

Statement of Common Ground

**Hertfordshire Minerals and Waste
Local Plan 2040**

Hertfordshire County Council



July 2021

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Table of Contents

1	Introduction.....	4
2	Strategic Geography.....	5
3	Involved Parties	6
	Plan-Making Authorities.....	6
4	Strategic Matters.....	10
	Matter 1: The Provision of Minerals	11
	Matter 2: Safeguarding of Minerals.....	12
	Matter 3: Safeguarding Mineral and Waste Infrastructure	13
	Matter 4: Meeting Waste Management Needs	15
	Matter 5: Net Self-Sufficiency	17
	Matter 6: Implementing the Waste Hierarchy.....	18
5	Governance Arrangements.....	19
6	Timetable for Review and Ongoing Cooperation	19
7	Signatories.....	20

1 Introduction

This Draft Statement of Common Ground (SoCG) has been prepared by Hertfordshire County Council, as Minerals and Waste Planning Authority (MWPA) for the area, to support the emerging Minerals and Waste Local Plan. The SoCG is intended to show where effective co-operation is happening on strategic cross-boundary planning matters associated with the Plan and where agreement has (or has not) been reached with respect to the identified matters.

Under the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF), all Local Planning Authorities (LPAs) (including Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities) are required to prepare a SoCG in conjunction with the production of their Local Plans¹. The NPPF states that for a Local Plan to be found 'sound' it must be "*deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working on cross-boundary strategic matters that have been dealt with rather than deferred, as evidenced by the statement of common ground*"².

Additionally, SoCGs should be prepared in accordance with the approach set out in the national Planning Practice Guidance (PPG), which defines a Statement of Common Ground as:

*"...a written record of the progress made by strategic policy-making authorities during the process of planning for strategic cross-boundary matters. It documents where effective co-operation is and is not happening throughout the plan-making process, and is a way of demonstrating at examination that plans are deliverable over the plan period, and based on effective joint working across local authority boundaries..."*³.

In line with the above requirements, this Statement relates to matters of a strategic nature, which cross the plan area boundary (i.e. the Hertfordshire county boundary).

Matters of a strategic nature between the MWPA and the LPAs within the plan area, are dealt with through the general Duty to Cooperate and/or through separate SoCGs prepared by those LPAs. Therefore, this SoCG does not seek to repeat evidence of these areas of cooperation between the MWPA and the Hertfordshire LPAs.

This is the first draft of the SoCG which has been prepared to support the emerging Minerals and Waste Local Plan and this draft, along with any later versions, will be published on the county council's minerals and waste planning webpages. A final version

¹ NPPF (July 2021) Paragraph 27

² NPPF (July 2021) Paragraph 35

³ PPG Paragraph: 010, Reference ID: 61-010-20190315

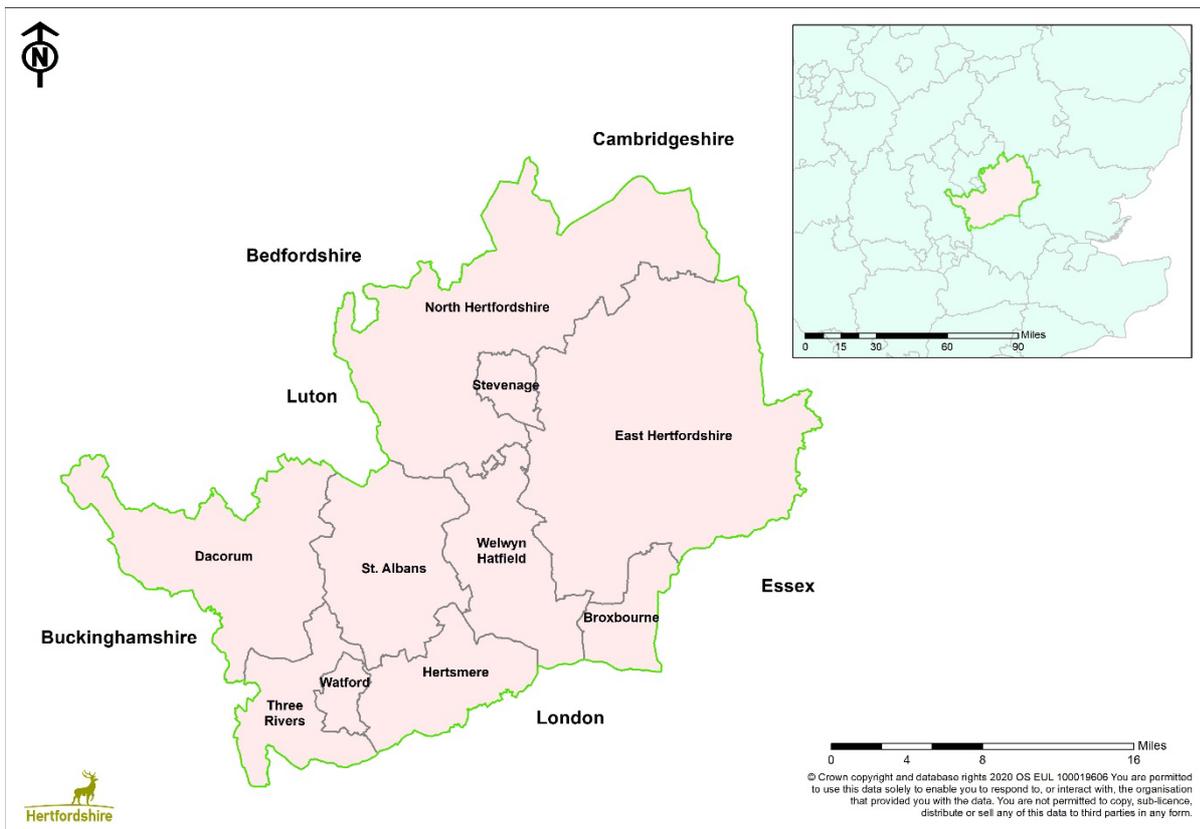
of this SoCG will be submitted to the Secretary of State alongside the Minerals and Waste Local Plan (and all other evidence documents), in line with National Policy and guidance.

