable groups if not appropriately mitigated. However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

The potential issues of noise, emissions to air, land or water, from the operation of a waste management facility would be controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and monitored by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP12: Non-hazardous and hazardous waste landfill

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not include any locational criteria. The policy states that proposals for additional landfill void space for the disposal of non-hazardous or hazardous waste will only be acceptable if (along with other requirements) it could be designed, built, operated and restored without unacceptable risk to groundwater quality and air quality. Any new proposals will need to demonstrate that on restoration there will be improvements to biodiversity, landscape, the historic environment and/or amenity on restoration, when compared to the baseline prior to landfill. They must also comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. This policy is based on, and similar to, existing Policy CS10 'non-hazardous and hazardous waste landfill' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

Without mitigation measures, non-hazardous and hazardous waste landfill sites could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example, from noise, dust, odour, litter and vermin.

These impacts may affect more vulnerable groups if not appropriately mitigated. However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

The potential issues of noise, odour, litter and vermin would be controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and managed by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP13: Landfill mining and reclamation

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not include any locational criteria. The policy states that proposals for the mining or excavation of landfill sites will only be permitted where:

- a. The site (without intervention) is demonstrated to pose a significant risk to human health or safety, and/or to the environment; or
- b. Removal of the waste is required to facilitate a major infrastructure project and it is demonstrated that there are no other locations which are suitable for the infrastructure.

Proposals also need to comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1, detail how the waste types deposited within the landfill will be managed, and proposals will also be considered in terms of their impact on the restored use, and whether there would be an unacceptable impact on any development which has taken place since the closure of the old landfill.

Examples could include where the historic landfill site suffers from poor engineering, or if it is currently the cause of significant pollution, environmental or health impacts which justifies its reopening. However, the mining or excavation of waste has the potential to give rise to significant environmental issues. In the case of putrescible waste, this could potentially result in the rapid increase of leachate, landfill gas and odours, which could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example, from noise, dust, odour and vermin. These impacts may affect more vulnerable groups if not appropriately managed and mitigated. However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

There could be a longer-term positive impact for local communities where landfill mining and reclamation is required because a site is demonstrated to pose a significant risk to human health or safety without intervention. As stated above, the policy limits the circumstances in which landfill mining and reclamation would be permitted.

The potential issues of noise, odour, litter and vermin would be controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and managed by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None.

Policy WP14: Water Recycling Centres (WRC)

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not include any locational criteria. This policy states that new, extended or improved Water Recycling Centres will only be acceptable if they treat a greater quantity of wastewater, improve the quality of discharged water and/or reduce the environmental impact of operations. They must also comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

This policy is based on, and similar to, existing Policy CS11 'wastewater / sewage infrastructure and treatment facilities' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

Water Recycling Centres treat wastewater and sewage; they are a vital part of community infrastructure and are necessary to protect human health and water quality. However, without mitigation measures they could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example from odour. These impacts may affect more vulnerable groups if not appropriately managed and mitigated. However, there could be a positive impact for more local residents, including vulnerable groups if the proposal improves the quality of water or reduces the environmental impact of operations.

The discharge from a Water Recycling Centre is controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and managed by the Environment Agency under separate legislation.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP15: Whitlingham Water Recycling Centre

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy states that future improvements to Whitlingham WRC to increase the physical capacity or to increase the treatment standard of waste waters, in line with long term masterplans for the WRC, will be vital to successful delivery of the planned growth in Greater Norwich, and will be supported in principle. However, the policy states that proposals must minimise adverse environmental and amenity impacts, particularly on the Broads area and nearby residents. This policy is based on, and similar to, existing Policy CS12 'Whitlingham Waste Water Treatment Works' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, but with additional requirements.

Water Recycling Centres treat wastewater and sewage; they are a vital part of community infrastructure and are necessary to protect human health and water quality. However, without mitigation measures they could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example from odour. These impacts may affect more vulnerable groups if not appropriately managed and mitigated. On the other hand, there could be a positive impact for more vulnerable groups if the proposal improves the quality of water or reduces the environmental impact of operations. The discharge from a Water Recycling Centre is controlled by an Environmental Permit, issued and managed by the Environment Agency under separate legislation. There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to specific planning applications submitted for development at Whitlingham WRC, any issues which arise can be assessed at the planning application stage. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP16: Design of waste management facilities

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy contains criteria for waste management facilities to meet in their design. This policy does not include any locational criteria. There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. This policy includes the requirement for facilities to provide safe and convenient access for all users. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy WP17: Safeguarding waste management facilities

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

The purpose of this policy is to safeguard existing and permitted waste management facilities and waste recycling centres from incompatible development. This policy is based on and similar to the waste management aspects of existing Policy CS16 'safeguarding minerals and waste sites and mineral resources' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, with additional requirements. There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP1: Provision for minerals extraction

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not include any locational criteria. This policy is based on existing Policy CS1 'Minerals extraction' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, but it has been updated to include new forecasts for mineral need over the Plan period to 2038 and includes additional criteria for planning applications for mineral extraction on unallocated sites. Any potential amenity, quality of life and health impacts from extracting the quantities of mineral to be provided throughout Norfolk over the Local Plan period will be addressed by the specific site allocation policies and the Development Management Criteria policy MW1. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP2: Spatial strategy for minerals extraction

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

Mineral can only be extracted where it is found. This policy states that, within the identified mineral resource areas, specific sites for sand and gravel or Carstone extraction should be located within five miles of one of Norfolk's urban areas or three miles of one of the main towns and/or be well-related to one of Norfolk's urban areas or main towns via appropriate transport infrastructure. Specific sites for silica sand should be located where they are able to access the existing processing plant and railhead at Leziate via conveyor, pipeline or off-public highway haul route.

Mineral extraction could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example from noise and dust. These impacts may affect more vulnerable groups if not appropriately mitigated. There is the potential for equality groups to be disproportionately affected due to geographic differences in their distribution, however, mineral extraction will not actually take place within the urban areas and main towns, but land in the surrounding countryside. In addition, this would vary depending on the exact location of the mineral extraction site. This policy is based on, and similar to, existing Policy CS2 'general locations for mineral extraction and associated facilities' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, but the distance from urban areas and main towns has been reduced in Policy MP2.

Therefore, inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need are not expected from this policy. Any potential amenity, quality of life and health impacts from allocating specific sites for mineral extraction will be addressed by the specific site allocation policies and the Development Management Criteria policy MW1. The specific site allocation policies have been assessed separately in this report.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MPSS1: Silica sand extraction sites

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy applies to planning applications for silica sand extraction located outside of allocated sites, which would address the shortfall in permitted reserves and forecast need. Mineral extraction could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example from noise and dust, which could therefore adversely affect more vulnerable groups if impacts are not managed and mitigated appropriately. However, the policy includes 17 requirements to be met at the planning application stage, including submission of an acceptable noise assessment, acceptable air quality/dust assessment and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any potential impacts.

This policy is based on and similar to the existing Areas of Search Policy in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations Development Plan Document, but the new policy will apply to all proposals for silica sand extraction that are not on allocated sites, instead of just applying to allocated areas of search.

