

Consultation Documents Update and Proposed Responses
Report by Planning Policy Officer

Summary:	This report informs the Committee of planning policy consultations recently received, and invites the Committee's comments and guidance.
Recommendation:	That the report be noted and the nature of proposed responses be endorsed.

1 Introduction

- 1.1 Appendix 1 shows the planning policy consultation documents received by the Authority since the last Planning Committee meeting.
- 1.2 The Committee's comments or guidance are invited.

2 Financial Implications

- 2.1 There are no financial implications.

Background papers: None

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Date of report: 6 June 2012

Broads Plan Objectives: None

Appendices: APPENDIX 1 – Schedule of Planning Policy Consultations received

Planning Policy Consultations Received

ORGANISATION:	Norfolk County Council
DOCUMENT:	Minerals Site Specifics Allocations Development Plan Document: Pre-submission
LINK	http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/Environment/Planning/Mineral_and_waste_planning/Minerals_and_waste_development_framework/Development_Plan_Documents/index.htm#P91_8978 or http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/nmwdf
RECEIVED:	6 May 2012
DUE DATE:	29 June 2012
STATUS:	Newly Received
PROPOSED LEVEL:	Officer
NOTES:	<p>The proposed DPD allocates sites across Norfolk where minerals operations are considered acceptable over the period to 2026. The Broads Authority was consulted on previous stages of the preparation of the DPD, and the current document, which re-assesses all the sites, shows some consideration of the Broads's sensitivities and the Authority's earlier comments.</p> <p>Three proposed allocated sites are adjacent to the Broads (Refs. MIN 83, MIN 90 and MIN 91). These are extensions to an existing quarry at Norton Subcourse. A fourth proposed extension to this quarry (MIN 92) was rejected on grounds of potential landscape (with reference to the Broads), amenity and ecology impacts.</p> <p>The allocation of these sites, and the provisions for various conditions and considerations is judged reasonable in all the circumstances, subject to the comments below.</p>
PROPOSED RESPONSE:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The County Council has a legal obligation (under the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1988, as amended), in exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or affecting, land in the Broads, to have regard to the purposes of <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Broads; ii) promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Broads by the public; and iii) protecting the interests of navigation. 2) The Authority notes there is little mention of the Broads in the

	<p>Proposed DPD, and believes that this nationally designated area, with status equivalent to a national park, and the highest level of protection for its landscape and scenic beauty under national planning policy, warrants more explicit attention in the DPD and its supporting documents.</p> <p>3) The Broads Authority notes that Allocated Sites MIN 83, MIN 90 and MIN 91 are adjacent to the designated Broads area, which is afforded the highest level of protection of its landscape and scenic beauty in the National Planning Policy Framework. The requirement for proposals to include a scheme to provide screening landscape and biodiversity gains is welcomed. However, the site policies for these allocations and the site characteristics outlined in the DPD do not make any reference to the Broads or its national park equivalent status. It is considered that this should be explicit, to ensure that the relationship with the Broads is addressed in any future decisions under the relevant policies.</p> <p>4) The Authority notes with regret the limited attention to the Broads and its national park equivalent status, in the Sustainability Appraisal, and in particular:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">a) absence of identification of the Broads (in contrast to the AONB) on the mapping (Appendix F);b) absence of reference to the Broads and its national park equivalent status in the sustainability appraisals of the allocated sites in very close proximity (MIN 83 approx 40m from the boundary, MIN 90 approx 100m, and MIN 90 approx 300m);c) lack of inclusion of the Broads Core Strategy and the Broads Plan (the management plan for the Broads) in the Sustainability Appraisal as relevant plans (Appendix B). <p>5) It is noted from the Sustainability Appraisal (and previous consultations) that one other proposed extension to the Norton Subcourse quarry previously considered has been rejected because of the adverse landscape impacts on the Broads, and this is welcomed.</p> <p>6) There appears to be a minor error in the numbering of sites MIN 90 and MIN 92 on page 91 of the Sustainability Appraisal, but this does not affect the overall Appraisal or DPD.</p> <p>7) A proposed site at Fritton, that the Authority had previously objected to, is not allocated.</p>
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ORGANISATION:	Norfolk County Council
DOCUMENT:	Waste Site Specifics Allocations Development Plan Document: Pre-submission
LINK	http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/Environment/Planning/Mineral_and_waste_planning/Minerals_and_waste_development_framework/Development_Plan_Documents/index.htm#P222_18401 or http://www.norfolk.gov.uk/nmwdf
RECEIVED:	6 May 2012
DUE DATE:	29 June 2012
STATUS:	Newly Received
PROPOSED LEVEL:	Officer
NOTES:	The proposed DPD allocates sites across Norfolk where waste operations are considered acceptable over the next 15 years. The Authority has been consulted on previous stages of the preparation of the document. There are no new sites allocated within or adjacent to the Broads area. It is noted that in response to the Authority's previous comments, the Broads area has been identified and labelled on the DPD maps.
PROPOSED RESPONSE:	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) The County Council has a legal obligation (under the Norfolk and Suffolk Broads Act 1988, as amended), in exercising or performing any functions in relation to, or affecting, land in the Broads, to have regard to the purposes of <ol style="list-style-type: none"> i) Conserving and enhancing the natural beauty, wildlife and cultural heritage of the Broads; ii) Promoting opportunities for the understanding and enjoyment of the special qualities of the Broads by the public; and iii) Protecting the interests of navigation. 2) The Authority notes with regret the limited attention to the Broads and its national park equivalent status, in the Sustainability Appraisal, and in particular: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> a) Absence of identification of the Broads (in contrast to the AONB) on the mapping (Appendix F); b) Lack of inclusion of the Broads Core Strategy and the Broads Plan (the management plan for the Broads) in the Sustainability Appraisal as relevant plans (Appendix B). 3) The Authority has no objection to any of the allocated sites in the Proposed DPD.