2 Strategic Geography

Hertfordshire is located in the East of England region; its southern boundary adjoins London. It is bordered to the west by Buckinghamshire, to the north west by Luton and Bedfordshire, to the north by Cambridgeshire, and to the east by Essex. Hertfordshire is a well-connected county with a North-South focus serving London, the Midlands, and the North. The M1, A1, M25, A414 and A10 are some of the busier routes by road.

Hertfordshire comprises eleven planning authorities: the county council and ten District and Borough councils. Figure 1 identifies the administrative boundary of Hertfordshire, the surrounding Waste Planning Authorities, and highlights the administrative boundaries of the ten District and Borough councils within Hertfordshire. The administrative boundary of Hertfordshire forms the plan area for the Minerals and Waste Local Plan.

Figure 1 - Administrative Boundaries of Hertfordshire and adjoining Mineral and Waste Planning Authorities



3 Involved Parties

National Planning Practice Guidance requires Statements of Common Ground to identify *'the plan-making authorities responsible for joint working detailed in the statement, and a list of any additional signatories (including cross-referencing the matters to which each is a signatory)'*⁴.

Plan-Making Authorities

The plan-making authorities responsible for joint working in respect of this statement are listed below:

- Hertfordshire County Council as the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority
- The Mineral Planning Authorities (MPAs) forming membership of the East of England Aggregates Working Party
- The Waste Planning Authorities (WPAs) forming membership of the East of England Waste Technical Advisory Body
- Other Minerals and Waste Planning Authorities with which strategic cross-boundary movements of minerals and waste have been identified

East of England Aggregate Working Party Plan-Making Authorities

The NPPF requires MPAs to plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregates by participating in the operation of an Aggregate Working Party and taking the advice of that party into account when preparing their Local Aggregate Assessment⁵.

In line with the NPPF requirement, the county council, as MPA, participates in the operation of the East of England Aggregates Working Party (EoEAWP). The other MPAs forming membership of this group are as follows:

- Bedfordshire Authorities (Bedford Borough, Luton, and Central Bedfordshire Councils)
- Cambridgeshire County Council
- Essex County Council
- Norfolk County Council
- Peterborough City Council
- Suffolk County Council
- Southend-on-Sea Borough Council

⁴ PPG Paragraph: 011 Reference ID: 61-011-20190315, Revision date: 15 03 2019

⁵ NPPF (July 2021) Paragraph 213 (a) and (b)

- Thurrock Council

East of England Waste Technical Advisory Body

The National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) requires Waste Planning Authorities (WPAs) to work collaboratively in groups with other WPAs. The County Council, as WPA for the area, participates in the operation of the East of England Waste Technical Advisory Body (EoEWTAB). The other WPAs forming membership of this group are as follows:

- Bedfordshire Authorities (Bedford Borough, Luton, and Central Bedfordshire Councils)
- Cambridgeshire County Council
- Essex County Council
- Norfolk County Council
- Peterborough City Council
- Suffolk County Council
- Southend-on-Sea Borough Council
- Thurrock Council

Other Mineral and Waste Planning Authorities with which strategic cross-boundary movements of minerals and waste have been identified

Other Mineral Planning Authorities

The county contains an abundance of naturally occurring sand and gravel resources and in line with NPPF requirements, the MPA plans to maintain a supply of at least 7 years of permitted reserves. Whilst the MPA plans for its own supply of sand and gravel, a proportion of the sand and gravel consumed within the county comes from cross boundary imports, and some mineral is exported outside of the county.