Therefore, inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need are not expected from this policy. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Planning decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP3: Borrow Pits

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

A 'borrow pit' is a temporary mineral working to supply material for a specific construction project. This policy sets out the circumstances when a planning permission will be granted for a borrow pit. Mineral extraction at borrow pits could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example from noise and dust. These impacts may affect more vulnerable groups if not appropriately mitigated. However, this policy states that proposals for borrow pits must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration). This policy is based on, and very similar to, existing Policy DM5 'borrow pits and agricultural or potable water reservoirs' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, but with additional requirements.

As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP4: Agricultural or potable water reservoirs

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not contain any location criteria. The construction of an agricultural or potable water reservoir with incidental mineral extraction could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example, from noise and dust. These impacts may affect more vulnerable groups if not appropriately mitigated. However, this policy states that proposals for agricultural and potable water reservoirs must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration). This policy is based on, and very similar to, existing Policy DM5 'borrow pits and agricultural or potable water reservoirs' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, but with additional requirements.

As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP5: Core river valleys

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy sets out the circumstances in which mineral extraction would be permitted in Core River Valleys with requirements to protect the Core River Valley landscape. This policy is based on, and very similar to, existing policy DM2 'Core River Valleys' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, but with additional requirements. Inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need are not expected from this policy.

As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP6: Cumulative impacts and phasing of workings

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy does not include any locational criteria. Mineral can only be worked where it is found. Mineral extraction could adversely impact on quality of life and health, for example from noise and dust. These impacts may affect more vulnerable groups if not appropriately mitigated. Therefore, this policy sets out how cumulative impacts will be considered when a mineral extraction site which is proposed in proximity to other mineral extraction sites and advises phasing of sites in proximity so that extraction on one site follows completion of another. This policy is based on, and similar to, existing Policy DM15 'Cumulative impacts' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

Any potential amenity, quality of life and health impacts from allocating specific sites for mineral extraction will be addressed by the specific site allocation policies and the Development Management Criteria policy MW1. Policy MW1 also requires cumulative impacts to be assessed. Inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need are not expected from this policy.

As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP7: Progressive working, restoration and after-use

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy sets out the requirements for restoration proposals for mineral workings. This policy does not include any locational criteria. This policy is based on, and similar to, existing Policy DM14 'progressive working, restoration and after-use' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy, but with some additional requirements. Worked land should be reclaimed at the earliest opportunity as this will reduce the timescale of any impacts from mineral extraction and provide benefits from the restoration scheme. Depending on the restoration scheme, there could be public benefits on restoration; for example, the policy requires opportunities to be taken to improve public access, where appropriate.

As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP8: Aftercare

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy is regarding the aftercare of permitted mineral extraction sites and does not include any locational criteria. This policy requires an outline aftercare strategy, to set out the land management proposed, over a period of at least five years, to bring the restored land up to the required standard for the required afteruse and the submission of an annual management report. There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need.

As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP9: Asphalt plants, concrete batching plants and the manufacture of concrete products

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

This policy sets out when the location of asphalt plants, concrete batching plants and the manufacture of concrete products would be acceptable as temporary ancillary development at sand and gravel workings. If these operations were proposed in other locations (such as employment land) then the planning application would be determined by the district council. This type of ancillary development would not normally be allowed in the open countryside in the absence of adjacent mineral workings and therefore will be limited to the end data of the quarry permission or to when the indigenous material no longer forms the majority of the feedstock being used.

These operations may affect more vulnerable people through adverse cumulative amenity and health impacts, such as noise and dust emissions. However, the policy states that proposals for these facilities must comply with the development management criteria in Policy MW1. Policy MW1 states that proposals must demonstrate that the development would not have an unacceptable impact on local amenity and health (including noise levels, odour, air quality, dust, litter, light pollution and vibration).

As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP10: Safeguarding of port and rail facilities, and facilities for the manufacture of concrete, asphalt and recycling materials

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

The purpose of this policy is to safeguard existing, planned and potential facilities and sites from development proposals which would prevent or prejudice the use of those facilities. This policy is based on existing Policy CS16 'Safeguarding mineral and waste sites and mineral resources' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy. There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Policy MP11: Mineral safeguarding areas and mineral consultation areas

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

The purpose of this policy is to safeguard existing, permitted and allocated mineral extraction sites from inappropriate development proposals and to safeguard silica sand, Carstone and sand and gravel resources from inappropriate development proposals. This policy is based on existing Policy CS16 'Safeguarding mineral and waste sites and mineral resources' in the adopted Norfolk Minerals and Waste Core Strategy.

There is no indication of any inequalities in access, differences in outcome or unmet need. As the policy will be applied to planning applications for specific sites, any issues which may arise can be assessed on a case-by-case basis. Decisions on planning applications are required to consider equality impacts under the Equality Act.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 12 (land north of Chapel Lane, Beetley)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 1.175 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 16.38 hectares in the parish of Beetley.

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- This site is already allocated in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD. Therefore, this policy would replace the existing policy for this site.
- The nearest residential property is 11m from the site boundary and there are 22 sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary and six of these are within 100m of the site boundary. The settlement of Beetley is 260m away and Old Beetley is 380m away. However, a reduced extraction area has been proposed of 14.9 hectares, which creates standoff areas to the southwest of the site nearest to the buildings on Chapel Lane, and to the northwest of the site nearest the dwellings on Church Lane. Therefore, the nearest residential property is 95m from the extraction area and there are 18 sensitive receptors within 250m of the proposed extraction area (two of these are within 100m of the proposed extraction area. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The policy requires a planning application for mineral extraction at this site to include acceptable noise and dust assessments and mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- The site would access the existing plant site on the land to the north of Rawhall Lane via an extension to the existing conveyor. From the plant site the existing site access is close to the Fakenham Road junction, which is a designated lorry route, and accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, due to the nature of the site operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- To mitigate potential cumulative impacts, the site policy requires the site to be phased with the adjacent permitted site so that only one site is worked for extraction at a time in accordance with a phased and progressive restoration scheme.
- The site policy requires submission of a detailed landscape and screening scheme which ensure that there are no unacceptable impacts on residents of Chapel Road and Fakenham Road/ Church Lane specifically, users of Field Lane and the landscape generally.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements are expected to remain the same as existing but continue for a longer period (15 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- There are no Public Rights of Way within or adjacent to the site.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 51 /MIN 13 /MIN 08 (land west of Bilney Road, Beetley)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 1.83 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 39.65 hectares in the parish of Beetley

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- Part of this site is already allocated in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD. Therefore, this policy would replace the existing adopted policy for this site, although this site covers an additional two fields.
- The nearest residential property is 171m from the site boundary. There are three sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary. The settlement of East Bilney is

470m away and Gressenhall is 530m away. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The policy requires a planning application for mineral extraction at this site to include acceptable noise and dust assessments and mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.

- The site is located close to the Fakenham Road and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, due to the nature of the site operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- The site policy requires the submission of a high-quality working scheme with site screening to include the planting of new boundary hedges and the thickening of existing boundary hedges.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- There are no Public Rights of Way within or adjacent to the site.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 200 (land west of Cuckoo Lane, Carbrooke)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 0.3 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 7.94 hectares in the parish of Carbrooke.