Chalk is worked on a very small scale in Hertfordshire and the demand for this type of mineral is very low. The chalk extracted in Hertfordshire is mostly used for agricultural lime as opposed to industrial uses. The MPA does not plan for a supply of this mineral.

Brick clay is not currently worked in Hertfordshire and there is very little demand for this type of mineral in the county. The MPA does not plan for a supply of brick clay but does safeguard the resource through Mineral Safeguarding Areas.

Hertfordshire does not contain any naturally occurring hard rock resources and is therefore reliant on imports. Hard rock is imported into the county via the rail aggregate depots, which are seen as critical mineral infrastructure for the county.

There are no statutory requirements for MPA's to collect data on strategic cross-boundary movements of mineral and as such the county council holds very limited data on where mineral imported into Hertfordshire comes from.

Some data on imports of sand and gravel and crushed rock is collected through the national four-yearly Aggregate Minerals Survey (AMS).

The 2019 data shows that of the land won sand and gravel consumed in Hertfordshire (1,148,000 tonnes in total):

- 80-90% came from within Hertfordshire
- 1-10% was supplied from Buckinghamshire
- 1-10% was supplied from Essex
- 1-10% was supplied from Windsor and Maidenhead
- <1% was supplied from Wiltshire, Bedford Borough, Cambridgeshire, Hampshire, Central Bedfordshire, Norfolk, Peterborough, Suffolk, and Herefordshire

This means that most of the sand and gravel which was imported came from MPA's which form part of the EoEAWP and are listed as signatories to this statement.

The MPA collects its own data annually in relation to the imports of crushed rock at the Hertfordshire rail aggregate depots. Currently, Hertfordshire has a total of five rail aggregate depots which are at the following locations:

- Langley Sidings, Stevenage
- Walsworth Road Rail Aggregate, Hitchin
- Rye House, Hoddesdon
- Harper Lane, Radlett
- Orphanage Road, Watford

The most recent data⁶ collected from the rail aggregate depots, shows that most of the imported crushed rock comes from the following locations:

- Mountsorrel Quarry, Leicestershire (Leicestershire County Council MPA)
- Torr Quarry, Somerset (Somerset County Council MPA)

This statement has identified the above MPA's as signatories to this statement. If those MPAs deem that the Matters in this Statement are not of strategic cross-boundary

⁶ Data from the 2020 (providing data for 2019) and 2019 (providing data for 2018) annual aggregate surveys

relevance to them, then they will be removed from the list of signatories ahead of the next version of this statement.

Other Waste Planning Authorities

The NPPW requires WPAs to *'work jointly and collaboratively with other planning authorities to collect and share data and information on waste arisings and take account of [...] waste arisings across neighbouring waste planning authority areas'*⁷.

At a meeting of the EoEWTAB on 17 June 2020, the WPAs agreed thresholds of waste movements (i.e. imports and/or exports) between WPAs, above which such movements of waste are deemed to be 'strategic'. The thresholds set are as follows:

- Non-hazardous waste 5,000 tonnes
- Inert wastes⁸ 10,000 tonnes
- Hazardous waste 100 tonnes

All of the WPAs who observe waste movements above these thresholds, between themselves and Hertfordshire County Council, are identified as 'Other Waste Planning Authorities' and are listed as signatories to this Statement.

It is accepted however that other WPAs around the country may have set different thresholds, and what may not be deemed strategic for the EoEWTAB WPAs, may be deemed strategic for others. Each year the WPA therefore contacts all WPAs with which movements of waste between WPAs are observed (regardless of the amounts). The Council will engage further as necessary with those WPAs with whom movements occur above the thresholds identified (strategic for Hertfordshire) and with those WPAs who have movements below the thresholds but who deem the movements strategic for them.

Therefore, this draft Statement, at this stage, includes as signatories all WPAs who have waste movements with Hertfordshire, regardless of the amount. If those WPAs deem that the Matters in this Statement are not of strategic cross-boundary relevance to them, they will be removed from the list of signatories ahead of the next version of this Statement.

Additional Signatories

National Planning Practice Guidance requires Local Planning Authorities to identify in their Statements of Common Ground, a list of additional signatories, who *'have a role in the*

⁷ NPPW Part 2

⁸ These include Construction, Demolition and Excavation Wastes

*matters covered in a statement of common ground, and with whom an authority needs to cooperate in order to plan for these matters*⁹. These bodies are summarised below:

- District and Borough Councils within Hertfordshire
- Duty to Cooperate Bodies
- Members of Industry which participate in the EoEAWP
- Other MPAs adjoining Hertfordshire
- East of England Waste Technical Advisory Body (EoEWTAB)
- Local Enterprise Partnership
- North London Waste Plan¹⁰
- Hertfordshire Waste Partnership

It should be noted that, although the Waste Planning Authorities who are members of the EoEWTAB are listed as plan-making authorities separately, the EoEWTAB is listed as an additional signatory. The EoEWTAB will address matters in this statement in broad, sub-regional terms, with the individual Waste Planning Authorities addressing bi-lateral issues of a strategic nature. See Part 7 for the full list of signatories.

4 Strategic Matters

As stated earlier, Statements of Common Ground should cover the strategic cross-boundary matters of relevance to an emerging Plan. Strategic policies are defined by the National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) and include those which make provision for minerals and waste management¹¹.

This statement therefore covers strategic cross-boundary matters in relation to the emerging Hertfordshire Minerals and Waste Local Plan, which are connected to the provision of minerals and waste management. The strategic matters to which the Plan relates, which are deemed to be cross-boundary in nature, have been identified as follows:

- Matter 1: The Provision of Minerals
- Matter 2: Safeguarding of Minerals
- Matter 3: Safeguarding Mineral and Waste Infrastructure
- Matter 4: Meeting Waste Management Needs

⁹ PPG Paragraph: 023, Reference ID: 61-023-20190315

¹⁰ The North London Boroughs plan for waste collectively, however each borough would sign this statement separately

¹¹ NPPF (July 2021), Paragraph 20

- Matter 5: Net Self-Sufficiency
- Matter 6: Implementing the Waste Hierarchy

Matter 1: The Provision of Minerals

The Minerals and Waste Local Plan must provide for a steady and adequate supply of minerals, over the period which it covers. The National Planning Policy Framework is clear that planning policies should provide for the extraction of mineral resources of local and national importance¹² and that Minerals Planning Authorities should plan for a steady and adequate supply of aggregates by maintaining a landbank of at least 7 years for sand and gravel¹³.

Planning for the future supply of minerals is achieved through forecasting the future demand of minerals and where required, designating Specific Sites, Preferred Areas or Areas of Search¹⁴ which will provide enough material to meet the forecasted demand.

The Annual Provision Rate for Hertfordshire is based on the 10-year average sales figure (1.19Mt), with a ten percent uplift, giving an Annual Provision Rate of 1.31Mtpa (million tonnes per annum). The extra ten percent uplift has been considered to allow sufficient flexibility to meet the levels of growth which are currently being planned for in Hertfordshire. The Draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan allocates sufficient sand and gravel sites to cover this need over the plan period.

The Draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan does not plan for a supply of crushed rock. Hertfordshire does not have any hard rock resources and receives a supply of this mineral via imports through the operational rail aggregate depots.

Other minerals in the county include chalk and brick clay. Chalk is mostly used as an agricultural lime as opposed to use as an industrial mineral and is extracted on a very small scale. Brick clay is no longer extracted in Hertfordshire and there is no remaining infrastructure for the production of bricks within Hertfordshire. The Draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan does not plan for a supply of other non-energy minerals but does include policies which would continue to support extraction on a small scale, if and when required.

¹² NPPF Paragraph 210 (a)

¹³ NPPF Paragraph 213 (f)

¹⁴ PPG Paragraph: 008 Reference ID: 27-008-20140306

Agreement 1

The Minerals Planning Authority will plan for a steady and adequate supply of sand and gravel to meet identified needs over the plan period, by allocating sufficient sites and by maintaining a landbank of at least 7 years.

Matter 2: Safeguarding of Minerals

Much of Hertfordshire is underlain by sand and gravel deposits which provide valuable resources for construction materials and the future needs of Hertfordshire. In line with National Policy requirements, the Minerals and Waste Local Plan identifies Mineral Safeguarding Areas (MSAs) across the county and includes policies that will work to prevent the sterilisation of minerals by non-mineral development.

In addition to sand and gravel, Hertfordshire contains naturally occurring deposits of brick clay in the west of the county, in the area which adjoins Buckinghamshire. The Draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan does not plan for a supply of brick clay because there are no existing brickworks in Hertfordshire and there are no permitted brick clay extraction sites in the county. However, the plan does safeguard brick clay through MSAs and there is also a separate policy which supports in principle planning applications for brick clay extraction.