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- The nearest residential property is 144m from the site boundary and there are no other sensitive receptors within 250m of the site. The settlement of Carbooke is 321m away. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The policy requires a planning application for mineral extraction at this site to include acceptable noise and dust assessments and mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- The site would use the existing quarry access onto Mill Lane and then south onto the B1108 Norwich Road, which is a designated lorry route and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- To mitigate potential cumulative impacts, the site policy requires extraction at the site to be phased with the adjacent permitted site so that only one site is worked for extraction at a time in accordance with a phased and progressive working and restoration scheme;
- The site policy requires submission of a detailed landscape and screening scheme which ensures that views from Mill Lane, Cuckoo Lane and from the direction of Carbrooke, and the landscape generally, are acceptable. Any visual impact is unlikely to affect any individual group differentially.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements is expected to remain the same as existing but continue for a longer period (12 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- There are no Public Rights of Way within or adjacent to the site.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 202 (land south of Reepham Road, Attlebridge)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 0.545 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 17.36 hectares in the parish of Attlebridge

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- The haul route to the site is from the Reepham Road and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, due to the nature of the site operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- The nearest residential property is 126m from the site boundary. There are five sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary. The settlement of Update is 1km away and Attlebridge is 1.3km away. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The policy requires a planning application for mineral extraction at this site to include acceptable noise and dust assessments and mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- The site is screened in all directions by woodland and therefore visual impact outside the site is not expected.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- There are no Public Rights of Way within or adjacent to the site, although the haul route would cross Marriott's Way footpath / bridleway / cycle path.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 37 (land east of Coltishall Road, Buxton)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 1.45 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 23.5 hectares in the parishes of Frettenham and Buxton with Lammas

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- This site is already allocated in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD. Therefore, this policy would replace the existing adopted policy for this site.
- Planning permission (FUL/2019/0043) was granted for mineral extraction at this site in June 2021 but had not been implemented by December 2021. The committee report considered there were no differential equality impacts.
- The nearest residential property is 15m from the site boundary. There are 20 sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary and five of these are within 100m of the site boundary. The settlement of Buxton is 1.1km away. However, a reduced extraction area has been proposed of 17.36 hectares as part of the site allocation process. This would provide a standoff area for the dwellings along the Coltishall Road and the nearest residential property is 96m from the proposed extraction area. There are 13 sensitive receptors within 250m of the proposed extraction area (two of these are within 100m of the proposed extraction area). Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The site policy requires the submission of acceptable noise and dust assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- The site would use a new temporary access, joining the C494 Coltishall Road and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however,

due to the nature of the site operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.

- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- To mitigate potential cumulative impacts, the site policy requires extraction at the site to be phased with the adjacent permitted site so that only one site is worked for extraction at a time in accordance with a phased and progressive working and restoration scheme
- The site policy requires the submission of an acceptable Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment which will identify any potential impacts to the wider landscape and suggest appropriate mitigation measures; particularly regarding views from the five properties along the Buxton Road, the PROW and surrounding roads. Any visual impact is unlikely to affect any individual group differentially.
- There is a Public Right of Way crossing the site and this would need to be temporarily diversion during mineral extraction and reinstated on restoration.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 64 (land at Grange Farm, Buxton Road, Horstead)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 0.65 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 16.76 hectares in the parish of Horstead with Stanninghall

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- This site is already allocated in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD. Therefore, this policy would replace the existing adopted policy for this site.
- Planning permission (FUL/2020/0045) was granted for mineral extraction at this site in May 2021 but had not been implemented by December 2021. The delegated report considered there were no differential equality impacts.
- The nearest residential property is 61m from the site boundary. There are five sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary and four of these are within 100m of the site boundary. The settlement of Horstead is 453m away. A reduced extraction area of 10.2 hectares has been proposed which provides a standoff from the properties to the north-east of the site. The proposed standoffs mean that the nearest residential property is 182m from the extraction area, although there are still five residential properties within 250m. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The site policy requires the submission of acceptable noise and dust assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- The site would use the existing access route from the adjacent site onto the B1354 which is designated as a main distributor route in the route hierarchy and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, due to the nature of the site operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements are expected to remain the same as existing but continue for a longer period (13 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- To mitigate potential cumulative impacts, the site policy requires extraction at the site to be phased with the adjacent permitted site so that only one site is worked for extraction at a time in accordance with a phased and progressive working and restoration scheme.

- The site policy requires the submission of an acceptable Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment which will identify any potential impacts to the wider landscape and suggest appropriate mitigation measures, particularly regarding views from nearby properties and surrounding roads. The mitigation measures should include a combination of advance planting of boundary hedges and woodland planting. Any visual impact is unlikely to affect any individual group differentially.
- There are no Public Rights of Way within the site. There is a PRow (Horstead with Stanninghall BR3) close to the eastern boundary of the site.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 65 (land north of Stanninghall Quarry)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 3.75 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 52.48 hectares in the parish of Horstead with Stanninghall

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- Planning permission (FUL/2020/0085) was granted for mineral extraction at this site in August 2021. The committee report considered there were no differential equality impacts.
- The nearest residential property is 13m from the site boundary. There are 13 sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary and four of these are within 100m of the site boundary. The settlement of Horstead is 239m away. The proposed development scheme would include standoff margins to the three properties located at the perimeter of the site, which would increase the distance of the proposed extraction area from these closest properties. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The site policy requires the submission of acceptable noise and dust assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- The site would use the existing processing plant and site access. The site access is via Quarry Road onto the B1150 Norwich Road, which is a designated lorry route and therefore the site is accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements is expected to remain the same but continue for a longer period of time (13 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- To mitigate potential cumulative impacts, the site policy requires the site to be phased with the adjacent permitted site so that only one site is worked for extraction at a time in accordance with a phased and progressive working and restoration scheme.
- There are views into the site from Frettenham Road and adjacent properties. The site policy requires submission of an acceptable Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment to identify potential impacts and suggest appropriate screening and standoff areas to mitigate any identified impacts to an acceptable level, which will be included in any working scheme. Any visual impact is unlikely to affect any individual group differentially.
- There are no Public Rights of Way within the site. There is a PRow (Frettenham BR4) close to the western site boundary at one point.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 96 (land at Grange Farm, Spixworth)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 1.6 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 39.03 hectares in the parishes of Spixworth, Horsham St Faith & Newton St Faith

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- This site is already allocated in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD. Therefore, this policy would replace the existing adopted policy for this site.
- The nearest residential property is 21m from the site boundary. There are five sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary and two of these are within 100m of the site boundary. A standoff area and screening would therefore be required in order to mitigate potential amenity impacts to the adjacent properties. The settlement of Horsham St Faith is 352m away. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The site policy requires the submission of acceptable noise and dust assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- The site is accessible by car and would access the A1270 (Broadland Northway) via the roundabout north of Norwich Airport via a new off-highway haul route. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements are expected to remain the same as existing but continue for a longer period (11 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- The site policy requires the submission of an acceptable Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment which will identify any potential impacts on the wider landscape and suggest appropriate mitigation measures, particularly regarding views from the nearby properties, Marketfield Lane and surrounding roads. Any visual impact is unlikely to affect any individual group differentially.
- To mitigate potential cumulative impacts, the site policy requires the site to be phased with the adjacent permitted site so that only one site is worked for extraction at a time in accordance with a phased and progressive working and restoration scheme.
- There are no Public Rights of Way within or adjacent to the site.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 6 (land off East Winch Road, Mill Drove, Middleton)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 1.416 million tonnes of Carstone from a site of 10.25 hectares within the parish of Middleton

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- This site is already allocated in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD. Therefore, this policy would replace the existing adopted policy for this site.
- The site is located off an access road to East Winch Road and the A47 and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, due to the nature of the site operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- The nearest residential property is 480m from the site boundary. The settlement of Blackborough End is 481m away. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from carstone sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities.

The site policy requires the submission of acceptable noise and dust assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.

- Visual impact is limited as the proposed site is screened from public view by an existing tree belt and hedgerows and is adjacent to other mineral workings, therefore visual impact will have no differential impact on equality groups.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements is expected to remain the same but continue for a longer period (18 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- The site policy requires phasing of the site with other carstone quarries nearby, so that extraction only commences on this site once extraction is completed on other workings;
- There is a Public Right of Way adjacent to the western boundary of the site (Middleton RB4).

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 206 (land at Oak Field, west of Lynn Road, Tottenham)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 0.75 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 14.7 hectares within the parish of Tottenham.

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- The site is located off an existing access road close to Watlington Road and the A10/A134 and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, due to the nature of the site operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- The nearest residential dwelling is 82m from the site boundary. There are 14 sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary and 2 of these are within 100m of the site boundary. The settlement of Tottenham is 82m away. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The site policy requires the submission of acceptable noise and dust assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- The site is generally well screened from public viewpoints except at the far south-eastern corner where a field entrance provides a view north. Any potential visual impact is limited and will have no differential impact on equality groups. The site policy requires the submission of an acceptable Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment to include the identification of any areas where enhanced screening would be required to mitigate visual intrusion.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements are expected to remain the same as existing but continue for a longer period (9 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- To mitigate potential cumulative impacts, the site policy requires the site to be phased with other sites in the area so that only one site is worked for extraction at a time.
- There are no Public Rights of Way within or adjacent to the site.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 40 (land east of Grandcourt Farm, East Winch)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 3 million tonnes of silica sand from a site of 32.77 hectares within the parish of East Winch.

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- This site is already allocated in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD. Therefore, this policy would replace the existing adopted policy for this site.
- The site would be accessed via the existing internal haul route from the existing plant site, through the adjacent operational extraction area. Due to the nature of the operations, access to the extraction site would only be required by those employed on the site.
- There is a residential property within the site, the next nearest residential property is 23m from the site boundary. There are 88 sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary and 25 of these are within 100m of the site boundary. The settlement of East Winch is 23m away. However, part of the site nearest to East Winch is not proposed to be extracted. Therefore, the nearest residential property is 84m from the extraction area and there are 54 sensitive receptors within 250m of the proposed extraction area (three of these are within 100m of the extraction area). Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand extraction sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The site policy requires the submission of acceptable noise, dust and air quality assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- There are filtered views over the site from the A47 and from the Public Right of Way along the western boundary. There are more open views of the site from the properties on the eastern edge of East Winch and two properties to the south-west corner of the site. Views of the site from the A47 could be sufficiently screened by bunding. The extraction area of the site will need to be set back from the properties in East Winch village and from properties in the south-west corner. A suitable screening scheme will also be required to mitigate the views of the site from these properties. The site policy requires the submission of an acceptable Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment which will identify any potential impacts to the wider landscape and suggest appropriate mitigation measures, particularly regarding views from the properties along Gayton Road, the PROW and surrounding roads. Any potential visual impact should therefore be limited and have no differential impact on equality groups.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements are expected to remain the same as existing but continue for a longer period (4 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- There is a Public Right of Way along the western boundary of the site (East Winch BR1). There is also a PROW running across the site (East Winch FP2). East Winch FP2 would need to be temporarily diverted during mineral extraction operations and reinstated as part of the restoration of the site. The site policy requires the submission of a suitable scheme for the temporary diversion and reinstatement of the PROW.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy SIL 01 (land at Mintlyn South, Bawsey)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 1.1 million tonnes of silica sand extraction from a site of 21 hectares within the parish of Bawsey. The extraction area would be 15.2 hectares in size.

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- This site is already allocated in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD. Therefore, this policy would replace the existing adopted policy for this site.
- Planning permission (FUL/2020/0021) was granted for mineral extraction at this site in August 2021. The committee report considered there were no differential equality impacts.
- The nearest residential property is approximately 280 metres from the site boundary. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand extraction sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The site policy requires the submission of acceptable noise, dust and air quality assessments and a programme of mitigation measures (e.g. standoff areas, screening and/or bunding) to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- The site is around 700m from the existing processing plant site and Leziate and the mineral will be transferred by conveyor to the processing plant. Due to the nature of the operations, access to the extraction site would only be required by those employed on the site.
- Silica sand is processed at the plant site and then transported from the plant site either by road or rail (around three-quarters of the annual output is transport by rail) to the end-user. There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As the site would provide mineral to the existing plant site, the number of vehicle movements are expected to remain the same as existing but continue for a longer period (10 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- There are no Public Rights of Way within the site. There is a PROW (Bawsey RB8) close to the northern boundary of the site and PROW Bawsey RB9 is to the east of the site. It is considered that these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 69 (land north of Holt Road, Aylmerton)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 2 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 16.86 hectares within the parish of Aylmerton

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- This site is already allocated in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD. Therefore, this policy would replace the existing adopted policy for this site.
- The site is located off Briton's Lane, close to the A148 and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, due to the nature of the site operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- The nearest residential property is 85m from the site boundary. There are eight sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary and three of these are within 100m of the site boundary. The settlement of Beeston Regis is 624m away. However, a reduced extraction area of 11.9 hectares is proposed, and the nearest residential property is 140m from the extraction area. There are eight sensitive receptors within 250m of the boundary of the extraction area and none of these are within 100m of the site boundary. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The A148 Holt Road is between the southern site boundary and seven of the sensitive receptors that are within 250m of the site boundary. The site policy requires the submission of acceptable noise and dust assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.

- The site is bounded by woodland, except for a small section of the eastern boundary. The site policy requires advanced planting (or allowing current trees and hedges to thicken up) along the southern and eastern boundaries of land in the applicant's ownership to screen the site from public viewpoints and existing woodland areas on land adjacent to the A148 and along the eastern boundary of site MIN 69 must be retained to screen the site from the A148. Any potential visual impact is limited and will have no differential impact on equality groups.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements are expected to remain the same as existing but continue for a longer period (20 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- There is a Public Right of Way adjacent to the western boundary of the site (Beeston Regis BR10). There is a PRow running through the site (north to south) (Aylmerton FP2). There is a PRow within the site (Aylmerton FP1). There is a PRow crossing the NE corner of the site (Aylmerton FP3). These PRows may need to be diverted during mineral extraction operations and reinstated as part of the restoration of the site. The site policy states that footpaths should only be diverted when necessary (e.g. for public safety reasons), and during both the operational stage and on restoration the footpaths should be of appropriate gradients to facilitate relatively easy access.
- To mitigate potential cumulative impacts, the site policy requires the site to be phased with the adjacent permitted site so that only one site is worked for extraction at a time in accordance with a phased and progressive working and restoration scheme.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 115 (land at Lord Anson's Wood, near North Walsham)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 1.1 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 16.88 hectares within the parish of North Walsham.