Bricks previously produced in Hertfordshire were locally distinctive and served sub-national and local markets as a material in the construction and restoration of traditional brick and flint buildings styles, complimenting the local heritage.

The nearest operating brick works is in Bellingdon, Buckinghamshire. The quality of material required for manufacturing traditional bricks at Bellingdon Brickworks is very high and so only a portion of material extracted may be suitable for use.

It is recognised that due to the nature of Hertfordshire's brick clay reserves, it is possible that brickworks operating in adjoining authorities may need to be supplied by extraction sites in Hertfordshire and it is for this reason that the safeguarding of clay is seen as a strategic cross-boundary matter.

Any development proposals which fall within the identified MSAs (apart from those which fall within the excluded development list) will be subject to consultation with the MPA, to determine whether further action is required (e.g. if a Mineral Resource Assessment is required).

In addition to sand and gravel and clay, chalk is also a naturally occurring mineral in Hertfordshire. Chalk is extracted on a much smaller scale and the demand for chalk in Hertfordshire is very small. In Hertfordshire, extracted chalk is mostly used for agricultural lime purposes. For these reasons, chalk is not safeguarded but the Draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan does include a policy which in principle would support future proposals to extract chalk in Hertfordshire.

Agreement 2

The MPA will continue to safeguard known deposits of sand and gravel and brickclay, to avoid the unnecessary sterilisation of these minerals by non-mineral development. The designated MSAs will trigger consultation between the MPA and District and Borough Councils, where planning applications fall within these areas. The MPA will also work with the District and Borough Councils during plan making, to encourage mineral safeguarding at the earliest opportunity and reduce unnecessary sterilisation.

Matter 3: Safeguarding Mineral and Waste Infrastructure

National Planning Policy requires MPAs to safeguard existing, planned and potential sites for the bulk transport, handling and processing of minerals; the manufacture of concrete and concrete products; and the handling, processing and distribution of substitute, recycled and secondary aggregate material.¹⁵

Planning Practice Guidance provides additional text to support this requirement and states that planning authorities should safeguard these sites to ensure they are available should they be needed and to prevent sensitive or inappropriate development that would conflict with the use of sites identified for these purposes.¹⁶

In line with the above requirements, the mineral infrastructure sites in Hertfordshire are safeguarded within the Minerals and Waste Local Plan and this includes the five rail aggregate depots. The rail aggregate depots allow for the importation of crushed rock into the county, and this is therefore seen as a strategic mineral movement. The mineral infrastructure sites safeguarded within the Minerals and Waste Local Plan are set out below.

The following bulk transport sites:

- Harper Lane, St Albans

¹⁵ NPPF Paragraph 210 (e)

¹⁶ Paragraph: 006 Reference ID: 27-006-20140306

- Langley Sidings, Stevenage
- Orphanage Road, Watford
- Rye House, Hoddesdon
- Walsworth Road, Hitchin

The following bulk handling and processing sites:

- Birchall Lane/Cole Green, Welwyn Garden City
- Burnside, Hatfield
- Eleanor Cross Road, Waltham Cross
- Harper Lane, St Albans
- Orphanage Road, Watford
- Skinner's Yard, Hertford
- Tyttenhanger, Colney Heath

The rail heads form part of a strategic network of transportation of sub-national and national importance for the movement of minerals as well as construction, demolition and excavation wastes, which can be used for beneficial restoration. This transportation is particularly important when insufficient land exists close to the waste's origin for suitable waste management facilities as is frequently the case in London. Facilities for bulk transport are hard to re-locate due to the increasing demands for land and the associated impacts with their operation, adding to the importance of their safeguarding.

The National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW)¹⁷ states that in determining planning applications for non-waste related development, local planning authorities should ensure that:

“the likely impact of proposed, non-waste related development on existing waste management facilities, and on sites and areas allocated for waste management, is acceptable and does not prejudice the implementation of the waste hierarchy and/or the efficient operation of such facilities”

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF)¹⁸ details the ‘agent of change’ principle: *“Planning policies and decisions should ensure that new development can be integrated effectively with existing businesses and community facilities (such as places of worship, pubs, music venues and sports clubs). Existing businesses and facilities should not have unreasonable restrictions placed on them as a result of development permitted after they were established. Where the operation of an existing business or community facility could have a significant adverse effect on new development (including changes of use) in its*

¹⁷ NPPW 2014, Part 8

¹⁸ NPPF Paragraph 182

vicinity, the applicant (or 'agent of change') should be required to provide suitable mitigation before the development has been completed."