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- This site is already allocated in the adopted Norfolk Minerals Site Specific Allocations DPD. Therefore, this policy would replace the existing adopted policy for this site.
- A haul route would need to be formed from the site to a suitable point on the B1150. Therefore, the site would be accessible by vehicle. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, due to the nature of mineral extraction operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- The nearest residential property is 352m from the site boundary. The settlement of North Walsham is 926m away. A 95-hectare extension to the west of North Walsham is proposed to provide approximately 1800 new homes, a primary school, public open space and employment land in the emerging North Norfolk Local Plan. The nearest boundary of this urban extension would be approximately 380m from the site boundary. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. Therefore, no adverse amenity impacts are expected from the proposed mineral extraction.
- The site is located within an area of largely coniferous woodland. Any potential visual impact is limited and will have no differential impact on equality groups. The site policy requires an appropriately wide screen of trees to be left around the site to minimise amenity impacts on users of the footpath passing close to the north-west corner of Lord Anson's Wood.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.

- There are no Public Rights of Way within or adjacent to the site. There is a PROW close to the northern boundary of the site (north Walsham FP9). The haul road from the site to the B1150 would cross a PROW (Swanton Abbott FP11)

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 207 (land at Pinkney Field, Briston)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 0.4 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 12.5 hectares within the parish of Edgefield

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- Planning permission (C/1/2018/1016) was granted for mineral extraction at this site in August 2019 but had not been implemented by December 2021. The committee report considered there were no differential equality impacts.
- The nearest residential property is 280m from the site boundary. The settlement of Hunworth is 692m away. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The site policy requires the submission of acceptable noise and dust assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.
- The site is accessed via an off-highway haul route to the B1354 Norwich Road and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however due to the nature of mineral extraction operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements are expected to remain the same as existing but continue for a longer period (6 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- There are few very limited views of the site, therefore visual impact will have no differential impact on equality groups.
- There are no Public Rights of Way within or adjacent to the site.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 208 (land south of Holt Road, East Beckham)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 1.32 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 16.56 hectares within the parish of East Beckham.

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- The site would use the existing access onto the A148 and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, due to the nature of mineral extraction operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- The nearest residential property is 197m from the site boundary. There are three sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary. The settlement of East Beckham is 560m away. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. The site policy requires

the submission of acceptable noise and dust assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts.

- The site is generally well-screened from public roads. Views can be seen from the Public Right of Way on the southern boundary of the site and potentially from two nearby residential properties. The site policy requires the submission of an acceptable Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment to identify any potential landscape or visual intrusion impacts and appropriate mitigation measures to address these, which will form part of the working scheme.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. As a proposed extension to an existing site, the number of vehicle movements are expected to remain the same as existing but continue for a longer period (14 years). The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- To mitigate potential cumulative impacts, the site policy requires the site to be phased with the existing permitted site so that only one site is worked for extraction at a time.
- There is a Public Right of Way adjacent to the southern boundary of the site (East Beckham FP2).

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

Specific site allocation policy MIN 25 (land at Manor Farm, Haddiscoe)

Key characteristics: The site is allocated for the extraction of an estimated resource of 1.3 million tonnes of sand and gravel from a site of 21.95 hectares within the parish of Haddiscoe.

Assessment of impact on people with protected characteristics:

- The site would be accessed from Crab Apple Lane, off the B1136 Loddon Road and is therefore accessible by car. There is limited opportunity for public transport, however, due to the nature of the site operations, it is unlikely that access by the general public is required, apart from those employed at the site.
- The nearest residential property is 19m from the site boundary. There are 55 sensitive receptors within 250m of the site boundary and 15 of these are within 100m of the site boundary. Most of these properties are within the settlement of Haddiscoe, which is 55m away. Even without mitigation, adverse dust impacts from sand and gravel sites are uncommon beyond 250m from the nearest dust generating activities. The greatest impacts will be within 100 metres of a source, if uncontrolled. Therefore, the site policy requires submission of acceptable noise and dust assessments and a programme of mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any amenity impacts; including setting back the working area at least 100 metres from the nearest residential properties.
- There are mature screen planting forming hedgerows on all sides of the site, except a section of the eastern boundary closest to Manor Farm, which is the landowner's property. The site policy requires the submission of an acceptable Landscape and Visual Impact Assessment which will identify any potential impacts to the wider landscape and suggest appropriate mitigation measures, particularly regarding views from nearby properties and surrounding roads. The mitigation measures should include a combination of advanced planting with native species and bunds.
- There may be increased emissions to air caused by associated transport to and from the site, but this is unlikely to cause a differential impact to any equality group given the widespread nature of emissions. The site is not within an Air Quality Management Area.
- There is a Public Right of Way running across the site (from Thorpe Road to Crab Apple Lane) (Haddiscoe BR5) which would need to be diverted during mineral extraction and then reinstated. The site policy requires the submission of a suitable scheme for the temporary diversion and reinstatement of the Public Right of Way.

It is considered these potential impacts would be unlikely to affect any equality group differentially and the site policy along with other policies in the NM&WLP contains sufficient requirements to mitigate any potential impacts to acceptable levels.

Equality groups potentially affected by this policy: None

4.6 Accessibility

Accessibility to services is a key part of ensuring social cohesion. The availability and quality of public transport and location of services in relation to public transport corridors are important components to improving accessibility.

The nature of mineral extraction sites means that they can only be located where there are viable mineral resources. Therefore, sites are often located within rural areas which are not serviced by high quality public transport. However, except for those employed at mineral extraction sites the public does not normally have a need to access these sites and public transport is not an appropriate method for the mineral products produced to be collected. Therefore, the impact on individuals, caused by not being able to easily access these sites, is not significant. Sand and aggregates for sale to the public are generally bagged and sold in small quantities at retail outlets such as garden centres or Do-It-Yourself stores, which tend to be located closer to, or within, settlements and urban areas. Those people requiring larger quantities, which might be supplied directly, will most often take advantage of a direct delivery service.

The main opportunities for accessibility will be where there are existing public rights of way, which are usually either re-routed or suspended until a site or phase of extraction has been restored. There may also be routes and public rights of way access created within or adjacent to restored sites, as part of the restoration scheme (via Policy MW1: Development Management Criteria and Policy MP7: Progressive working, restoration and after-use).

Silica sand is an industrial mineral and the deposits which are extracted in Norfolk all have specialist end-uses. Glass making is the most significant end use for the sand processed at the Leziate plant and this is predominately transported to glass works by train, making use of the railhead located at the processing plant.

Mineral extraction and processing sites do not provide large-scale employment opportunities and therefore the impacts of limited accessibility are unlikely to be significant.

Waste management facilities are more likely to be located close to urban areas where the majority of waste arises. These facilities are often located on the urban fringe on employment land, for example within industrial estates. The public will visit some types of waste management facilities, such as household waste recycling centres, but many waste management facilities are not open to the public. Due to the items that need to be taken to waste management facilities, there are limited opportunities for shift from the private car to public transport, or on foot or cycling.

5. Conclusion

The scope of this assessment included the relevant protected characteristics of race, religion, disability, age and gender. The demographics and key data from the 2011 Census were used to give an overview of the geography of people with these protected characteristics in the county of Norfolk, which the NM&WLP covers.

Potential impacts caused by the implementation of the policies and the development of the allocated sites have been identified. Comments from statutory and non-statutory consultees have been taken into account, including from Environmental Health Officers.

The transport, health and amenity impacts, such as noise and dust, including cumulative impacts, are site specific and would be assessed at the planning application stage. The assessment would also take into account any relevant new developments (such as residential dwellings) in proximity to the proposed minerals or waste site at the time a planning application is determined. These factors would all be considered at the planning application stage and the application would need to demonstrate there would be no unacceptable impacts from the proposed development and sufficient mitigation can be put in place. Mitigation measures required by the specific site allocation policies and the planning policies within the Local Plan will mean that there is little differential impact upon people with protected characteristics, if the application was permitted.

It has been identified that some minerals extraction and waste management facilities could have some detrimental impact, albeit low, upon some equality groups, if the development is not sufficiently managed and mitigated. The issues identified were possible health and amenity impacts to more vulnerable groups, i.e. older people or disabled people. The most likely health and amenity impacts from mineral extraction are noise and dust which will be assessed at the planning application stage, when suitable management and mitigation will be identified.

It is considered the policies in the NM&WLP should mitigate the potential for unacceptable adverse impacts on health and amenity, including for protected characteristic groups, in accordance with the requirements of the NPPF. Provided these policies are applied robustly, and undergo their own commensurate Equality Impact Assessment for each planning application, it is highly unlikely that equality groups will be disproportionately discriminated against by virtue of the location of the mineral extraction sites that have been allocated.

In conclusion, it is acknowledged there may be negative impacts which need to be mitigated against, which is the purpose of the policies and site allocations, to identify how this is achieved and to what standard it is expected. There are also potential opportunities for positive impacts, which are also promoted within several policies, mainly post restoration. Each planning application will require further assessment on any impacts to protected groups, under the Equality Act duty on Local Authorities.

Furthermore, in the consideration of planning applications, the NPPF is clear Local Plans do not need to repeat or reformulate existing national policy, which also promotes the principles of equality and community cohesion. The NPPF Paragraph 130f for instance, requires planning policies and decisions to create places that are safe, inclusive and accessible and which promote health and well-being, with a high standard of amenity for existing and future users.

There is no legal impediment to going ahead with the proposal (the publication of the NM&WLP). It would be implemented in full accordance with due process, national guidance and policy. The NM&WLP will be subject to a public examination by an independent Planning Inspector, to assess the legal compliance and soundness of the Plan before it can be adopted.

Planning applications for any minerals or waste sites which come forward (both those allocated in the NM&WLP and unallocated sites) will be robustly considered against the policies in the NM&WLP. Again, the Equality Act duty requires the CPA to consider impacts on protected characteristics for each decision made, so this will be considered on each case-by-case basis, within each planning application.

Decision-makers are therefore advised to take the equality impacts into account when deciding whether or not proposals for mineral extraction or waste management facilities should go ahead at the planning application stage, when assessed against the policies in the NM&WLP, in addition to the mitigating actions detailed in section 6.

6. Recommended actions

As part of the vision and aspiration for the NM&WLP, minerals development and waste management facilities will be located, designed and operated without unacceptable adverse impacts on the amenity of local communities, the natural, built and historic environment, the landscape and townscape of Norfolk. Furthermore, the following objectives have been identified:

MSO6. To ensure the sustainable and expedient delivery of mineral extraction while protecting people from harm, positively contributing to the natural, built and historic environments and mitigating against unacceptable adverse cumulative impacts.

MSO7. To ensure potential impacts on the amenity of those people living in proximity to minerals development are effectively controlled, minimised and mitigated to acceptable levels.

MSO10. Where appropriate, to increase public access to the countryside through enhancing the amenity value of land when restoring extraction sites.

WSO7. To ensure waste facilities and their proposed locations are sustainably designed, constructed and operated to reduce potential unacceptable adverse effects on human health, amenity and the natural, built and historic environment and to contribute to achieving net zero carbon emissions. All developments will provide biodiversity net gains.

The specific site allocation policies for the mineral extraction sites include requirements to address potential impacts, including to equality groups. A range of assessments to be submitted at the planning application stage and mitigation measures to deal appropriately with any potential amenity impacts are contained within each site allocation policy, including:

Noise and dust assessments

- A Transport Assessment or Statement which considers the potential for transport impacts and impacts to the highway
- Highway improvements where required, routing agreements, caps on annual extraction volume
- An air quality assessment of the potential for any emissions, including dust
- Detailed landscaping, screening scheme and buffer areas which ensures that there are no unacceptable impacts on nearby residents or settlements
- Phasing so that only one site is worked for extraction at a time in accordance with a phased and progressive working and restoration scheme

As well as the specific site allocation policies, the following planning policies aim to mitigate adverse amenity impacts from mineral extraction and associated development:

- Policy MW1: Development Management Criteria
- Policy MW2: Transport
- Policy MW3: Climate change adaption and mitigation
- MPSS1. Silica sand extraction sites
- Policy MP6: Cumulative impacts and phasing of workings
- Policy MP7: Progressive working, restoration and afteruse
- Policy WP4: Recycling or transfer of inert construction, demolition and excavation waste [it aims to prevent the operation of waste recycling facilities at mineral extraction sites from delaying the restoration of the mineral extraction site]

The following policies explicitly make clear that development proposals need to comply with the development management criteria set out in Policy MW1 in order for impacts to be acceptable and appropriately mitigated, including in terms of local amenity and health:

- Policy WP2: Spatial Strategy for waste management facilities
- Policy WP3: Land suitable for waste management facilities
- Policy WP4: Recycling or transfer of inert construction, demolition and excavation waste

- Policy WP5: Waste transfer stations, materials recycling facilities, end-of-life vehicle facilities and waste electrical and electronic equipment recovery facilities
- Policy WP6: Transfer, storage, processing and treatment of hazardous waste
- Policy WP7: Household Waste Recycling Centres
- Policy WP8: Composting
- Policy WP9: Anaerobic digestion
- Policy WP10: Residual waste treatment facilities
- Policy WP11: Disposal of inert waste by landfill
- Policy WP12: Non-hazardous and hazardous waste landfill
- Policy WP13: Landfill Mining and Reclamation
- Policy WP14: Water Recycling Centres
- Policy MP3: Borrow pits
- Policy MP4: Agricultural or potable water reservoirs
- Policy MP6: Cumulative impacts and phasing of workings
- Policy MP9: Asphalt plants, concrete batching plants and the manufacture of concrete products

Once the NM&WLP is adopted and the policies used to assess planning applications, there are a number of processes which would identify and capture any equality issues alongside and in conjunction with the use of the NM&WLP itself and are highlighted below.

The 'Local List for Validation of Planning Applications' adopted by the County Planning Authority provides guidance about the particular information that may be required to validate a planning application before it can be determined. For any proposal for minerals or waste management development that comes forward for determination, the impact of the proposal on the environment and amenity, as described below, will be carefully assessed and considered before a decision is made.