In order to prevent the unnecessary loss of existing and future minerals and waste management sites as well as associated infrastructure, the Minerals and Waste Local Plan establishes Site Safeguarding Areas (SSAs) and Site Consultation Areas (SCAs). SSAs are defined on the Policies Map and comprise Mineral Allocation Sites (MAS), Mineral Development Sites (MDS), Transport Infrastructure Sites (TIS), Waste Management Sites (WMS) and Water Recycling Sites (WRS). SCAs are defined on the Policies Map as a 250m buffer surrounding SSAs (400m for WRS). The County Council must be consulted on all development proposals within an SCA (subject to certain excluded development types). This gives the opportunity to consider whether the development proposed would lead to unacceptable impacts. This process allows for the county council and District / Borough councils to work together to protect important infrastructure.

Reference should be given to Policy 4: Site Safeguarding and Consultation Areas, which details the implementation of the SSAs and SCAs and states that the 'agent of change' principle should be applied when considering proposals within these areas.

Agreement 3

The Minerals and Waste Planning Authority will seek to prevent the loss or reduced capacity of minerals and waste infrastructure in the county through Policy 4: Site Safeguarding and Consultation Areas by establishing Site Safeguarding Areas (SSAs) and Site Consultation Areas (SCAs) as shown on the Policies Map.

Matter 4: Meeting Waste Management Needs

The National Planning Policy for Waste¹⁹ states that:

Waste planning authorities should identify, in their Local Plans, sites and/or areas for new or enhanced waste management facilities in appropriate locations. In preparing their plans, waste planning authorities should:

- *identify the broad type or types of waste management facility that would be appropriately located on the allocated site or in the allocated area in line with the waste hierarchy, taking care to avoid stifling innovation (Appendix A);*

¹⁹ NPPW 2014, Part 4

- *plan for the disposal of waste and the recovery of mixed municipal waste in line with the proximity principle, recognising that new facilities will need to serve catchment areas large enough to secure the economic viability of the plant;*
- *consider opportunities for on-site management of waste where it arises;*
- *consider a broad range of locations including industrial sites, looking for opportunities to co-locate waste management facilities together and with complementary activities. Where a low carbon energy recovery facility is considered as an appropriate type of development, waste planning authorities should consider the suitable siting of such facilities to enable the utilisation of the heat produced as an energy source in close proximity to suitable potential heat customers;*
- *give priority to the re-use of previously-developed land, sites identified for employment uses, and redundant agricultural and forestry buildings and their curtilages.*

The council's Waste Needs Assessment (June 2022) concludes that shortfalls in waste management capacity are relatively small. Where shortfalls do occur, these are in relation to inert wastes in the latter part of the plan period, and non-hazardous wastes in the early part of the plan period. Inert wastes will largely be accommodated through mineral restoration, and a large proportion of non-hazardous wastes will be managed through secured residual Local Authority Collected Waste contracts.

With the above in mind therefore, the Plan will not allocate any sites for future waste management, but rather will provide a criteria based policy approach to steer applications for future waste management to the most suitable locations, in line with the proximity principle. Policy 3: Meeting Waste Management Needs supports in principle new waste management development in the main towns in Hertfordshire, and within these, employment areas (B2/B8 uses). It also provides additional guidance on certain waste management types, such as composting, which may not be suitable in those locations.

Other policy in the plan also seeks to encourage the re-use of waste materials on-site, with all major developments being required to prepare a Circular Economy Statement. The Statement will identify all wastes produced during all phases of development, how that waste material is to be re-used on-site, and if moved off-site, its destination and proposed end use.

Agreement 4

The Waste Planning Authority will seek to meet the waste management needs of Hertfordshire through the existing network of waste management facilities, while steering applications for new waste management development to the most sustainable locations, in

order to manage waste arisings as close as possible to their source. Proposals for new waste management capacity will be acceptable in principle on existing waste sites or in employment areas (B2/B8 uses) within the main towns in the county. Development in other locations may be acceptable subject to certain policy criteria.

Matter 5: Net Self-Sufficiency

Net self-sufficiency is a principle established in waste planning which requires Waste Planning Authorities (WPAs) to plan for sufficient waste management capacity to manage a quantity of waste equivalent to their own arisings.

In March 2019 the Council signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)²⁰ with the other WPAs in the East of England region, to plan on the basis of net self-sufficiency. The MoU states that *'the WPAs will plan on the basis of net self-sufficiency which assumes that within each Waste Local Plan area the Planning Authority or Authorities will plan for the management of an amount of waste which is equivalent to the amount arising in that Waste Local Plan area. All the WPAs accept that when using this principle to test policy, it is unlikely to be possible to meet this requirement in full, particularly for hazardous and other specialist waste streams'*.

The MoU goes further to state that *'in keeping with the principle of net self-sufficiency for each WPA area, the WPAs will plan on the basis that no provision has to be made in their Waste Local Plans to meet the needs of any other waste planning authorities which are basing their waste policies on achieving the principle of net self-sufficiency. Waste from London will be planned for in the East of England on the basis that this will only comprise residues from waste treatments to be sent to landfill by 2026'*.

The National Planning Policy for Waste (NPPW) also states that *'Waste planning authorities should prepare Local Plans which identify sufficient opportunities to meet the identified needs of their area for the management of waste streams'*²¹.

Over the plan period the council, as Waste Disposal Authority, has contractual arrangements in place for the management of residual Local Authority Collected Waste (LACW) at facilities outside of the county²². It is accepted therefore that over the plan period, capacity to manage this waste will not be met within the county. Nevertheless, the emerging Minerals and Waste Local Plan contains policies that would support in principle

²⁰ East of England Waste Technical Advisory Body, MoU (March 2019)

²¹ NPPW 2014, Part 3

²² The plan period runs to 2040, the residual LACW contracts will run to 2039, covering the majority of the plan period.

new facilities which would be able to manage this waste stream, helping to move waste up the waste hierarchy and aim towards waste net self-sufficiency.

As part of Hertfordshire's vision, outlined in the emerging Minerals and Waste Local Plan, Hertfordshire is aiming towards achieving net self-sufficiency by 2040. Implementation of the Waste Hierarchy in order to promote waste reduction, reuse and recycling will assist in minimising waste needing final disposal as part of the 'Circular Economy' and will help towards reaching net self-sufficiency.

Agreement 5

The Waste Planning Authority will seek to meet the identified waste capacity gap needs for the period of the emerging Minerals and Waste Local Plan, through a network of existing and new facilities, recognising existing contracts for the management of certain wastes. Policy criteria will encourage new sites to come forward with the aim of working towards achieving net self-sufficiency.

Matter 6: Implementing the Waste Hierarchy

The NPPW²³ states that positive planning will aid in delivering the country's waste ambitions through *"delivery of sustainable development and resource efficiency, including provision of modern infrastructure, local employment opportunities and wider climate change benefits, by driving waste management up the waste hierarchy"*

Sustainable development is a key theme within National Policy, and this should be reflected in the production of Local Plans. In terms of waste, facilities that drive waste up the Waste Hierarchy and reduce the amount sent for final disposal must be provided.

Policy 3: Meeting Waste Management Needs of the Draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan, details criteria for new developments to deliver sustainable waste management. Driving waste management up the Waste Hierarchy can be carried out through the planning application process. New proposals should detail how sustainable waste management has been incorporated into the development and applications for major development must produce a Circular Economy Statements.

The use of planning conditions is an effective way of ensuring sustainability. Conditions relating to waste provisions, construction and demolition methods and design principles can be imposed to ensure the proposal conforms to the county's strategic objectives.

²³ NPPW 2014, Part 1

Agreement 6

The Waste Planning Authority will seek to drive waste up the Waste Hierarchy, primarily through the use of criteria in Policy 3: Meeting Waste Management Needs of the Draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan, including through the submission of Circular Economy Statements where appropriate. The Waste Planning Authority will object to proposals that do not demonstrate how these requirements have been met.

5 Governance Arrangements

This Draft Statement of Common Ground has been prepared by Hertfordshire County Council, as the Minerals and Waste Planning Authority for the area, and will be responsible for ensuring that this Statement is updated.

This Draft Statement will be published on the County Council's website alongside the Draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan. All signatories to this statement will be consulted directly going forward.

This Statement will also be discussed at the triannual meetings of the EoEAWP and EoEWTAB.

6 Timetable for Review and Ongoing Cooperation

It should be noted that at this stage this statement is in draft form, reflecting the fact that co-operation is ongoing in relation to the Matters identified and this will evolve as plan-making progresses with the involved parties. Further iterations of this statement will be published at key stages of plan-making in which the identified bodies will be consulted.

This Draft Statement will be updated and published again alongside the Draft Minerals and Waste Local Plan (Regulation 18) which is intended for publication in July 2022. Following this, the Statement will be updated again in preparation for the Proposed Submission (Regulation 19) version of the Minerals and Waste Local Plan (intended for publication early in 2023). The statement will show which of the Matters have been agreed (or not) by which signatories and the dates on which those agreements have been achieved.