During the decision-making process, the decision-maker must give due regard to equality ('Public Sector Equality Duty'). Therefore, planning officers assessing each planning application must consider the equality issues of a proposal, in good time before deciding to go ahead with it and report the outcome of their Equality Impact assessment in the delegated report or Planning Regulatory Committee report for each application.

It should be noted however that where there are detrimental impacts on equality or groups with protected characteristics, as long as the decision maker has considered this impact and taken reasonable steps to mitigate it, and the impact is not unlawful, the decision-maker can go ahead with proposal.

In terms of decision making and the NM&WLP, where the impact of the proposal is unacceptable, and such impacts can't be controlled, then planning permission could be refused.

Where impacts can be adequately mitigated, conditions can be added to a planning permission. There must be a reason citing the policies (i.e. from NM&WLP) or legislation to justify its reasonable inclusion as a condition. Such measures could include, for example, additional landscaping, sustainable drainage schemes, dust control, nature conservation, good building and site design, restrictions on working hours and lorry movements. The appropriate mitigation will depend on the characteristics of the proposal, the site and the surrounding area.

Implementation of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan will be monitored and captured in the Annual Monitoring Reports (AMR) or Local Aggregate Assessment (LAA) as appropriate. If the monitoring identifies any significant divergence from a trend or target required, we will seek to establish the reason (s) for the divergence from the target, and as a consequence, an intervention by Norfolk County Council may be required. Intervention could include a review of the evidence base, a specific policy or the Plan as a whole, and will be reported in the Annual Monitoring Report.

The relevant indicators identified (not including landscape indicators) in the NM&WLP from page 88 include:

- Number of reported accidents involving HGVs
- Number of minerals and waste planning applications granted that involved highway infrastructure upgrades / improvements
- Number of substantiated complaints concerning lorry traffic
- Number of minerals and waste developments located within an AQMA
- Number of minerals and waste sites located within Groundwater Source Protection Zone 1
- Number of substantiated complaints about amenity impacts from minerals and waste activities

It is concluded that given the mitigation of impacts summarised above, and the low level of impact to equality groups, there are no outstanding equality issues.

7. Evidence used to inform this assessment

The following documents have been used to inform this assessment:

- [Equality, Diversity and Inclusion Policy](#)
- Demographic factors set out in [Norfolk's Story 2021](#)
- [Digital Inclusion and COVID-19](#) equality impact assessments
- Norfolk County Council [Area Reports](#) on Norfolk's JSNA relating to protected characteristics
- Business intelligence and management data, as quoted in this report
- Equality Act 2010 and Public Sector Equality Duty codes of practice

8. Further information

For further information about this equality impact assessment please contact:

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Annex 1 – Overview of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan process

The Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan process has included assessments of draft policies and proposed sites. The main steps of the process are detailed below.

Drafting criteria-based policies

The Core Strategy and Development Management Policies in Norfolk's adopted plan have been reviewed and replacement policies and supporting text have been drafted and consulted on. This process has taken into account the following documents and data:

- [National Planning Policy Framework \(2021\)](#)
- [National planning policy for waste \(2014\)](#)
- [Planning practice guidance](#)
- Other relevant policies and guidance
- The performance of current adopted policies as measured in annual Monitoring Reports
- Current data on waste management and mineral extraction
- Proposed development and environmental constraints in Norfolk

Call for mineral extraction sites (July 2017): A call for sites was advertised for six weeks to enable landowners, mineral companies and their agents to submit land for consideration for future mineral extraction, of either sand and gravel, carstone, or silica sand during the plan period.

Call for Waste Sites (Jan 2019): The 'call for waste management sites' took place for six weeks, for proposals for potential specific site allocations for waste treatment facilities during the plan period. Only new permanent sites larger than one hectare, proposed for waste treatment with an estimated annual throughput of at least 50,000 tonnes, would be considered for allocation.

Initial assessment of proposed sites: The specific sites proposed in response to the 'call for sites' were assessed by Planning Officers at Norfolk County Council, in consultation with the relevant County Council officers. The site assessment included the context and potential impacts for landscape, ecology, historic environment and archaeology as well as the suitability of the proposed highway access and any highway improvements required.

In addition to the site assessments, a Sustainability Appraisal and a Habitats Regulations Appraisal have been carried out on the proposed sites and policies as detailed below.

Sustainability Appraisal / Strategic Environmental Assessment: Through the Sustainability Appraisal process, the potential impact (positive or negative) of each planning policy option and each proposed site/area for future mineral extraction has also been assessed on:

- amenity (noise, vibration, visual intrusion, health)
- water resources/ water quality and flood risk
- geodiversity
- ecology – designated nature conservation sites and proposed restoration scheme
- landscape
- historic environment – conservation areas/ listed buildings/ scheduled monuments/ registered parks and gardens / archaeology
- agricultural land grade/ soil quality
- air quality
- employment and economic growth

The purpose of Sustainability Appraisal, which is required under the Planning and Compulsory Purchase Act 2004, is to promote sustainable development through integration of social, environmental and economic considerations into the preparation of Local Plans. The Sustainability Appraisal process helps to make sure the proposed planning policies, and specific sites/ areas for future mineral extraction in the plan are the most appropriate given the reasonable alternatives, as well as a means of identifying and mitigating any potential adverse effects that the plan might otherwise have.

Habitats Regulations Assessment: A Habitats Regulations Appraisal has been carried out on the Minerals and Waste Local Plan in accordance with the *Conservation of Habitats and Species Regulations 2017*. A Habitats Regulations Assessment is undertaken to assess the impacts of a land-use plan against the conservation objectives of designated nature conservation sites (SPAs, SACs and also Ramsar sites) and to ascertain where the Plan would adversely affect the integrity of the site, and if so how to amend the plan to avoid any potentially damaging effects.

The production of the NM&WLP process is subject to a number of stages which are set out in the timetable in the Minerals and Waste Development Scheme and detailed below:

Initial Consultation (29 June to 13 August 2018) (Regulation 18)

The first public consultation on Norfolk's Minerals and Waste Local Plan (NM&WLP). It contained a draft vision and strategic objectives for minerals development and waste management facilities in Norfolk. This document contained proposed wording for policies to be used when determining planning applications for minerals extraction and associated development and waste management facilities, and policy alternatives where this was considered appropriate. This document also contained an initial assessment of all the sites and areas that were proposed for mineral extraction in Norfolk over the Plan period. The comments received in response to the Initial Consultation were taken into account in the production of the Preferred Options consultation document.

Preferred Options consultation (18 September to 30 October 2019) (Regulation 18)

The Preferred Options version of the NM&WLP took into account the consultation responses received at the Initial consultation stage. It contained a vision and strategic objectives for minerals development and waste management facilities in Norfolk. It also contained proposed wording for policies to be used when determining planning applications for minerals extraction and associated development and waste management facilities. This document also contained an assessment of the sites and areas that have been proposed for mineral extraction in Norfolk over the Plan period and draft policy wording for those sites considered suitable to allocate. The comments received in response to the Preferred Options Consultation have been taken into account in the production of the Pre-Submission Publication version of the NM&WLP.

Pre-submission publication of the NM&WLP (Regulation 19)

The pre-submission publication version of the Local Plan has been written taking into consideration responses received at the Initial Consultation and Preferred Options stages. The full draft Publication document is available to view on the Norfolk County Council website at: <https://www.norfolk.gov.uk/what-we-do-and-how-we-work/policy-performance-and-partnerships/policies-and-strategies/minerals-and-waste-planning-policies/norfolk-minerals-and-waste-local-plan-review>.

The NM&WLP includes a vision and strategic objections for waste management and minerals development for the Plan period to 2038.

It includes policies relevant to both minerals and waste management development and a forecast of the quantities of mineral extraction and waste management capacity that need to be planned for over the Plan period to 2038. It provides a steady and adequate

supply of aggregate minerals, over 16 site allocations to cover the forecast need. Only the sites considered suitable to allocate are included in the Publication document.

With regards to waste allocations, after considering the forecast waste arisings and the existing waste management capacity, it was determined that no new waste sites were required to be allocated. However, planning applications for new waste management facilities are still expected to come forward during the Plan period, both to move waste management up the waste hierarchy and because waste management is a contract driven and competitive industry. The NM&WLP, therefore, contains criteria-based policies to determine those applications that come forward for waste management facilities.

The two allocated silica sand sites only contain 4.1 million tonnes of silica sand and are not sufficient on their own to meet the forecast additional need for 10.34 million tonnes of silica sand during the Plan period. Due to several reasons, including concerns raised by the Ministry of Defence (Defence Infrastructure Organisation) about birdstrike risk, and the fragmented nature of the smaller areas of search, the Publication version of the NM&WLP does not allocate any areas of search for silica sand and instead contains a criteria-based policy for the consideration of any future planning applications for silica sand extraction, which is a nationally important mineral.

It should be noted some allocated mineral extraction sites have already been granted planning permission. The planning permissions granted at MIN 207, MIN 64, MIN 65, MIN 37 and SIL 01 have not been implemented yet or only include part of the site (MIN 69) and therefore these sites are still included in the NM&WLP.

Pre-Submission (Regulation 19)

The Pre-Submission document will be published for a six-week period for representations to be made on whether the document is legally compliant and 'sound', which is to ensure it is positively prepared, justified, effective and consistent with national policy.

Submission (Regulation 22)

If no fundamental issues are raised during the Pre-Submission representations period, the Council will submit the plan and relevant background information, together with the representations received, to the Secretary of State for examination in public by an independent Planning Inspector.

Examination (Regulation 24)

The Inspector appointed by the Secretary of State to examine the plan will consider all the representations made against the plan through an examination in public. Following the examination, the Planning Inspector will decide whether or not the plan is legally compliant and 'sound'. In this decision the Inspector will take into account the representations received and consider the plan against the 'tests of soundness' detailed in paragraph 35 of the NPPF (2021). If the Inspector does not find the plan 'sound' and legally compliant then the Council will have to undertake the preparation of the plan again. The Inspector can recommend main modifications to the plan to make it legally compliant and 'sound' if required. If the Inspector does find the plan 'sound' and legally compliant then the Council can decide to adopt the plan.

Adoption (Regulation 26)

Once the Council has received the Inspector's report and implemented any modifications required to the Plan, the Council will then make the decision whether to adopt the Plan or not. On adoption, the Council will produce an adoption statement that will be advertised in the local press and the adopted Plan, sustainability appraisal and adoption statement will be made available for inspection. The adopted NM&WLP will form part of the Development Plan for Norfolk.

Annex 2 – Overview of the Norfolk Minerals and Waste Local Plan Consultation process

The Initial Consultation and the Preferred Options Consultation of the NM&WLP were carried out in accordance with Norfolk County Council's adopted Statement of Community Involvement as follows:

When did the consultations take place?

Initial Consultation: 29 June to 13 August 2018

Preferred Options Consultation: 18 September to 30 October 2019

Who was consulted?

Specific consultation bodies, general consultation bodies and other consultation bodies are detailed in the Town and Country Planning (Local Development) (England) Regulations 2004 (as amended) and in the adopted Statement of Community Involvement. Details of the consultees can be found in the 'Statement of Consultation (May 2022)'. The general consultation bodies include:

- Bodies which represent the interests of different racial, ethnic or national groups
- Bodies which represent the interests of different religious groups
- Bodies which represent the interests of disabled persons

Consultation methods used

Responses were made to the Initial Consultation and the Preferred Options Consultation through the electronic consultation system (accessed via a website), or by letter or email submission. The consultation documents could be viewed by the public at the main office of each of the Local Planning Authorities in Norfolk, at County Hall and on Norfolk County Council's Local Plan consultation website at: <https://norfolk.oc2.uk/>. At the Initial Consultation stage, hard copies of the documents were also available to view in each of Norfolk's public libraries.

The consultation stages were advertised by public notice in the regional press. Emails or letters were sent to individuals who had responded to previous consultations on the NM&WLP and expressed an interest in being contacted about future consultations. Letters were also sent to addresses located within 250 metres of the boundary of a proposed site or area of search. Emails or letters were sent to the specific, general and other consultees, including all parish councils in Norfolk and adjacent to Norfolk. At the Preferred Options stage at least one site notice was erected at each of the proposed sites and areas of search.

Annex 3 – table of protected characteristics under The Equality Act

The following table sets out details of each protected characteristic.

Characteristic	Who this covers
Age	Adults and children etc, or specific/different age groups
Disability	<p>A person has a disability if they have a physical or mental impairment which has a substantial and long-term adverse effect on their ability to carry out normal day-to-day activities.</p> <p>This may include but is not limited to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • People with mobility issues (eg wheelchair or cane users, people of short stature, people who do not have mobility in a limb etc) • Blind and partially sighted people • People who are D/deaf or hearing impaired • People with learning disabilities • People who have mental health issues • People who identify as neurodiverse (this refers to neurological differences including, for example, dyspraxia, dyslexia, Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder, the autistic spectrum and others) • People with some long-term health conditions which meet the criteria of a disability.
People with a long-term health condition	People with long-term health conditions which meet the criteria of a disability.
Gender reassignment	People who identify as transgender (defined as someone who is proposing to undergo, is undergoing, or has undergone a process or part of a process to reassign their sex. It is not necessary for the person to be under medical supervision or undergoing surgery).
Marriage/civil partnerships	People who are married or in a civil partnership. They may be of the opposite or same sex.
Pregnancy and maternity	Maternity refers to the period after birth and is linked to maternity leave in the employment context. In the non-work context, protection against maternity discrimination is for 26 weeks after giving birth, and this includes treating a woman unfavourably because she is breastfeeding.
Race	<p>Race refers to a group of people defined by their race, colour, or nationality (including citizenship) ethnic or national origins.</p> <p>A racial group can be made up of two or more distinct racial groups, for example a person may identify as Black British, British Asian, British Sikh, British Jew, Romany Gypsy or Irish Traveller.</p>

Characteristic	Who this covers
Religion/belief	Belief means any religious or philosophical belief or no belief. To be protected, a belief must satisfy various criteria, including that it is a weighty and substantial aspect of human life and behaviour. Denominations or sects within a religion can be considered a protected religion or religious belief.
Sex	This covers men and women. Also consider the needs of people who identify as intersex (people who have variations in sex characteristics) and non-binary (a spectrum of gender identities that are not exclusively masculine or feminine).
Sexual orientation	People who identify as straight/heterosexual, lesbian, gay or bisexual.