7 Signatories

Plan-Making Authorities	Agreements						Additional Comments
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Bedford and Central Bedfordshire Councils							
Cambridgeshire County Council							
Essex County Council							
Norfolk County Council							
Peterborough City Council							
Suffolk County Council							
Southend-On-Sea Borough Council							
Thurrock Council							
Powys County Council							
Somerset County Council							
Leicestershire County Council							

Additional Signatories	Agreements						Additional Comments
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Borough of Broxbourne Council							
British Aggregates Association							
Buckinghamshire County Council							
Civil Aviation Authority							
Dacorum Borough Council							
East and North East Herts Clinical Commissioning Group							
East Herts District Council							
East of England Aggregates Working Party							
East of England Waste Technical Advisory Body							
Environment Agency							
Hertfordshire County Council Highways Authority							
Hertfordshire Local Enterprise Partnership							
Hertfordshire Waste Partnership							
Herts Valley Clinical Commissioning Group							
Hertsmere Borough Council							
Highways England							
Hillingdon Borough Council							
Historic England							
Homes England							
Local Enterprise Partnership							
Local Nature Partnership							
Marine Management Organisation							
Mayor of London							
Mineral Products Association							
Ministry of Housing, Communities & Local Government							

Additional Signatories	Agreements						Additional Comments
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Natural England							
NHS England							
North Herts District Council							
North London Waste Plan							
Office of Rail and Road							
St Albans City & District Council							
Stevenage Borough Council							
The Crown Estate							
Three Rivers District Council							
Transport for London							
Watford Borough Council							
Welwyn Hatfield Borough Council							

Other Waste Planning Authorities	Agreements						Additional Comments
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Barking and Dagenham							
Barnet							
Barnsley							
Bath and North East Somerset							
Berkshire							
Bexley							
Birmingham City							
Bolton							
Bracknell Forest							
Bradford City							
Brent							
Brighton and Hove							
Bristol City							
Bromley							
Buckinghamshire							
Bury							
Calderdale							
Camden							
Cardiff							
Cheshire West and Chester							
City of Derby							
City of London							
Cornwall							
County Durham							
Coventry							
Croydon							
Cumbria							

Other Waste Planning Authorities	Agreements						Additional Comments
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Darlington							
Derbyshire							
Devon							
Doncaster							
Dorset							
Dudley							
Ealing							
East Riding of Yorkshire							
East Sussex							
Enfield							
Gloucestershire							
Greenwich							
Hackney							
Halton							
Hammersmith and Fulham							
Hampshire							
Haringey							
Harrow							
Hartlepool							
Havering							
Herefordshire							
Hillingdon							
Hounslow							
Isle of Wight							
Islington							
Kensington and Chelsea							
Kent							
Kingston Upon Hull City							
Kingston Upon Thames							
Kirklees							
Knowsley							
Lambeth							
Lancashire							
Leeds							
Leicester City							
Leicestershire							
Lewisham							
Lincolnshire							
Liverpool							
Luton							
Manchester							
Medway							

Other Waste Planning Authorities	Agreements						Additional Comments
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Merton							
Middlesbrough							
Milton Keynes							
Monmouthshire							
Newcastle Upon Tyne							
Newham							
North East Lincolnshire							
North Lincolnshire							
North Somerset							
North Tyneside							
North Yorkshire							
Northamptonshire							
Northumberland							
Nottingham City							
Nottinghamshire							
Oldham							
Oxfordshire							
Plymouth							
Poole							
Portsmouth City							
Reading							
Redbridge							
Redcar and Cleveland							
Rhondda,Cynon,Taff							
Richmond Upon Thames							
Rochdale							
Rotherham							
Salford							
Sandwell							
Scotland							
Sefton							
Sheffield							
Shropshire							
Slough							
Solihull							
Somerset							
South Gloucestershire							
South Tyneside							
Southampton City							
Southend-on-Sea							
Southwark							
St Helens							

Other Waste Planning Authorities	Agreements						Additional Comments
	1	2	3	4	5	6	
Staffordshire							
Stockton-on-Tees							
Stoke-on-Trent City							
Sunderland							
Surrey							
Sutton							
Swindon							
Tameside							
Telford and Wrekin							
Thurrock							
Tower Hamlets							
Trafford							
Vale of Glamorgan							
Wakefield							
Walsall							
Waltham Forest							
Wandsworth							
Warrington							
Warwickshire							
West Berkshire							
West Sussex							
West Yorkshire							
Westminster City							
Wigan							
Wiltshire							
Windsor and Maidenhead							
Wirral							
Wokingham							
Wolverhampton							
Worcestershire							
Wrexham							
York, City of							